

BOOKBINDING: ACCORDION STYLE

Like all projects, bookbinding requires some planning and consideration before the actual materials are cut and handled. Questions you might consider include the following: What is the book to be used for? What sort of paper will work best for the pages? How large do I want this book to be? These questions will allow you to customize each book you create.

Materials:

- 20 C Cardboard or Matboard
- Glue Sticks
- Decorative or Specialty Papers
- Heavier weight drawing or printmaking paper
- Brush (flat)
- X-Acto Knife
- Ruler
- Scissors
- White Glue (PVA)

GETTING STARTED

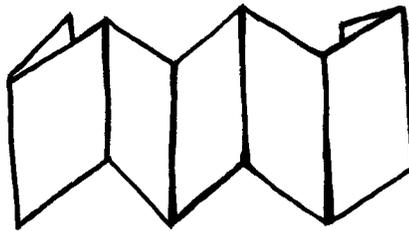
For the purpose of this handout the following instructions will outline how to create a 5"x7" accordion style book, however, these dimensions can be altered depending on the scope of your project. First, you will need to decide how many pages you want the book to be. For a 5"x7" book each page will be 4-1/2" wide and 6-1/2" tall. Leaving a 1/4" all around to spare allows the pages to fit nicely within the cover. The length of your inside page will vary depending on how many pages you want your book to be. For example, if you decide on seven pages for your book, you must



pre-scored paper

multiply 7 x 4-1/2, therefore you will need a sheet of paper which is 31-1/2" long by 6-1/2" tall.

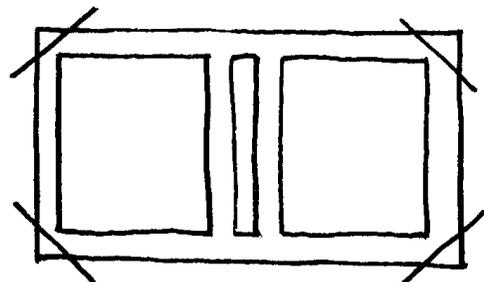
For the cover of your book, you will need to cut two pieces of board which measure 5" x 7" and, if you desire a spine for the book, one smaller piece of card measuring 1/2" x 7". Next, cut one piece of decorative paper which measures 13" wide by 11" long. In this instance we have added 4" to the length and 2-1/2" to the width. This ensures that a healthy amount of paper is left for folding and finishing. Although purely decorative, at this point you can cut a second piece of paper which measures slightly smaller than your cover to glue on the inside cover of your book.



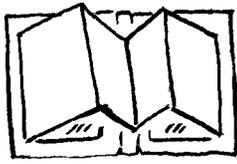
Fold the paper to be used for the pages, vertically every 4-1/2" into an accordion. If you are using a thicker paper a cleaner fold can be achieved by scoring the fold prior to folding the paper. Scoring can be done quite easily by simply measuring out the width of each page and using a groove board and bone folder to score the pages.

Next, lay out the decorative paper and board for the cover. Take some time to ensure that it will line up properly, add glue to the board and place the board on the decorative paper. Gently turn the board over and smooth out the paper by rubbing it with your hand, this will help remove any air bubbles or creases on the cover. Then simply cut the corners off the decorative paper, approximately 1/8" away from the board. Fold the sides of the paper and glue to the cover. Repeat this step with all sides.

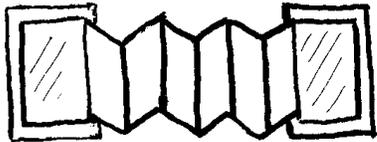
Next take your pages, center them with the cover and glue each end into the book cover.



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A variation on this is to leave the spine out of the cover and simply glue the ends of the book to two pieces of card. This will create a true accordion style book, and if desired both sides of the pages can be used.



~ To make your own groove board: cut a piece of 20C cardboard, draw two lines down the centre approximately 2 mm apart, then cut along the lines half-way through the thickness of the board, and remove the strip. Very useful for cutting, grooving and measuring! - Leah

NOTES:

STAFF TIPS:

~ Before you glue the pages to the cover, you can glue a ribbon between the cover and pages. - Shauna

~ I prefer to always measure everything out first and then begin my assembly. Remember - measure twice and cut once! - Jenn

~ When using heavier decorative paper paint on PVA (white) glue that has been mixed with water to adhere the paper to the board. Use a wide flat brush or a firm Colour Shaper to apply the glue. - Alison



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