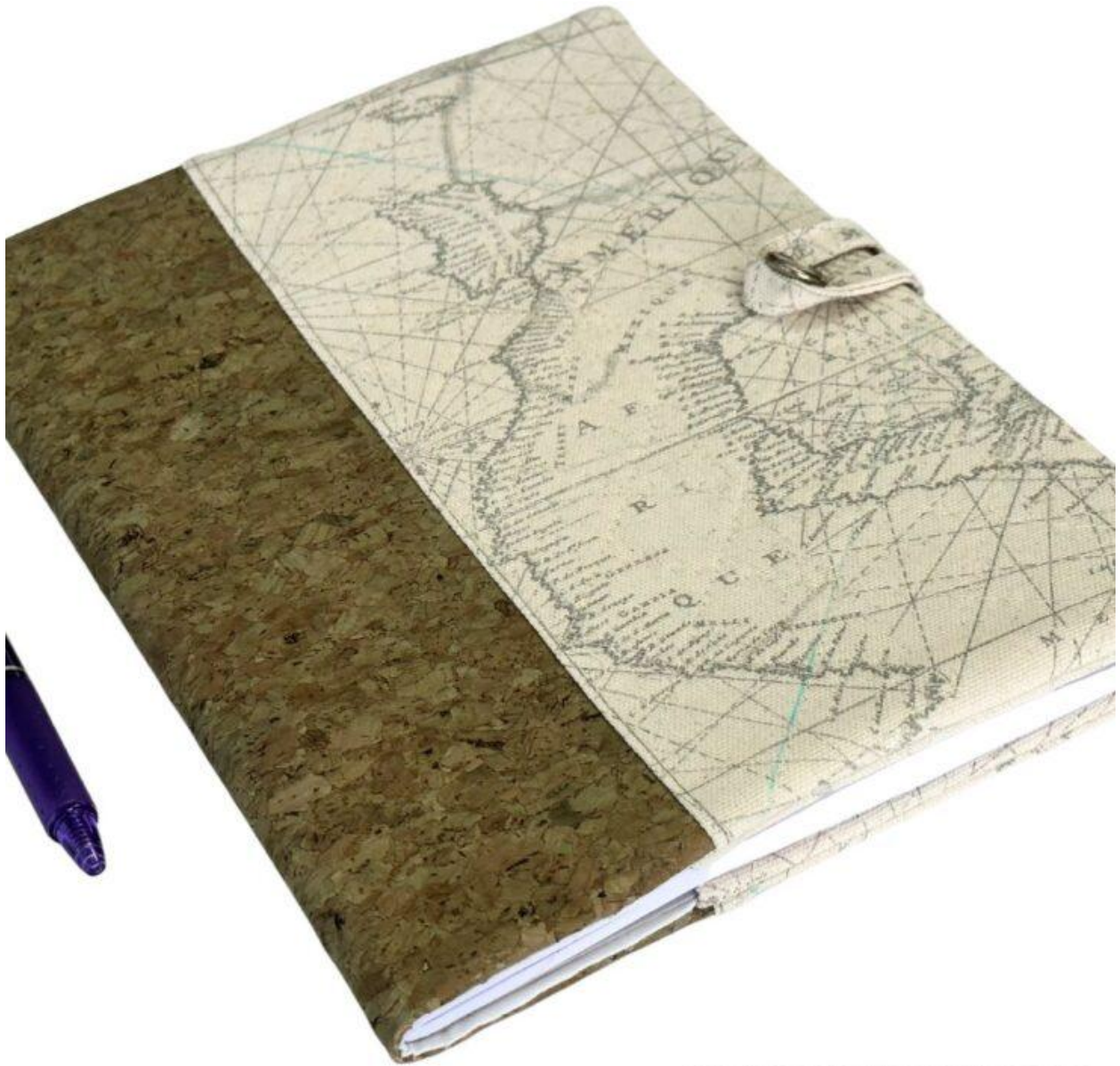


Sew a Fabric Journal Cover for a Composition Notebook



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These fabric journal covers can be made out of any cotton fabric. In fact, you can also use cork, leather, or even canvas. Be creative and have fun! The journal cover also includes a button and loop closure and a pen holder.

