



# SCALLOPED CUPCAKE STAND

7

## LEVEL

Moderate

## CATEGORY

Reception

## TIME

4 to 8 hours

## WHEN TO START

4 to 6 weeks before  
the wedding

## GROUP OR INDIVIDUAL

Group

- *Station 1: Cut out the crosspieces.*
- *Station 2: Double-paste the pieces.*
- *Station 3: Cut out the trim.*
- *Station 4: Cover the pieces in paper.*
- *Finish individually: Assemble the tower and affix the trim.*

## BUDGET

\$50 to \$75

This tiered cupcake stand is a lovely way to display cupcakes, adding flourish to your festivities. Cardboard cake boards provide the basic structure, which are transformed with pretty papers and decorative trim. If you're running short on time, transport the stand flat to your ceremony site. You can also buy an inexpensive prefabricated cardboard stand (from [www.cupcaketree.com](http://www.cupcaketree.com)). However, note that prefabricated trees have many notches; these allow you to assemble and disassemble without glue, but take more time to cover.

## MATERIALS

*Makes 1 cupcake stand, holding approximately 50 cupcakes*

- 3 rectangular 17-x-24-inch cake boards (purchase 6 boards if they are less than 1/4-inch thick)
- Round cake board in each of the following diameters: 6 inch, 10 inch, 14 inch, and 18 inch.
- Eight 24-x-36-inch sheets solid paper for covering bases (we used sea foam-embossed paper from Bell'occhio)
- One 24-x-36-inch sheet contrasting paper for scalloped trim (we used Gold Moiree from Bell'occhio)

## TOOLS

- Scallop template (optional; (available online at [www.chroniclebooks.com/handmade-weddings](http://www.chroniclebooks.com/handmade-weddings))
- Craft knife, with extra blades
- Ruler
- Cutting mat
- Glue sticks
- 1-inch scallop ruler, or 1 sheet card stock for Scallop template
- Pencil
- Scissors
- Bone folder
- Hot glue gun
- Pins

*Note: If using a prefabricated cupcake tree, skip steps 1 and 2. For step 6, assemble the tree per the manufacturer's instructions—typically the pieces fit together like a puzzle, and no glue is required.*

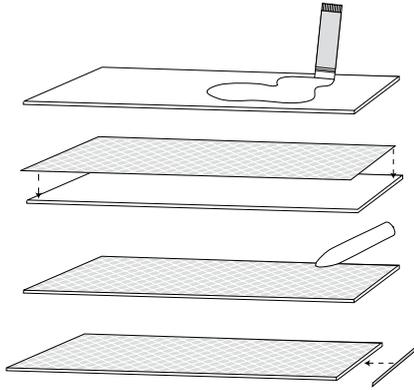


figure 1

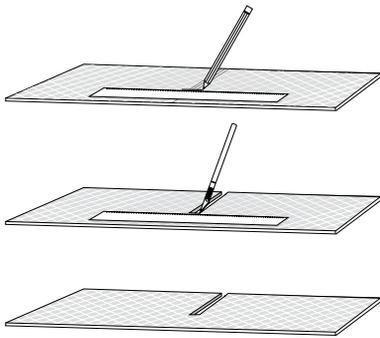


figure 2

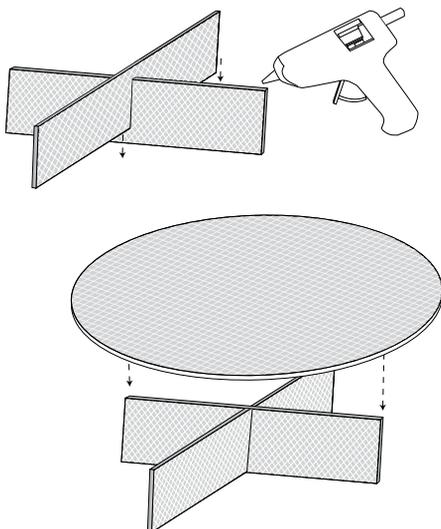


figure 3

## HOW TO

### 1. Cut out the crosspieces.

Using your rectangular cake boards, a craft knife, ruler, and cutting mat, cut out the following rectangles (if your boards are less than  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch thick, double the number for each size):

- Two 3 × 4 inch
- Two 3 × 8 inch
- Two 3 × 12 inch
- Two 3 × 16 inch
- Two 3 × 24 inch

### 2. Double paste the cake boards and crosspieces.

Using a glue stick, apply glue liberally to one cake board and press firmly to a second board of the same size, being careful to align the edges perfectly. Repeat for each of the cake boards and for each pair of crosspieces (if you cut out four of each). Let everything dry.

