

HANDMADE TRAVEL JOURNAL

Create a handmade journal to record memories of your favorite adventures together. Add pictures and memorabilia, or write down reflections of experiences you never want to forget.

Draw inspiration from these book covers from the Keir Collection of Islamic Art at the DMA:

Pair of lacquered book covers with flap

About 1570
The Keir Collection of Islamic Art



Pair of lacquered book covers with flap

Early 16th century
The Keir Collection of Islamic Art

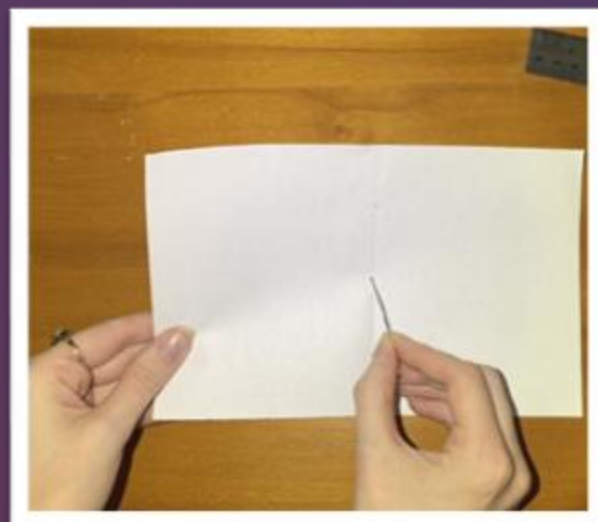
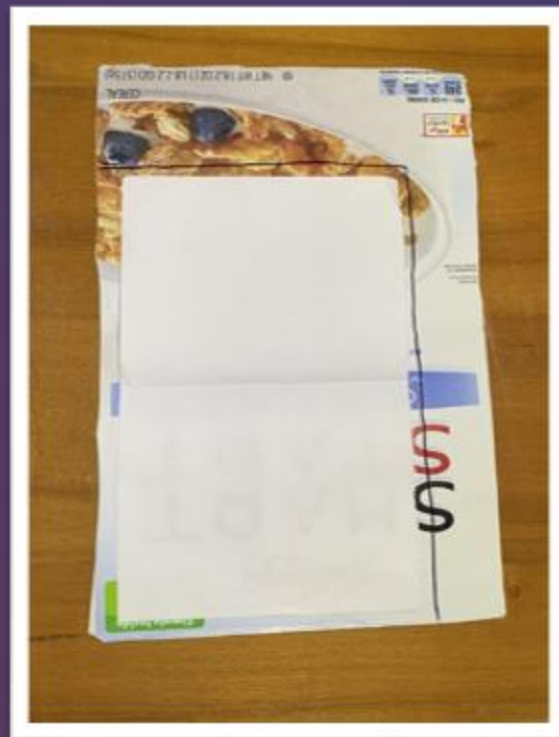


Materials:

- Cereal box
- Pencil and pen
- Ruler
- Scissors
- Markers
- Printer paper
- Needle
- Thread
- Paperclip or safety pin

Steps:

- Trim an 8.5" x 11" sheet of paper so it measures 8.5" x 5.5". Fold in half. Add as many sheets as you want pages in your journal, and stack the sheets together like the pages of a book.
- Use an unfolded sheet to measure the cardboard cover. Add a half inch around the edge of your sheet so that the cover completely protects the inside pages.
- Cut out the cardboard to create the cover for your journal and fold it in half so that the blank side is facing out.
- On one of the inside pages, make a mark in the middle of the sheet, on the fold, and then two marks on either side of the center—equal distance from the center.
- Push a needle or sharp utensil through these three holes.
- Using this sheet as a guide, lay it on top of the next sheet, and push through the holes to puncture holes in the same place on the second sheet. Follow this same process for every page. Do the same to the cardboard.



- Thread your needle with 18 to 20 inches of thread.
- Align all your pages and your cover. Push your threaded needle through the center hole from the outside going in. Leave about two inches of thread hanging out of the back. Now push the needle through the top hole, going from the inside to the outside of the journal. From there, push the needle through the bottom hole from the outside going in. For the final stitch, push your needle back through the middle hole from the inside going out. Knot or tie a bow with the two ends of the thread and cut off any excess thread.
- To cover the cereal box images on the inside of the journal, cut paper to size and glue on top. Use the inside cover as a bookplate and sign your names.
- Finally, decorate the inside and outside of your journal. Glue on recycled paper products, draw a label, use stickers, color with markers, or inscribe a special date.
 - *Optional:* For a more finished look, cut rounded corners.



VIRTUAL DATE NIGHT