

MICHELLE WARD designs

Coffin Box Assembly Instructions – Eight-Sided

A 3D paper coffin box from the Electric Screams collection by Michelle Ward Designs



What you are making.

Materials

Tools and Adhesive

- Paper glue, a tape runner, or a hot glue gun
- A fine-tip weeding tool, for lifting small lettering and fine detail off the mat
- A silicone mat, if you are using hot glue

Hot glue works and sets fast, which is why I use it for builds like this. Two things come with it: glue strings, which look like cobwebs and are arguably seasonal, and a real risk of gluing your project to the table. Work on a silicone mat.

Paper

Use **80 lb cover** cardstock or heavier — about 216 gsm — for the structure. Don't skip the word "cover" — 80 lb cover and 80 lb text are two different papers, and both exist. 80 lb text is closer to thick writing paper, and a piece built from it will lean.

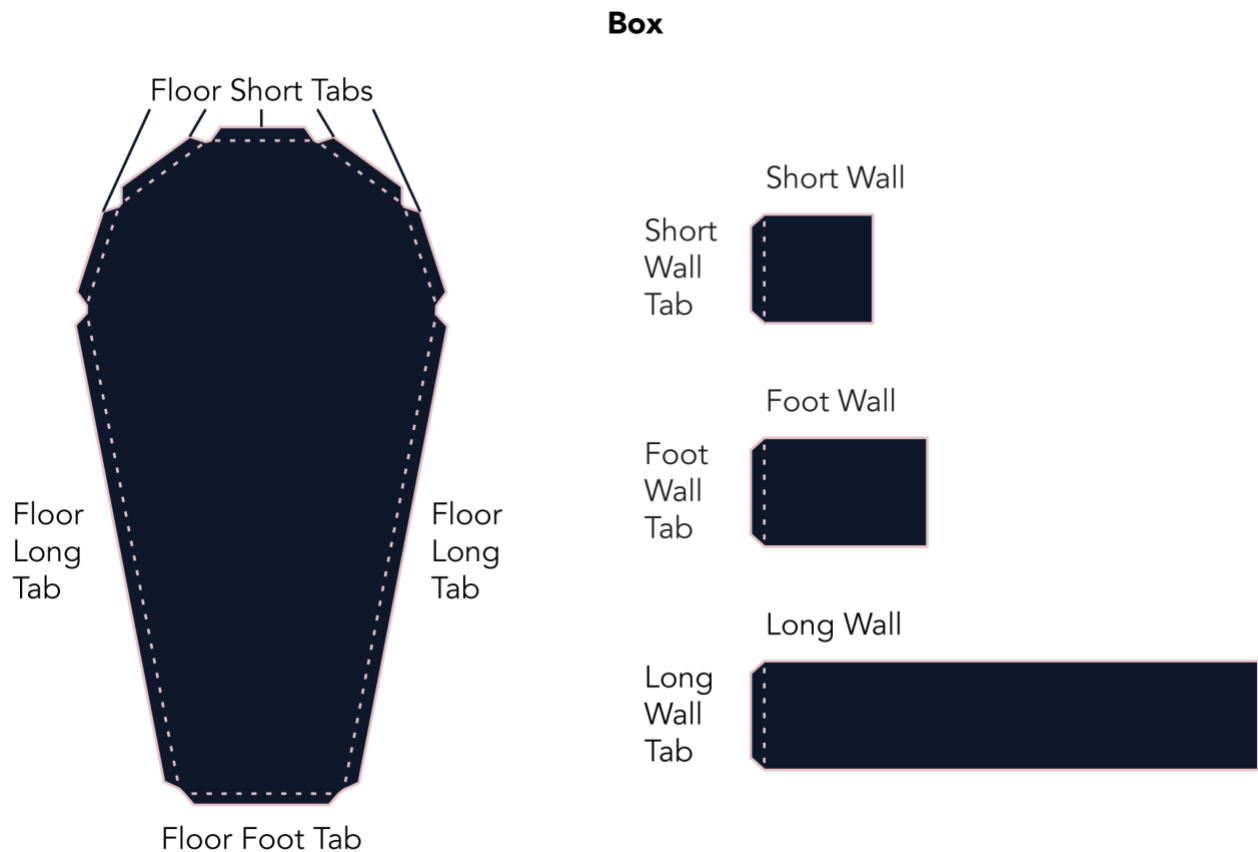
If your design includes small lettering or fine details like names and dates, cut those pieces from adhesive vinyl rather than paper.

Parts

Eight-Sided Coffin Box Parts List

Part	Name	Number to cut
	Floor	1
	Long Wall	2
	Foot Wall	1
	Short Wall	5
	Lid	1
	Lid Foot Wall	1
	Lid Short Wall	3
	Lid Border	1
	Name Lettering	1
	Date	1
	Cross	1

