



Design for beginners

How to make a scale model of a chair

Steve Garner:

Okay. Activity 3 is your first modeling activity. And we are going to make this simple chair form. It's a scale model of a chair.

You need a cornflake packet or some thin cardboard box to use as a raw material and I've redrawn the figure that appears in your modeling work book on the inside of the cardboard box. But an easier way of doing this would be to take a photocopy of the page. I've done a photocopy of my drawing here but you could take a photocopy from the image in the workbook. And then stick it down onto the cardboard just simply like that, either using some sort of simple paper adhesive or an aerosol glue.

But I've redrawn it on to the card, so it's a simple case then of cutting out the shapes from the cardboard. Try and cut carefully to your lines. And you want to end up with three rectangular shapes exactly like three in the workbook.

We have two sides and we have the seat and back. Now to get this to fold I need to score it and to score it I'm going to use my scissors and I'm going to use a safety rule. I put that on to the line that I've already drawn and draw that across like that. Scissors over there. And this then folds to give me the seat and back.

So I'm going now to attach the seat and back to the side. So we've got the line that indicates where it's going to go to. Simply hold that in place there, take a piece of Sellotape off my roll and simply wrap that around like that. Another piece for the junction of the back rest and the arm. Trying to get it as close as I can to the back. And you simply repeat that procedure for the other side of the arm. And here's the one I made earlier. You can see there are four bits of Sellotape holding that together and we've got our scale model of a very simple flat pack chair. But don't throw that away. We are going to use that again in one of the sketching activities later in the workbook.