Prep Time 10 minutes

Active Time 20 minutes

Additional Time 5 minutes

Total Time 35 minutes

Difficulty Beginner

Materials

- cotton fabric for journal cover front and back
- cotton fabric for journal cover spine
- cotton fabric for lining
- fusible fleece
- matching or contrasting thread
- sewing machine needle
- button (optional)
- hair tie or elastic (optional)
- Scotch tape (optional)

Tools

- scissors
- rotary cutter
- acrylic ruler
- self-healing mat
- sewing machine
- quilting guide bar (optional)
- teflon presser foot (optional)
- walking foot (optional)

Instructions

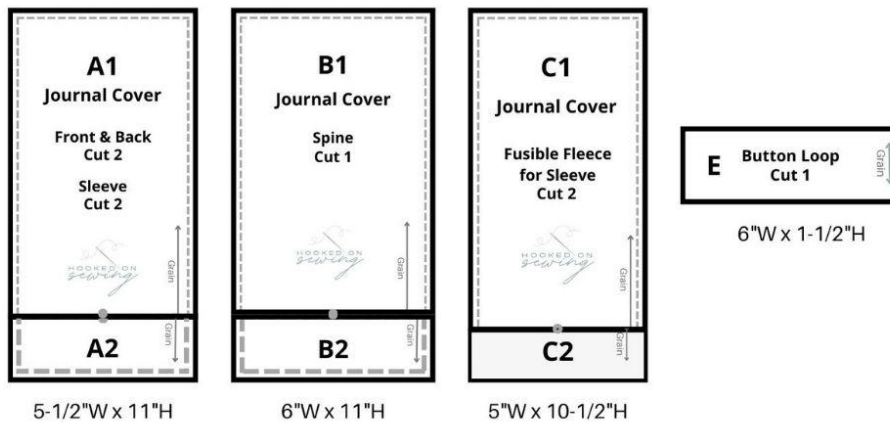
Cut:

- Exterior Fabric: (4)-5-1/2"W x 11"H **
- Spine Fabric: (1) 6"W x 11"H
- Lining Fabric: (1) 16"W x 11"H
- Button Loop: (1) 6"W x 1-1/2"H
- Fusible Fleece: (1) 15"W x 10-1/2"H ***
- Fusible Fleece: (2) 5"W x 10-1/2"H ***
- Elastic: 3"

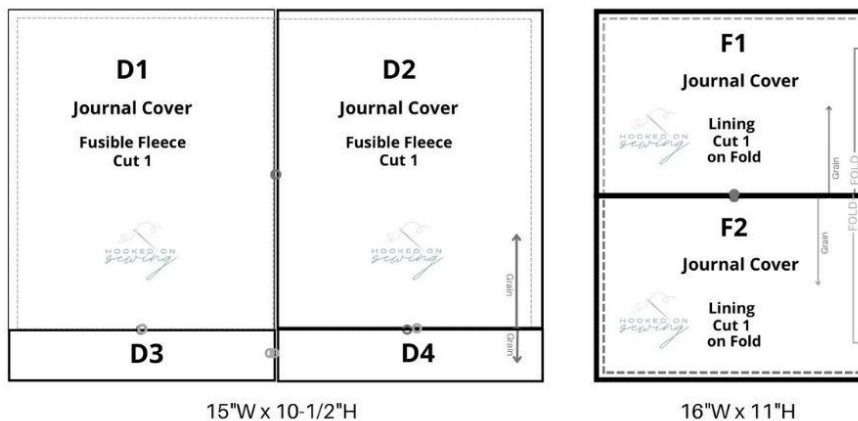
Step One: Assemble Pattern Pieces

Print out the pattern pieces, then cut out along the outside of the solid black lines. Tape the pieces together so that the circles line up, as pictured in the following images.

