

Pit-dwelling Papercraft Activity: Introduction and Instructions

Introduction

What is a pit-dwelling?

Pit-dwellings refer to houses that are dug into the ground, with pillars used to support the roof. Within Japan, these types of houses existed from the Jōmon period to the Nara period. Today we will be making a Shōkikuri-style dwelling, a type of Korean-style dwelling which first appeared in Japan during the Yayoi period.

What is a Shōkikuri-style pit-dwelling?

These dwellings are generally round, with two characteristic interior pillars flanking the middle of a pit dug out in the centre of the house. Many pit-dwellings in this style can be found at the Songgungni (Jp. Shōkikuri) site in the central western region of the Korean peninsula. This architectural style is said to have come to Japan alongside a culture of rice farming.

(Note: Although current archaeological evidence provides proof of the central pit and its two interior pillars, there is little to no evidence about what the exterior may have looked like. Our papercraft design hence takes some artistic liberties with the exterior design.)



↑ Model replica (not to scale)
Property of Kyushu National Museum

Instructions

Materials

1. Papercraft worksheet (single-side printed)
2. Scissors
3. Craft knife
4. Long pencil
5. Glue
6. Sticky tape
7. Styrofoam food tray (any size larger than 18 cm x 18 cm)



Method (be sure to watch the video while assembling!)

1. Cut out parts #1-19.
2. Apply glue to the tab indicated on part #2-2. Stick part #2-1 over it to make a long strip. Make sure that the short black lines are all on the same side when sticking them together.
3. Turn the food tray upside down, so that the bottom of the tray faces up. Stick part #1-1 on the centre of the tray such that the circle marked "9" is at the 12 o'clock position. Use the craft

knife to cut through the tray, following the inner circle indicated on the paper.

4. Use glue to stick part #1-2 on the tray piece that you just cut out, coloured side facing up.

5. Cut part #2 along the short cutting lines to make small tabs. Fold the tabs along the line, coloured side in. Attach it to the cut-out portion of the food tray with tape, coloured side in.

6. Fit the piece you just made into the hole that you had cut out of the tray. It should fit nicely, with a small lip of paper sticking out. Use scissors to make small cuts along the excess paper so that you can fold it down flush to the tray. Tape the excess down.

7. Paste part #3 on top of the "1-2" mark.

8. Roll up parts #4-15 and #20 around the long pencil into pillars. Glue them into shape.

9. Make small cuts on the ends of pillars #4, #6-9, and #12 along the cutting lines.

10. Stick both #4 pillars onto the circle marked 4 with either glue or tape.

11. Mount pillar #5 on top of the #4 pillars horizontally to form a beam. Stick with tape.

12. Pass pillars #6 under beam #5, and attach their bases to the circle marked 6.

13. Pass pillars #7 under beam #5, and attach their bases to the circle marked 7.

14. Tape the short #8 pillars on the circles marked 8. Tape them to the tall pillars directly next to them so that they stick together.

15. Tape pillar #9 to the circle marked 9.

16. Take parts #10 and position them horizontally on the dotted line of pillar #6 to form a beam. Tape into place.

17. Take parts #11 and position them horizontally on the dotted line of pillar #7 to form beams. Tape into place.

18. Tape the short #12 pillars to the circles marked 12.

19. Tape beam #13 horizontally on top of the #12 pillars.

20. Use the short #14 beams to bridge pillars #10 and #13.

21. Tape beam #15 horizontally on top of beams #14.

22. Roll up some tape, stick to the back of roof piece #16, and attach to beam #15, printed side out.

23. Roll up some tape and attach the short side of wall pieces #17 to beam #14, printed side out.

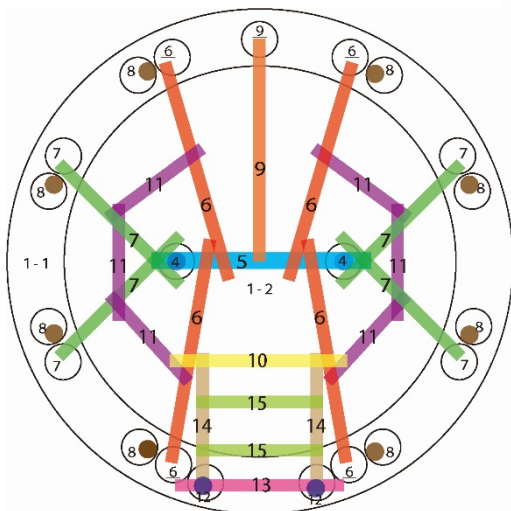
24. Roll up a small piece of tape lengthwise and attach to the #11 beam to the right of the entrance. Attach the left side of wall piece #18. Stick some rolled up tape to the right side of piece #18, and affix to pillar #9 and beam #11.

