

SMALL SQUARE
MINIBOOK

STORY
A small square minibook perfect for 6x6 paper packs lends itself to any theme.

By Cal Summers

## Resources

Cutting Guide:

Chipboard: - 2 of $6.5 \times 6.5$ inches
1 of $6.5 \times 2.5$ inches (spine)
Tyvek: 1 of $5 \times 6.5$ inches
Paper for cover
Card for hinged binding system $-6 \times 11.5$ inches scored on the 11.5 inch side at 3"; 3.5"; 4"; 4.5"; 5"; 5.5"; 6"; 6.5"; 7"; 7.5"; 8" and 8.5"

For inside covers: 2 at $6.5 \times 6.5$ " scored on one side at 0.5 "

Pockets: 4 of $7.5 \times 3$ " scored on the $7.5 "$ side at 0.5 and 7 ", also on the 3 " side at $0.5 "$

Four tags at $6 \times 5$ "

## Page A pack:

Please make two pages :
Base page: $65 / 8 \times 61 / 8$ inches (2). All scored at 0.5 inches on $65 / 8$ inch side.

Flaps: $45 / 8 \times 61 / 8$ inches (4). Scored on the $45 / 8$ side at 0.5 and $5 / 8$ of an inch

Flap pockets: $3.25 \times 5$ inches scored on the 3.25 " side at 0.5 " and on the 5 inch side at 0.5 and 4.5 inches (2 of)

Long pockets: $3.25 \times 71 / 8$ inches scored on the 3.25 inch side at 0.5 " and on the $71 / 8$ inch side at 0.5 and $65 / 8$ inches (2 of)

Tags: $5.75 \times 5.75$ inches (4) and $3.5 \times$ 5.25 inches (4 of)

Tabbed tags $-5.75 \times 57 / 8$ inches with tab cut in (2)

## Page B pack:

Please make two pages.
Base page: $65 / 8 \times 61 / 8$ inches (2). All scored at 0.5 inches on $65 / 8$ inch side.

Belly band: $71 / 8 \times 2$ inches scored on the $71 / 8$ side at 0.5 and $65 / 8$ inch

Additional page for under belly band $11.5 \times 5.75$ inches scored on the 11.5 side at 5.75 inches

Corner Pocket: $5.5 \times 5.5$ inches scored on two sides at 0.5 inches so the score lines overlap. Remove corner of pocket opposite to where score lines cross from 2 inches in from both sides

Stacked pocket: $71 / 8 \times 3$ inches.
Scored on the $71 / 8$ side at 0.5 and 6 $5 / 8$ inches (1) and on the 3 " side at 0.5 "
$71 / 8 \times 2.5$ inches. Score on the $71 / 8$ side at 0.5 and at $65 / 8$ " and on the 2.5 inch side at 1 inch (1)

Tags: $5.5 \times 5.5$ inches (2); $4 \times 5.5$ " (1) and $3.5 \times 3.5$ inches (2 of)

Tabbed tags $-5.75 \times 57 / 8$ inches with tab cut in (2)

You will also need -

- Patterned paper and embellishments for decoration
- Glue or tape, whichever you prefer.
- Ribbon for closure (in the photos I use a charm bracelet closure but ribbon is just fine
- Score board \& bone folder.

TIP: Keep all paper and card offcuts until you have finished the project as you may need to use them.

Feel free to ink the edges of your patterned paper before gluing down. This stage is not covered in the tutorial to save time.


PLEASE NOTE: photos in this tutorial relate to another kit but methodology is the same

## Book Cover

Firstly take your chipboard pieces (3) These consist of the book covers and spine.


These photos are from a different book so the measurements are different but the methodology is the same.


Take your piece of Tyvek (this is used to strengthen the spine - you will find you can cut it with a blade but you can't tear it by hand). Glue your chipboard spine piece to the centre of the Tyvek as in the photo below.


Next take your chipboard cover and glue it to the Tyvek flap - leaving about 1/8 inch gap between the two pieces of chipboard. This is important as it allows your book to open and close smoothly and not be too tight.


When this has dried turn the cover over so the Tyvek is on the top and add tape to the top as below. This is going to be the outside of your book cover. I usually add a couple of lines of tape on top of the Tyvek for a nice clean edge.


Stick the two pieces of the black card you are using for the cover together on the short edge so you have one long piece. Lie this down on your worktop and then lay the chipboard cover on the top centred side to side and top to bottom. Flip the book cover over and mitre the corners as below. Make sure you leave some card at the corners don't mitre all the way to the chipboard.


Use your bone folder to train the card around the edges of the chipboard. This will ensure a much cleaner tighter edge for your book. Stick down the two longest edges opposite each other and make sure they are stuck well before moving on to the next part.


To get the sharpest corners on your cover use your bone folder to crease down one of the mitred corners as below. This makes it really easy to fold up and get a good professional looking corner on your shorter edge.


