

# Flag Book Tutorial

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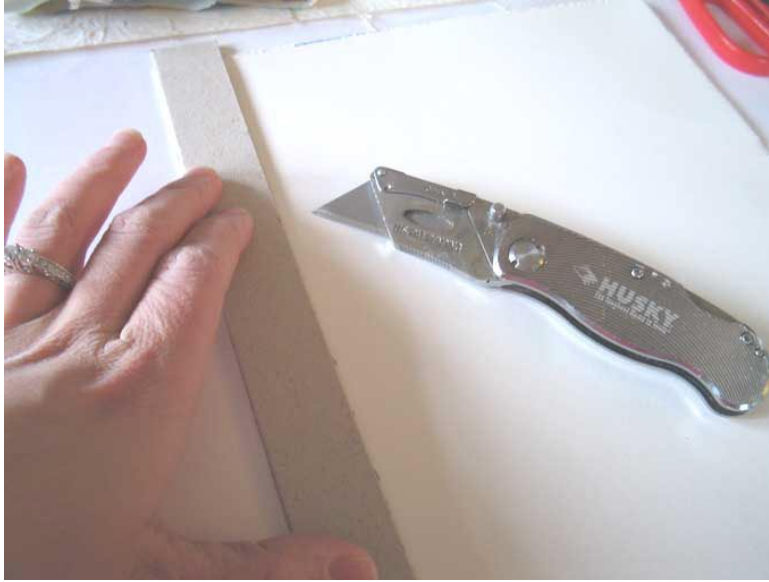
Flag books are great for using up scraps of neat papers or cards you've received for a special occasion. Make one today to preserve your memories!

## Materials:

- Cardstock – 8 ½ x 11
- Decorative paper – 8 ½ x 11
- Scraps of card-weight decorative papers, greeting cards, or other paper memorabilia
- PVA glue
- Ruler – approximately 1" wide
- Utility knife
- Scissors
- Brush for glue

Let's get started!

First, take your piece of 8 ½ x 11 cardstock and line the ruler up against one of the 8 ½" edges. Score lightly with your knife along the edge of the ruler.



Place the ruler along the edge of the scored line, and score again; now you have two 1" segments. Proceed in this way until there are 8 scored segments.

Now, fold along each scored line, back and forth, to form an accordion.



Next, take the two pieces of 8 ½ x 11 decorative paper and fold them in half, so they now measure 8 ½ x 5 ½. With the PVA glue and a brush, spread glue on one edge segment of the accordion. Place one edge of the folded decorative paper on this edge.

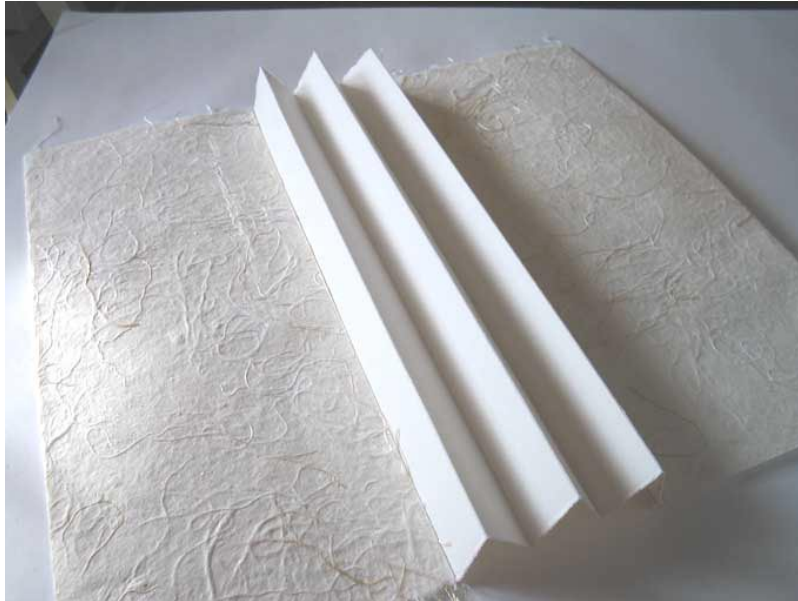


Flip the book over, and spread glue all over the back side of the folded decorative paper. Press the folded edge down; you have now created your front or back cover.



Repeat this process to create the other cover.

Your book should now look something like this:



Now, take your special papers or greeting cards, and cut a rectangle size that you like; somewhere around 2" x 4" rectangles would be appropriate, but you can experiment if you like. Once you have your sample size, cut several, and line them up along the 8 1/2" edge to see how many will fit, like so:



In my book, 5 rectangles fit along the edge. It is important to have an odd number of rectangles fit along this edge. Multiply whatever number you get by 3, this will be how many rectangles you need total. In my case, I needed 5 times 3, for 15 pieces total.

Once you have all your pieces cut to the same size, you can start gluing them into your book. Line one piece up against the top of the book, one against the bottom, and carefully space the remaining pieces in the middle, like so:



For the first peak in the accordion, as shown above, you will be gluing 3 pieces on. Make sure these are spaced so that the remaining 2 pieces fit in between, as shown above. The last 2 pieces will be glued on the other side of the accordion peaks. Glue these first 3 pieces on. Glue 3 more pieces on the corresponding side of the next two peaks in your accordion, as so:



Now, with your remaining pieces, you will glue these to the opposite sides of the peaks, in between the existing pieces, like this:



Glue the remaining pieces on in this manner. When you are done, open up the book and stand it up. It should look something like this:





It should also fold closed and lay flat, because your paper strips are alternating on the inside. You are finished! Now decorate your covers as you see fit!

These books are great for saving scraps of greeting cards that you don't want to throw away, or other small pieces of paper memorabilia. A flag book would also make a unique card or gift for someone to commemorate a special occasion.

If you enjoyed this tutorial, or used it to make your own flag book, please email me at [bibliosophy@gmail.com](mailto:bibliosophy@gmail.com). I would love to see samples of your finished work!

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