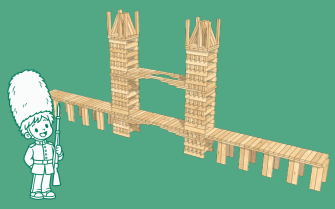
London's Tower Bridge

Difficulty :

Pieces : ~385

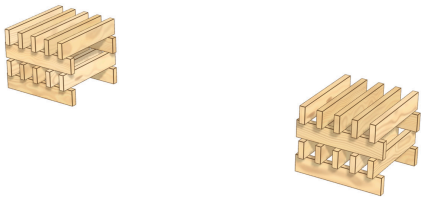
Age : +10

Duration : ~90 min



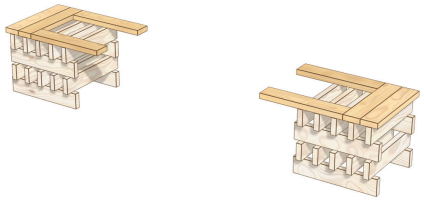
1

x4



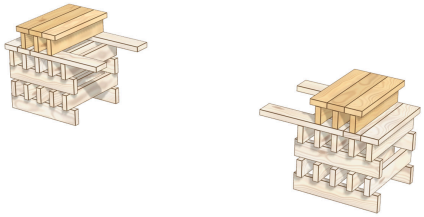
Place the 2 towers facing each other, 3 planks laid end to end apart. For each one, lay 2 planks on their edge along the bridge axis, then five across. Repeat to make 4 levels.

2



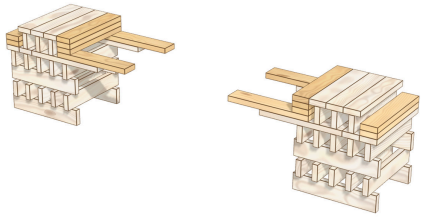
On each tower, lay 2 planks flat along the bridge, sticking out towards the middle of the bridge, and 2 across behind them. This is the start of the corbelling: steps that reach out over the gap.

3



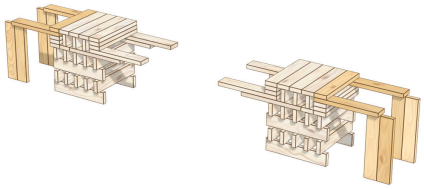
Place 3 short planks on their edge, level with the 3 planks on their edge on the floor below. Then cover them with three flat planks running the same way.

4



At the front, lay 2 flat planks reaching towards the centre to continue the lower bridge, and straight away place 3 flat planks behind them as a counterweight. At the back of the towers, balance 2 planks on the first one (careful with the balance!).

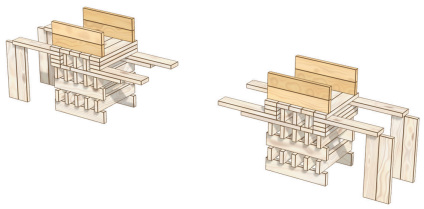
5



At the back of the towers, on each side, stand 4 short planks upright (2 side by side): these are the first 4 piers of the viaduct. Lay 2 flat planks on each side to join the tower to the piers, then one last one across on that edge.

6

SUPER !



On each tower, lay 2 planks sideways on their edge, both along the bridge axis: they let the road through.

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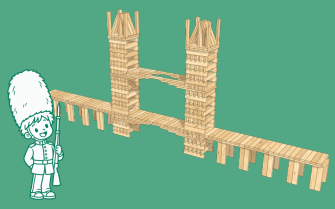

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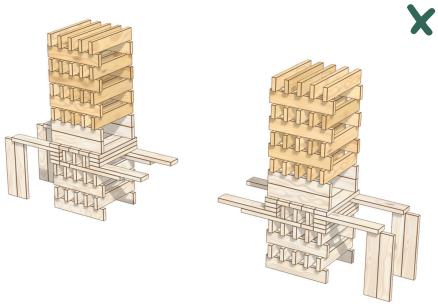
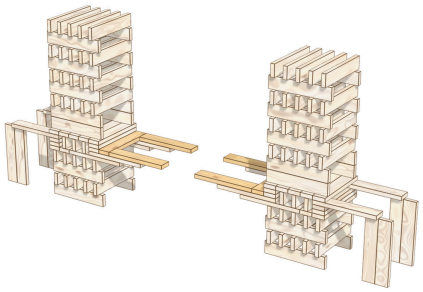


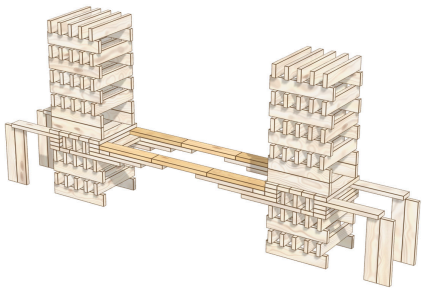
Build 7 more levels on each tower, alternating as at the start: 5 planks across, then 2 along the bridge axis.

8



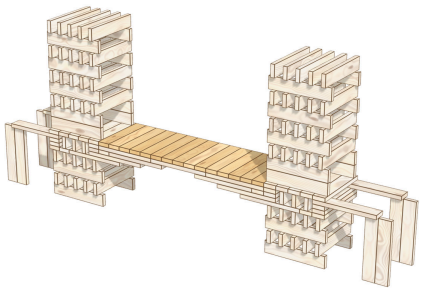
The tower now holds the steps of the bridge: glue 1 plank on each side, against the tower. Finally, add more planks at right angles towards the centre (2 on each side) to extend the arch.