### 3. Cut out your scalloped trim.

Using a craft knife and ruler, mark and cut out eight  $1\frac{3}{4}$ -x-36-inch strips from your contrasting paper, being careful to maintain a straight edge. Align the straight edge of your scalloped ruler along one edge of a strip, and trace the scallops with a pencil. If you do not have a scalloped ruler, cut out the Scallop template provided, and trace it onto card stock. Cut it out with scissors, and use it as your template. Cut out the scalloped trim with scissors. *Note: In lieu of a scalloped border, feel free to use any decorative edge punch.*

### 4. Cover the cake boards and crosspieces.

Trace two outlines of each round cake board onto your paper—one to cover the top and one to cover the bottom. Cut them out carefully using scissors. Using a glue stick, apply glue to the top of each round, and lay the corresponding paper on top, making sure to align the edges. Smooth with the bone folder. Repeat for the bottom side of each round (*figure 1*). Use a craft knife to trim off any excess.

Cut out paper strips to cover the crosspieces:

- Four 3 × 4 inch
- Four 3 × 8 inch
- Four 3 × 12 inch
- Four 3 × 16 inch
- 16 strips 3 × 1/4 inch, or the width of the crosspieces

Cut out using a craft knife, ruler, and cutting mat. Using a glue stick, apply glue to one side of each crosspiece, and lay a corresponding strip over it (*figure 1*) making sure to align the edges. Smooth with your bone folder. Repeat for the second side. Smooth with your bone folder. Let dry. Affix the 1/4-inch strips to the ends of each crosspiece to create a crisp edge.

### 5. Cut notches out of the crosspieces.

Mark out a 1/4-inch-wide × 2-inch-deep slot in each crosspiece: Using a pencil, draw a line down the middle of each rectangle. Draw a line 1/8 inch to either side of this line. Draw a perpendicular line 2 inches from the upper cardboard edge. Cut out the slots using a craft knife, ruler, and cutting mat (*figure 2*).

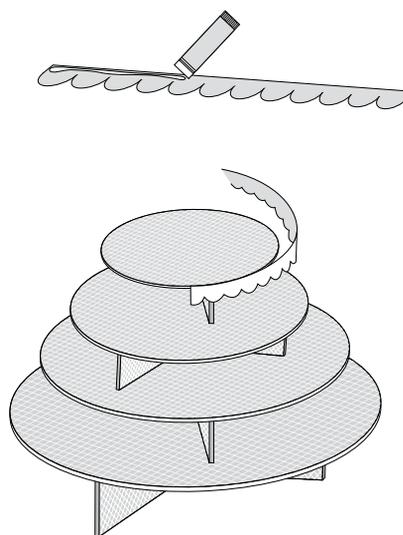
### 6. Assemble the tower.

Slot each pair of crosspieces together to form an X. Starting with the largest cake round, apply hot glue to the top edges of the corresponding X. Center the cake round on top of the X and press down firmly, holding it in place for a few minutes until the glue dries (*figure 3*). Take the next largest X and apply hot glue to the bottom edge. Center it on the largest cake round. For increased stability, align the X so that it is rotated 45 degrees from the previous X. Press down firmly, holding in place until the glue dries. Repeat for all layers of the tower.

### 7. Attach the trim.

Using a glue stick, apply glue to the trim. Attach a length of trim, aligning the straight edge to the top of the round (*figure 4*). Pin the end of the trim to the edge of the cake round. Pull the trim taut and affix around the edge, adding glue as necessary. Remove the pin when dry, and cover the hole with an overlapping piece of trim. Continue until the edges of all the rounds are decorated with trim.

*Tip: If you are planning to transport your cupcake stand flat to your reception site, enlist a bridesmaid to assemble the stand and attach the trim the day before the wedding.*



*figure 4*

## VARIATIONS

This cupcake stand can be adapted to any color palette or style simply by adjusting the papers and trims you choose.

- **Retro Homespun:** Cover the boards with pretty solid, floral, stripe, or polka dot paper or fabric. Use decorative cupcake wrappers (available in gingham, polka dots, and stripes) for your cupcakes.
- **Happy Graphic:** Cover the boards in a bold solid color, such as red, yellow, or blue. Trim with a solid contrasting grosgrain or twill ribbon.
- **Modern Classic:** Cover the boards in a solid black paper or fabric. Trim with striped ribbon.