

Mini Album Templates and Instructions

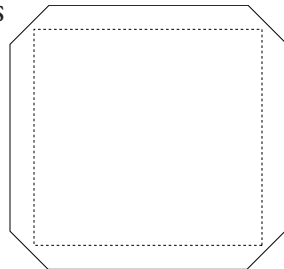


These templates and instructions are for making a mini album with 5½" x 4¼" pages (one fourth of a sheet of standard card stock) with open-spine style binding. They are based on the directions given in Marie Browning's book "Handcrafted Journals, Albums, Scrapbooks & More" (highly recommended) and have been customized for this specific size of book.

Here's the procedure, step by step:

1 Cut out two each of the cover and spine pieces from Bristol board or lightweight cardboard. Do not use mat board as it is too thick for the dimensions in this template. Also cut the cover hole punching guide and album page hole punching guide from cardboard and punch the holes as indicated.

2 Using the templates for cover paper and spine and hinge cover, cut out two of each for the cover and spine/hinge pieces. If

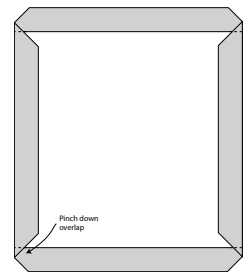


desired, decorate the surface of the cover paper. Any attachments are best left to the end after the book is assembled. Note: choose coordinating colors for these two pieces, like a solid and a print in a similar color (I used Mellow Moss for the spine and US Vanilla with a background stamped in Mellow Moss ink).

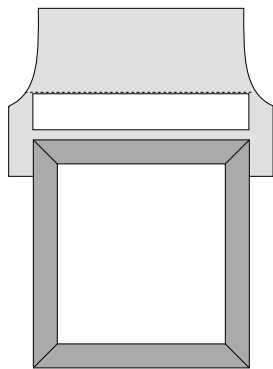


3 Center a cover cardboard piece on the wrong side of the trimmed cover paper, and adhere. Fold in and adhere (tacky glue works well) two opposite sides.

4 On the remaining two sides, pinch down the overlap paper neatly (like you are wrapping a package), then adhere the side to the cardboard. Do the same thing with the other cover cardboard piece. You will end up with two cover pieces, covered with paper and neatly mitered on the back.

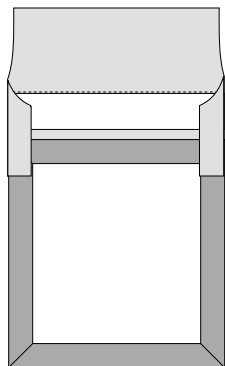


5 Fold the spine/hinge cover paper in half lengthwise (along the dotted line). Adhere the spine cardboard piece to the wrong side of the paper along the fold. You should have $\frac{1}{2}$ " of paper on either side of the spine piece. Leave a $\frac{1}{8}$ " space below the spine piece, and adhere the cover piece from Step 4, right side down, as shown in the drawing.

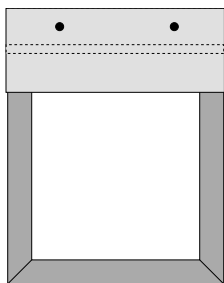


either side of the spine piece. Leave a $\frac{1}{8}$ " space below the spine piece, and adhere the cover piece from Step 4, right side down, as shown in the drawing.

6 Fold the side flaps down over the spine and cover, and glue. Pinch any overlap paper neatly, then fold down and glue the top edge of the spine/hinge cover paper over the spine and over the top edge of the cover. Cut a piece of decorative end paper slightly smaller than the cover, and glue over the wrong side of cover to hide cardboard and raw edges.



7 Repeat Steps 5 and 6 on the other pieces of spine, cover, and spine paper. Using the cover hole punching guide placed with arrow against the left-hand spine edge, mark holes for punching. Punch holes with $\frac{1}{8}$ " punch and add eyelets (optional).



8 Cut $8\frac{1}{2}$ " x 11" card stock in fourths (each piece $5\frac{1}{2}$ " x $4\frac{1}{4}$ ") for the album pages. Decorate as desired (I used the same background stamp for the pages as I used for the cover, in Versamark ink on Mellow Moss card stock).

9 Using the album page hole punching guide, mark and punch holes in each page. Score each page lightly where the fold will be (match to the bend in the cover).

10 Assemble the album and thread a ribbon down one set of holes and back up through the other set. Tie a bow to secure the cover to the pages. You will be able to untie the bow to add more pages later if desired.

