

Fabric covered portfolio

Think of this project as a folder rather than a book. Two pieces of greyboard are covered in fabric, hinged on one side and tied with ribbon. This gives you a place to keep loose papers and memorabilia for on-going projects. Perhaps it could be the first step towards a more permanent life story album or book; somewhere to store thoughts and associated photographs.

I've made these to house recipes and covered them in chilli pepper fabric. You could always design your own fabric with transfer pens and crayons. Whatever subject you choose, make them in a size that suits the contents. A4 or A5 is a nice handy size and perfect for the children to hold. A5 is half an A4 standard size of photocopy paper.

Preparing the cover

1. Decide on the size of your portfolio which is made up of two equal size pieces of greyboard.
2. Cut to size.
3. Cut two pieces of cotton fabric larger than your greyboard.
4. Spread glue over one side of each board and cover in fabric, stretching smoothly over the surface.
5. Place the two wrong sides together and join on one open long end with bookbinders' tape in a matching colour.
6. Cut four lengths of bookbinders' tape. Lay at 45° angle on one edge. Fold in the open edges to be wrong side. Trim to size.
7. Repeat on the other three corners.
8. Cut two pieces of matching thin ribbon and glue in the centre edge of each long side.
9. Cut a piece of felt to cover the inside and the ribbon edge.
10. Glue in place.