25. Do the same for wall piece #19, starting from its right edge and working your way to the centre. Use rolled up tape to stick the left edge of #18 on top of #19 at the centre back.

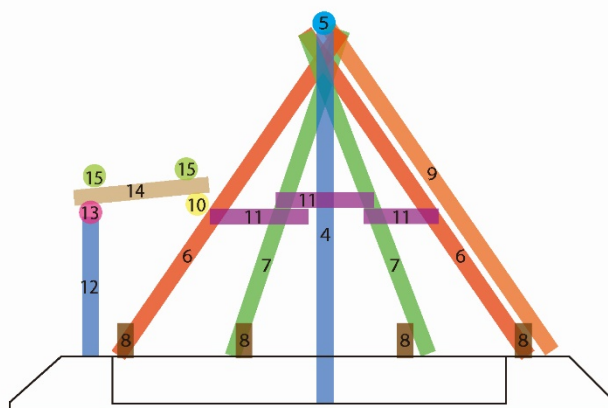
26. Fold roof piece #21 along the line, coloured side out. Stick beam #20 inside the crease and tape into place. Place this final roof piece on top of the entire building to finish!

★ Positions for parts #4-15

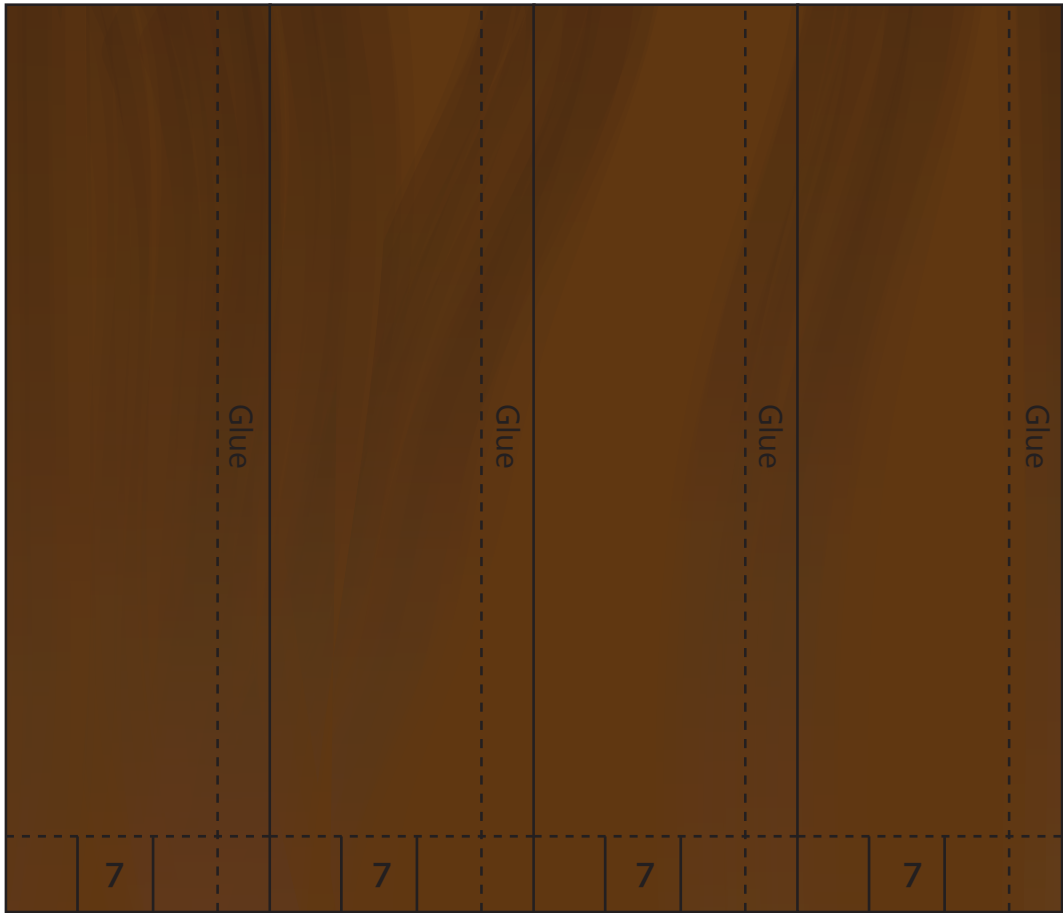
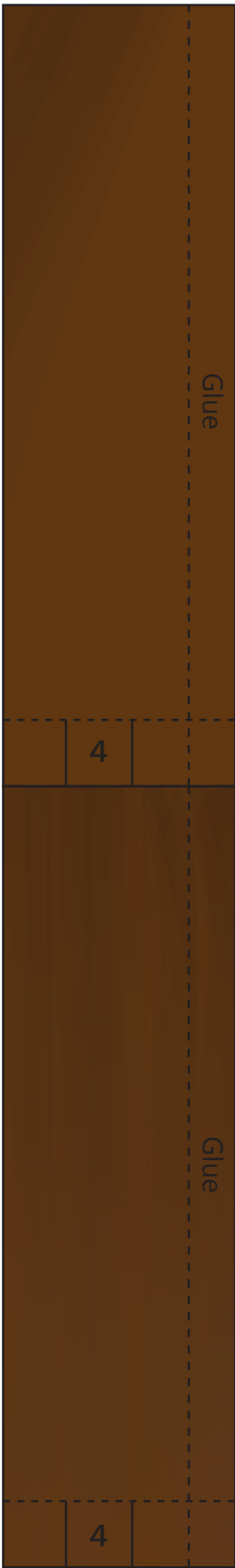
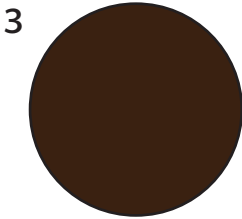
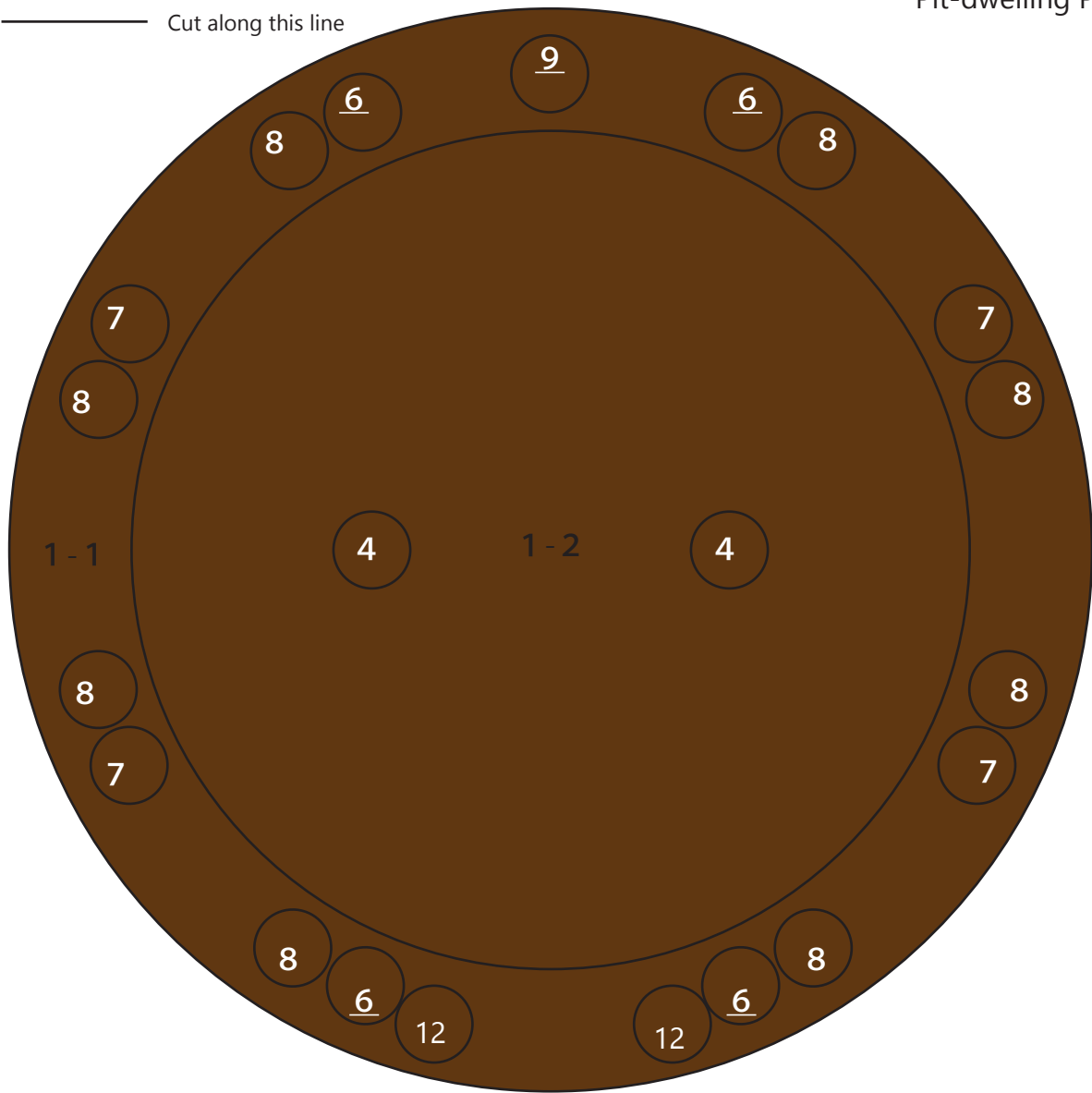
Top-down

