
HOME EDITION

COLAB

SMYTHE BINDING

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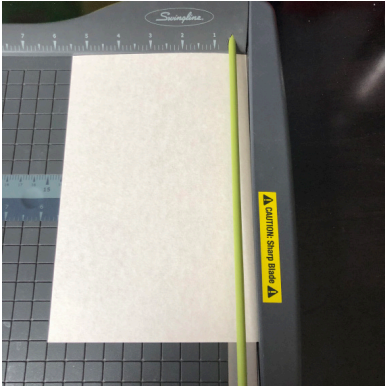
Materials

- Paper (inner pages)
- Cardstock (end pages)
- Cardboard or book board
- Fabric or scrapbook paper (outer cover)
- Thread
- Ribbon
- Glue
- Beeswax (optional)
- Needle
- Awl
- Exacto knife
- Scissors
- Clamps

Note: Try substituting similar materials in place of any items you do not have on hand.

Step 1: Create your text block

The first step is to make and bind the text block of inner pages.



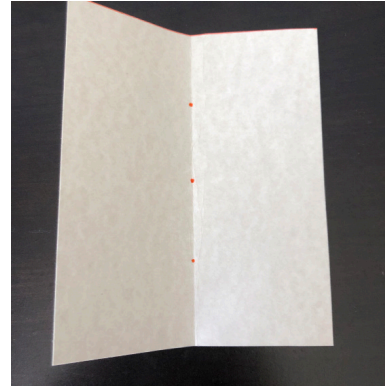
1.
Cut pages to the desired size.



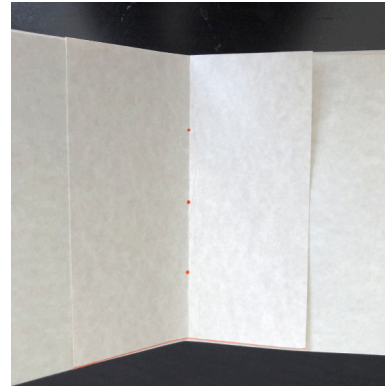
2.
Fold the pages in half.



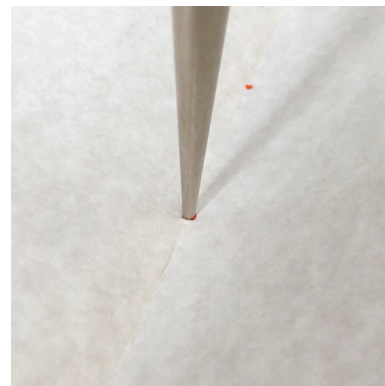
3.
Stack pages 3-4 deep to create signatures. You must have an even number of signatures.



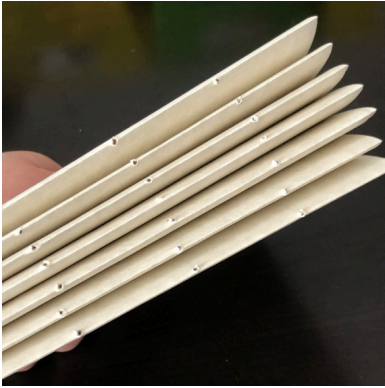
4.
Cut a piece of paper the same height as your pages and 4-5 inches wide to use as a template. Fold it in half to create a crease.



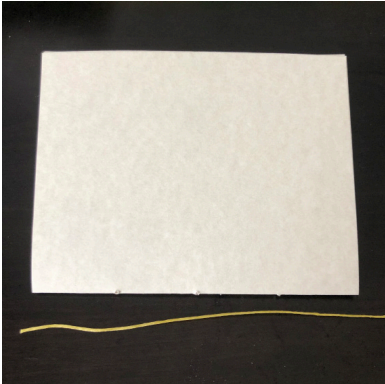
5.
Mark three holes evenly spaced along the crease of the template. Place the template in the fold of the first signature.



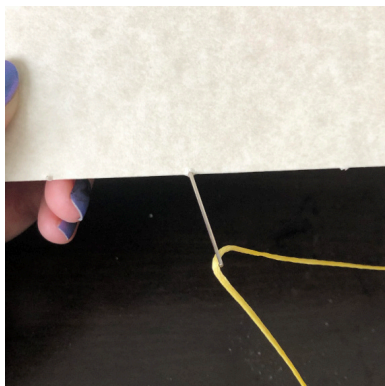
6.
Use your awl to punch holes in all the signatures.



