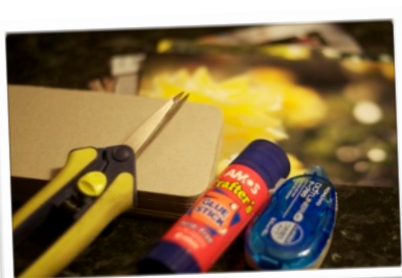


construction

part one :: the easy stuff



Now that you've gathered some supplies and spent some time behind the camera, it's time to start with the construction of the book. Today we're going to cover the basics

-- it's the easy stuff but it's often more time consuming than the embellishment process we'll do in part two.

We're going to start by adhering a photo to the left page of each double page spread. The idea here is to use a photo that is as big or bigger than your page -- or if your photo is smaller than your page, cover the remaining part of the page with patterned paper.

There are a few ways to cover the chipboard pages with a photo. One way is to trace the chipboard page to make a template, then trace that onto the photos so you cut them to size before you glue them to the chipboard. The other way is to glue the photo directly to the page, then use scissors, a craft knife or tearing to trim away the excess. Don't worry too much about it being too perfect when you trim the edges, as we're going to distress them anyway. Whichever method you pick for trimming the pictures,

you'll want to let the glue sit with a weight on top of the book so it can cure. Once it's cured, use

sandpaper or a nail file to sand the edges of the photos. This step covers any imperfections to the trimming of the pictures and also

strengthens the bond of the

glue at the edge of the pages, which gives a bit more durability to a book that is designed to be handled.

Once all your photos are in place, repeat this process with patterned papers on the right page of each double page spread. Glue, trim (or trim, glue), cure and sand the edges.

Then our last step is the cover. This is much like the inside pages, with one little difference in the spine. You'll need three pieces of patterned paper -- one for the front, one for the back and one to go around the spine. Adhere the front and back pieces first, then the spine over that. Cure and sand the edges just like before. The extra piece over the spine will allow for the bend in the cover as the book is opened and closed.

So that is the easy part -- but the time consuming part! In prompt four, we'll work the embellishment and the words to make everything come together. And it'll stay just this easy. See you then!