The front of your cover


## .Hinged Binding System

To make the hinge for the binding system you will need to take the piece of card $6 \times 11.5$ inches scored on the 11.5 inch side at 3 "; $3.5^{\prime \prime} ; 4$ "; $4.5^{\prime \prime} ; 5^{\prime \prime}$; $5.5^{\prime \prime} ; 6$ "; $6.5^{\prime \prime} ; 7^{\prime \prime} ; 7.5^{\prime \prime} ; 8^{\prime \prime}$ and $8.5^{\prime \prime}$. Use your bone folder to burnish and make valley and peak folds as below. Each hinge measures $0.5^{\prime \prime}$ whilst each gusset (between pages) also measures 0.5 "


Glue each of the $0.5^{\prime \prime}$ hinges together so you are left with a piece that looks like the photo below. You will notice that
there is a 3 " flap at either end of the hinge unit.


The back of your hinge unit will look like this -


Cut the ends of each of the hinges at a slight angle. This will make it easier to fit your pages on later.


Adhere your hinge unit to the spine. You need this to be very secure. Generally I put a little tape on the hinges to keep it in place whilst the wet glue dries. Do not skimp on this bit!


Carefully position your hinge unit onto the spine, centred top to bottom and side to side. The flaps WILL go over your spine onto the book covers - this is intended as it provides security for the hinged unit. To centralise the hinges I tend to measure the halfway point on
the spine side to side and make a mark. This lets me line up the hinges perfectly.


Leave fully to dry - preferably overnight. You may need to clip or weight down the hinges whilst the glue bonds with the cover of your book. It is VITAL that this is dried well before you try to close the cover of the book. Take a ruler and carefully bend the covers up to the spine.

## Page A

You need to make 2 of these page bases

Take the two base elements measuring $65 / 8 \times 61 / 8$ inches scored at 0.5 inches on $65 / 8$ inch side. Fold on the score line and use your bone folder to ensure a good crease. Put some wet glue on the outside of these flaps and stick the two pieces together with one flap at the top and one at the bottom so when glued you have a page with two openings one on either side,

Take the four flaps that measure $45 / 8 \mathrm{x}$ $61 / 8$ inches and are scored on the $45 / 8$ side at 0.5 and $5 / 8$ of an inch. Fold on the score lines and crease with your bone folder. Add some glue to the INSIDE of the flap and slot inside one of the openings so that this piece forms a flap that partly covers the front of one of the sides. Repeat until you have four flaps attached to the four sides of the opening but so that there are still openings at the sides.

Attach two small pockets to the outside of one of the flaps on each side of the page. The flap pockets measure 3.25 x 5 inches scored on the 3.25 " side at 0.5 " and on the 5 inch side at 0.5 and 4.5 inches.

Mitre the corners where the score lines cross and fold and burnish as below.


Glue these pockets to the bottom of the small flaps - I put mine one each on the front of the right hand flap.

Open up your flaps and look at the base of the page. Take the long pockets measuring $3.25 \times 71 / 8$ inches scored
on the 3.25 inch side at 0.5 " and on the $71 / 8$ inch side at 0.5 and $65 / 8$ inches . Make the pocket as above and adhere to the bottom of the page so that when you close the flaps you can't see the long pocket.

Tags: $5.75 \times 5.75$ inches (4) and $3.5 \times$ 5.25 inches ( 4 of). These slot into the small flap pockets and the long pocket inside the flaps.

Tabbed tags - $5.75 \times 57 / 8$ inches with tab cut in (2). We can worry about these after we have adhered the pages to the book!

## Page B

Base page: $65 / 8 \times 61 / 8$ inches (2). All scored at 0.5 inches on $65 / 8$ inch side. Make up as page A.

Belly band: $71 / 8 \times 2$ inches scored on the $71 / 8$ side at 0.5 and $65 / 8$ inch. Fold on the score lines and use your bone folder to crease. Add glue to the outside of the flaps and stick to base page about 1.5 " in from the left hand opening on the base page.

Fold the additional page for under the belly band - $11.5 \times 5.75$ inches scored on the 11.5 side at 5.75 inches on the score line so you have a card. This will slip under the belly band when the glue has dried. You can either leave it plain or add a pocket for more interest.

If you want to add a corner pocket take the piece that is $5.5 \times 5.5$ inches scored
on two sides at 0.5 inches so the score lines overlap. Remove corner of pocket opposite to where score lines cross from 2 inches in from both sides. Fold on the score lines as we did with previous pockets and slue to the corner of your card. It doesn't matter if its front or back but I wouldn't advise sticking it to the right hand side as it could get stuck on the belly band on insertion.

Stacked pocket: 7 1/8 x 3 inches.
Scored on the $71 / 8$ side at 0.5 and 6 $5 / 8$ inches (1) and on the 3 " side at 0.5 ". Take the two pieces measuring $71 / 8 \mathrm{x}$ 2.5 inches. Score on the $71 / 8$ side at 0.5 and at $65 / 8$ " and on the 2.5 inch side at 1 inch (1) Take the piece with the 0.5 scorelines and mitre the corners and make pockets as we did previously. Glue the outside of the flaps and add to left hand side of the base page by the opening. When this is glued take the other piece and cut along the 0.5 " scoreline from the edge to where the scorelines meet at 1 " from the bottom. Then mitre this corner cutting away down from the 1 " scoreline. Fold over the flaps and glue. Slip this into the opening of the first pocket until the scoreline at 1 " is flush with the opening of the pocket and glue down.