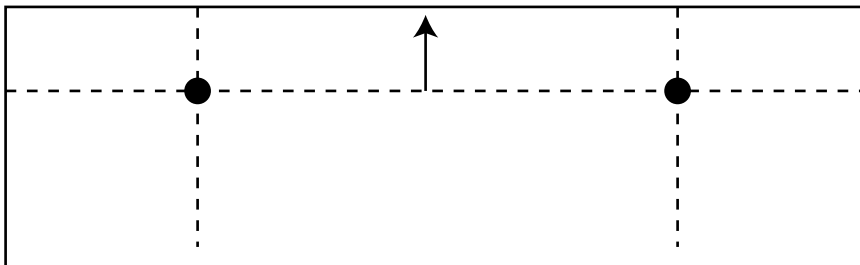
11 Decorate the cover and pages as desired.



Templates Page 1

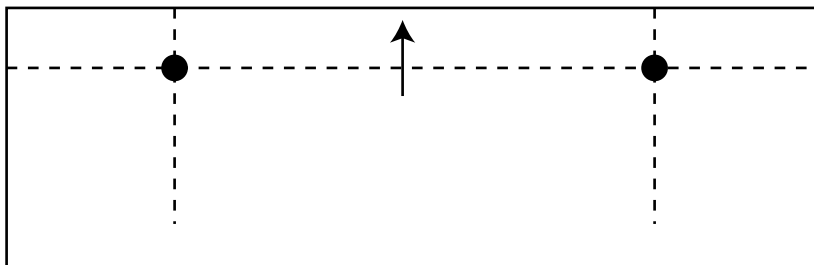
Book Cover
4.5" x 4.75"
Cut two out of Bristol board
or lightweight cardboard

Book Spine 0.75" x 4.5"
Cut two out of Bristol board or lightweight cardboard



Cover hole punching guide
Cut out and punch 1/8" holes where indicated

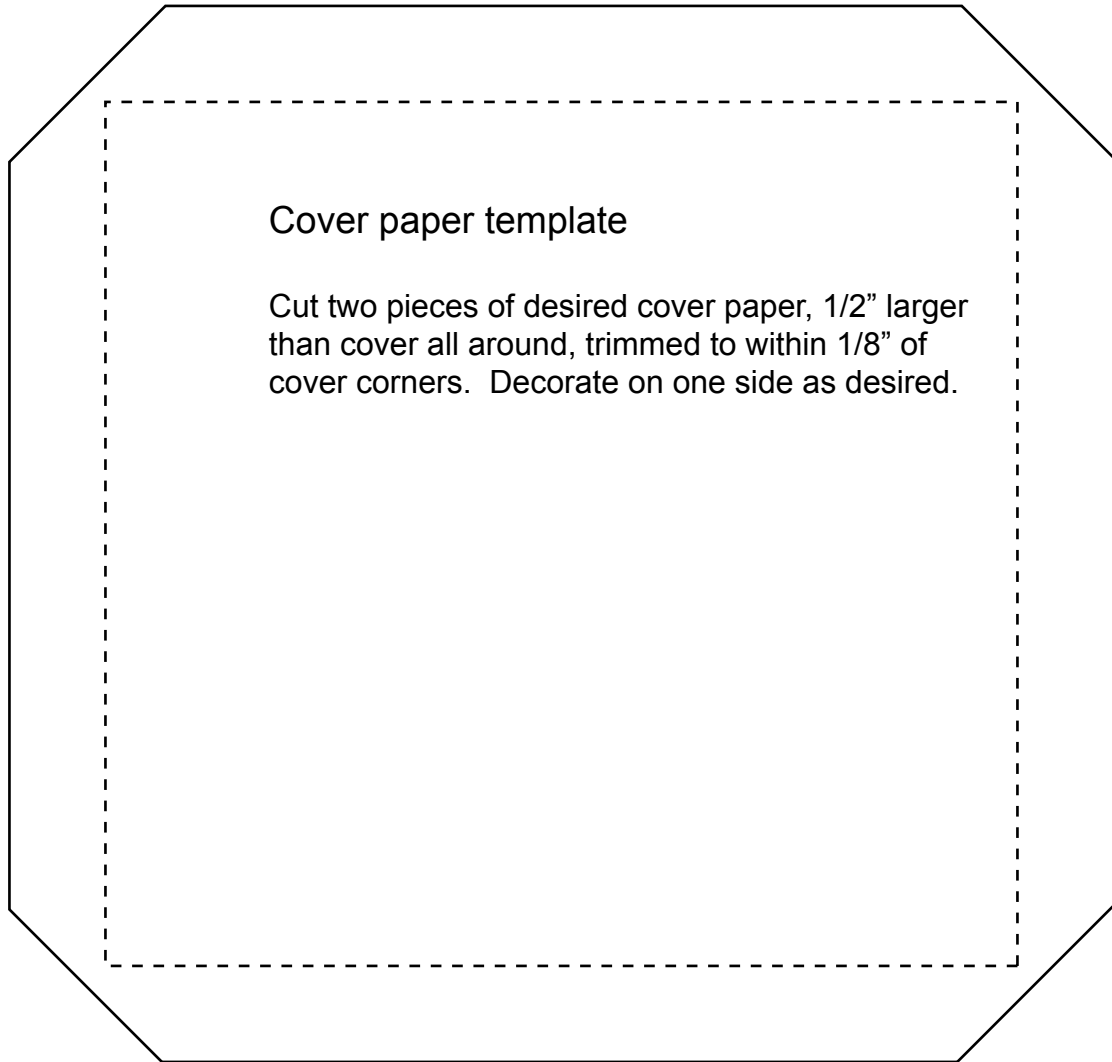
The diagram shows a rectangular template with a horizontal dashed line near the top. Two vertical dashed lines extend downwards from the horizontal line, each ending in a solid black dot. An upward-pointing arrow is centered between the two vertical dashed lines.



