

Creative Book Making

Lesson 5



The Dos-a'-dos book

with Sue Bleiweiss

Welcome to lesson 5!

This week I'm going to show you how to create a dos-a'-dos book. This is a fun book to create and you can make it with as many panels as you like once you learn how to make the basic structure. The only trick to this book is covering the panels neatly so that the front and back panels of the book don't have any seam lines showing.

You can make your book any size and shape you like but for this lesson I'm going to be creating a book measuring about 6" x 5".

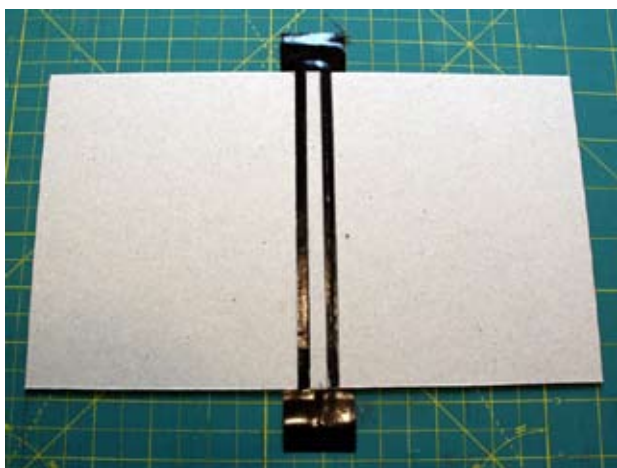
Start by cutting the following pieces from book board:

Three pieces 6" x 4 3/4" (panels)

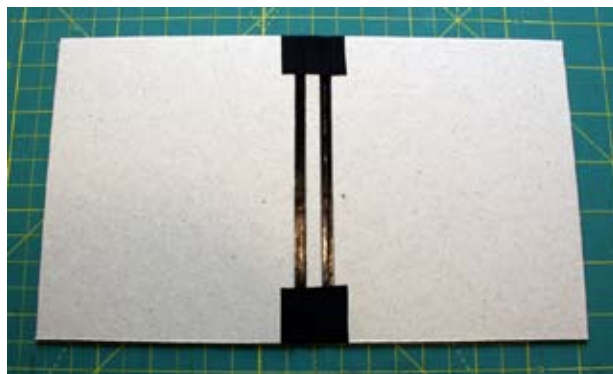
Two pieces 1/4" x 6" (spines)

Cut a piece of book cloth 1 1/4" x 8", for the first spine.

Glue one of the spine pieces to the center of the book cloth and then glue a panel on either side spacing the panels 2 book boards width from the edge of the spine taking care to align the top and bottom edges:



Fold and glue down the excess book cloth along the top and bottom edges:



Set this unit aside for now.

Cut a second piece of book cloth 1 1/4" x 12 1/2".

Glue the other spine piece to the book cloth, centering it both horizontally and vertically and then glue the last panel to the right of it spacing the panel 2 book boards width from the edge of the spine taking care to align the top and bottom edges:

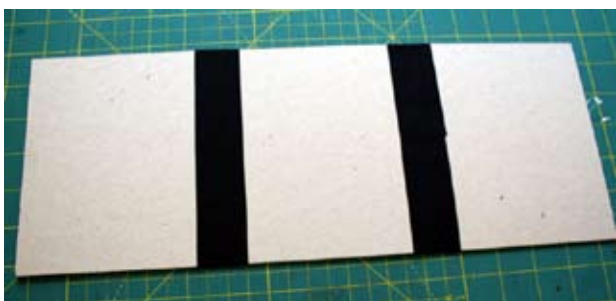


NOTE: It's important to glue the two units together correctly, in the next step, in order for the finished cover on the book to appear with no seam lines along the edges. So please read through the following steps carefully before you glue anything in place!

