



Turn Beautiful Artist's Paper into a Book

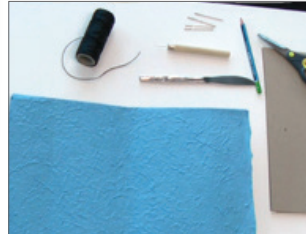


Learn how to create a gorgeous book to hold all your treasured artwork.

You'll need...

- A3 Roymac Rains watercolour pad (for pages & cover)
- Cutting mat
- Butter knife
- Ruler
- Pencil
- Glue
- Decorative acid free paper
- Scissors
- Etching tool
- A4 piece of foam core
- 4 tapestry needles
- Wax linen string
- Butter knife or scoring tool
- Total creative time: Approximately 2 hours

Let's start...



1.

Have all of your materials at your work station ready to use.



2.

Remove five pages from the A3 pad. Take one sheet and fold the paper in half lengthways, scoring the fold with your butter knife.



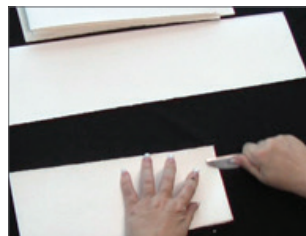
3.

Fold in half again (lengthways), scoring with the knife. This will give a concertina effect to your paper. Repeat this process with all five A3 pages from your pad.



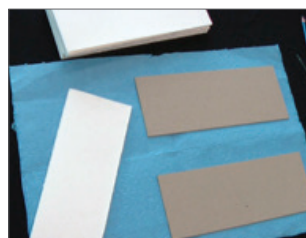
4.

Create a rough edge by using your butter knife to slice along each fold. Keep the folded edge facing closest to you and a firm hand on top of the paper while sliding the knife through. Repeat for all 5 sheets.



5.

You will now have 4 thin strips of paper from each of your A3 sheets. Fold each strip in half and use the knife to help score your fold. These are called 'folios'. Repeat for all strips.



6.

Use the back cover of your A3 pad to cut two pieces of board that will become the outer covers of your artist book. We suggest making these slightly larger – especially on the two short ends.



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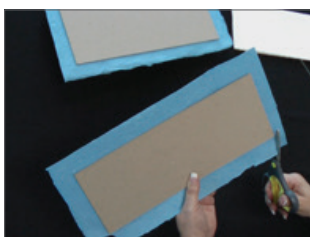
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7. Take your two pieces of card for the outer cover and your decorative paper. Cut the decorative paper to cover the card, allowing approximately 2cm around all sides.



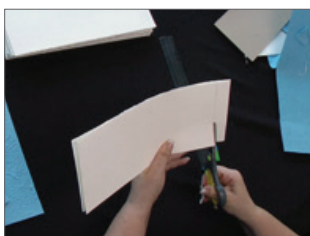
8. Cover the card in glue and stick down to your decorative paper. Repeat again for your back cover.



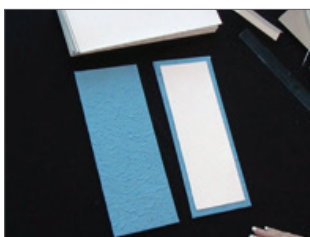
9. Cut the excess decorative paper off the corners of your cover, allowing 2mm where your paper meets the card so that none of the card will be seen. Repeat this for the back cover.



10. Use glue to fold and stick all the edges down so that the entire cover is now coated in the decorative paper. Repeat for the back cover.



11. Take one folio and measure 1.5cm in from the folded edge. Mark with a pencil and cut this piece away, retaining it for later.



12. Utilising the two pieces of paper that are now separate, hide the gluing and folds on the inside of your front and back cover. Simply make any adjustments to the size with scissors and glue down.



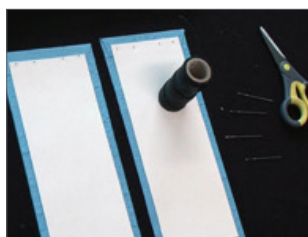
13. Now, lets return to the small edge off cut from Step 11. Find the centre point of this piece by folding it in half both ways to mark it. Working lengthways, between the centre and the edge on both sides, mark two crosses - evenly spaced. You will end up with four crosses in total.



