

Textile Books

With these instructions you will learn how to create a book for a textile. This textile book has sturdier sides which protect the artifact better than a box, is much more efficient with space, and allows you to flip the textile over without any danger to the artifact. These books also use less cardboard than a box, making them cost effective as well. Below is a picture of what your completed book should look like:



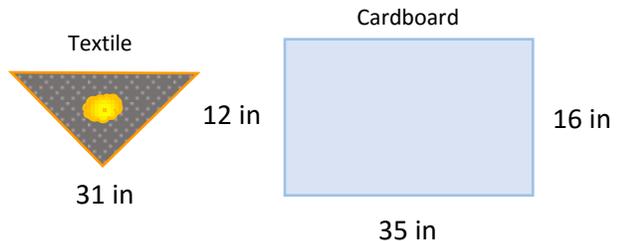
Notice the clean edges and the space between the textile and the edge—not too much, but enough to protect the textile.

Materials needed:

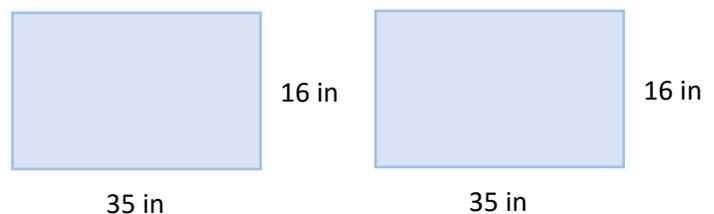
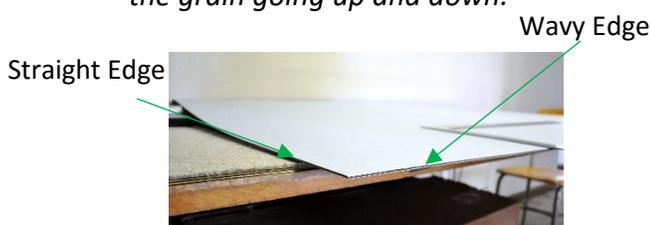
- Acid-free cardboard
- Muslin
- Hot glue gun
- pH-Neutral White Adhesive
- Twill tape
- Mat cutter
- Scalpel
- Pencil
- Ruler/straight edge
- Pinking Shears

Instructions

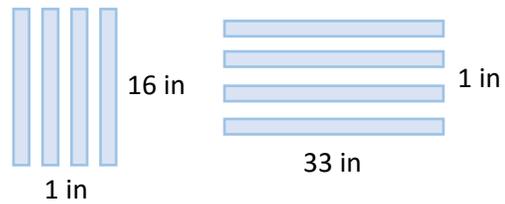
1. Measure the textile. To find the size the cardboard should be, add 4 inches to the height and width of the textile (2 inches on each side: 1 inch on each side for the cardboard border, and 1 inch on each side to be between the textile and the border). *Ex. If textile is 31 in x 12 in, the cardboard should be 35 in x 16 in.*



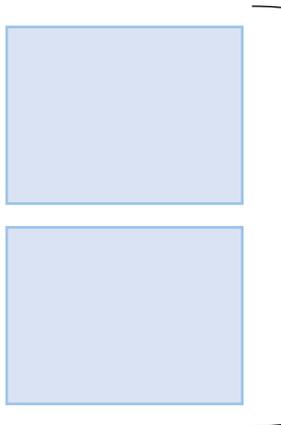
2. Using a ruler and pencil, measure two pieces of cardboard and cut each into a rectangle with the mat cutter. The grain of the cardboard should be going up and down (the wavy edge should be along the top and bottom and the straight edge should be along the sides). *Ex. If textile is 31 in x 12 in I would have two pieces of cardboard, 35 in wide x 16 in tall, with the grain going up and down.*



- Measure the thickness of the textile. If it is less than $\frac{1}{2}$ inch, you will need 8 strips total. If it is $\frac{1}{2}$ inch or thicker you will need to double the amount of cardboard strips. Using the cardboard and mat cutter, cut 4 strips that are 1 inch x height of cardboard and 4 strips that are 2 inches less than the width of the cardboard x 1 inch (if thicker, double the number). Make sure the grain of these matches with the grain of the big pieces of cardboard. *Ex. My textile is less than $\frac{1}{2}$ inch, so I only need 4 strips. Because my cardboard is 35 in x 16 in, I would have 4 strips that are 1 in wide x 16 in tall and 4 strips that are 33 in wide x 1 in tall.*
*Depending on the height of the textile, you may need to double the number of strips.



