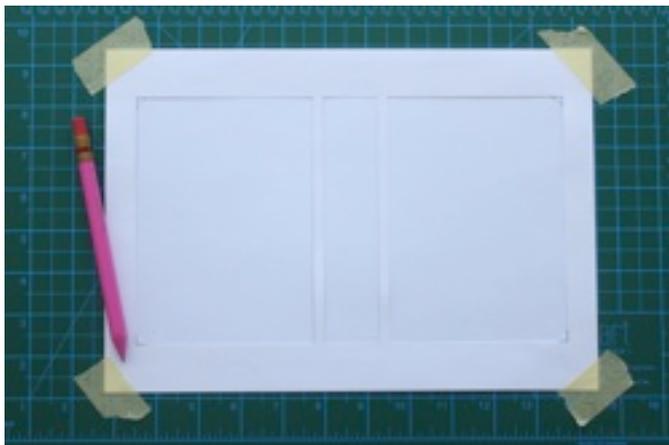# Lady Writer Printable Journal Kit
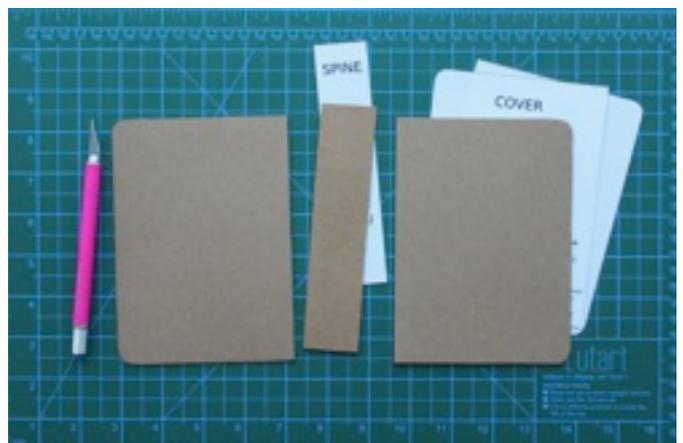

COVER TUTORIAL

Cover

Print out the cover template. Ensure it's centred on the page and prints at 100%.

After printing, measure the pieces on the template to check that they're to scale.

Cut the pieces out of the template, leaving the frame intact.

Print out cover. Once again, make sure you centre it on the page and print at 100% without cutting off any of the image. Print borderless if possible.
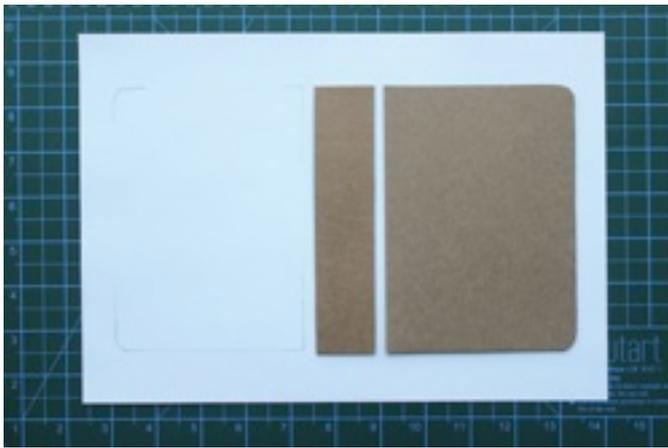
Don't cut the cover out!

Lay the stencil over the back of your printed cover image and draw around the shapes. This will help you place your covers and spine with the correct spacing. You can alternatively use 1/4in double-sided sticky tape to space your covers and spine.
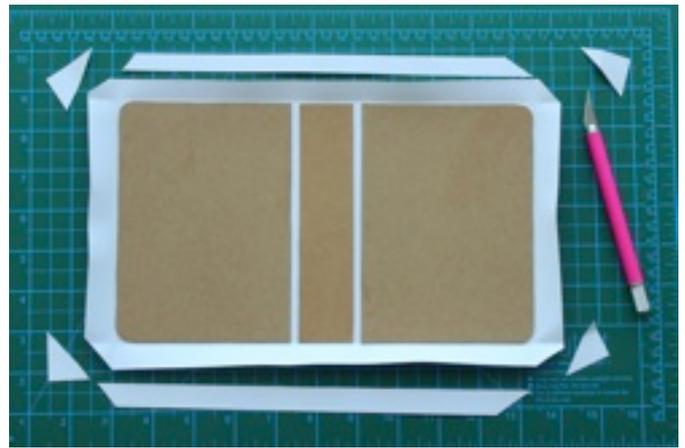

Use your template to cut out two covers and a spine piece out of chipboard or thick cardboard.
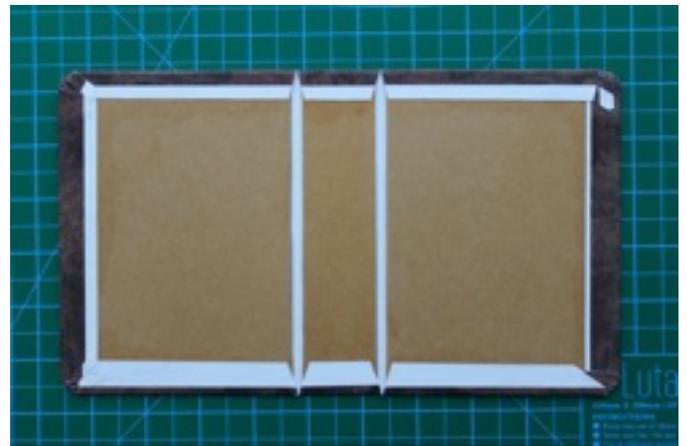
Round the outer corners if you wish.

