

Wedding Guest Book or Bride's Journal

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This book uses a hardbound blank journal as a base. Hardbound books are available inexpensively at craft stores, some card shops, and book stores. Try to find one with a white cover; though it will be completely covered, the edges will still show. The smaller books measure about 8-1/4" x 5-7/8". The directions below can be used for any size journal. This book makes an elegant guest book for a wedding, a journal for a new bride, and is also nice for a special anniversary party; or it can be adapted for any special event by using different colors and decorations.

You will need:

a journal to cover

**dressy white fabric (1/4 to 1/2 yard should do,
depending on the size of your journal)**

white cotton duck

fusible interfacing

5/8-inch white satin ribbon

white ribbon trim, white pearl beads, 3 white ribbon roses,

a small white plastic dove

a glue gun



Basic directions:

Cut a piece of dressy white fabric, a piece of white cotton duck the same size for the lining, and a piece of fusible interfacing 1-1/8" higher and 1-1/8" wider than the book dimensions measured from the edge of the front, around the spine, to the edge of the back cover. (My book measured 12-1/4" x 8-1/4" so I cut the pieces 13-3/8" x 9-3/8"). Press the interfacing on to the back side of the dressy front cover fabric.

To make the flaps: cut 2 pieces of cotton duck and 2 pieces of fusible interfacing the same height as your other pieces by about 3" to 4" wide. Press interfacing to the back side of each of these pieces. Press under one long side of each flap 1/4" and stitch.

To assemble the pieces: With right sides together, pin a flap to each end of the book cover, with finished edge facing inward. With right sides together, position the lining over the cover and flaps matching all edges, and pin through all layers. Stitch around all sides, leaving about 6" open in the middle of one end for turning. Clip corners, turn right side out; turn flaps to the inside, push out corners, and press flat. Turn under raw edges of the 6" opening; press. With small stitches, hand stitch the opening closed.

With a hot glue gun, decorate the journal or guest book using ribbon trim, a small plastic dove, ribbon roses, and a satin bow. Glue small white pearl beads evenly spaced over the front of the book for an elegant look.

(continued)

Using a pretty type style on your computer, type out the names of the couple, the date, and any special information. Trim with special decorative edging scissors and glue onto the first page of the journal. If you have a color printer, use a light taupe color for the type. If desired, glue a white satin ribbon to the inside back cover of the book to bring forward and use as a bookmark.

Tips:

- **Check remnants at fabric stores for white netting, lace, bits of satin or brocade. Sometimes you can find just the right amount to complete all the projects in a set such as this one.**
- **To make slightly padded journals or boxes, use quilt batting under the covering, and allow just a bit more height and width to your covering pieces to allow for the extra bulk.**