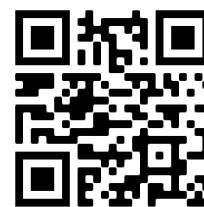


## TAKE AND MAKE: Book Binding

Watch on YouTube by entering this URL or scanning the QR Code: <https://bit.ly/ppldbinding>



**What's bookbinding?** Bookbinding is the process of sewing paper together to make handmade books, journals, pamphlets. While there are many different techniques that can be used to bind books, in this activity we will over the Pamphlet Stich and the Stab Binding.

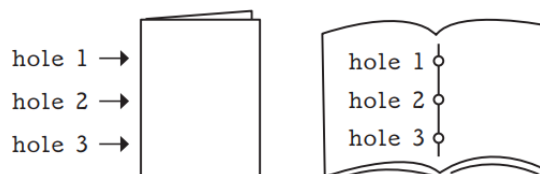
### What's in the kit?

- A sewing needle
- A push pin
- A binder clip
- Waxed thread
- Plain copy paper, cut in half
- Decorative paper

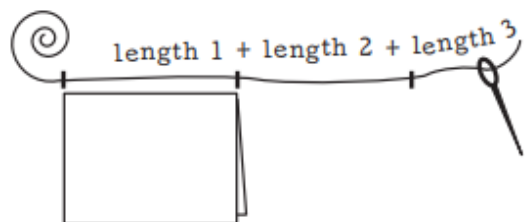
We've included enough paper in this kit for you to make one of each of the following bindings:

**Pamphlet Stitch.** The pamphlet stitch is a basic book binding stitch. Start with 4 of your pieces of plain copy paper and one sheet of decorative paper, trimmed to fit, on the outside for the cover. Fold them in half.

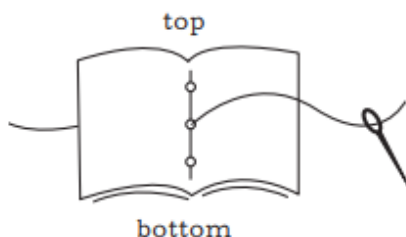
At this point, you can use the binder clip to hold your stack of papers together. Paperclips and clothespins can also work well. Carefully punch three holes evenly spaced on the fold of your papers using the push pin.



Sew the binding as follows:



- 2 cut a piece of string 3 times the length of your book



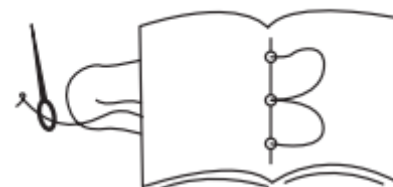
- 3 open the book and thread the string through the center



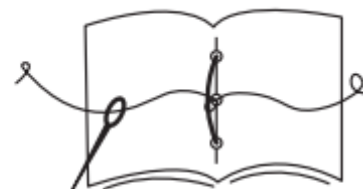
- 4 thread the string through the top hole