Adhere the covers and spine to the back of your cover printout. Spread glue on the cardboard rather than the printout to avoid wrinkles. Press down evenly with a brayer to smooth out any air bubbles.
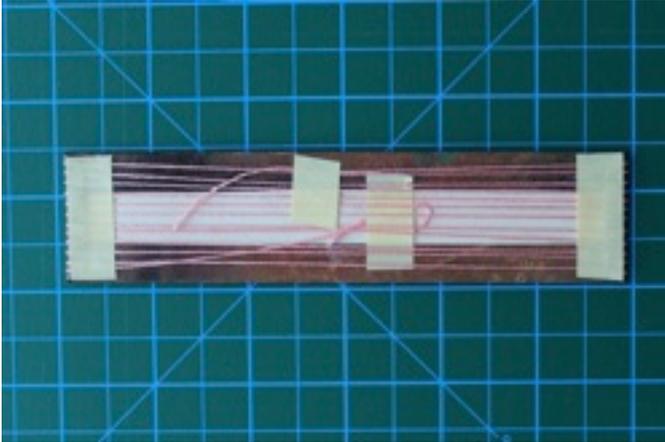

Trim away any excess.

Score the paper along the edges of the chipboard pieces. Carefully fold the paper over and burnish.
Cut out notches where the spine folds, so that the paper doesn't bunch up. *Note: Don't make the notches quite as deep as I did - they shouldn't be visible when you glue the lining on!*
If you've chosen to round your corners, cut notches out of the paper to allow it to fold around the curves.
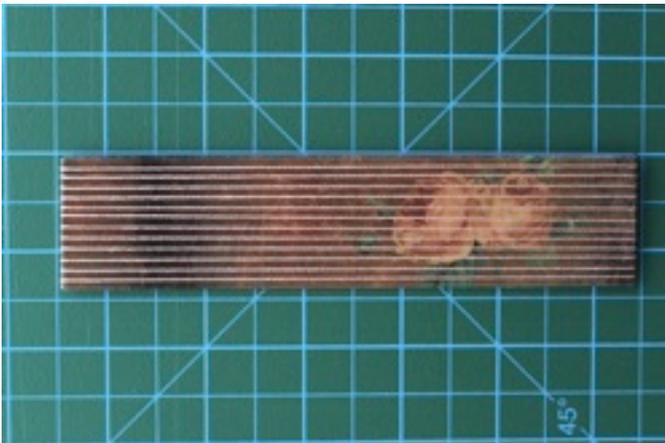Glue down all edges.

Lining

- Choose and print the paper you'd like to use for your liner. Use your stencil template to draw and cut out a rectangle the same size as your cover (including the gaps).
- Trim away 0.2cm (1/16in) from each long side and 0.4cm (1/8in) from each short side. Use your template to round the corners if you wish.
- Glue your lining in the centre of your cover. Press down into the score lines either side of the spine to adhere the lining to the front cover.
- Leave to dry flat.

Binding

If you like the look of threads showing on the outside of the spine, then all you need to do is tie your signatures tightly around your cover piece with thread or elastic.

If you would prefer the binding to be hidden, cut out a piece of thinner card (a cereal box will work) that measures 3.3cm x 14.6cm and cover one side with paper or paint so that it looks neat. I used offcuts from a misprinted cover. Make sure this piece fits nicely on the inside of the spine without impeding the book opening or closing.

Take some string or elastic and stick one end to the back of the card. Wind the string tightly around the card lengthwise 10-12 times. Spread evenly and tape or glue across all the threads on the back to keep them evenly spaced. The string should be as taut as possible without bending or warping the card.

Make sure you can slide your pages under the string. The pages should stay firmly in place and not move up or down.

Once you're sure the binding will work, glue this piece to the inside of the spine on your cover, making sure it's centred vertically. This piece will take a lot of strain, so you'll need to make sure it's adhered securely. I recommend an even layer of hot glue.

Your cover is now ready for its pages!

COVER

10.7cm X 15cm

- **Measure the pieces on this page to make sure they're to scale!**
- Carefully cut out the covers and spine, leaving the frame and the gaps attached to the page.
- Use the pieces you've cut as templates to cut out your chipboard covers and spine.
- Place the frame on the back of your printed cover image and draw around it to help you place your chipboard pieces.
- **Keep your template pieces for future use!**

SPINE

3.3cm X 15cm

(1 3/8in X 6in)

COVER

10.7cm X 15cm

(4 1/4in x 6in)

← 0.6mm gap *(1/4in)*