

Piano Hinge Book (soft cover)



Dea Fischer

artist & artisan

403-609-3579

rock-paper-scissors@live.ca

Finished size: 9" x 6"

Materials:

2 pieces of heavy cover paper $9\frac{1}{8}$ " x $12\frac{1}{4}$ "

6 bamboo skewers

5 sheets of Cartridge drawing paper 18 x 24"

Hinge cutting template

Supplies:

UHU glue stick

Scissors

Craft knife

Bone folder

1. Fold both cover pieces in half widthwise. Using hinge template, mark the hinge positions along the fold.
2. With sharp scissors, cut a slit to the mark for each hinge.
3. On the front cover, fold in the second and fourth hinges using a valley fold. On the back cover, fold in the first, third and fifth hinges.
4. Glue the folded covers together. You can glue the valley folded pieces, but be careful not to glue in the hinge area.
5. To form pages with a mock deckle edge, fold each of the drawing paper sheets like this. Fold in half widthwise, sharpen crease with your bone folder, then carefully tear along the fold with your bone folder, or along the edge of a metal ruler. Reverse the top sheet, then fold again widthwise, sharpen the crease and tear. You are now left with four sheets some of which have a deckle edge on two sides. Alternate the deckle edges for a pleasing appearance, then fold the stack in half widthwise to form a signature. Do this for each of the five sheets to create five signatures of four sheets each.
6. Using the template, mark hinge depth and positions on the fold. Cut slits at each hinge mark from the edge of the fold to the mark. There will be four slits on each signature. If slits are too small, you will not be able to get the skewers through. If they are too large, the skewers will be loose and will not hold the book together securely.

7. Once cut, gently fold the first, third and fifth hinge of each signature forward. Gently fold the second and fourth hinge back.
8. Nest front cover and first signature together. Starting at the bottom of the spine, insert the first skewer into the cover hinge and thread to the top, using a gentle twisting motion. The skewer should thread through the first hinge of the cover, the second hinge of the signature, the third hinge of the cover, the fourth hinge of the signature and the fifth hinge of the cover. Check periodically that the skewer is catching all layers of the signature.
9. Place second signature behind the first and repeat the procedure, threading through the first hinge of signature 1, the second hinge of signature 2, the third hinge of signature 1, etc.
10. Continue until all signatures have been threaded, then add the back cover. Double check that skewers have not missed any hinges before moving on.
11. You can now weave thread or wire through the skewer ends and decorate with hanging beads, or carefully trim the ends with wire cutters to within $\frac{1}{4}$ " of the spine. Do not cut too short.
12. Decorate as desired.