

Upcycling - notebook (easy version)

Here you learn how to make a small notebook using gift paper that is too small to re-wrap other gifts but too good to go into the recycling paper bin.

Nice to keep your kids busy on a rainy Sunday afternoon!

This is what you need:

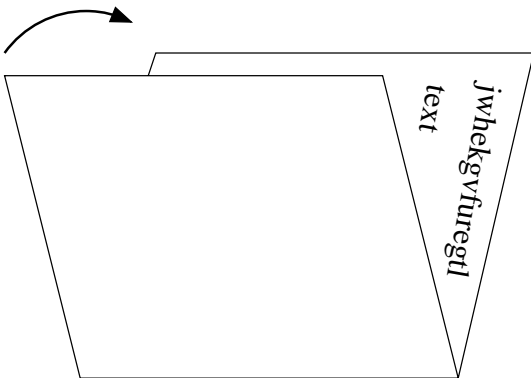
- three sheets A4, printed on one side (e.g. from your office)
- gift paper ca. 16 x 12 cm
- three pieces of sewing thread having ca. 30 cm length
- two pieces of white or coloured paper (e.g. from one-sided printed flyers) for the inside feeding of the book covers, 10 x 7 cm
- scissors, glue and ruler / set square

Note: This instruction uses the Origami notation (dashed line: valley fold, dashed-dotted line: mountain fold)

Here you go:

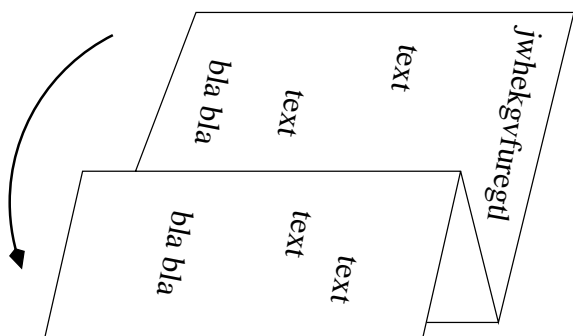
(1) Fold an A4 sheet in half, print inside:

1



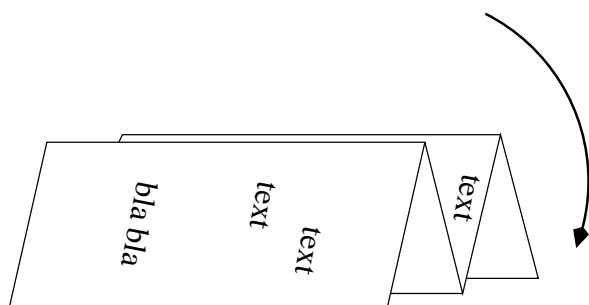
(2) Fold the front edge outside, dividing the sheet in a quarter:

2



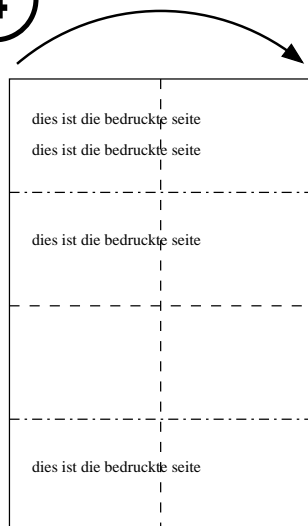
(3) Repeat step (2) with the back edge:

3



(4) Unfold and valley-fold lengthwise. Unfold the sheet afterwards:

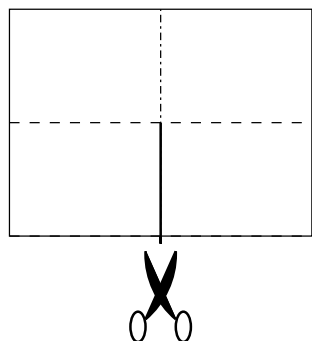
4



(5) Re-fold the sheet as in step (1), print inside and center of sheet downwards. Cut halfway as shown.

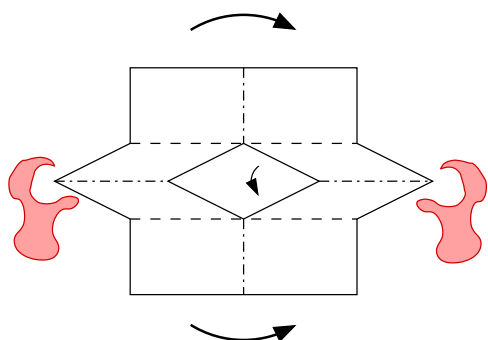
Now, the sheet has a cut in its centre:

5



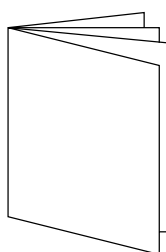
(6) Shift together the central parts of the sheet with both hands as shown, then fold together right and left half so that printed side is no longer visible:

6

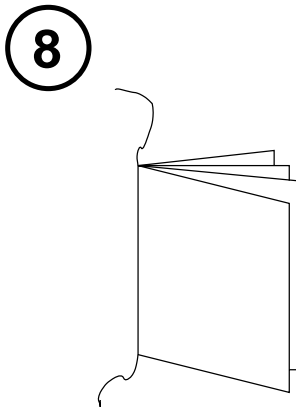


(7) You obtain a mini book having four double pages, two of them being closed at the long side and two at the (upper) short side.

7

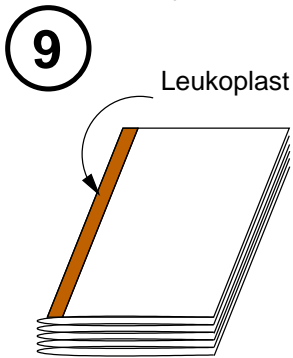


(8) Run one of the threads through the booklet so that it protrudes on the top and on the bottom by a few cm. Then glue the printed double sides together so as to close them:

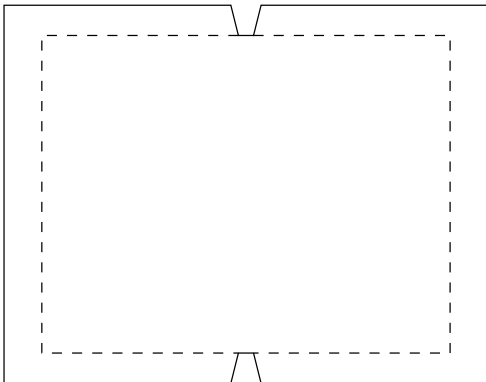


(9) Repeat steps (1) through (8) twice so as to have three booklets.

(10) Now knot the three top and the three bottom threads tightly to each other and glue the loose ends to the book spine. You may fix the spine even more using a scotch or leukoplast tape:



(11) Cut the gift paper for the book cover (adapt the size to the outer dimensions of the book):



(12) Glue the cover around the book and glue the inside feeding inside the book covers. Your book is now ready to use!

Hint: Try to ply as exactly as possible. The neater you ply the nicer the finished book will look. You may want to smoothen the paper using a ruler.

T.Asthalter, march 2018

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