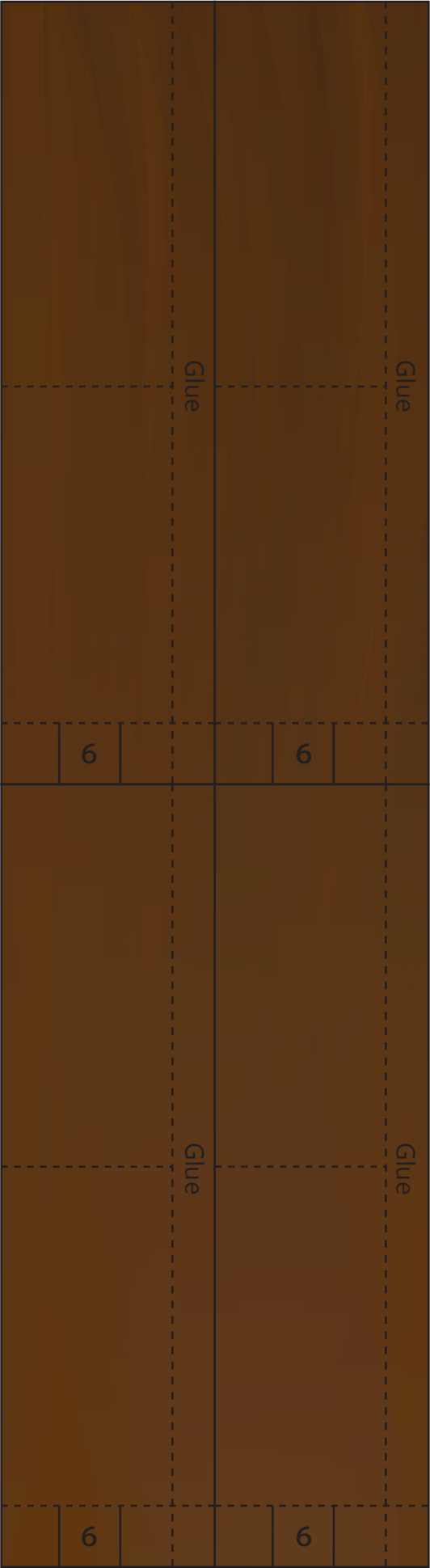
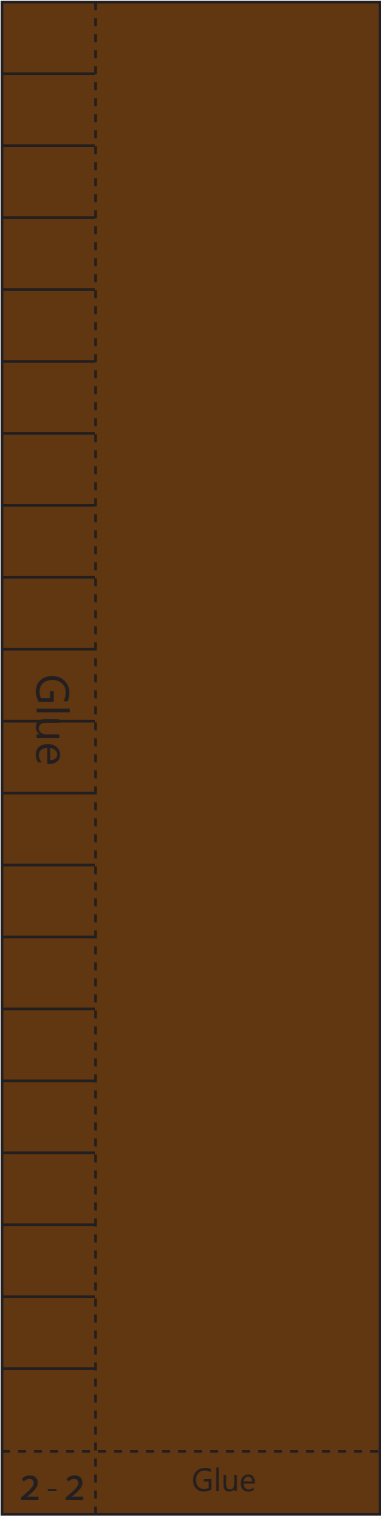
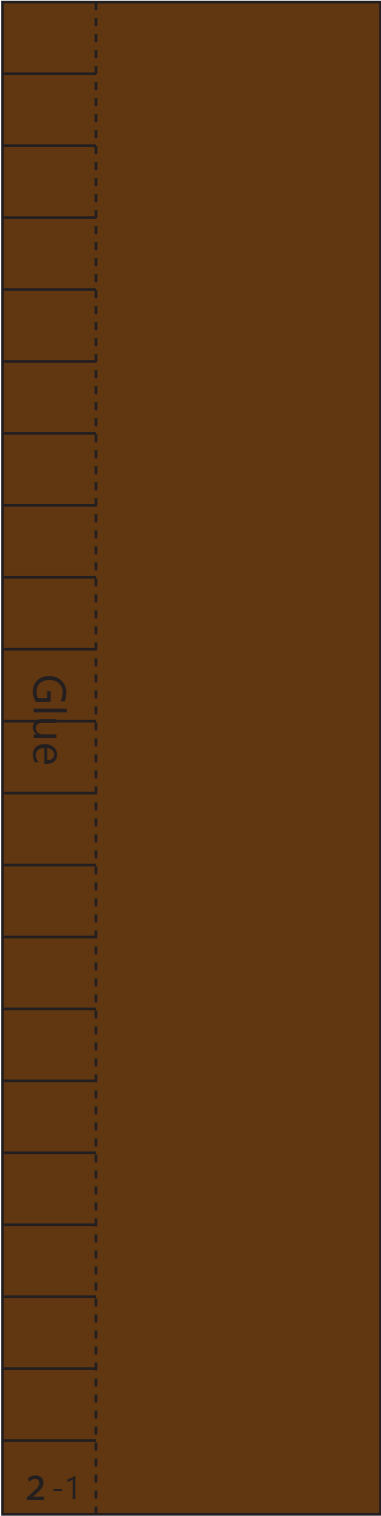