- When getting ready to cut the muslin, first you need to measure the cardboard. Lay out both pieces of cardboard with the grain going up and down (the wavy edges should be at the top and bottom), one above the other, like this:



Then measure this distance, including the space between the two pieces. The space between will depend on the height of the book. If the textile is flat, it should measure about $\frac{1}{2}$ in.

You want the muslin to be just a little smaller than the actual width of the cardboard. I would take off about $\frac{1}{4}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$ in from the height and width.



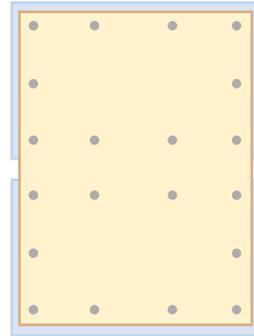
Ex. If my cardboard is 35 in x 16 in, I would need muslin that is 34.75 in x 32.25 in. Notice the space left in the picture above.

- Now cut the muslin. First measure out how long you need it and cut it. Once you have cut the muslin, iron out all the wrinkles until it is completely wrinkle-free. Then, using your laid-out cardboard as a guide, cut out the long sides with the pinking shears.



- Next glue it to the cardboard using the pH-Neutral White Adhesive. First glue one side completely. When this has dried, stack up your strips of cardboard around the edge to make two rectangles-one on top of the other. Then fold the remaining muslin over the top. This allows you to see how much space is needed between the two pieces of cardboard. Cut the remaining muslin to the correct length. While gluing, pull lightly on the fabric to make sure it is tight. You should use about 20 dots around the edges to glue down the muslin.

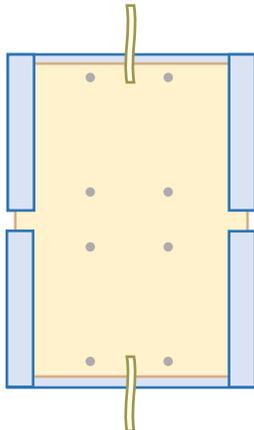
Supplies needed for gluing the muslin and cardboard strips.



- Let this dry for a few minutes. While waiting cut two, 12-inch pieces of the twill tape and plug in the glue gun.
- You will then glue (with the glue gun) one piece of twill tape to the middle of the top and bottom. The easiest way to do this is to glue the top strip first. Once it is dry, close the book and mark where the strip hits the bottom. This will guarantee that the strings will line up correctly. When you have it glued, it should look like this:



- Once this has dried, it is time to glue the 1 inch strips around the edges. Starting with the vertical strips, glue these to the left and right edges.

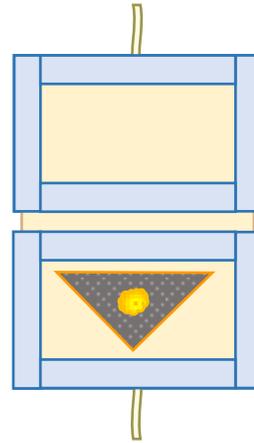


Once the vertical strips are glued, glue the horizontal strips as well. After gluing the first layer, if you need to add more strips because of the height of the textile, do so now.



This is what the book should look like when it is all finished.

10. Once all of the glue has dried you can place the textile inside (don't forget to wear gloves when handling the textile). Your book should look like this with about 1 inch between each edge of the textile and the cardboard:



11. Finally, write the object number in the bottom right corner on the outside of the book and tie the twill tape in a bow.

