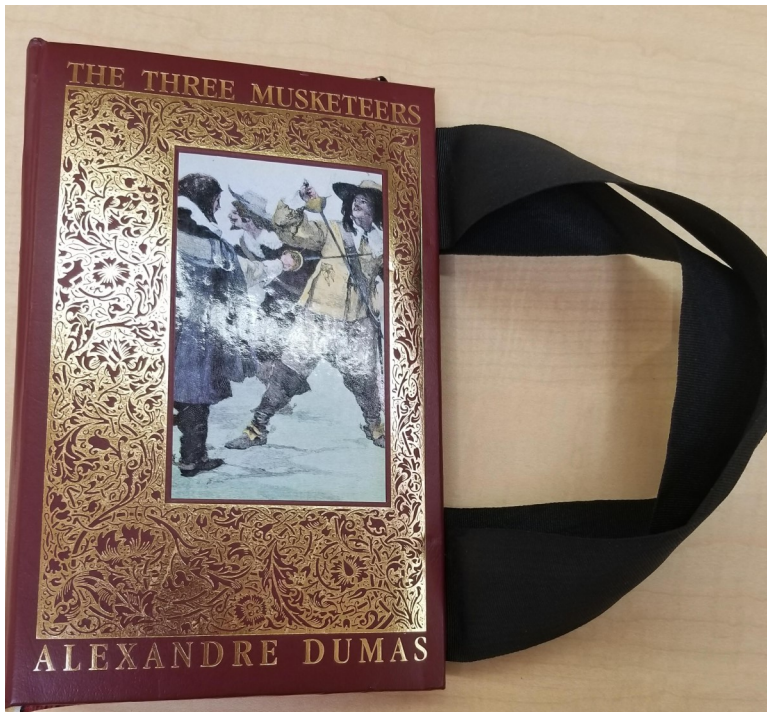


How to Make a Book Purse

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Supplies

Old book, pages removed

Fabric: Large woven rectangle, a little larger than the open book, to line the inside, two smaller pieces for the gussets, cut on fold at top

Handle: Heavy duty ribbon or strapping; an old belt; from an old purse; buy a new one online; use a piece of fabric, folded over several times and sewn together.

Tacky Glue, paintbrush to apply the glue

Iron and ironing board

Binder clips

Cardboard, to reinforce binding as needed

Scissors, Exacto knife or box cutter

Book easels to support the book while gluing

Ruler, pen/pencil, paper

Optional: Sewing machine, Mod Podge

Directions

Cut the pages out, taking care not to cut the cover of the book.



Add a piece of cardboard to the spine of the book to strengthen if desired.

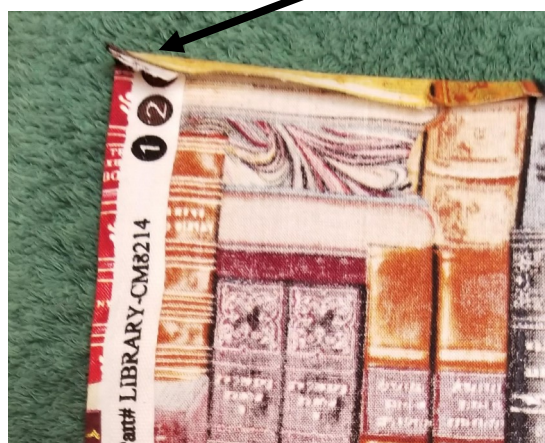
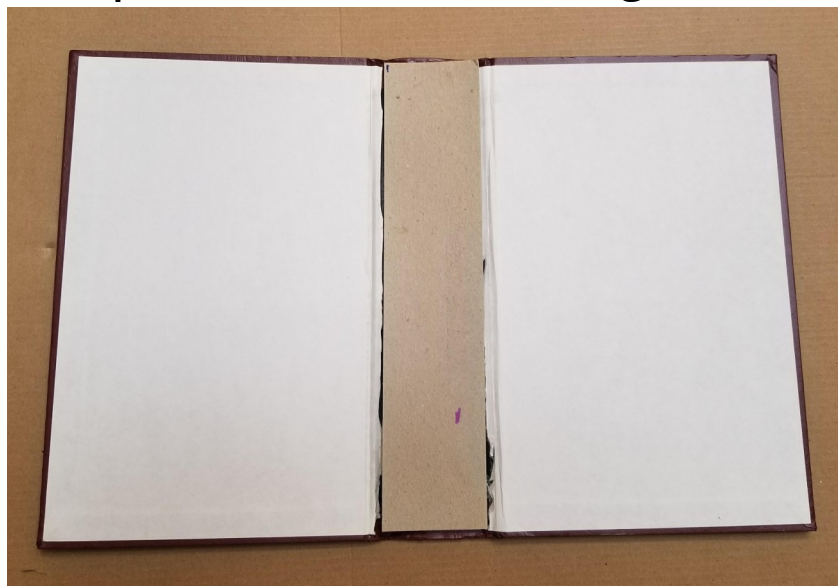
Lay the open book onto a single layer of the fabric.