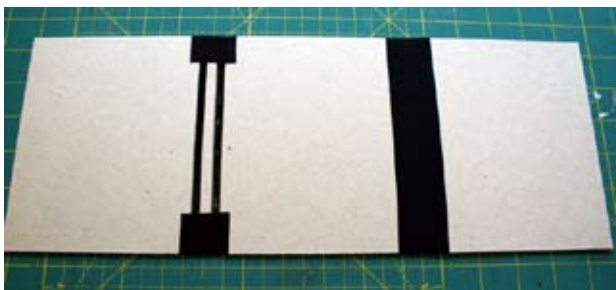
Apply glue to the other edge of the book cloth spine and glue the first unit you made to it with the side that has the exposed spine piece showing facing down. Space it 2 book boards width from the edge of the spine taking care to align the top and bottom edges:



Fold and glue down the excess book cloth overlapping the cut edges:



The flip side of the unit should look like this:



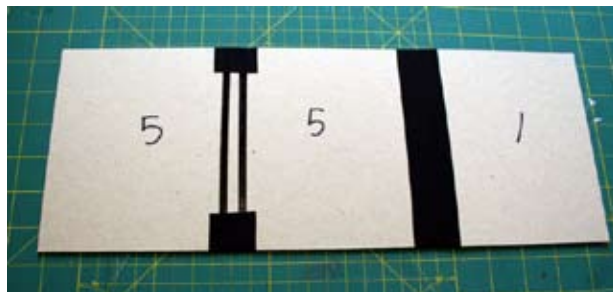
The book cloth on the right hand side wraps all the way around the book board and the book cloth on the left does not.

The next step is to cover the exposed book board

with decorative paper. The order in which you do this is important because again, you want the two panels that end up being the front and back cover of the book not to have any seam lines on them.

To make sure that you cover the boards in the right order, take the time to mark the panels with numbers so that you are sure to cover them in the right order.

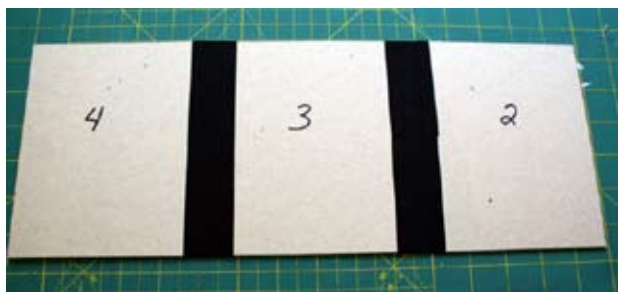
Place the book unit on your worktable so that the book cloth that does not wrap completely around is on the left as shown in the next photo:



Write the number 1 on the far right panel and the number 5 on the other two. The number 5 panel is treated as one when it comes time to cover it with paper.

NOTE: I am writing my numbers large with a black marker so that you can see them in the photos. You may want to use a smaller, lighter pencil mark to mark your numbers so that they don't show through the paper that you use to cover the boards with.

Now turn the book over so that the number 1 is face down on your right hand side and the 5's are on the left.



Number the panels as shown in the previous photo with the 2 on the right most panel, 3 in the center and 4 on the left panel. The number 2 should be on the flip side of the panel labeled number 1.

When your book is all finished panels #1 and #4 will end up being the front and back covers so you may want to keep this in mind when choosing the paper you use to cover these panels with.

Now all that's left to do is cover the panels with your decorative paper following the order of the numbers.

To cover panel 1 cut a piece of decorative paper 8" x 6". Coat the number 1 panel with glue but do not put any glue on the book cloth.

Turn the paper that you cut for the cover over and run a line of glue on the wrong side of the paper about 1/2" wide along the edge that will be placed overlapping the book cloth spine. Place the paper on the book cover where you have applied the glue.



Place the paper on the cover so that the left edge of your paper overlaps over the edge of the book cloth by about 1/4" and the paper extends beyond the top and bottom edges of the book cover by 1". There will be more than 1" of paper extending beyond the right edge but that's OK because you'll trim the excess off later.

