

## *An Unexpected Party Assembly Guide*

The set comes in ten sprues with an additional six loose chairs and 2 tables. Firstly detach all the parts from the sprues and clean up where necessary with a fine file.

Eight of the figures (Thorin, Gandalf, Kili, Nori, Bifur, Bombur, Oin and Gloin) have separate arms. These should be attached now and any joins filled carefully with a small amount of Epoxy putty. Magicsculp or Milliput are both ideal for this purpose.

All chairs and figures have pegs with which to secure them to the base provided. I decided to keep one peg on each of the chairs and one peg on all the free-standing figures. I cut off the locator pegs from the seated figures, deciding that once the chairs were secured to the base, the seated figures could be glued directly onto them without the need to peg their feet also.

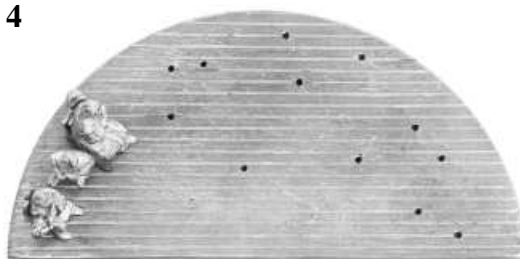
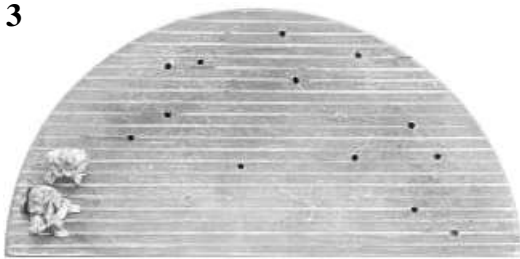
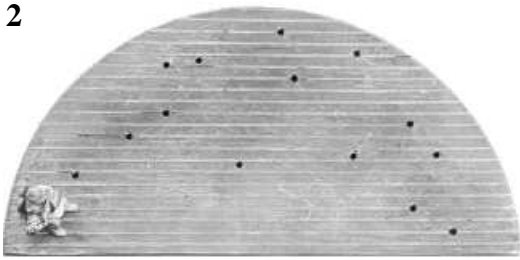
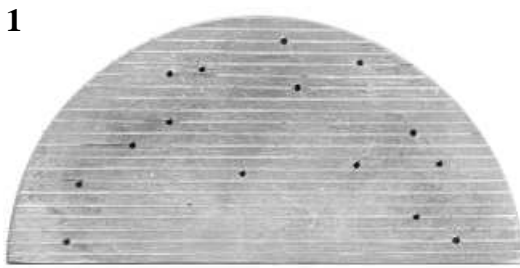
I gave the base a clean with some fine grade (000) wire wool and started to drill locator holes for the chairs. I started with Bombur's chair which is almost exactly in the middle and worked outwards on both sides, using a 1.2mm dia hobby drill to make the holes for both chairs and standing figures. It is important to do figures and chairs together as the spacing in the diorama is quite tight and critical.

Once the holes were drilled I assembled the whole piece (un-glued) to check how it looked. I found that a couple of the chairs needed to be re-located as I had arranged them too neatly so I re-drilled these and filled the original holes with Magicsculp and sanded them down when dry.

When I was happy with the "look" of the piece, I removed all the standing figures and carefully noted the angle of each chair by marking the four corners with a fine marker pen on the base where it would sit. I then attached each chair into place using a two-part epoxy glue.

After this the figures and base can be painted if desired and glued onto the chairs (in the case of the seated figures) or glued into the drilled locator holes. I found it easiest to work from left to right assembling first Nori and Ori then Gandalf, Thorin etc. Finally the stacks of crockery can be glued onto Dwalin and Dori and the tables also glued into place.

Photos 1 to 16 show how each figure should be added to complete the scene.



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