Please read through these instructions carefully before beginning! This kit was designed to be built with several different options. By reading the instructions thoroughly before starting, you can best choose the options for you.

DISCLAIMER

We have made every effort to make sure that all parts fit together properly, but sometimes tolerances are tight and mistakes do happen. Test fit all pieces before applying glue. Some trimming may be required.

Before photocopying or printing these pages on cardstock, you may wish to assemble a test copy on plain paper to better understand the construction. A minimum of 65# cover stock is recommended for constructing the final models. Regular 20 lb. bond paper can be used, but these items were designed for a heavier stock for extra durability and coloring.

Tools Required:

Scalpel or sharp-bladed hobby knife

Metal ruler or straight-edge

Cutting surface - a self-healing cutting mat is recommended, but a sheet of corrugated cardboard or even heavy poster board will work as well.

Glue - white glue, glue stick or wax stick. Double sided cellophane tape also works well. Rubber cement can be used, but will sometimes stain the cardstock or discolor colored inks and cause them to run.

A Note About Using White Glue

White glue contains a good deal of water. Too much glue will warp the card stock so that its almost unusable. Warping may also cause the parts to fit together incorrectly. If you use white glue, put a very thin coat on the glue tabs - the thinner the better. You can use a cotton swab or your finger to spread the glue thin. Remember to keep a damp paper towel handy to remove any excess glue.

PLEASE NOTE:

Each item has been marked with a series of Grey Lines that are an indicator that these lines are Fold or Score lines. All Tabs which are to be glued to hold the structures together are marked with a capital letter (G). Unless otherwise noted, all Glue Tabs fold inwards to the structure.

Dirt Cheep Keeps™ has been designed with 5 basic elements that can be printed in multiples to create a keep or castle of any size desired. Each element has been placed in it's own folder so you can find them easily and print only what you need. Listed below are the specifics of each folder:

CORNER: 2 pages. Use these files to create tall, square towers for corners

GATE: 3 Pages. Contains a 5" long gate section, a 7" long gate section and the door and inner arch for the gate.

KEEP: 4 Pages. Contains the pages to create a central Keep structure.

TOWER: 2 Pages. Contains the pages needed to create an octagonal tower.

WALL: 5 Pages. Contains walls in 3", 5" and 7" lengths. Also included are the pieces for the upper catwalks and accessories for the walls.

A final page of floor tiles have been included for converting the wall, tower and keep pieces into a 1 1/2" square grid for larger figures.

CONSTRUCTING THE PIECES
CORNER

Cut out and score the 2 pieces on the first page of this section. Pay special attention to the cut and fold markings on the triangular tabs between the wall sections. To start, fold down the upper wall from the lower wall on each panel and fold in all large glue tabs between the walls. Glue the triangular tab to the inside of the next wall, forming a box as you go. When completing one wall, fold up the bottom and glue the tab to the inside. When reaching the last wall, fold over and glue in place. Set this piece aside to dry. To construct the

roof, make all folds, forming into a square shape with a pointed top and glue the tab to the underside. Set aside to dry. To construct the tower body, fold down the blank top panel and fold all tabs down. Glue these tabs to the insides of the wall forming a box as you go. When all sections are dry, attach the roof by applying glue to the tabs along the top of the section and setting the roof in place. When dry, attach the upper section to the tower

A shot showing the final construction of the Square Towers. (All figures shown are for scale only and not included in this package.)

body. Extra doors and windows have been included so you can customize the tower to your liking.

GATES

   NOTE: This section contains both a 5" and 7" gate. Both will construct the same way. Go to the 3rd page of this section and cut out the inner arch for the gate. Next, cut out the gate wall, which ever size you have decided on. After scoring, go ahead and make all folds in this piece, but do not glue together at this time. Take the inner arch section and fold the piece to match the angles on the cut-out section of the gate wall. Fold up the tabs and glue the inner arch to the inside over the cut-out area. It is easier if you glue the inner arch over the cut-out on the section that has the tabs on it. This is technical the front of the gate wall because it has the white area running along the front. What this is for will be covered in the Walls section. When the inner arch is dry, fold in the two ends of the wall and fold down the top. The tabs at the top of the sides will glue to the underside of the top panel. Fold in the two tabs along the edges of the sides and fold down the back section of the wall. Apply glue to all tabs and set the back in

place. Other add-on features for this piece will be covered in the Walls section. Constructing the gate door on the 3rd page is much like constructing the arch. Fold the two door panels in from the center spine. Fold the spine panels so they match the angles on the door and glue in place. Note: it is easier if you glue the tabs to one side at a time. It is also helpful if you fold up the bottom of the gate and glue the tab in the back to the inside of the bottom panel of the spine before you close the piece.

