

The Night Before Christmas Vignette



I thought I would post a picture of a project I have been working on recently. I don't know, I just love these little miniature vignettes or dioramas, especially Christmas ones. This one has been on the go for a while now and I have only just got around to finishing it off.

If you want to know how it was put together then read on!

The fireplace itself was constructed from boxboard (chipboard) using a template and covered with a brick effect paper downloaded from the ultra-fabulous [Jim's printable minis](#) site. This site has all kinds of mini printable items for doll's houses so go and visit it if you like this kind of thing.

The hearth and the mantelpiece were painted with a terracotta and brown mix of acrylic paint. I didn't varnish this as I wanted a rough look. I did try running the chipboard through a Tim Holtz embossing folder to get a brick impression but this made the board a bit too thin.

The mini tree was made using the top of a K-Mart tree which I hacked off (read all about that in an earlier blog post) and decorated with some mini tinsel and a star sequin.

I originally had some candy canes hanging from the tree (made from Fimo/Sculpey) but the scale was all wrong...those canes looked like giant candies compared to my tree and I think the effect was a bit frightening!

The tree was then glued into a [terracotta pot](#) and then onto the hearth. The pot is actually flat backed to stick onto cards but you can't see that from the front. If you can find some proper mini plant pots instead, they will work better.

The tiny presents were made by just wrapping up some foam squares in gold paper and cord and the cute little vintage cards were printed from Jim's printables site using the playscale size.

The little gingerbread men were from a set of Dress it Up buttons (Christmas Miniatures) and the plate was stolen from my daughter's Barbie House. I know I should have made one from polymer clay but I was too lazy.

Finally, the stockings were die cut and glued to a piece of gold cord which was glued to the back of the fireplace. You could use stocking stickers instead or just hand cut some stockings. I have left the fireplace empty for ease but you could put in a fire or even a pair of Santa boots coming down the chimney..how cute would that be?

I should be getting on with my Christmas shopping and cards but keep getting distracted with making these models.

It really didn't take that long to do, no more than an hour and a half and I have to say it was great fun and the kids love it!