

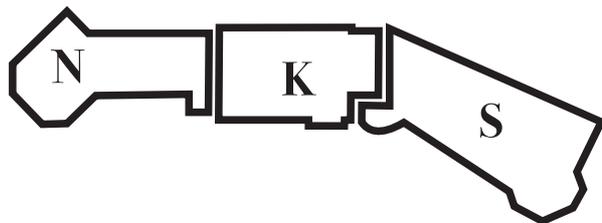


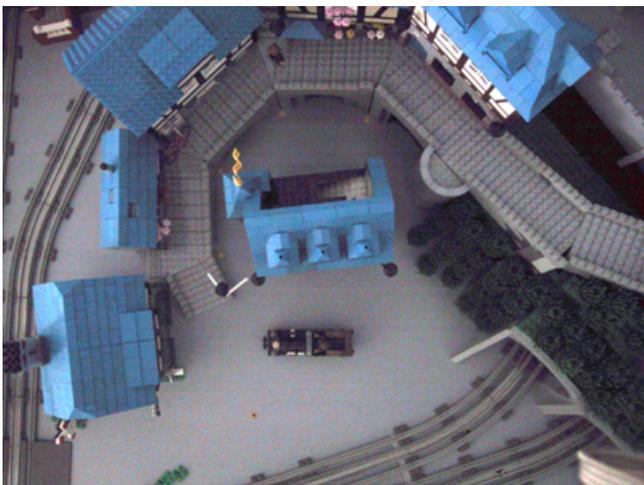
The castle consists of four separate buildings. There is a small separate gateway-house in front (not to be seen here), and the big palas is separated in three constructions for better handling, from left to right:

Northern wing .....	1,6kg
Kemenate .....	1,8kg
Southern wing (with the gothic archway) .....	1,7kg

A total of 5kg gives you an idea of how many bricks it contains. The front view is approximately 60x60cm

The building time of this MOC was approximately 5 weeks or 200hrs, not counting the many hours I spent in design studies, watching fotos and reading books and especially preparing the site with the old half-timbered city and the tunnel. When I finished the front side after two weeks, I was so pleased, that I decided to rebuilt it with interior which took another three weeks. There are no loose parts for better handling (the castle is placed 2 meters above ground level).





The major motivation was to hide a circle of railway tracks. So I began by building a half-circle, ascending road with half-timbered houses to gain the necessary height to get on top of the rails. I put black paper on the walls behind the tunnel to make it really dark. Finally I sawed a wooden base plate which stands on LEGO columns (though I could have done this with bricks as well, but it would have been less stable, more work and more expensive).

It was difficult to gain the necessary height, but it was worth the work, because every good picture requires fore- and background. If you stand in my atelier you will see the castle consequently from below, with different foregrounds, depending from your point of view.

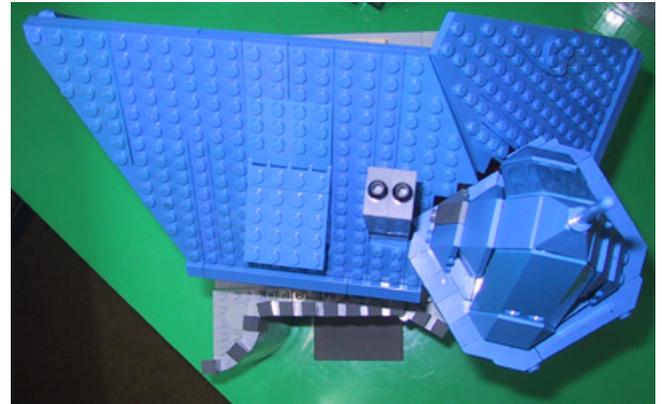


The immediate surrounding of the castle is not finished yet. The rocky landscape to the left and right will change a little to look more harmonic.



The major difficulty when rebuilding the northern wing with interior, were the crooked angles of the ground plan that resulted from the roof construction made from blue wing plates. The trial and error solution I found turned out to be inexact and finally I had to widen the front wall by 2mm to make it fit around the storey floors made from wing plates... so there is that crack in the wall which looks quite interesting...

The front sides of the storey floors are hidden in a horizontal gap in the wall using tiles (invisible).  
Crooked angles - much work - looks good!





There are few German castles having half-timbered constructions (Fachwerk), but two famous ones are under these: The Wartburg (where the voluntarily kid-napped Martin Luther translated the bible) and the Burg Eltz. The latter one - many say it's the nicest in the world - inspired me a lot (including the idea of historising... I wanted a castle nicer than medieval) - has some bays with red painted wood beams and this turned out to be a good idea because you have so many red window parts that fit into the Fachwerk. Blue roofs, red-white Fachwerk, white windows, grey stone. In order to save 75°-negative slope bricks in white I built the windows upside down and fixed this all using hinge plates 1x2 with 2 or 3 fingers (which -by the way- have hollow studs which ease constructing in half stud scale). A very common part: red window 1x4x3 with window shutter holder... in this picture they assist holding the triangular edge part of the tower. However... at the yellow circles I had to cut them a little (mea culpa) to allow the 45° angle between wall and tower.



The same thing in this staircase bay. I used windows whose shutter holders had been broken already (about 20% of used parts miss one or more shutter holders...). Remember that in this place only positive  $75^\circ$  slopes are used, so much of this is built up-side-down.. The left (front) side of the bay is five wide and so the visible left vertical beam is only half-stud wide. On the other hand, the grey wall in this place is only one stud thick, but this is hidden by a fireplace and the entrance to the devotion room from inside.

To finish the topic of cutting, here is the complete list of my sins for the dogmatists:

- cutted shutter holders of three  $1 \times 4 \times 3$  windows
- cutted two studs each in four of these bulky blue space parts used for the pointed roofs of the towers (I am happy to have found a place for these weird parts...)
- cutted the crucifix in the devotional room from broken parts out of my trash can.
- cutted two fire-bricks to make them fit into the fire-place of the alchemist (I have hundreds of them...)
- cutted two broken plates from the trash can to enable the chimney of the southern wing to go through the roof exactly
- drilled the already hollow studs of three  $1 \times 2 \times 1$  white windows a few micrometers wider (standard nowadays hollow stud, that allows half stud building).



I own this yellow tile 1x1 without groove with heavy playmarks since 36 years.

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credits  
Su Kyoung Yu  
for painting the pretty ladies and sewing the pink bed!