   This page also includes 3 stair sections that can be used in various places around your structure. To construct, fold down the back panel and fold in the side panels. Fold the top (stair) panels to match the angles on the side walls and glue the tabs to the inside. Again, do one side at a time.

KEEP

   This building has several different options open to it so that you can customize it to your particular gaming needs. Start with the upper section on Page 1. Cut out and score as indicated. As with the tower above, pay close attention to the score and cut lines on the triangular tabs between the wall sections. Each side of this section has an outer wall and an inner wall. The outer wall is the one connected to the wall with the brick pattern. The inner wall is the wall on the outside edge. Fold down the inner wall and glue to the inside of the otter wall, creating a section with printing on both sides. Do this on all 4 sides. When dry, fold up all 4 walls and glue the triangular tabs to the inside. The rectangular pieces at the sides of two of the walls are then folded over and glued to the walls adjacent to them. This will close the piece. Refer to the photographs for the finished piece. Set this section aside to dry. Go to Page 3 of this section and cut out the floor piece. Fold down all tabs, apply glue and fit into the completed upper section. Note: You may want to try this without glue first in case the tabs require trimming along the bottoms for a better fit. Once the floor is in place, set the entire section aside to dry.

   To construct the main body of this section, cut out the wall and top section on Page 2 and the wall section on Page 3. Glue the wall section on Page 3 to the wall and top section on Page 2 on the right side. Do not glue this wall section on the panel with the top attached to it. When dry, fold the piece into a box shape like the corner towers given above. Set aside to dry.

   When both pieces are dry, attach the upper section to the main body. To insure a tight fit you may have to hold both pieces in place until dry. Another method is to place a paperback book on top to give the two surfaces

The finished Keep and Octagonal Towers. Note the placement of the "dragon's teeth" along the tops of both structures. Door can be added to the towers coming off the catwalks.

a little pressure to bond well. Make sure that this piece is dry before proceeding.

On Page 4 are the stone "dragon's teeth" that can be placed on top. To construct, cut out and score as indicated. Make sure that you cut out the vertical slot on the sides of each piece before constructing. This slot may have to be trimmed before construction. The slot will fit over the upper wall of the top section. Cut each slot and fit the piece over the wall to make sure that it fits tight, but does not bind. After construction, if the piece still does not fit, a little trimming can be done with a pair of small scissors. Caution: This can be a bit tricky. To construct, fold in all panels to create a box. Glue the tab on the front section to the inside before gluing down any top or bottom sections. When dry, fold in all the remaining tabs and glue the top and bottom down. The tabs along the bottom of each piece are folded in and are used to glue the piece to the side of the upper section. See photographs for the finished piece.

One Page 1 are extra trap doors that can be glued to the top floor if desired. The rest of the pages contain different doors and windows for customizing the building as desired.

OCTAGONAL TOWERS

Cut out the wall section on Page 1. Score as indicated. Cut out the floor section on Page 2. After scoring, fold all the outside walls up. Starting with the wall panel with the glue tab on it, glue the wall of the floor section to this panel from the inside. Note that the wall needs to be flush left with the side of the wall. Make sure that it doesn't overlap the glue tab! Each wall must