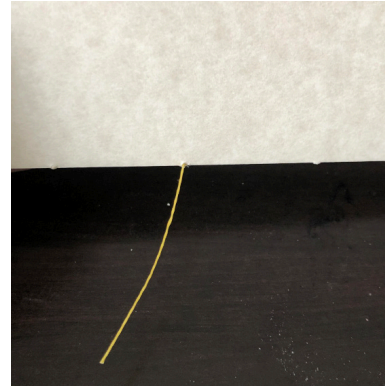
7.
Stack your signatures in order to be sure the holes align.



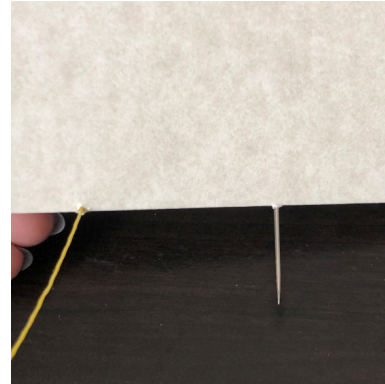
8.
Measure a length of thread equal to the distance between holes on a single signature, times the number of signatures, plus 2-3 extra lengths. Cut your thread.



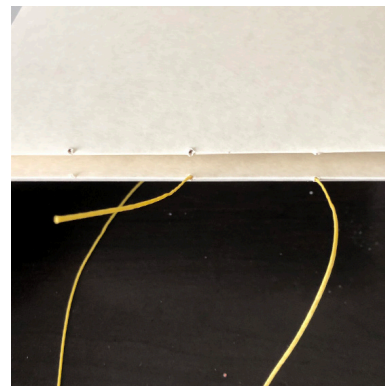
9.
Sew into the center hole of the first signature.



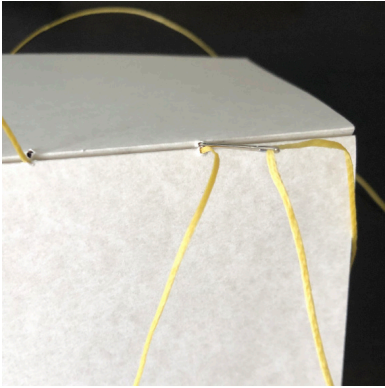
10.
Gently pull the thread through the center hole, leaving a tail of 2-3 inches.



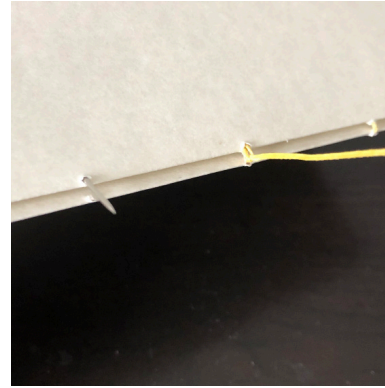
11.
Sew out through the hole on the right and gently pull the thread tight.



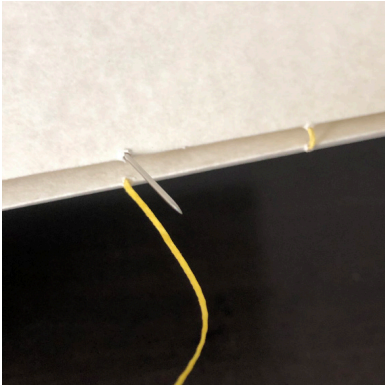
12.
Stack the second signature onto the first, aligning the holes.



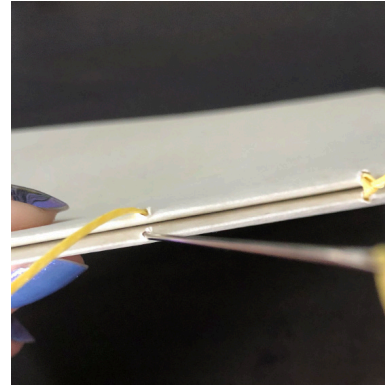
13.
Sew into the right
hole on the second
signature.



