

Supplies for the Simple Round Back Spine

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Version: Gutenberg 6 x 8" ; full fabric

Supply Shopping List

I purchase all my supplies from **Wet Paint in St. Paul, MN** and **Minnesota Center for Book Arts in Minneapolis, MN**. Both do mail order if you cannot find supplies in your area. **TalasOnline** is an excellent online source for bookbinding supplies.

For each book you make of the type described in class, you will need the following supplies. Remember that measurements of some items are approximate or relational because you won't know the size until you prepare your textblock. Underlined numbers in supplies list indicate grain direction.

To simplify your shopping Wet Paint has created a supply set containing the items marked with a bullet. The set contains 6 sheets of Gutenberg and enough binder's board and bookcloth for you to make 2 books. The other supplies in the set come in quantities sufficient to make additional books. None of the supplies from Wet Paint will be pre-cut, e.g., you'll receive one package of mull from which you'll cut the pieces listed below.

DO NOT CUT any of your materials until you are in class.

These measurements are rough cuts supplied only so that you can purchase sufficient quantities.

- 3 sheets of Gutenberg 130 gsm², 31 x 41 inches (Note: You can use the lighter or heavier weight of Gutenberg instead, but your spine width will be noticeably different.)
- 2 pieces binder's board, width of textblock x height of textblock plus a minimum of 3/16 at both the head and tail 6/16 or 3/8 inch and a maximum of 1/2 inch depending on the overhang you desire. (In class **6-1/8 x 8-1/4 in.**)
- 1 piece of bookcloth cut to be 2 inches taller than your bookboards and with a width that is (2 x cover board width) + (2 x hinge space) + spine width + 2 inches. (In class **16 x 10-1/4 inches.**)
- 1 piece 3-ply Bristol (vellum) or similar cardstock, spine width x board height (for spine) (In class **2 inches x 8-1/4 in., to be trimmed to custom fit width.**) I recommend that you get Strathmore 500 Series 3-ply Vellum Bristol.
- 1 piece acid free 70-90 lb. paper for spine liner; width to extend onto boards (3.25 inches is sufficient for our spine width and structure) and height to match spine height. (In class **3.25 x 8-1/4 in.**) I recommend Borden and Riley #627 100% Rag Drawing which comes in pads. A 9 x 12 inch pad will last for many, many books. The grain direction of the paper in the 9 x 12 inch pad runs with the 12 inch length.
- 2 pieces of mull 1-5/8 inches wide x 7-1/2 in. (to extend along spine and cover all rows of sewing holes.)
- 1 piece of mull width of spine x spine height minus 1/4 inch. (In class **1-5/8 x 7.5 inches to be trimmed to custom fit width.**)
- 11 inches (approx.) of linen book binding tape cut into 3 pieces approx. 3.5 inches each.
- 2 pieces of headband ribbon cut to your spine measurement (which will be known after you round it. **1-1/2 inches is enough to have on hand.**)

- book binding thread (Colophon 35/3 is recommended) approx. 11 x textblock height.

- beeswax for lightly waxing thread

- A small piece of heavy weight laminating plastic for your label, and of course your label. (In class **3 x 3 inches max.**)

- I recommend Grafix Heavyweight self-adhesive laminating plastic.

Additional Tools and Supplies:

You will need to equip your work space with the following items to complete this book binding project. With the exception of the glue, blades, and waste papers, these items are not consumable and are good for long-term use; or like the pencils are good for use over several sessions.

- graphite pencil with a soft lead (HB-3B)(mechanical or regular)
- white color pencil (if working with dark fabric)
- awl (Kemper Clay tool suggested)
- face cloth or cushion to awl protect point
- scissors
- cutting mat
- X-Acto Blade
- metal or wooden yardstick
- metal or wooden 12- or 18-inch ruler
- bone folder
- bookbinding needle
- PVA for gluing (buy at least 16 ounces)
- glue brushes (a thin one and a larger, wider brush)
- foam roller
- plastic disposable plate for glue tray
- waste paper (bond paper)
- 6 to 10 large sheets of newsprint (18 x 24 or 24 x 36 inches)
- wax paper
- smooth, clean twine (24-36 inches)
- Masonite or other clean boards (or large, heavy books) larger than the book (10 x 12 inches is good) for weighting cover to dry
- weights (bricks or books) for weighting covers
- paper towels
- small cut-off yogurt container or dedicated dish for wet paper towel (for cleaning fingers)
- access to board sheers for cutting bookboard—or heavy duty utility knife and metal ruler with safety ridge.

OPTIONAL:

You may need one or more of the following—a metal triangle; a see-through 3- to 5-inch wide fabric ruler, at least 18 inches long; a metal ruler with central ridge to protect fingers; a heavy duty utility blade if you do not have access to a cutting board or large board shears.