14. Working on a piece of foam core to prevent damage to your bench, place the template exactly in the fold of a folio and pierce through each cross with your etching tool. Making sure to push the tool right through to the foam core, making a hole. Repeat for all folios.



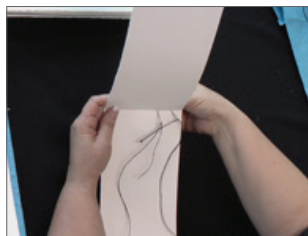
15. Using the same method, place your template approximately 2cm from the short edge of your front cover and pierce through. Jiggle the tool around in these holes to make them a little bit bigger. Repeat for the back cover.



16. Gather your work thus far on your bench with your 4 tapestry needles, scissors and wax linen thread ready for the next step.



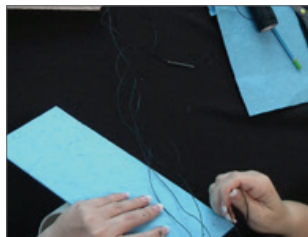
17. Take two long pieces of string (approx. 60cm) and thread a needle onto both ends. When you have finished you will have a needle on each end of the two pieces of string.



18. Taking one of your folios, thread one pair of needles (one piece of string) through the two holes on the right hand side. Make sure that you push the needles through from the inside of the fold.



19. Take the needle on the right hand edge and thread through the corresponding hole on the front cover. Take care to wrap the thread around and come through the hole from the decorated paper side.



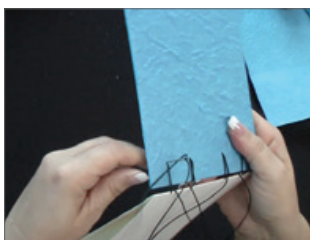
20. Repeat this process for the first needle's pair. When complete, ensure that the two pieces of string have been threaded through and are resting on the inside. Refer to the image. Repeat this process for the other pair of needles.





21.

Pull each piece of thread tightly so as to gather the front cover and the folio together. Repeat Step 20 – Step 22 to reinforce the bind.



22.

Once complete, let all your thread and needles fall down the front cover facing away from you. Place another folded folio on top of the pile, you should be able to see the four holes along the top of the outside of the fold.



23.

Using the two needles that correspond to the two holes on the right hand side you want to take one needle and go down through the first hole and then up through the second hole. Repeat this step with the second needle going down through the second hole and up through the first. This is called a cross over stitch.



24.

Repeat Step 24 with the two holes and two needles on the left hand side.



25.

Tighten by pulling both pieces of the same string away from each other.



26.

To secure this folio you need to do what is called a link back stitch. Take the piece of string on the far right and wrap it around all of the stitched string between the cover and the folios. See the image for reference; the small loop in the image shows where your thread needs to go. Repeat Step 23 – Step 27 (cross over stitch and link back stitch) until all folios are attached to the front cover. The only changes in this step is that every time you attach a new folio and do the link back stitch, make sure the stitch is made three folios back including the folio you are attaching.



27.

This is what the side of your book will look like with all the folios attached.



28.

To attach the cover, line up the holes and thread the first needle around and through the front of the decorative paper.



29.

Wrap the string around the 'spine' of the back cover as shown in the image. Repeat this process with the other three holes and needles.



30.

Create a rough edge by using your butter knife to slice along each fold. Keep the folded edge facing closest to you and a firm hand on top of the paper while sliding the knife through. Repeat for all 5 sheets.



31.

Once more, thread each needle through the hole on the back cover; ensure the needle passed through the decorative paper side first. This time, however, instead of looping around again, thread through the corresponding hole on the last folio and allow the needle to come to rest between the two pieces of paper in that folio. Take each needle the string that has already bound that folio and loop it around itself to form a knot and secure in place.



FINISHED!

Snip the excess string with scissors and your book is now complete!