Assembled Pattern Pieces

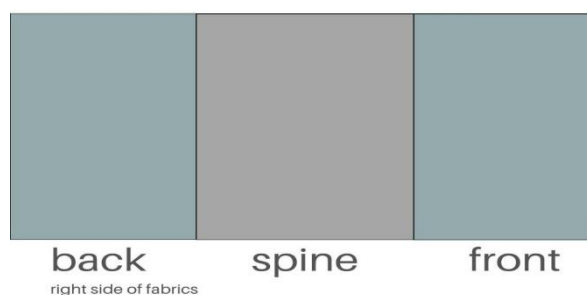


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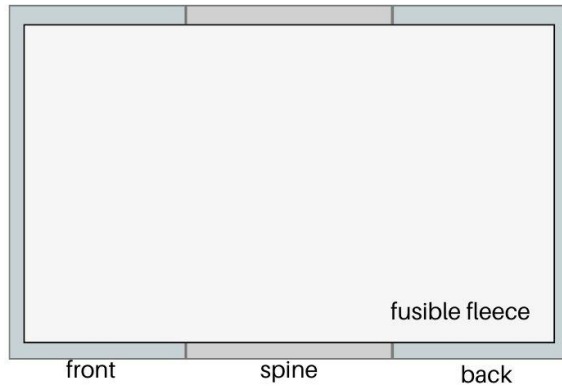
Step Two: Stitch Front and Back to Spine

Lay spine fabric right side up, lay exterior fabric front piece on top, lining up 11" edges. Pin or clip in place. Stitch using 1/4" seam allowance. Repeat with exterior fabric back piece. If using all cotton fabrics, press seams open. If using cork for your spine, press seams towards cotton fabric (exterior fabric front and back pieces).

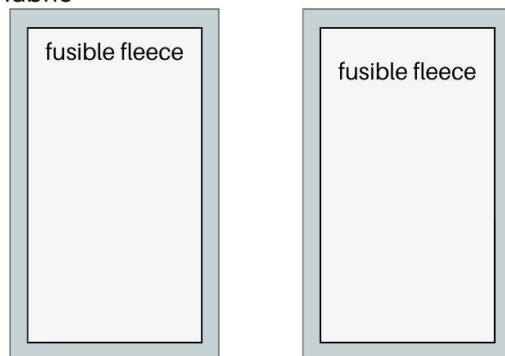


Step Three: Apply Fusible Fleece Apply fusible fleece to the wrong side of exterior pieces following the manufacturer's instructions. Apply fusible fleece to the wrong side of the sleeve pieces.

wrong side of fabric



wrong side of fabric



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Step Four: Prepare Button Loop

While you're at your ironing board, let's go ahead and press the button loop fabric. Fold fabric in half lengthwise, wrong sides together, and press. Unfold. Fold long edges towards fold and press. Refold along middle fold and press.

Using a 3.0mm stitch length, stitch along both long edges about 1/8" away from the edge.
Set aside for now.

Step 1:



fold

Step 2:



wrong side

Step 3:



fold ends towards middle

Step 4:



fold again

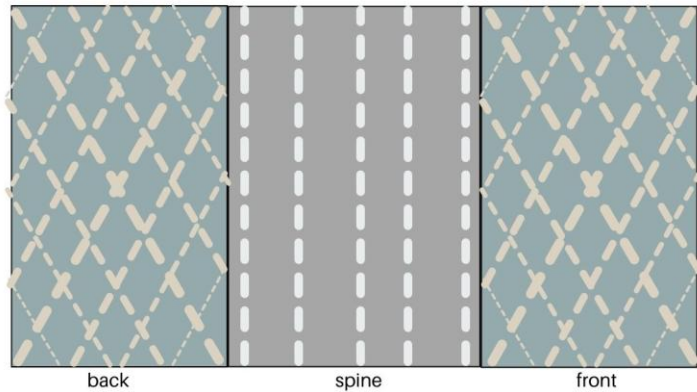
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Step Five: Quilt or Topstitch Fused Fabric Pieces

Use your fabric marking pen and ruler to mark a diagonal line from the top right corner to the bottom left corner of the cover front. Then mark a diagonal line from the top left corner to the bottom right corner of the cover front. Repeat these marks every 1-2" as desired. Repeat for cover back. Repeat for both sleeve pieces.

Then use your fabric marking pen and ruler to mark a vertical line down the center of the spine fabric. Continue to mark vertical lines every 1-2" on each side of the center across the spine fabric.

Before stitching along the marked lines, use a 3.0-3.5mm stitch length to topstitch 1/8" on both sides of the seams attaching the front and back to the spine.



