

Pamphlet binding.

One of the simplest bindings, but a very good introduction into some of the basic skills and techniques of book binding.

Usually a small thin booklet for information or a handy notebook, technically it would be called a single section binding.

Fold a sheet of paper in half, matching the corners carefully, hold down with one hand and move towards the fold with the other hand, checking that the edges are still aligned. Press the folded edge with a ruler, back of a knife or bone folder. Insert a knife into the fold and gently cut through with a gentle sawing movement, being careful to go slowly when you come to the end of the cut to prevent ripping the paper.

Repeat this folding and cutting with the newly created 2 pieces of paper.

Put all 4 pages together and fold in half to make the finished page size, this is called a section.

Make a cover out of a slightly stiffer card, almost the same size as the section, but allow an 1" extra at each of the fore edges to create a fold in.

Place the section into the middle of the cover, and from the inside pierce a centre hole in the fold line, through all layers of paper and card through to the outside, then make another hole above and below the centre on about 2/3 of the way to the edge top and bottom.

Thread a needle with no more than a yard of linen thread, and sew through the centre hole from the inside of the book leaving about 4" of thread in the fold, then sew through the top hole, from the outside and out again through the inside bottom hole, then finally sew through the central hole again this time from the outside. Knot the loose ends together, over the long stitch, and then knot again to create a secure fixing.

The covers now need to be finished, fold over the extra width to match the width of the pages, or just a little deeper. Either paste the turnover to itself on the inside, or to the first page to make a slightly firmer booklet. Allow the paste to dry for a few hours under a light weight.

Book number one is finished!