Tags: $5.5 \times 5.5$ inches (2); $4 \times 5.5$ " (1) and $3.5 \times 3.5$ inches ( 2 of). Add into the stacked pockets when dry.

Tabbed tags $-5.75 \times 57 / 8$ inches with tab cut in (2). Once again don't worry about these until we have glued the pages into the book.

## Adding the base pages to the hinges:

Next step is to build the book up by adding the pages to the hinges.

Add glue to the front and back of the first hinge as per the photo below. It doesn't matter if you put the last page in first or the first page. I generally choose to put the last page in first but it is purely a matter of personal preference.


It is entirely up to you what order you put the pages in. In my book they are $A B A B$ but it is entirely up to you.

Open up the end of the page that will be adhered to the hinge and slip it around
the hinge. You need to leave a small gap between the bottom of the hinge (where it meets the spine) and where the page is glued - probably about $1 / 16$ ". This is important as it allows the page to fall flat when the book is opened.

Make sure the page is adhered well to the hinge by pressing down on both sides of the page. You might like to clip the page onto the hinges whilst it dries as per the photo below.

Back of the last page whilst drying


Front of the last page whilst drying


When this page is secure add the next in exactly the same way. It is very important to make sure the pages line up so after you have slipped this second page onto the glued hinge lie it on top of the previous page to ensure both pages line up together at the top and bottom. Don't forget to leave the small $1 / 16$ " gap between the bottom of the hinge and where the hinge meets the page.


Continue adding all the pages in this way until all 4 pages are stuck into the book.


Now we can "personalise "and decorate each of the pages.

When this is dry we can add the tabbed tabs into each of the openings on the right hand sides of the pages like this -


## Inside front and back cover

Before you add the flaps you MUST add the eyelets for the closure if you are adding a charm bracelet closure. It is up to you if you want to wait until you have decorated the front cover but you need
to add the eyelet before decorating the inside.

Measure half way down from the top of the front and back covers and make a mark about 0.5 of an inch in. Make a hole with your eyelet punch. Take one of the eyelets and half of the thin ribbon and thread the thin ribbon THROUGH the round circle at the end of the closure charm and then through the centre of the eyelet. Push the eyelet into the hole but keep the ends of the ribbon on the outside of your book. Add the washer to the eyelet on the inside and squeeze with your setter or crop o dile to set the eyelet and ribbon.

The inside front and back covers are very easy to put together. You have two large pieces with scores and four smaller for pockets. Fold on the score line of the larger pieces and crease with your bone folder. Glue the outside of the flap and stick to the left hand side of the inside front cover or the right hand of the inside back cover so that it forms a fold out page. As we have before mitre the corners of each of the pockets and fold and score. Put glue on the outside of the flaps and adhere one of the pockets near to the fold of the book near the spine with the pocket facing towards the outside edge of the book and the second pocket on the front of the large flap you have installed about 0.5 inches away from the right hand side of the page with the pocket pointing towards the outside edge of the book.

This will probably become clear if you take a look at the photos of each page of the book at the end of this tutorial.

Your book is complete - now for the exciting part - matting and decoration!

If you want to follow my design full pictures follow.

## Front cover

If you have a charm to add to the spine of your book why not attach using a bulldog clip? Use some of the ribbon in your stash to thread through the clip and tie a bow.


Spine with charm


Closure


Inside front cover


Front inside cover open


Front cover and front of page $A$


Page A flaps open


Front of page $A$


Inside flaps of page A


## Back of page A



Inside back of page A


Front of page B (stacked pocket)


Back of page B (belly band and insert)


Inside of insert


Front of page $A(2)$


Front of page $A(2)$ open


Back of page A (2)


Back of page $A$ (2) open


Back of page A (2) open


Front of page $\mathrm{B}(2)$ insert over belly band


Belly band with insert taken out


Inside of inset with pocket


Back of page $B(2)$ - stacked pocket


Inside back cover


Using Flourish collection by Maggie Holmes



## Using Peaches and Cream Collection by Scrapmir

## Shaker Pocket Cover -

Take two pieces of 2500 micron chipboard ( 2.5 mm thick) and cut to $8 \times 8$ inches. Draw a 1 inch frame inside these pieces and cut out the centre square. Glue one on top of each other and paint edges inside and out. Glue to cover of book.

Fill with sequins or other small items and adhere a piece of 7.5 inch square acetate to the top of the frame encasing the sequins. Cut a frame of patterned paper to go over the top and adhere on top of the chipboard and acetate. You
might like to make the frame in the centre slightly smaller than $7 \times 7$ inches so it covers the inside the chipboard. See video for further info.



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