16.
Sew out the left
hole on the second
signature.



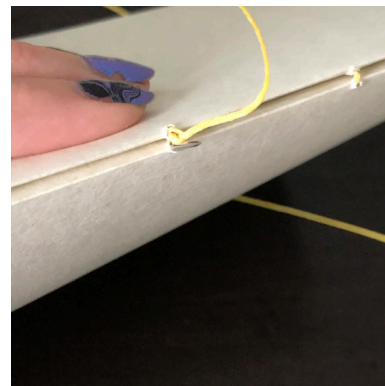
14.
Sew out of the center
hole on the second
signature.



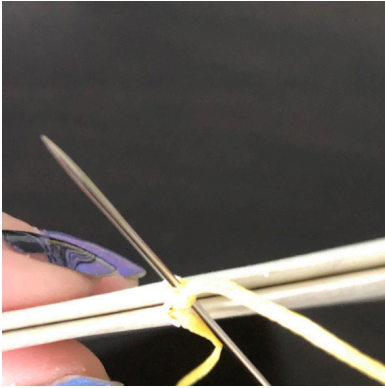
17.
Sew into the left
hole on the first
signature.



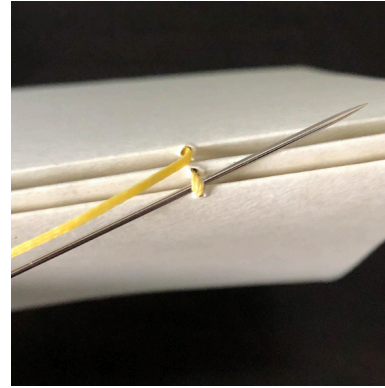
15.
Loop around the tail
and sew back through
the same center hole.



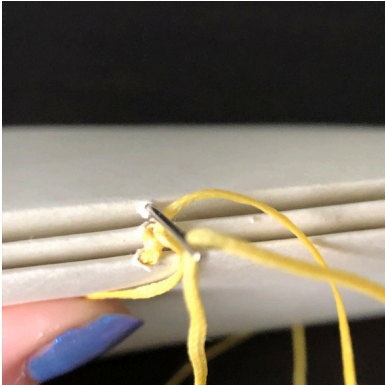
18.
Sew out the center
hole on the first
signature.



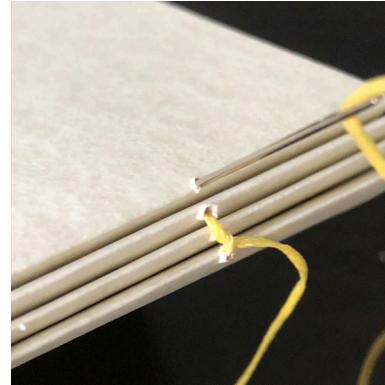
19.
Carefully sew under
the loop.



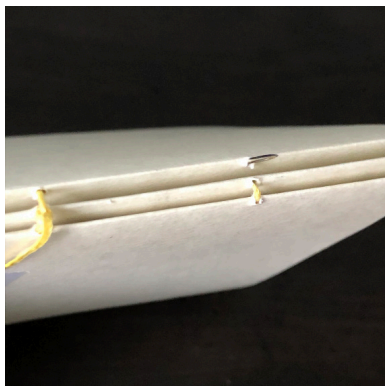
22.
Sew under the stitch
holding the first two
signatures together.



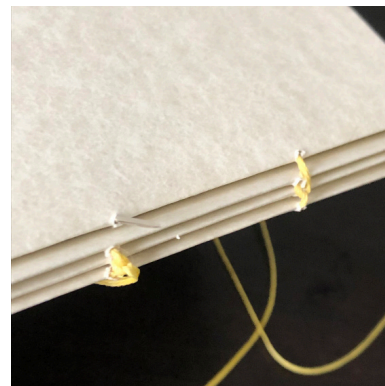
20.
Stack the third signature on
top. Sew into the center hole
of the third signature.



