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## Fabric Covered Notebook by Paula Walker

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### Materials needed:

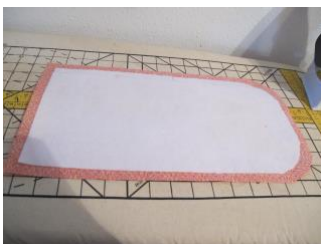
- Notebook of desired size
  - Fabrics (main and lining to cover notebook and make embellishments) ½ yd  
main and contrast fabrics
  - Thread to match fabric
  - Fusible thin batting (about 1/16" thickness)
  - Scissors
  - Tape measure
  - Sewing Machine & thread
  - Pins or clips
  - Point turner or chopsticks
  - Cutting ruler, cutting mat and rotary cutter
  - Pen or pencil plus measurements page
  - Iron and ironing board
1. Determine the size of the desired notebook (I am using Staples 1 subject 5 X 7.75" three to a package notebooks but any size can be used).
  2. Close the notebook. Measure from the paper end across the binding across the back and end where the flap will finish. Allow room for the pencil pocket and tie on the flap. Write the measurements on the paper. Include seam allowances on each end. Add 1 inch to the height (1/2" seams) and 1" to the width (1/2" seams). (Mine was 16" )
  3. Measure the height of your notebook plus seams. (Mine was 8.75". )
  4. Determine the width of the inside flap of the cover and multiply by 2 plus 1" seam allowance. Then add the height plus the seam allowance of 1". (Mine measured 7" wide and 8.75" high. )

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5. Measure the width of the sliding back flap X 2 and add 1" for the seam allowance. Use the height plus 1" for the top & bottom seams. (Mine measured 7" wide and 8.75" high.)
6. Determine the height of the pencil holder X 2 plus seam allowance. (Mine measured 11" including seams.)
7. Determine the width of the pencil holder plus seams. (Mine measured 3" including seams.)
8. Determine the length of the ties. (Mine were 11" and 2" wide.)
9. Determine how much fabric you will need. (I used 2 contrasting fat quarters with fabric left over. Be careful with 1 way fabric designs.)
10. Cut needed pieces of fabric and batting. Use a round object to cut the 2 **outside (open) corners** only on the **right** flap batting if wanted. Fold the batting in half lengthwise. Round the 2 open corners folded together on the right side only. Iron the fabric pieces but not the batting.
11. Put front piece (A main color) print (right) side down on ironing surface. Place batting on back (wrong side) of fabric glue side (rough side) facing wrong side of fabric. Measure seams so batting is placed evenly. Be careful as it stretches. Follow directions and hold iron on sections of batting for required time. **Decorate front now if you want it embellished.**



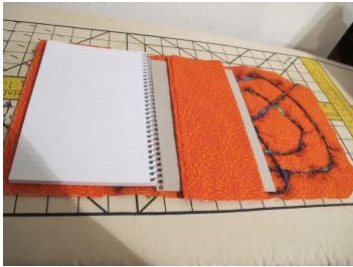
12. Turn fabric over so batting is on the table. Make sure flap side of batting is facing right.
13. Fold left flap in half width ends (8.75") together right side of fabric out. Press seam. Place flap on left side of fabric with seams facing left side aligned with left edges of front fabric.

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14. Sew seam of right flap (8.75"). Turn fabric right side out and press with seam as one of the sides. Hint: fold seam with the front side extending slightly over the back so seam is not visible. Press with steam iron.
15. Measure where you will place the right flap. Place the flap right side facing the right side of fabric. Measure top and bottom edges so it is straight.



16. Place the lining fabric right side down onto the flaps.
17. Pin around the edges to hold the layers together. Turn your fabric over so the batting is on the top. Start sewing across the bottom back flap to the backside using a 3/8" seam. You are sewing left to the backside. Sew to the edge of the fabric. Sew the next seam from edge to edge up the back flap. Continue across the top. Follow the curve around the front to the far end of the right flap. Be sure to leave a 3" opening to turn the cover. Hint: put 2 pins where you want to stop sewing.
18. Diagonally trim the corners close to the seam but be careful not to cut where the corner seams are crossed. Trim the front flap following the curve. Clip into the curves being careful not to cut the seam thread.
19. Turn the cover inside out. Make sure the flaps are facing the lining. Push out the corners with your point turner. Do not push through the fabric or thread. Press. Be sure the outside fabric is extended very slightly over the inside. Fold in opening. Press edges. Sew opening closed. Other options are: double sided fusible tape or permanent fabric glue.
20. Fold long sides of fabric in half for pencil holder right sides together and sew side seams of pencil holder. Turn right side out. Push open end inside holder. Make sure the front fabric is slightly longer than the back. Press. Pin onto front flap with the folded side as the top and open seams on the bottom.
21. Lengthwise fold the 2 fabric ties in half wrong sides together. Press. Fold each raw edge to the inside middle to make a 1/4" to 1/2" tie. Press. Sew a scrap of

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fabric to the edge. Place tie next to scrap and sew onto tie. Topstitch the open edge. Line up second tie and sew onto it. Clip threads. Put your book into the cover. Fold 1 end of tie under and pin onto front top. Fold other tie under and fold onto back flap. Pin tie onto flap. If desired knot the other end or fold under and sew.

22. Remove the book. Sew pencil holder and ties onto the cover. **Be sure to lift the left inside flap so you do not sew it down as you sew on the left tie.**

23. Tie options:

Make 1 long tie and tack it to the front cover. Tie after wrapping around book.

Cover 1 1/2 times the fabric over a piece of slightly tightened elastic. Sew ends of both together. Slide the fabric covered elastic over the book.

Sew a button onto the left outside. Sew a loop onto the flap side.

24. Sew a pocket for business cards onto the left flap as desired.

Measurements:

A. \_\_\_\_\_ Width of closed book plus flap and seams (I use half inch seams

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- A. \_\_\_\_\_ Height of book plus seams
- B. \_\_\_\_\_ Width of left flap plus seams
- C. \_\_\_\_\_ Width of the sliding back flap plus seams (Right side of inside)
- D. \_\_\_\_\_ Width of pencil holder plus seams
- D. \_\_\_\_\_ Height of pencil holder plus seams
- E. \_\_\_\_\_ Length of book ties
- E. 1" to 2" Width of book ties
- F. \_\_\_\_\_ Width of batting (Use width of book & flap minus seams)
- F. \_\_\_\_\_ Height of batting (Use height of book minus seams)

Suggested color combination or your choice of fabric combinations:

- A. Cut front piece color A (main color) \_\_\_\_\_ X \_\_\_\_\_
- B. Cut left inside flap A (main color) \_\_\_\_\_ X \_\_\_\_\_
- C. Cut right side back page holder A (main color) \_\_\_\_\_ X \_\_\_\_\_
  
- A. Cut lining piece color B (contrast color) same as front \_\_\_\_\_ X \_\_\_\_\_
- D. Cut pencil holder B (contrast color) \_\_\_\_\_ X \_\_\_\_\_
- E. Cut **2 ties** B (contrast color) \_\_\_\_\_ X 1.0" to 2.0" wide
  
- F. Cut 1 piece of batting with no seam allowance \_\_\_\_\_ X \_\_\_\_\_