Press the paper down very well to be sure that there are no wrinkles or air bubbles and that the paper is in good contact with the cover.

Turn the book over and trim the excess paper to 1" and then fold and glue down the excess along the three edges:



To cover panel 2, cut a piece of paper measuring 4 1/2" x 5 1/2". Apply glue to one side and glue it in place on panel number 2 placing it so that the left edges are aligned with the left edges of the paper that overlaps the book cloth at the top and bottom of the panel:



To cover panel 3 cut a piece of paper 8" x 4 1/2". (You may want to measure your panel before cutting this piece to make sure that the 4 1/2" width is wide enough to overlap the book cloth on either side of the panel.)

Apply glue to one side and glue it in place on panel 3 so that there is 1" extending beyond the top and bottom of the panel and that the right and left edges are overlapping the book cloth on either side by a scant 1/8" to 1/4".



Turn the book over and glue the excess paper down:



Turn the book back over so that panel 4 is facing up and cut a piece of paper 8" x 6" to cover it with.



Glue the paper in place just like you did for panel #1 and then flip the book over and glue the excess down:



Now all that's left to do is to cut a piece of paper measuring 10" x 5 1/2" and then glue it in place over the #5 panels:



Set the book aside while you prepare your signatures.

For my signatures I am using paper cut 6" x 9 1/2", folded in half to make a signature measuring 6" x 4 3/4" and I'm using 10 pieces of paper for each signature because I am using a relatively

thin paper. Your signatures shouldn't be too thick or your book won't close properly so depending on the paper you're using you may need to adjust the number of pages in your signatures. You'll need to make 2 signatures for this book.

Once you've folded your signatures you should make a hole punching template. I am sewing my signatures in using a 3 hole stitching pattern but if you prefer you can use a 4 hole pattern just like you did for the book in lesson 1.

To make a 3 hole stitching template, take a piece of paper the same size as your signature pages and fold it in half. Using a ruler and a sharp pencil make three marks in the fold of the page starting from the top at: 1 1/2" from the top, then 3" from the top and then 4 1/2" from the top.

Place your hole punching guide in the center of one of your signatures aligning the top and bottom edges and use a sharp awl to poke a hole where your marks are all the way through the entire signature.

BE CAREFUL not to poke yourself with the awl! Do this for both signatures and then set them aside while you punch the corresponding holes in the actual book spines using the same template you used to punch the holes in the signatures.

Thread a tapestry needle with a 12" length of thread.

Now, before you start sewing, you need to decide if you want the thread tails to show on the outside of the book or on the inside of the signatures. The choice is up to you. If you want the tails to be on the inside then start sewing from the inside center hole of the signature. If you want them on the outside so that you can add some beads or charms to them, then start sewing from the inside center hole on the outside of the spine. The directions that follow are for having the tails on the outside of the book.

The first signature is sewn in along the spine between the two #5 panels. These are the panels with the one long piece of decorative paper covering them:



Place your signature on this side of the book aligning the holes with the holes in the spine.

Now sew through the center hole of the spine on the opposite side of the spine through the center hole of the signature to the inside:



Then sew through the top hole of the signature back out through to the same hole in the spine to the outside:



Sew through the bottom hole in the spine through to the bottom hole in the signature to the inside.



Then sew through the center hole of the signature back out through to the same hole in the spine to the outside:



Tie a knot with the tail ends.

Now the other signature is sewn along the spine between the two panels on the opposite side of the #4 panel. If you flip your book over so that the signature you just sewed in is against your work surface on the left hand side you can place your other signature along the spine on the right side of the book as shown in the next photo:



Sew this signature in the same way you sewed the first one in.

When you're finished it should look like this:



You can add some additional embellishment to the covers and you're done!

Next week is our last week together and we're going to be creating books with more complex and decorative stitch patterns along the spines.