Album page hole punching guide
Cut out and punch 1/8" holes where indicated

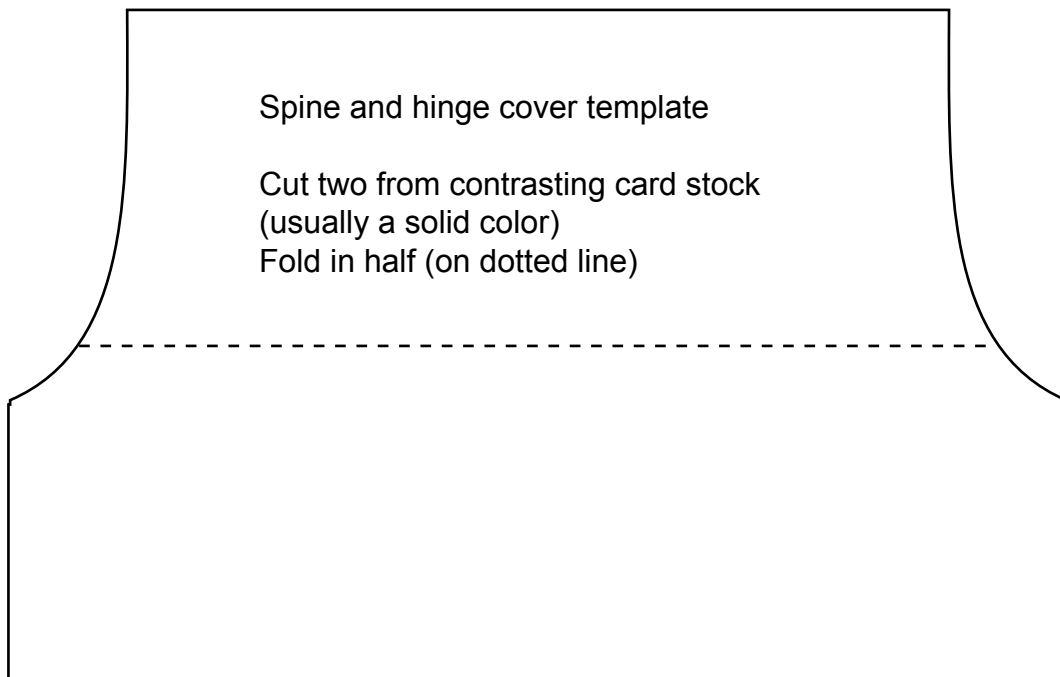
The diagram shows a rectangular template with a horizontal dashed line near the top. Two vertical dashed lines extend downwards from the horizontal line, each ending in a solid black dot. An upward-pointing arrow is centered between the two vertical dashed lines.

Templates Page 2



Cover paper template

Cut two pieces of desired cover paper, 1/2" larger than cover all around, trimmed to within 1/8" of cover corners. Decorate on one side as desired.



Spine and hinge cover template

Cut two from contrasting card stock (usually a solid color)
Fold in half (on dotted line)