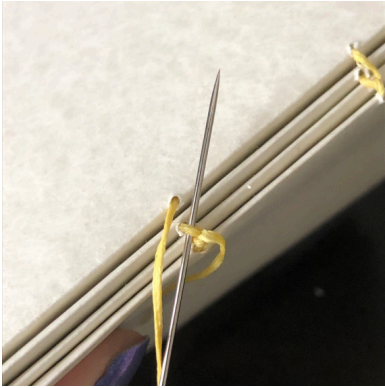
23.
Add a fourth signature.
Sew into the right hole
on the fourth signature.



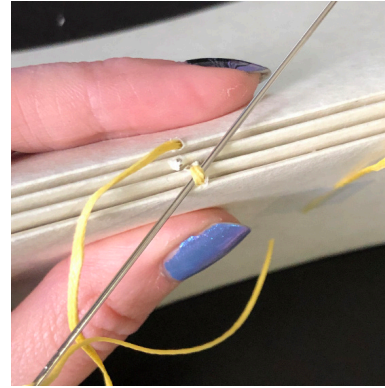
21.
Sew out through the
right hole on the third
signature.



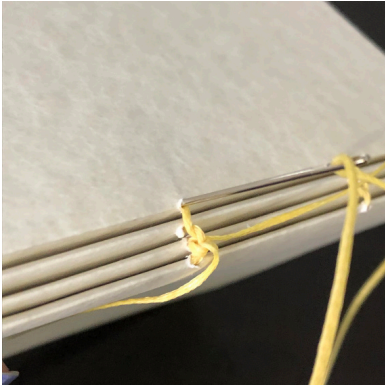
24.
Sew out the center
hole on the fourth
signature.



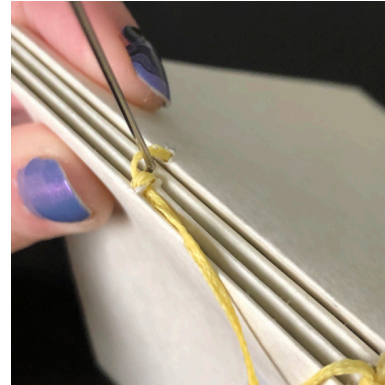
25.
Sew under the stitch holding the previous two signatures together.



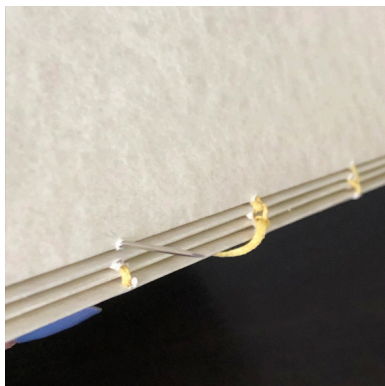
28.
Sew under the stitch holding the first two signatures together.



26.
Sew back into the center hole of the fourth signature.



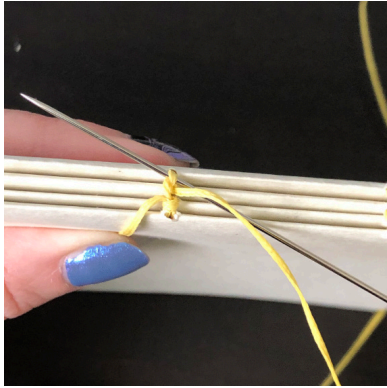
29.
Sew back into the left hole of the third signature. You should not have sewn here yet.



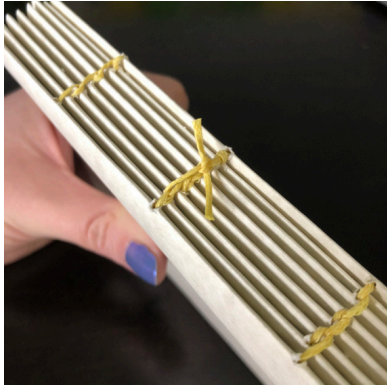
27.
Sew out through the left hole on the fourth signature.



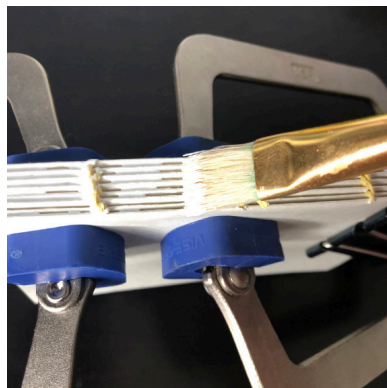
30.
Sew out the center hole on the third signature.



