

Make Your Own Sketchbook

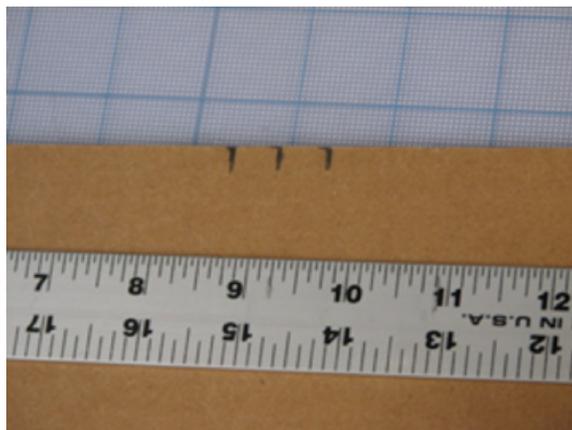
The following directions offer a simple way to make a sketchbook. The pages for the sketchbook shown are 6-by-9 inches and are made by cutting 12-by-18 inch white drawing paper in half long ways and then folding each page over. The corrugated cardboard is cut slightly larger than the paper (6.5-by-18.5 inches) with the corrugation running long ways across the board. While you may make your sketchbook a different size, the basic directions shown here are the same.



STEP 1: Gather your materials including a 12- or 18-inch metal ruler, a right-angle, a x-acto or mat knife with a sharp blade, a pencil, a stapler, five sheets of 6-by-18 inch paper, and a 7-by-19 inch sheet of corrugated cardboard.



STEP 2: Using a ruler and pencil, make a light mark at the halfway point on one side of the cardboard (9.50 in) and then mark a half-inch on both sides of the center (at 9 and 10 inches).



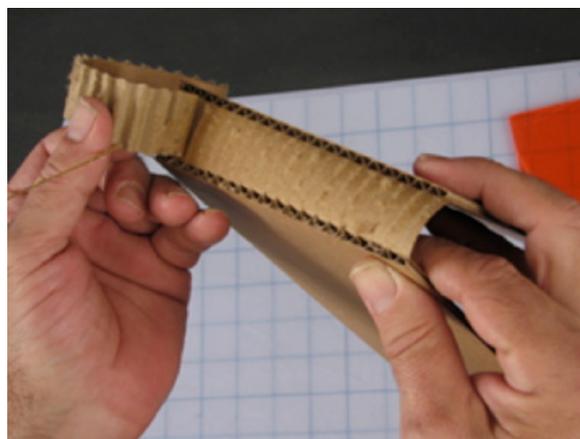
STEP 3: Using the right angle and x-acto knife, score a line along each side of the center of the cardboard using the marks previously made as guides. (Align your right angle with each mark and the long edge of the cardboard.)



STEP 4: Bend the cardboard along the scored lines until it "pops." (If the board doesn't easily bend, you may need to score the lines slightly deeper. Be careful not to cut through the board!)



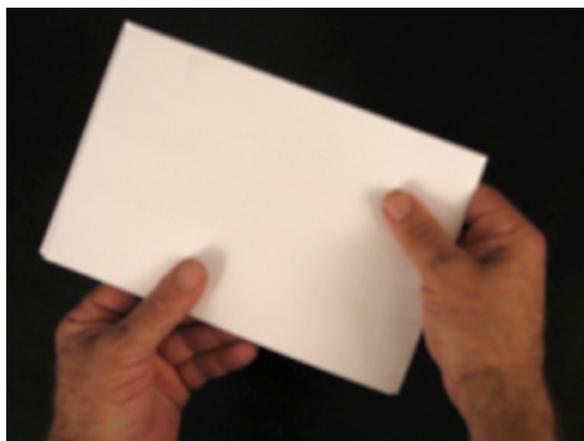
STEP 5: Carefully tear out the one-inch section, leaving the thin paper (or spine) holding the two sections of the cardboard together.



STEP 6: Fold the cardboard over and crease along the spine.



