

I like accordion books because you can stand them up and view all the pages at once. This makes them great for displays and exhibits. Accordion books have a rich history around the world. They are made in many parts of Asia, including China, Japan, Korea, Thailand, India, and Burma. They were also the book form of the Aztecs and Maya in Mexican and Central America. Book artists frequently experiment with the form.

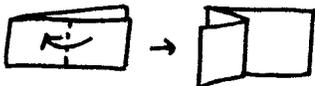
You Need:

- ① 1 piece 6" x 18" paper (I chose this size assuming you'd start with 12" x 18" drawing or construction paper, but any long piece of paper will do. The cover should be 1/4" taller and 1/4" wider than the folded accordion.)
- ② 2 pieces 6 1/4" x 4 3/4" posterboard, oaktag, or cardboard
- ③ 1 piece 24' long ribbon or yarn
- ④ Glue stick and scrap paper

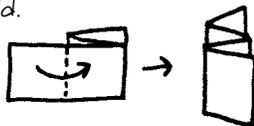
1. Place the paper in front of you horizontally and fold it in half.



2. Fold the top page in half by folding it back to meet the fold.



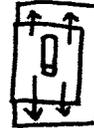
3. Turn the paper over and fold the top page in half by bringing it back to meet the fold.



④ 4. Open the first page of the accordion and slip a piece of scrap paper inside.

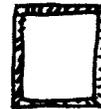


5. Cover the entire surface with a thin coat of glue. I start in the middle and then go in stripes up and then down the page. Go over the edges and onto the scrap paper.



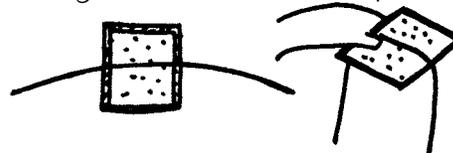
6. Remove the scrap paper and fold it in half with the glue on the inside.

7. Center the accordion on one of the cover pieces and press. Smooth to help the glue adhere.



8. Place the accordion with the cover side down, insert the scrap paper under the top page, and cover it with glue. Remove the scrap paper and fold it in half.

9. Lay the ribbon across the back of the book. Adjust the ends so that they are even.



10. Wrap the ribbon around the front of the book and tie it in a bow. When you write in your book, place the ribbon side down and stretch the pages out to the left.



Susan's Multicultural Books To Make And Share, which contains sixteen bookmaking projects from around the world including several projects using the accordion book form, is available only from the Bookstore at makingbooks.com.

