

Washi Tape Journal Instructions

Create Signatures

1. Cut your pieces of printer paper in half (you can use a paper cutter or craft knife, or simply fold them and tear).
2. Put your pages in 2 stacks of 10. Bang each stack on the table to ensure all pages are lined up.
3. Fold each stack, short edge to short edge. Press the fold with your bone folder or credit card. These are your signatures!
4. Put the signatures under some heavy books while you create your cover.

Create Covers

1. Tear your file folder at the crease and trim the torn edges.
2. The covers will be 5 3/4" (14 1/2 cm) tall, so mark that measurement in a few spots on your file folders.
3. Connect those marks with a ruler and cut off the excess.
4. It's time to decorate your cover! You can use washi tape like me, or you can get creative with collage, paint, pen, or anything else you can think of.
5. Once your covers are done, fold them in half and press the fold with your bone folder or credit card. For one of the covers, make sure to fold it in both directions.

Punch Holes

1. Now you will layer up your book. Start with one open signature facing down. Next add the first cover with the decorated side facing you. Add the next cover (the one folded both ways) with the blank side facing you. Place down the final signature.
2. Make sure all the centers are lined up and place a clip on each side.
3. Flip the book so you're looking at the inside crease. Make a pencil mark at the center of the signature. Next, make marks 1/2" (13 mm) from the top and bottom. Finally, make 2 more marks in the middle of the other marks.

4. Punch holes at these marks with your chosen punching tool and punching cradle/styrofoam/catalogue.

Sew Your Book

1. Measure 3 times the height of the book in thread.
2. Thread your needle (don't make a knot!) and enter the middle hole from the valley side of the book.
3. Enter hole 2 from the other side and exit hole 1.
4. Reenter hole 2, being careful not to go through the thread that's already there.
5. Exit hole 4 from the valley side and enter hole 5.
6. Reexit hole 4 and reenter the middle hole.
7. Remove your needle and tie a square knot. Trim off the excess thread.
8. Remove the clips and bring the covers together.
9. Push on the spine of the book with your bone folder or credit card.

Create Pockets

1. On the inside covers, you can create some pockets.
2. To create a square pocket, fold the cover so the edge is about 1/4" (6 mm) from the spine. At the crease, cut halfway down and then over to the edge. Attach the flap with some double-sided tape or glue.
3. To create a rectangle pocket, simply fold the inside cover like in the last step and attach it with double-sided tape or glue.

Finish Your Book

1. For the outside covers, place your ruler underneath the signature, leaving about 1/8" (3 mm) of the ruler showing.
2. Score a line along the edge of the ruler and fold the cover at that line.
3. You can choose to glue down the fold, remove it completely, or create another pocket.

Congratulations! You've finished your book. I can't wait to see how yours turns out!