STEP 7: Carefully fold over each sheet of 6-by-18 inch paper, put the corners together, crease the middle of the other side and then to each edge. Folding five sheets will make 10 pages in your sketchbook.



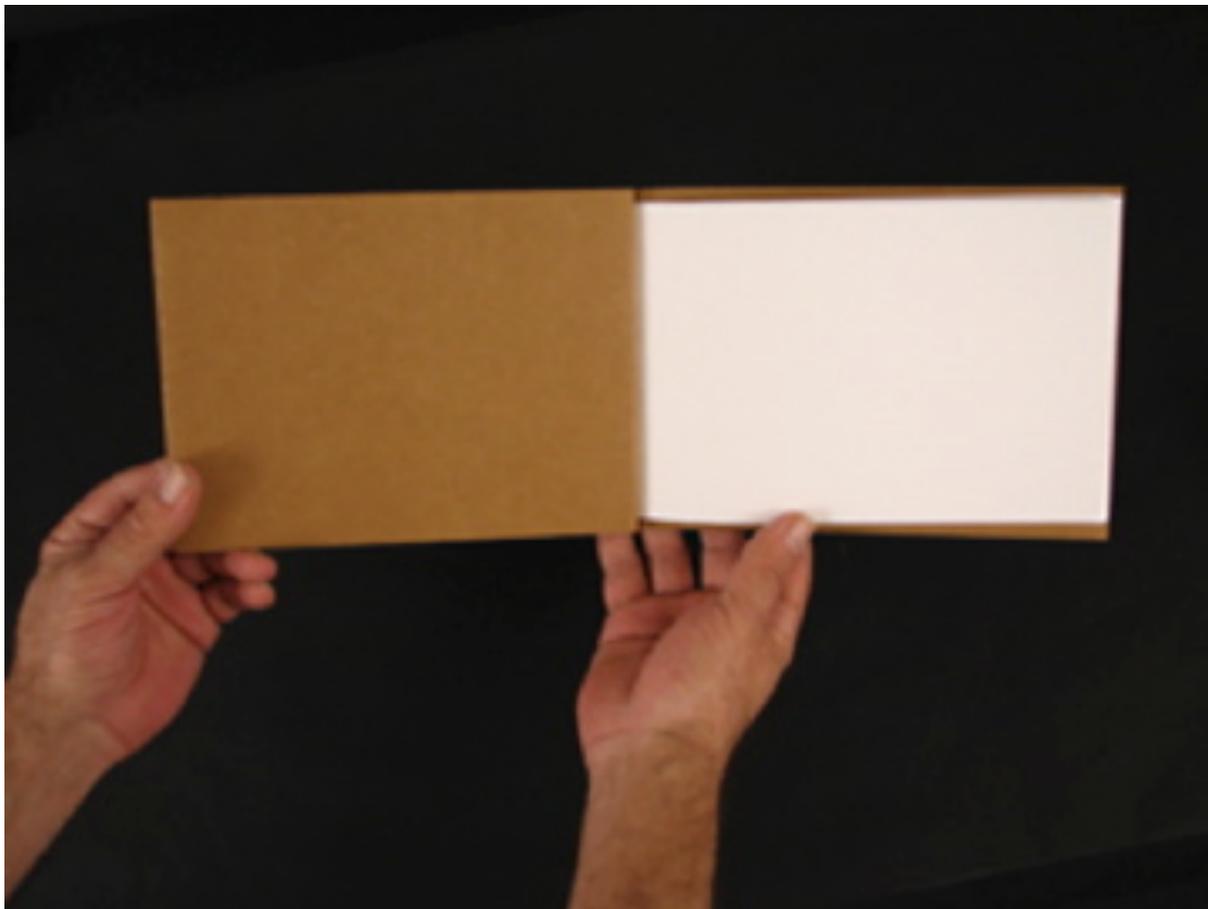
STEP 8: Insert the folded pages inside one another and then into the cardboard cover.



STEP 9: Place 3 to 4 staples along the spine to secure the pages inside.



STEP 10: Your sketchbook is ready for use. Happy sketching!



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