



## NOME Sweet NOME

Igloos, or snowhouses, are made of blocks of snow. The Eskimo Indians built igloos to keep warm and protect themselves from the harsh winds on the Alaskan tundra and arctic coastline.

Building an igloo isn't easy. It requires careful planning. But if you can count and cut in a circle, you can build one at your own kitchen table. Use the patterns, recipe and instructions below to build yourself a sugar cube igloo!

### Supplies Needed:

- 1 box of sugar cubes (you'll need about 99 cubes!)
- 3 sheets of white cardstock
- Mortar mix, prepared and ready to spread (see recipe below)
- One small knife or rubber spatula
- Powdered sugar
- Egg white from 1 extra large egg (or 2 medium eggs)



### Prepare for Construction:

Mix the Mortar:

Mix 1 ½ cups powdered sugar with egg white from the one (or two) eggs. Beat until the mixture is as stiff as cake frosting.

Print out the 5 patterns on the following pages on card stock. Cut each pattern along the dotted lines. (Be sure to leave the open spaces—that's your door!)

### Construction:

Set the bottom layer pattern in front of you.

Count out 19 sugar cubes.

1. Use your butter knife to smear the mortar mix on three sides of each cube, and set each cube on a square.
2. Continue until all squares are filled with sugar cubes.
3. Inspect the layer and fill in any holes along the circle.
4. Set aside.

Count out 18 cubes for Layer 2.

Repeat steps 1-4.

Count out 17 cubes for Layer 3.

Repeat steps 1-4.



Continued on next page.



## ? DO YOU SEE A PATTERN?

- What do you notice about the number of cubes each layer has?

Count out 27 cubes for the top layer.  
Repeat steps 1-4.

### Assembly

Slather mortar mix along the top of the bottom layer, Layer 2 and Layer 3.  
(Leave the top layer un-slathered!)

Carefully place Layer 2 on top of the bottom layer. Make sure you line up the opening of Layer 2 with the opening of the bottom layer. (That's your doorway!)

Carefully place Layer 3 on top of Layer 2. Make sure the openings are lined up!

Carefully place the top layer on Layer 3. Make sure the openings are lined up!

### Doorway

- Count out 8 cubes.
- Smear mortar mix on 3 sides of one cube.
- Place the cube at the top of the hole, just underneath the top layer.  
(That's the apex, or top, of your doorway.)
- Take 2 cubes and smear three sides with mortar mix.
- Place one on each side of the apex cube.
- Continue to smear and place cubes along the edge of the hole until all 8 cubes have been used.



**Congratulations!** You now have your very own igloo. And as they say in Nome, AK, "there's no place like Nome!"



Answer to PATTERN question:  
Each layer has one less cube in it!





