

Chain Stitch Notebook Instructions

Step 1: Create Signature (4:08)

1. Tear or cut your paper to the size you'd like your signature to be.
2. Holding the pages together, fold one side of the signature over to the other.
3. Press the crease with a bone folder.
4. Measure the height and width of your signature.
5. Press the signature under weights (books, bricks, etc.)

Step 2: Create Cover (8:09)

1. Add 1/4" (6 mm) to your signature height to find your cover height. Add 1/4" (6 mm) to your signature width, multiply that measurement by 2, and add 1/2" (1 cm) to find your cover width.
2. Cut your cover to size.

Step 3: Decorate Cover (10:18)

You can decorate your cover however you like! Just keep in mind that we'll be trimming a bit off the short edges later.

If you use Kraft-tex, you can try decorating with watercolor paints, acrylic paints, stamping inks, Posca paint pens, and lots of other mediums.

Step 4: Create Spine (18:13)

1. On the inside of your cover, measure 1/2" (1 cm) from the left edge. Line up a ruler on that line and fold the right edge of the cover to meet it. Press down at the fold.
2. Flip the cover around and repeat the process.
3. Score at the folds.

Step 5: Sew the Book (21:40)

1. Starting at the top of your signature, mark a dot every 1/2" (1 cm).
2. Punch holes at those dots.
3. Make a line down the center of your cover's spine.
4. Use the holes in your signature to mark punching holes on the spine.
5. Punch the holes in the spine.
6. Measure 4 times the height of your book in thread.
7. Thread your needle and, from the inside of the book, enter hole 1. Leave a 2" tail.

8. From the outside, enter hole 2. Tie a square knot over hole 2.
9. Exit hole 1 and reenter hole 2, but don't pull it too tight.
10. Exit hole 3. Bring your thread through the previous loop and enter hole 3 to create a chain stitch.
11. Repeat the sewing pattern down the spine.
12. At the end of sewing, create a half hitch knot and snip off the excess thread.
13. Press down the signature with a bone folder.
14. Trim each cover by about 1/2" (1 cm).