

Fat Quarter Book Cover

Using one or two fat quarters, this pattern works with most book sizes, including most journals. One fat quarter makes one small book cover with matching lining. For a coordinating lining use two pieces of fabric. For larger size covers use 2 fat quarters, one as the outside and one as the lining. Coordinate or contrast your fabrics, be creative with closures, make it subtle or outrageous, the choice is up to you.

Book cover Recipe: (Read instructions thoroughly before beginning)

Ingredients:

- 1 fat quarter 18x22 inches (2 fat quarters if contrasting lining is desired)
- 1/2 yard of stiff interfacing 18x22" – Peltex or Timtex (non fusible)
- The closure of your choice:
 - 1 yard cotton cord, leather lace, elastic cord, or decorative string (optional)
 - 1 decorative button, bead, clasp, etc (optional) or 2 inch length of velcro
 - 12 inches of desired bookmark material, ribbon, webbing, etc.
 - 2 inches ½ inch elastic for optional pen holder

Directions:

Measure your book:

Measure around the girth of your book overlapping measuring tape to the spot where you would like your cover flap closure to end. We will call this the length of fabric (L) Add 4 to 5 inches. 5 inches if this is a larger book.

For fabric width (W) or the height of your book, measure the height and add ¾ to 1 inch.

Keep book handy for checking parts placements.

Press fabric

Cut

.(L) x (W) from 2 fat quarters and interfacing. If (L) is longer than the fat quarter's 20 to 22 inches, cut from remaining fabrics and interfacing a piece for the left front flap, this should be (W) x 4 to 5 inches. Match (W) ends to matching fabric, sew to make 2 fabrics and interfacing to desired (L).

For back cover holder, cut (W) x 5 to 6 inch from remaining fabric, fold in half the long way, right sides together, sew (W) side only to make a tube, turn right side out and press.

Place cover fabrics right sides together and place interfacing on the outside, top or bottom, it doesn't matter.

To make a pointed cover closure –

mark center of one short end (W) and putting the 30 degree line on your rotary cutter ruler on the edge of the short end of the cut fabric, cut through the 3 layers to a point (see photo #1)

If using cording for closure,

pin the closure cording at the point between the fabric layers with length on inside. Photo #2

Pin back cover holder approx. 9 inches from the pointed end on both long ends between the fabric layers. (use your book for exact placement)

To add a bookmark, pin between fabric, on the top edge, keeping end free from stitching.

Sew:

Beginning ½ inch from the short squared end (W) with a ¼ inch seam, stitch one long side (L) around the pointed end to ½ inch from the other squared end, leaving that end open.

Clip the corners, (DO NOT clip cording) and trim the interfacing as close as you dare to the stitching line.

Turn right side out and push out points, adjust the back cover holder to the lining side. Finger press seams. Photo #3

At this point the interfacing will seem to want to do it's own thing but is easily controlled with a little steam from your iron.

Quilt or not:

This would be the time to machine quilt your cover, if desired – take care not to sew down the back cover holder or bookmark.

Finishing:

Finish the open end as desired – This is the flap for the front cover. Try on your book, trim this end if necessary to create flap size desired. If you'd like a pen holder, fold the elastic in half lengthwise and secure to the open end in the center. I cut the interfacing back about ¼ inch and tuck the lining side in and self bind with the outside fabric. You could use binding here or simply zigzag or serge closed. Photo #3 If using velcro as a closure, now would be the time to attach it. Sew the loop part to the lining side at the pointed end, fold the front cover flap toward the inside, pin. Using your book, measure where you'd like to place the hook side on the outside of the cover, mark. Unpin flap and attach velcro, I zig zag around the edges.

Pin front cover flap over to fit your book and top stitch all around, going over the edges of the flap a couple of times to reinforce.

Cut the cording to go all the way around your book, or just to wrap around the button. Attach a decorative button, add beads to cording (if desired) and add your book! Photo #4

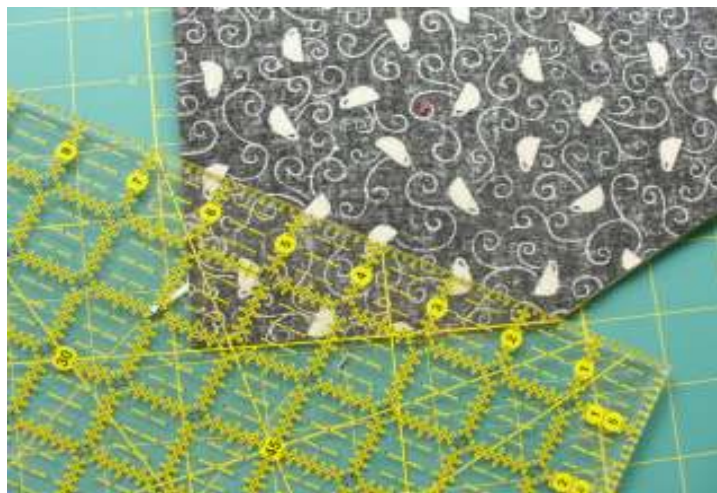


photo1



photo 2



photo 3



photo 4



photo 5