9



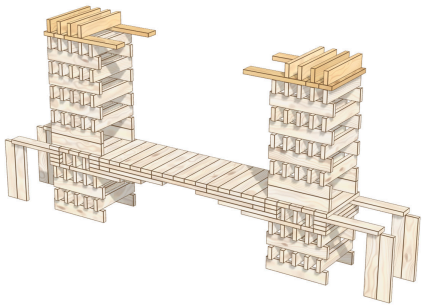
Join the two arches with 2 rows of 3 flat planks acting as beams, laid end to end from one step to the other.

10



Cover the beams with 15 flat planks laid across, packed tightly. The bridge road now runs from one tower to the other!

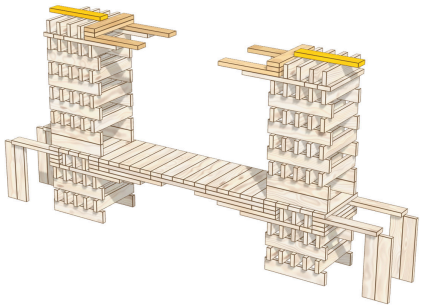
11



At the top of the towers, we repeat step 2: 2 flat planks at the back, balanced on the edge of the previous level, and 2 flat planks the other way reaching towards the centre. Then place 4 short planks on their edge (at the same height as the planks on their edge on the lower levels).

12

SUPER !



Before extending the upper bridge, lay 1 flat plank across the top of the towers as a counterweight. Then lay the 2nd step to link up the upper bridge, with its back resting on the edge of the tower by one plank width. You can then add 2 flat planks behind those same planks.

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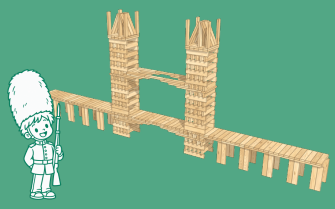
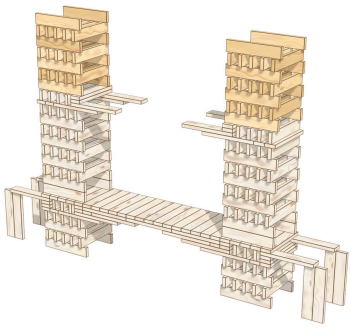
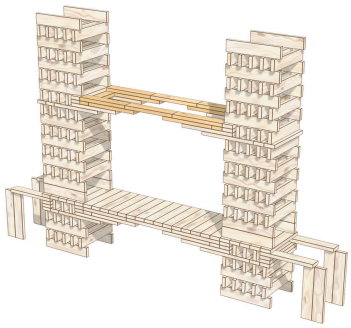


13



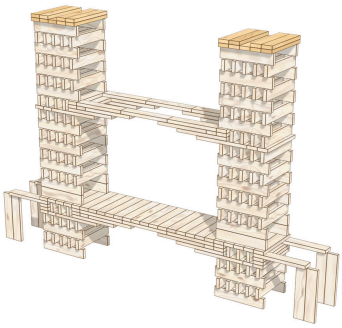
Lay the first top level of the towers: its 2 planks along the axis surround the counterweight. Remove it, then build 6 more levels, alternating the direction.

14



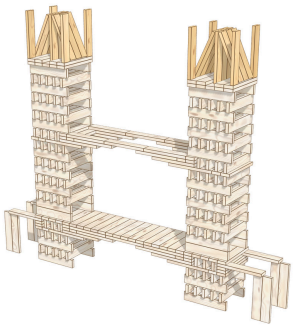
Add the 3rd step, with 1 plank against the tower and 2 flat planks towards the centre. Join both sides with two rows of 3 planks end to end: this is the walkway, the upper bridge.

15



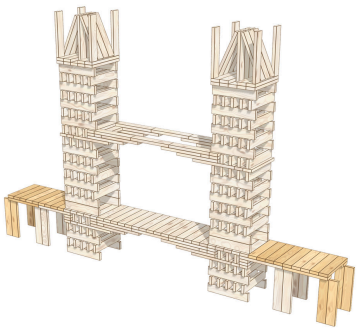
Cover the top of each tower with 5 flat planks forming a sort of roof. On top, add 4 planks per tower, leaving the middle one free: this is where the roof will stand.

16



Stand 3 short planks upright side by side in the middle of each tower, and lean two planks in a slope against each one. Finally, stand a turret upright at each corner.

17

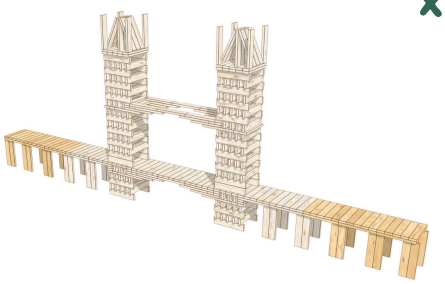


Cover the first arch with 4 planks across to continue the road. Then build the 2nd set of piers with 4 short planks on each side of the viaduct, and join them as before with 1 flat plank before covering them with 5 pieces too.

18

BRAVO!

x3



Build three more arches the same way, finishing each one before the next. The last pier sits under the end of the bridge. Your Tower Bridge is finished!

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