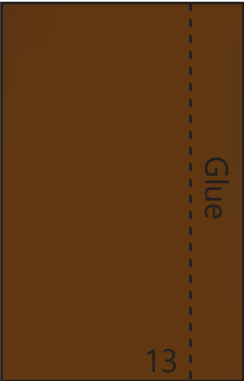
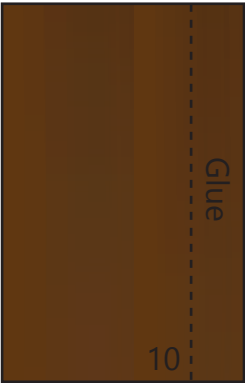
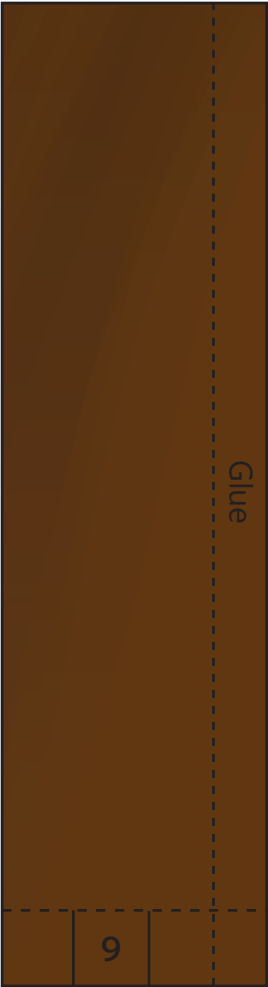
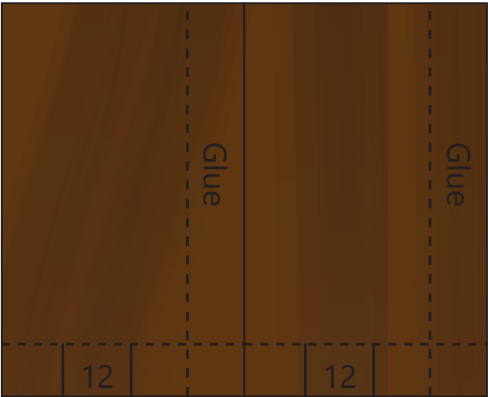
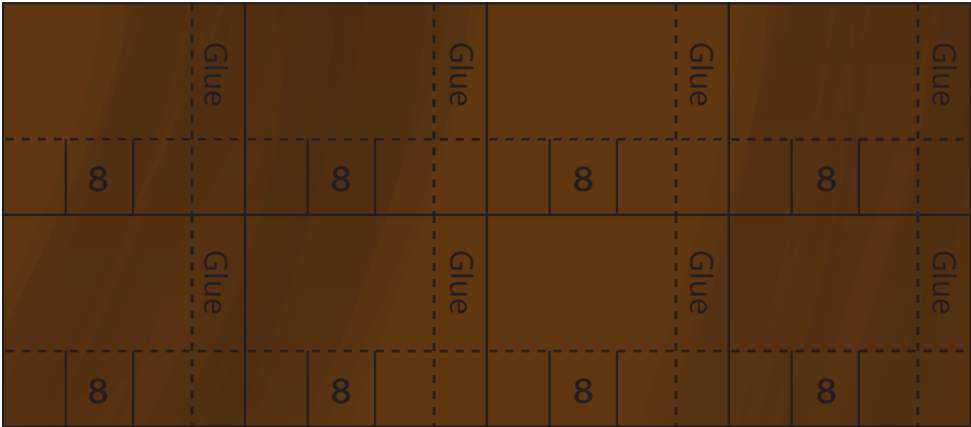
Side view