Cut a piece of fabric that is 1/2" larger than the open book on all sides.

Press 1/2" to the wrong side on the top and bottom edges of the fabric so that no raw edges will show.

Press 3/4" to the wrong side on the outside edges of the book.

If the fabric is too bulky at the corners, open it up and cut off a triangle of fabric.



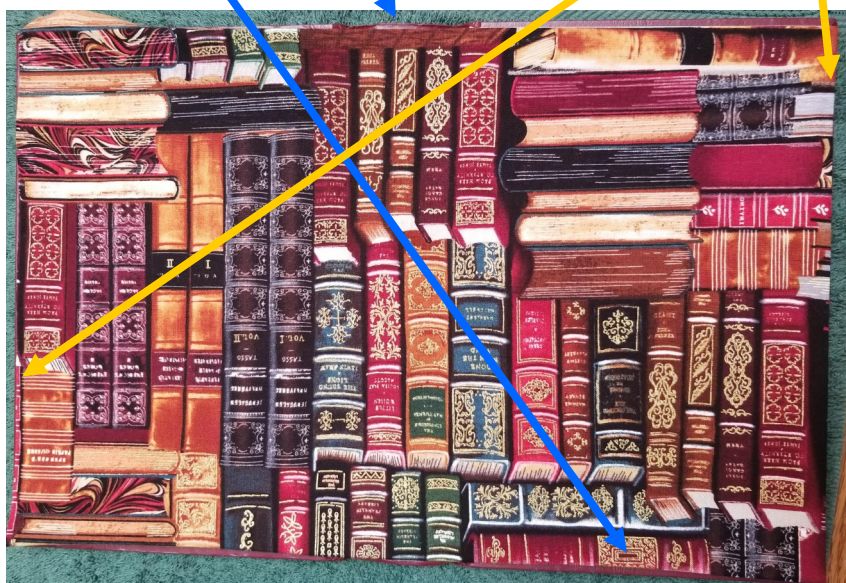
Wrong side of fabric

Top & bottom:

1/2" folded under on top & bottom of fabric

Sides:

3/4" folded under on sides of fabric

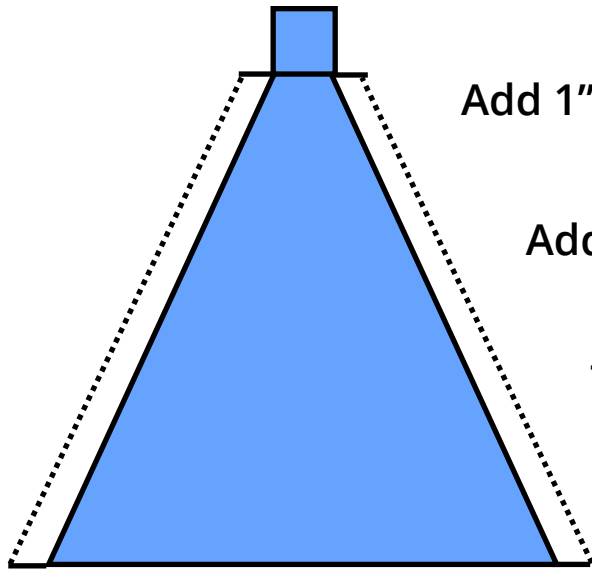


If desired, you may topstitch the edges.

Side Gussets—you will need two.

Trace the triangle shape of the opened book onto a piece of paper.

Align the book edges with the edges of the page.