also be flush at the top with the tower walls. You will also note that the wall on the floor section is not the exact same width as the tower panel. That was intended as this small gap allows the tower to close properly. After gluing the first wall in place, move around, gluing each wall down as you go. When reaching the last wall, fold it over and glue the tab that was on the first wall to the inside, closing the piece. Again, you may wish to set a small weight on top of this piece while it dries to make sure that it will set on at tabletop level.
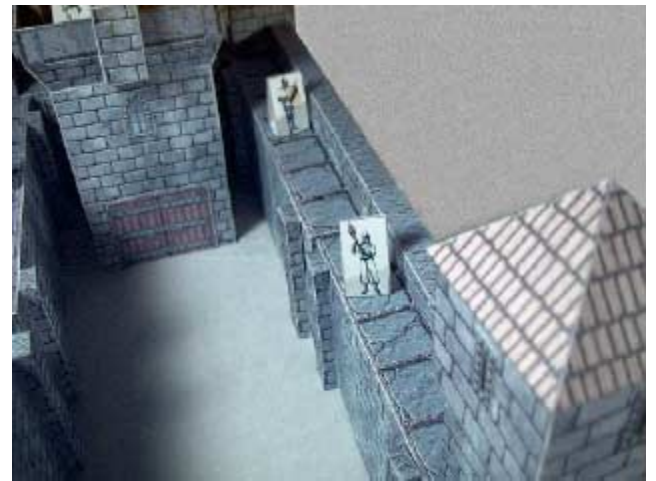
While that piece is drying, let's move on to the next section. The Octagonal Towers have "dragon's teeth" like the Keep but are not nearly as difficult to build. Cut out and score as indicated. Fold in all glue flaps. Fold the piece into a box shape and glue the tab on the side wall to the inside. When dry, fold down the top and bottom panels and glue in place. Once these pieces are dry, attach them to the top of the tower. See photographs for examples of the towers completed.

WALLS

The walls come in 3", 5" and 7" length. Each piece, regardless of their length, will assemble exactly the same way. They will also construct exactly like the archway given above, but without the cut-out section. Cut out and score as indicated. Fold the front and back walls down from the center spine. Glue all tabs to the inside, forming a long box. Set aside to dry.

Each wall contains several different elements, the catwalk walls, the ladders and the front supports. The catwalk walls are needed to complete each wall, but the other two items are optional.

To construct the catwalk walls, cut out and score as indicated. Fold in all glue tabs. Fold in the two sides and

A close-up showing how the catwalk walls fit on to the upper portion of the walls. Note the ladder placement.

fold down all outside panels to match the angles on the side walls, gluing the tabs to the inside. Unlike objects like the stairs, where you work one side at a time, it is easier to do a panel at a time for this section. So, glue the top panel in place first, then the front wall and then the under side wall on both side at a time. When dry, fold under the tab along the bottom of the underside outside wall and the bottom of the inside wall. Glue the piece in place on the wall over the blank strip that runs down the front of each wall. Note: These catwalk walls will attach to the gate section the same way.

To construct the optional front supports, cut out and score. Fold the piece into a long box and glue the tab on the wall to the inside. When dry, fold down the tabs along the top and glue the top panel in place. When dry, these support can be glued to the front (or back if desired) of the walls as shown in the photographs.

The ladders are constructed by folding the two sides in from the front panels and folding all glue tabs to the inside. Fold down the top and glue in place. The tabs along the side walls (now in the back) are used for attaching the ladder to the wall. Note: It is a good idea to place these pieces uniformly on the backs of each wall to leave your options open for placing the keep or other structures against a wall. The ladders in these photographs were placed so that they were centered in the first square of the catwalk. This should leave enough space for the placement of any structure against a wall.

On the final page are replacement tiles for each of the pieces so that they can be constructed with a 1 1/2" grid. The walkway tiles are to be glued on top of the walls. (You can also trim off the little white strip for the catwalk wall if desired and depending on what weight of cardstock you are using.). The keep and tower floor can be used in place of the 1" grid pieces without altering the construction methods in any other way.

A FEW OTHER GENERAL NOTES:

It's obvious how to make the towers a bit shorter - just hack off what you don't need before construction. Making the towers and walls taller is also easily done. To make a taller tower, print two of each section. Construct one section as given in the instructions above. Cut the main body of the second tower to the size desired and construct. The (now) shorter tower will fit on top of the taller tower. Apply glue to the back sides of the "dragon's teeth" on the lower tower to hold in place if desired. To create taller walls, do the same thing, except, when cutting out which ever wall is to be the add-on top, cut out glue tabs as you cut out the piece. Construction is the usual way, but leave the catwalk wall off of the bottom wall. Attach the top wall and add the catwalk wall. You can make taller ladders by gluing one on top of the other. Unfortunately, there isnít a way to make taller front supports.

Once you have completed at least one of each size gate, four square towers, four octagonal towers and at least 3 walls of each size, there are a number of configuration options from which to choose. Included on the last page of these instructions are 6 different layouts that can be achieved by using different wall lengths and tower arrangements.