

Ethiopian-Style Sewn Board Binding

Template

1. Cut the following pieces to the same dimensions
 - (a) At least 5 textblock sections
 - (b) 4 pieces of binders board
 - (c) Card for punching/sewing template
2. Mark the sewing stations on template as follows
 - (a) First + last stations at $1/2''$ - $5/8''$ from H + T
 - (b) Divide space between into thirds
 - (c) Mark two middle stations
3. Draw a line at each station parallel to H + T
4. Mark two points on each of these lines as follows
 - (a) One mark $3/16''$ from spine
 - (b) One mark $6/16''$ from spine
5. Connect marks with two lines parallel to the spine
6. Punch holes where the lines intersect
7. Cut sewing stations and mark "H" at the top of the template

Board Prep

8. Laminate boards as follows
 - (a) Grain direction should be parallel to spine
 - (b) Glue out one board with straight PVA
 - (c) Place glued board onto dry board
 - (d) Check alignment and gently press
 - (e) Dry overnight under weight
9. Punch holes in boards using template as follows
 - (a) Mark "H" + "front" + "back" on each board
 - (b) Punch holes with template on "front" of boards
 - (c) Punch holes at board edge
 - (d) Edge holes should be parallel to "front" holes
 - (e) Punch between boards and look for awl tip
 - (f) Make diagonal channels with awl
 - (1) Start at "front" hole closest to spine
 - (2) Punch to parallel edge hole
10. KEEP TEMPLATE to reopen holes after board covering

Sewing Prep

11. Mark "H" on each section
12. Punch holes for sewing stations using the template
13. BE SURE to align "H" on template with "H" on section