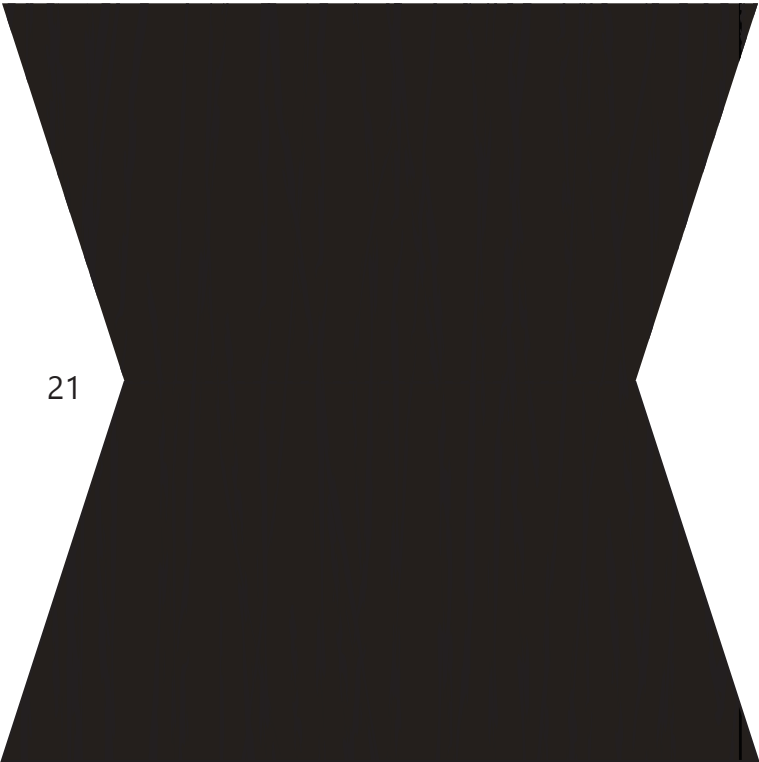
————— Cut along this line







16



21