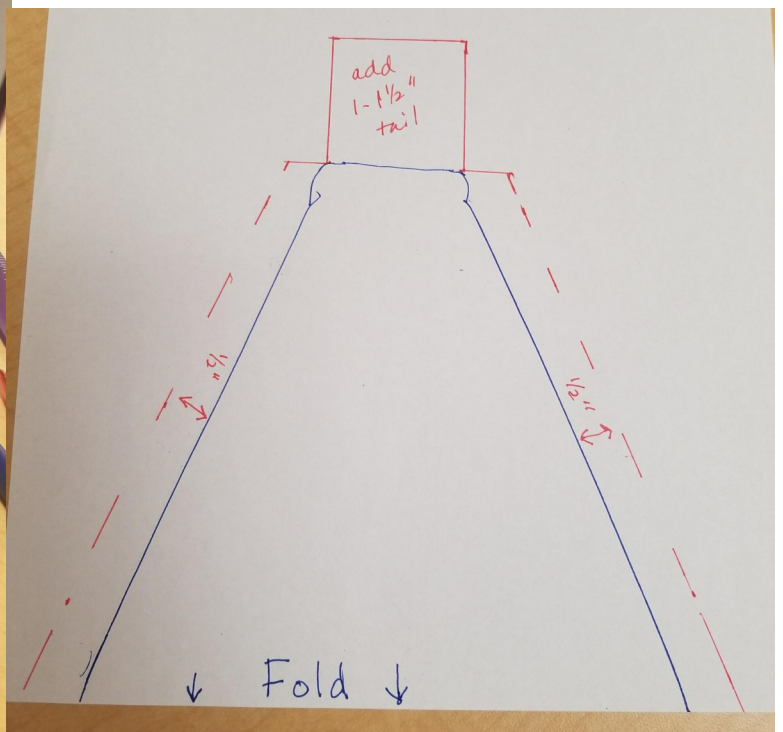
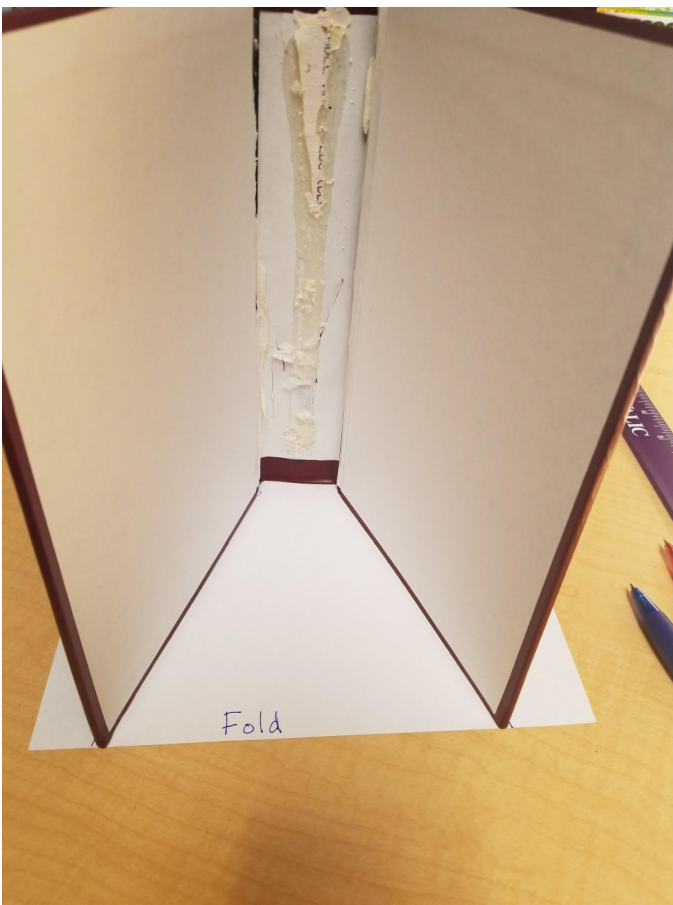


Add 1" to the smallest end.

Add 1/2" to your pattern at the sides.

Trace the pattern onto your fabric, matching the fold of the fabric with the fold line on your pattern and cut out two gussets.