31.
Sew under the stitch holding the last two signatures together. Repeat this pattern until you have attached as many signatures as you desire.



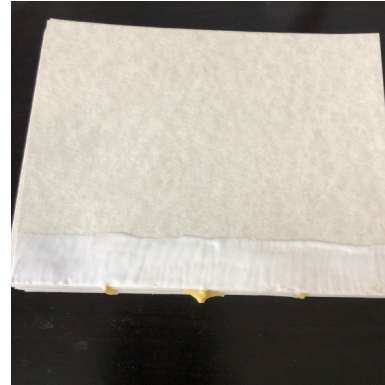
32.
When all signatures are attached, tie the end tails into a knot.



33.
Spread a generous amount of glue along the spine of the book.



34.
Cut two pieces of endpaper to the same size as your inner pages and fold in half.



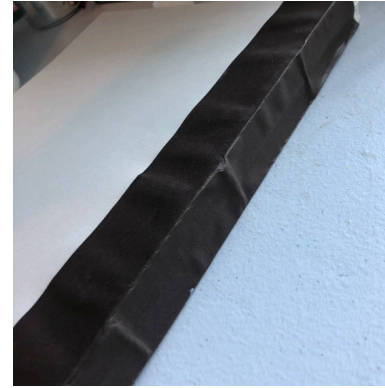
35.
Put glue along the 1.5-2 inches of the inner pages closest to the spine.



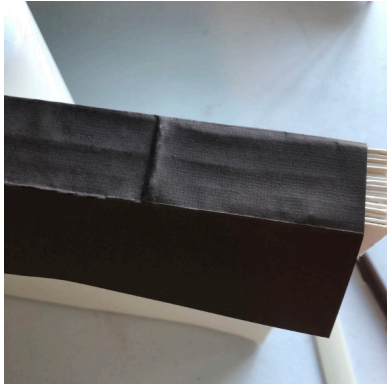
36.
Gently align the endpage and place it in the glue. Repeat on the backside.



37.
Cut a piece of paper about the same height as your textblock and wide enough to wrap around the spine with about 2 inches to glue onto the front and back. This will help stabilize the spine.



40.
Allow your textblock to dry completely.



38.
Glue the paper in place along the spine. Smooth out any bubbles and wrinkles.



39.
Glue the front and back in place to the end paper. Smooth out any bubbles and wrinkles.

Step 2: Add a cover

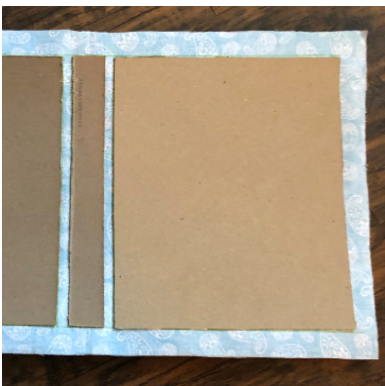
The next step is to add a hard cover to your text block.



1. Cut two cardboard covers a 1/2 inch taller and a 1/4 inch wider than your inner pages. Cut a spine the height of your covers and the width of your textblock.



2. Measure your cover fabric or paper. You will need to account for a 1/4 inch + width of cardboard gap on either edge of the spine and include a 1 inch overhang on all sides. Cut to size.



3. Glue your cover fabric or paper in place. Carefully smooth out any air bubbles or wrinkles.



4. Cut the corners of your cover fabric at a 45 degree angle approximately a cardboard width from the corner of your cover.



5. Fold the cover fabric around the top and bottom edge of your book. Glue in place.



6. Fold the cover fabric around the left and right edge of your book. Glue in place.



7.
Put glue on the front endpage of the textblock and the inner cover.



10.
Put weight on your book. Allow to dry completely.



8.
Align the front endpage in the center of the cover. Gently press into place and smooth out any bubbles or wrinkles.



11.
Congratulations! The book is now finished and you can start filling it with your drawings and thoughts!



9.
Repeat this process to attach the back cover.