

# Book Clutch

## Supplies

- Hardcover book with fun cover
- ½ yard of fabric (the sides, lining, and bottom of clutch can be different fabrics!)
- 12" ribbon
- Bead or button for clasp
- Corrugated cardboard
- Cardstock
- Scissors (paper and fabric)
- Utility knife
- Hot glue
- Fabric glue (school glue also works)
- Pencil

## Instructions

It's a good idea to start by cutting all of the cardstock and cardboard pieces before moving on to cutting fabric. Finish all cutting prior to moving on to gluing.

### *Cutting cardboard and cardstock*

**1)** Remove the text block from the book cover by cutting along the inside cover at the spine, without cutting through the cover – BE VERY CAREFUL!



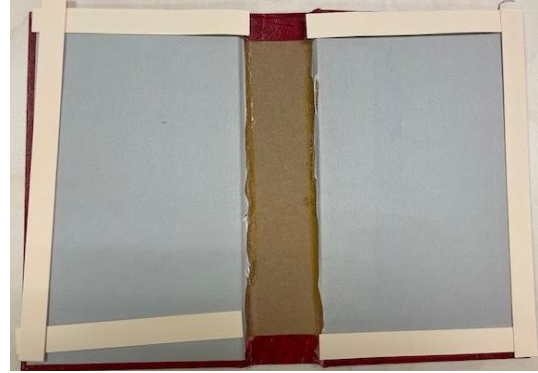
**2)** Trace around the text block onto a piece of corrugated cardboard. Cut along traced lines and set aside. This will be the bottom of the inside of the clutch.

**3)** Stand the cover up on its end on a piece of cardstock, lining up the corners of the cover with the edge of the cardstock. Trace the inside of the cover. This will be the template for the sides of the clutch. The cover should be open wide as the desired opening of the finished clutch. The final shape drawn on the cardstock should be a trapezoid. Set this template aside.



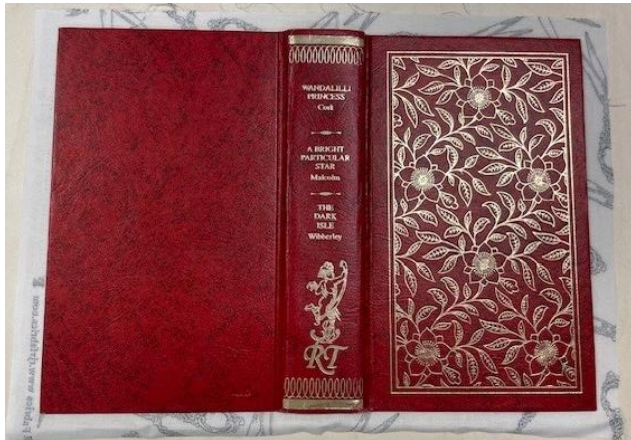
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**4)** Cut six ½-inch wide strips of cardstock. Two should be the length of the book cover (1 front, 1 back), two should be the width of the front cover, and two should be the width of the back cover. Set them aside.



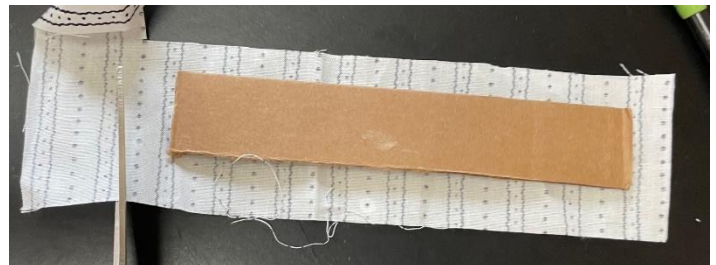
### *Cutting fabric*

**5)** Select the fabric for the sides of the clutch. Fold it in half. Place the template on the fabric with the widest part on the fold. Add a ½-inch seam allowance to each side of the template, marking it with a pencil. Cut out. **DO NOT CUT THE FOLD.** Repeat for the second clutch side. Set aside both pieces.



**6)** Select the fabric for the clutch lining. Lay it out flat with the wrong side up. Lay book cover face down on the fabric and trace. Add a ½-inch seam allowance to all 4 sides then cut. The additional ½-inch of fabric will fold over the cardstock strips from step 4 to reinforce the lining. Set aside.

**7)** Select the fabric for the bottom of the clutch. Lay it out flat, wrong side up. Take the piece of corrugated cardboard from step 2 and lay it on the fabric. Cut out enough fabric to wrap the cardboard piece completely. Set aside.



**8)** Cut the ribbon in half. Thread the bead or button with one half of the ribbon, center it, then tie it securely. This is the clasp for the clutch.

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### Gluing

Fabric glue, school glue or hot glue can be used for steps 9 - 11. Hot glue is necessary for steps 12 through 15.

**9)** Unfold one of the clutch sides. Apply glue to the back side of the fabric, then refold, gluing both sides together. Repeat with the other clutch side. Set aside to dry.

**10)** Wrap the fabric for the bottom of the clutch around the corrugated cardboard piece, glueing it in place securely. Set aside to dry.

**11)** Lay out the fabric for the clutch lining wrong side up. Glue the cardstock strips down on the inside of the traced line (see photo). Then fold the edges of the fabric over and glue it to the cardstock. Set aside to dry.



**12)** Using hot glue, attach the ribbon with the bead to one side of the book cover, being sure to center it. Make a loop with the other ribbon that is large enough for the bead to fit through but small enough that it won't easily slip out and attach it to the opposite cover. Be sure to line it up with the other half of the clasp.

**13)** Take the side pieces from step 9 and CAREFULLY glue them to the inside edges of the book cover – it is easiest to first glue them to the spine and work along one side of the front cover, then the other, attaching both clutch pieces at the same time. Turn the cover over and repeat the process on the back cover, glueing along the edge in stages.

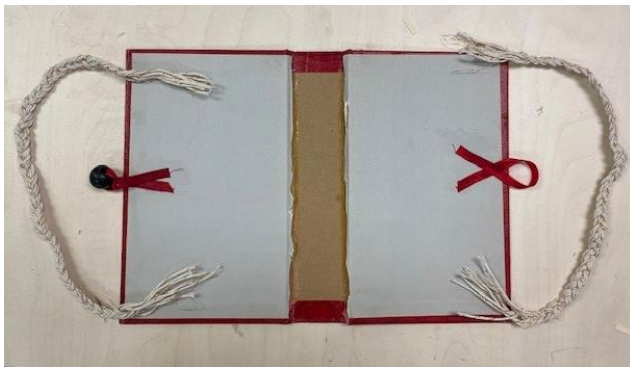




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**14)** Glue in the lining. Start by glueing the center of the lining to the center of the spine. Then work in sections starting with the front cover – glue halfway up one side, then the other, then the remaining edges, and top. Repeat steps to glue the lining to the back cover.

**15)** Take the fabric wrapped corrugated cardboard board and glue it to the bottom of the clutch, fitting it snugly into the spine of the cover. Be sure it is glued in securely.



**Notes:** Straps can be added to turn the clutch into a purse. Braided string, ribbon, or cord can be glued directly to the cover after step 12. If using a string of beads or chain, the end of each strand should be secured to a ring, and a short piece of ribbon can be folded over the ring and glued to the cover after step 12.