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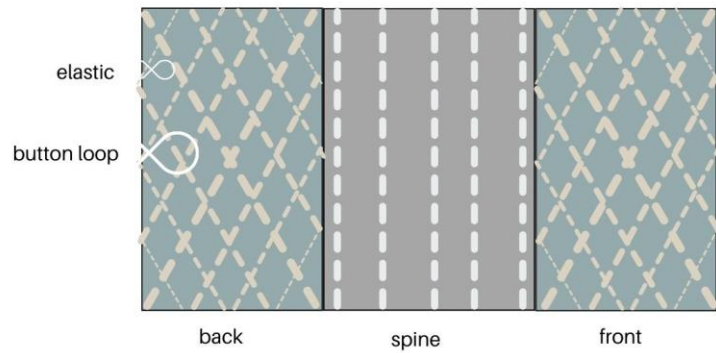
**** If you are using cork or leather fabric for the spine, do not quilt or mark the spine fabric. Instead, you will simply topstitch 1/8" from the seams that connect the front and back pieces to the spine. Just stitch on the cotton fabric since the seams were pressed towards the fabric. Be sure to use a 3.0-3.5mm stitch length.*

Step Six: Sew

With exterior fabric right side up, locate the center of the back raw edge (5-1/2" down from the top of the fabric) and pin or clip button loop with the raw edges even with the exterior fabric. Be sure to fold the fabric loop in half so that you pin both raw edges to the raw edge of the back exterior fabric.

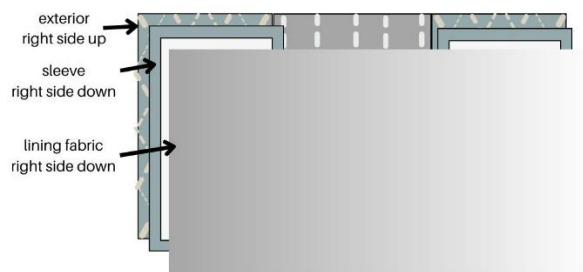
Pin elastic in place 2-1/4" from the top of the back exterior fabric, along the same edge as where you pinned the button loop in place.

Stitch both the elastic and button loop in place using less than 1/4" seam allowance.



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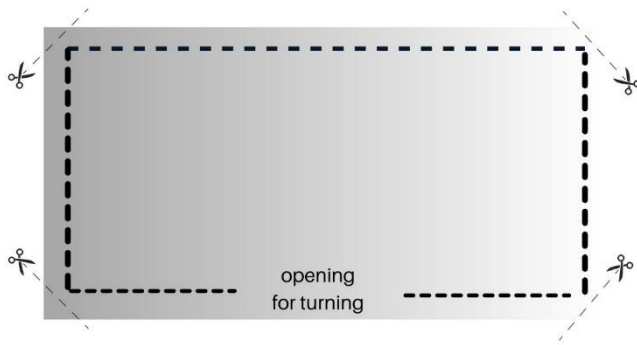
With exterior fabric right side up, lay one fused sleeve fabric piece right side down, lining up raw edges. Repeat with the other sleeve. Lay the lining piece right side down on top of the layered external fabric and sleeve pieces. Make sure raw edges are lined up. Pin or clip all layers together.



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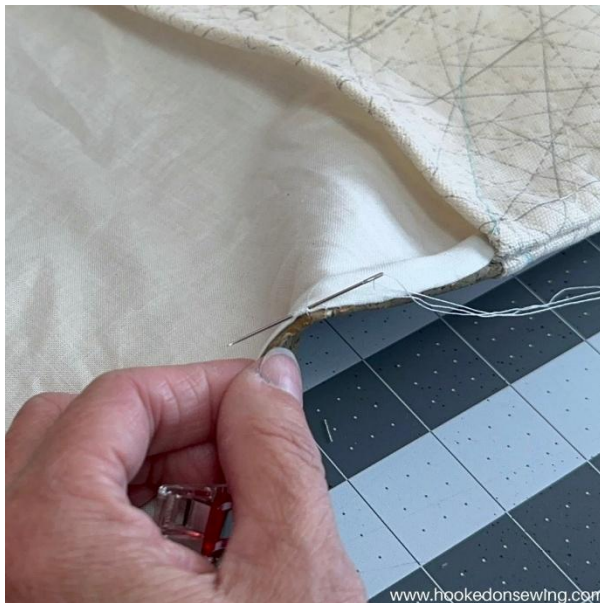
Starting along the bottom edge, and leaving a 3" opening for turning, stitch all pieces together using a 1/4" seam allowance along the entire perimeter of the fabrics. Clip corners. Turn right side out through the opening.

Hand stitch the opening closed. Press.



Step Seven: Sew Button Measure down along the front edge to locate the center. Mark about 1 to 1-1/2 inches away from the edge for the placement of the button. Sew the button in place.

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