



Instructions

General Pointers :

- Always use a sharp, fine blade and a metal rule when cutting and cut on a cutting mat or spare piece of card.
- While the surface of the printed flags is quite durable you should avoid
- Be sparing with the glue. Use too much and it will squeeze out of the sides and you risk getting it all over the printed side. Have a damp brush ready so that, if you do get some glue in the wrong places a quick dab with that should remove the glue.
- The flags are laser printed so will not run or smear but you want to avoid using more than the minimum amount of glue necessary or scratching the surface with either knife or ruler.

1 Cut out a complete flag block, do NOT cut out an individual flag at this stage - if you only want 1 or 2 now then still do a whole block and save the others for later. Flags are mostly aligned in groups so it may be easier to cut along the edge of all the blocks on that line.

Take care to cut accurately as the flag will not align correctly if you don't.

- 2 Curl the flag around a thin rod (a knitting needle is what I use) - this stops it from creasing at the wrong place in step 3.
- 3 Align the Tab edges and, while gripping that edge, gently crease the fold edge. Don't crease too hard as this wants to go around the flagpole eventually.
- 4 Open out the block and use a brush to apply a thin layer of PVA (white glue) to the BACK of the block, roughly covering the area occupied by the Tab on the printed side. Don't be too heavy-handed with the glue, just enough to make sure it holds its shape once set.
- 5 Fold the flag as in step 3, making sure that the Tab edges are correctly aligned, and gently press on the Tab strip to secure the glued edge.
- 6 Leave until the glue is fully dry before gently creasing the fold edge.
- 7 Cut out the individual flags from the block. Always start each cut from the fold edge and cut with firm, but not heavy, pressure on the knife in one cut to the Tab edge. You will soon learn how much pressure you need to separate a flag in one smooth cut.

- 8 Open out the flag carefully and grip by the Tab strip. Using a brush, apply a thin layer of PVA to the inside of the flag. Make sure that the edges are covered but don't overdo it. Experience and practice will make this step easier.
- 9 Slip the glued flag over the flagpole on the figure and gently press the sides together until the glue holds them.
- 10 Rotate the flag into the position you want it and crimp the flag around the flagpole, again with firm pressure but don't use a finger nail to make it seat around the pole - doing that risks damaging the surface of the wet flag. I use a pair of miniature flat-nosed pliers and that works well. Some glue will inevitably squeeze out so remove that with the damp brush.
- 11 Once the glue is thoroughly dry remove the Tab with a sharp knife. A small pair of sharp scissors can also be used but I prefer

