

Cotton Rag Paper Book Spring Set



In March we have a number of celebrations with Mother's Day on the 10th and Easter weekend beginning 31st, and I think most of us will be welcoming the first day of spring with the promise of warmer weather and more daylight hours. By now our gardens are 'springing' back into action with green and colourful floral displays for us to enjoy. This inspired me to create pretty floral gift sets of a handmade notebook (made as a book 'signature'), pen, and packs of wildflower/sunflower seeds to plant, brought together in a presentation box that can be reused. A fabulous Spring, Easter or Mother's Day gift.

Materials:

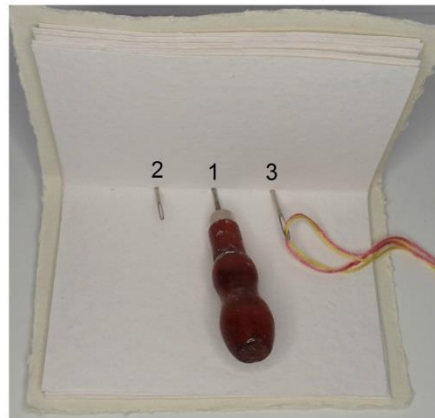
- 6x6 flat pack die cut aperture card box
- 100% recycled A5 cotton rag papers, 320gsm for cover, 250gsm for pages
- Blunt tapestry needle, embroidery threads, ribbon, handmade flower embellishments
- Red liner double sided adhesive tape, PVA glue
- Scissors, paper trimmer/guillotine, bone folder, pokey tool
- Seed packs, mini pens or other 'additions'

Instructions:

Assemble the card box creasing with a bone folder on the fold lines for nice crisp edges and sides. Glue together with red liner adhesive tape which is super sticky and has stronger adhesion compared to normal double sided adhesive tape.

Assemble the cotton rag paper note book as shown below. Decorate ready to use - if you feel you can - I think it's maybe just a bit too special to write in!

Handmade cotton rag paper is fabulous quality, 100% recycled and biodegradable. Perfect for watercolour, inks or other drawing mediums so the book could be used to create small artworks in. As it is handmade each sheet has its own personality giving everything made with it its own originality. Being heavy weight it works well in any mixed media artwork or project.



The page papers used were heavy weight at 250gsm so I used only 5 x A5 papers in threaded book binding *signature style per notebook giving a total of 20 pages to write on.

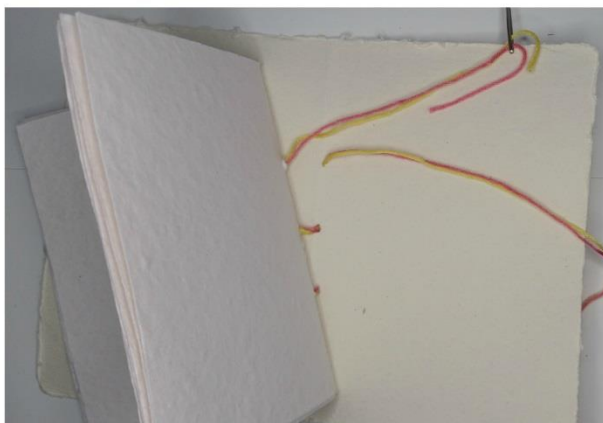
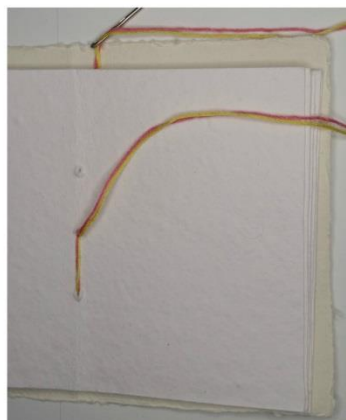
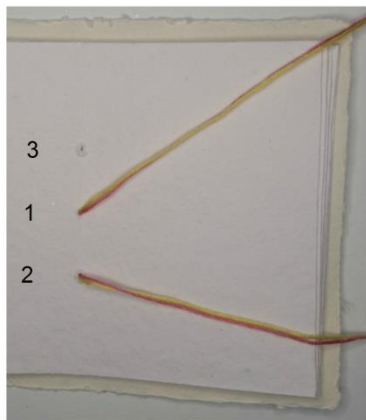
Fold each in half one at a time and crease well with a bone folder. Place all pages inside each other and then inside the A5 320gsm cover paper.



Find the centre point on the fold line and pierce a small hole through all pages, then another to each side of that.

As you fold and assemble the pages together you will see that they overhang each other outside the outer cover, more so on the centre page. Trim the first page down to fit inside the cover with scissors or paper trimmer/ guillotine and use that as a guide to trim the remainder.

* A signature is a gathering or group of sheets folded in half to be worked into the binding of a book as a unit. These are threaded to join together. The notebook uses only one signature, bookbinding in its simplest form!

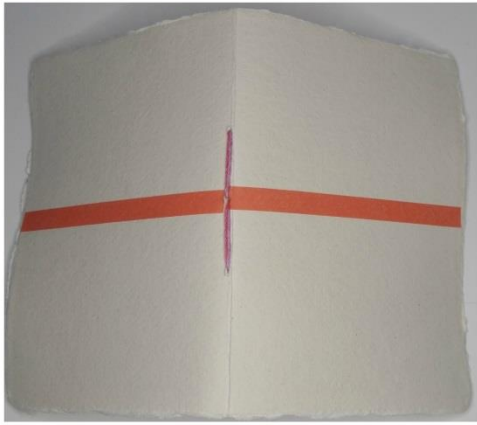


Using a double or triple strand of embroidery cotton and blunt tapestry needle sew down into hole 1 through to the cover leaving a longish tail behind.

Bring needle up hole 2 and back down into hole 1 taking needle off. Using the tail thread left behind, thread into hole 3 but only through the pages and not into the cover page.

With the other thread bring that back up hole 3 of the cover page only so you have the two tails as shown at the back of the notebook.

Tie off with a double knot and trim threads making sure pages and cover page are all straight.



Add a strip of red liner adhesive tape over the front and back cover page as shown. Glue over a length of pretty ribbon long enough to tie notebook together with a shoe lace bow. Glue a flower embellishment over this. Even if the sticker is self adhesive still use PVA glue to make it more permanent. Your Spring notebook is ready to use.



If you have flower embellishments left over why not make matching cards!



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