- 5 next, thread the string through the bottom hole, skipping the center hole



- 6 thread the string back through the center hole and tighten up that stitch

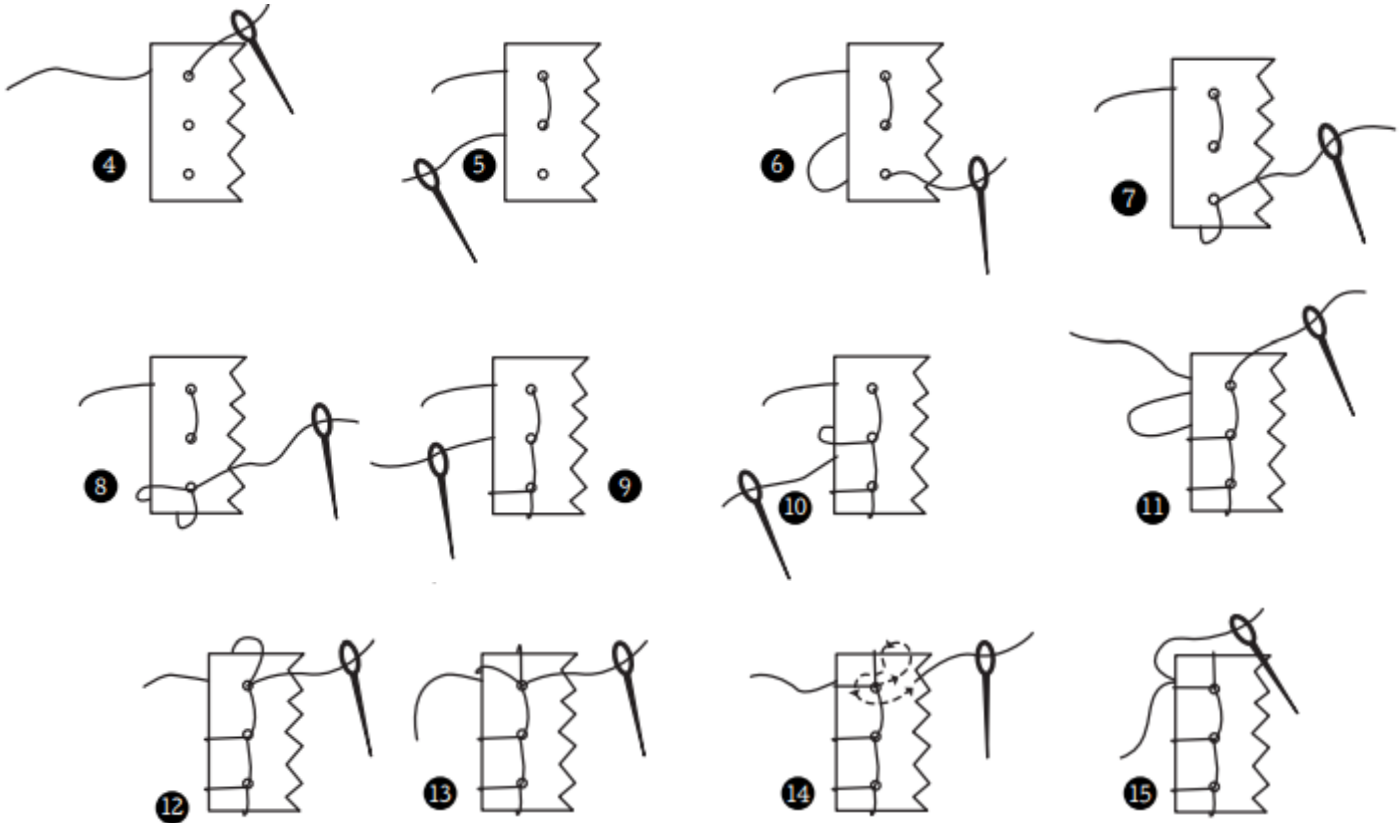


- 7 tie the string around the string running along the spine, and cut off the excess thread

**Stab Binding.** For the stab binding, you'll be sewing along the edges of unfolded papers. Use the remaining 6 pieces of plain paper with a decorative paper, trimmed to fit, on top. Hold them together with the binder clip. Mark a straight line about half an inch in from the short edge of your paper. Use your push pin to punch three evenly spaced holes. Thread the remaining thread on your needle.



Sew the binding as follows:



**Other Materials and Ideas.** While you can use copy paper and decorative scrapbook paper like we've included here, there are lots of other materials to consider. For paper, think about how you can use junk mail, found items, used paint chips, or magazine clippings. For thread, you can use dental floss, sewing thread, or embroidery thread, if they're strong enough to not break. The resources below can also help you learn about different and more advanced stitching options.

You now have two completed hand-bound books! If you share your work on social media, tag us with #PPLDTakeandMake!

**Resources and Links.** The library has many books and ebooks about bookbinding, to fit many kinds of projects and skill levels. We've listed just a few, but ask a library staff member if you'd like help finding more options:

- *Bound : 15 beautiful bookbinding projects* by Rachel Hazell
- *The art of the fold : how to make innovative books and paper structures* by Hedi Kyle and Ulla Warchol
- *Bound by hand : over 20 beautifully handcrafted journals* by Erica Ekrem
- *Handmade books for everyday adventures* by Erin Zamrzla
- *Bookbinding : a step-by-step guide* by Kathy Abbott

The diagrams in this guide were repurposed with permission from the Booklyn Education Manual. The full guide contains lots of project ideas, other techniques, and resources and can be found at <https://bit.ly/booklyn-pdf>