Build the Box

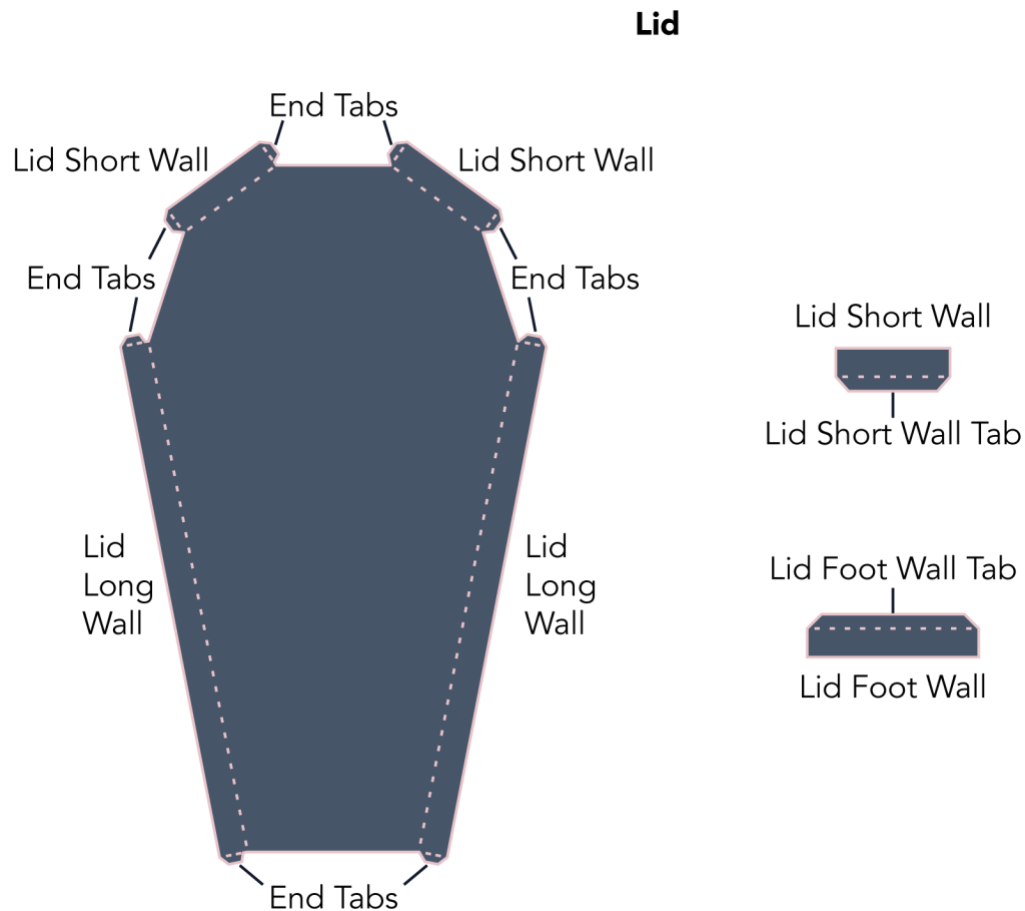


1. Fold every fold line on the Floor and all eight walls before you glue anything.
2. Set the Foot Wall at the foot of the Floor with the Foot Wall Tab facing toward one of the Floor Long Tabs. Glue the Floor Foot Tab to the inside of the Foot Wall.
3. Set one Long Wall next to the Foot Wall so its Long Wall Tab faces away from the Foot Wall Tab. Glue the Floor Long Tab to the inside of the Long Wall.
4. Set one Short Wall next to the Long Wall so its Short Wall Tab faces away from the Long Wall Tab. Glue the Floor Short Tab to the inside of the Short Wall.
5. Glue the remaining four Short Walls to the Floor Short Tabs one at a time, working around the shape.
6. Set the remaining Long Wall next to the last Short Wall so its Long Wall Tab faces the Foot Wall. Glue the Floor Long Tab to the inside of the Long Wall.

Close the Box

7. Fold the Foot Wall upward and glue its Foot Wall Tab to the inside of the Long Wall beside it.
8. Glue each wall tab to the inside of the next wall, working around the shape, until the tab of the final Long Wall meets the inside of the Foot Wall you started from. The box is now eight-sided and closed.

Assemble the Lid



The Lid Floor cuts with two Lid Long Walls and two Lid Short Walls already attached, each carrying an End Tab at either end. The other three Lid Short Walls and the Lid Foot Wall are cut separately, and each of those has a single tab that glues to the Lid Floor.

9. Fold every fold line on the Lid Floor and the four loose walls.
10. Working flat, glue the Lid Foot Wall Tab to the Lid Floor at the foot, between the two Lid Long Walls.

11. Glue one Lid Short Wall Tab to the Lid Floor at the head, between the two attached Lid Short Walls. This one ends up parallel to the foot.
12. Glue the last two Lid Short Wall Tabs to the Lid Floor at the shoulders, each between a Lid Long Wall and an attached Lid Short Wall. **All three loose Lid Short Walls are the same piece** — only where they go is different, so you cannot put one in the wrong place.
13. Fold all eight walls up. Glue the End Tab of one Lid Long Wall to the inside of the Lid Foot Wall.
14. Glue the other End Tab of that Lid Long Wall to the inside of the Lid Short Wall on its other side.
15. Continue working around the lid until you glue the last End Tab to the inside of the Lid Foot Wall and every seam is closed.

Make It Yours

- Ink or distress the edges for a weathered look.
- Add metallic paint, wax, or chalk for depth and texture.
- Draw cracks or wooden plank lines with a fine-tip pen.
- Layer die-cut bats, skulls, or flowers on the lid for dimension.
- Add a vinyl name, a witty epitaph, or a set of initials.
- Tie a ribbon or twine bow around the box to make it giftable.

Light and Display

- Put a small LED tealight inside for an eerie glow, or fill it with candy and skip the light.
- Group several coffins with the Frankenstein Castle or Gravestone pieces to build a Misfit Halloween scene.
- For a scene, stand the castle on black posterboard and pull cotton balls apart into a thin drift around the base. It reads as fog, and it hides the edges of the board.

Find more designs in the [Michelle Ward Designs Etsy shop](#) or at michellewarddesigns.com. For project tutorials, join me for Crafting with Chaos on the [Michelle Ward Designs YouTube channel](#). Happy crafting!