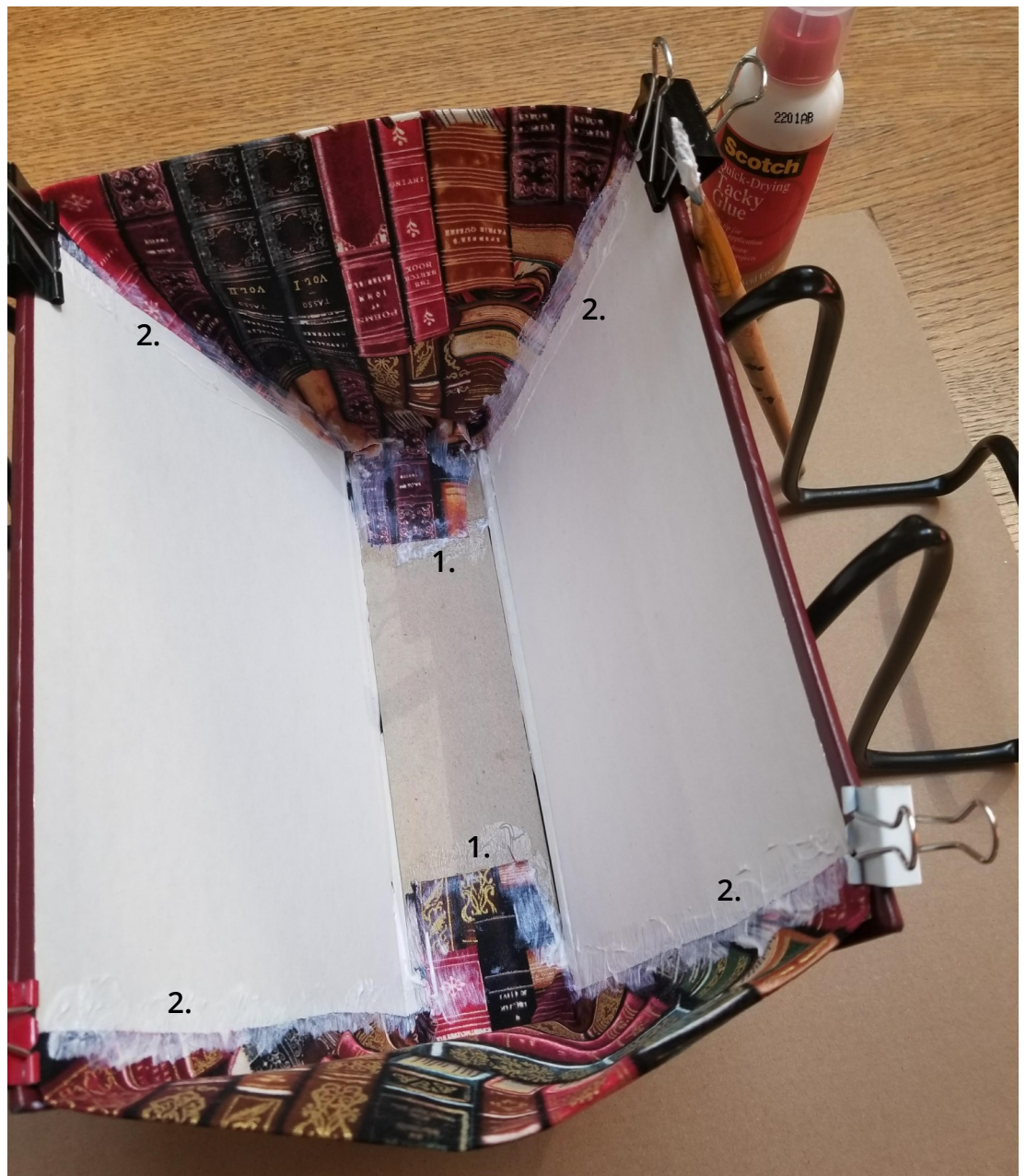
FOLD



Glue in the Side Gussets

Prop the book with book easels, soup cans or have a friend help you hold it in place. Place the folded end at the top of the purse, attach the gusset in place with book binder clips. Apply the glue liberally.

1. Glue the little box shape that you added to the pattern to the bottom of the purse.
2. Glue the 1/2" that you added to the top and bottom edges of the gusset.



Attach the Purse Straps

If your purse straps are fabric, apply the glue liberally.



If you use leather straps, you may attach them by looping a piece of fabric or strong ribbon through the ring at the bottom of the strap, then glue the fabric to the inside of the purse.

Glue the large piece of fabric in place

Apply the glue liberally to one side of the book, align the book body fabric with top edge of one side of the book, covering the book handles, smoothing from top to bottom. Use binder clips to hold the fabric in place.

Apply glue to the bottom of the purse, glue fabric in place.

Apply glue to the other side of the Purse. Align the Fabric to the top of the other side, smooth down the Fabric from the top to the bottom, pressing in the Bottom last and adjusting to fit.

Place binder clips to secure fabric in place and allow to dry.

Let dry for 24 hours.



If desired, paint the book with Mod Podge to preserve it.