

Bookbinding workshop: Making a portfolio

Willi Egger

Material

2	Board	320 × 225 mm
1	Spine cover material (book cover cloth)	350 × 50 mm
1	Corner cover material (book cover cloth)	100 × 100 mm
2	Outside cover paper	350 × 220 mm
1	Inside spine cover paper (black)	313 × 50 mm
2	Inside cover paper (black)	313 × 215 mm
1	Side flap paper (black)	300 × 125 mm
2	Top/bottom flap paper (black)	210 × 125 mm
2	Piece of twill-ribbon	200 mm

Board and paper should in any case be cut such that the grain direction is along the spine of the portfolio. You need bookbinders glue (PVA) for gluing the book cover cloth parts to the boards and for gluing the twill-ribbon in place. You need paste for gluing all paper parts to the portfolio.



Figure 1: The result of participation in the workshop by a happy attendee who wasn't as careful as she should have been to make sure all the pieces were aligned properly. —bb

Instructions

- On each board, make a recess with an incision through the board:

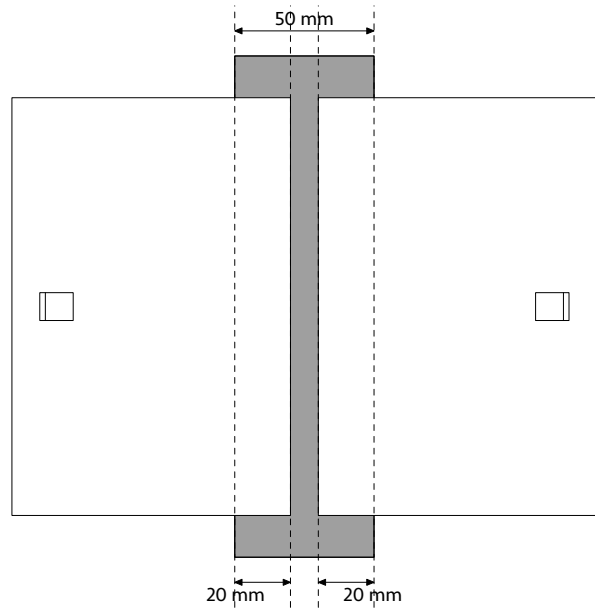


Figure 2: Layout of the recess

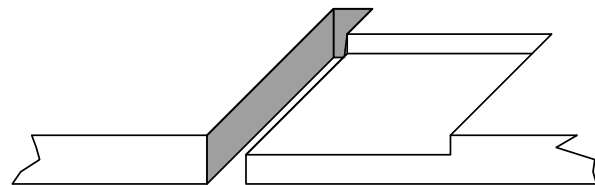


Figure 3: Recess and incision

- Glue the spine cover material and the boards together, distance 10 mm:

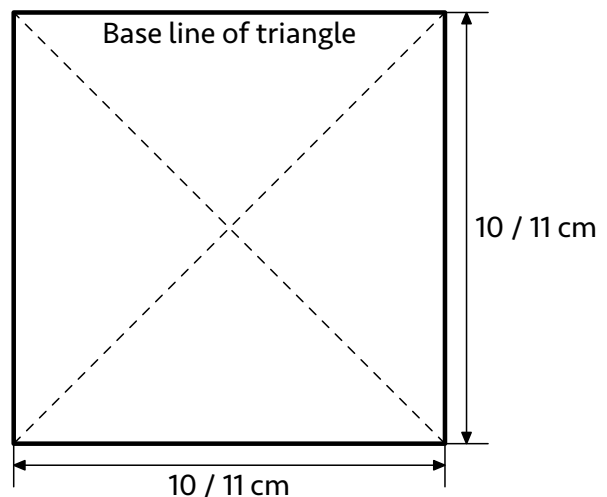


Figure 4: Corner cover material

- Cut the edge cover material diagonally in order to get 4 triangles, as shown above.
- Draw two lines along the shorter sides of the triangles, which are 15 mm from the sides.
- Glue the triangles on the outside of the boards, cut about 1 board thickness outside the corner of the board under 45 degrees. Turn in first the top turn-in, and after forming the corner-covering turn in the other turn-in.
- Prepare the outside cover paper. Use paste to glue it onto the boards. Paste down the turn ins.
- Open the previously prepared incision with a cutter. Cut the twill-band in half. Push one end of each piece through the incision from the outside. Cut the end square and glue it neatly into the recess.
- Paste the spine inside cover paper into place.
- Paste the inside cover paper on the boards.

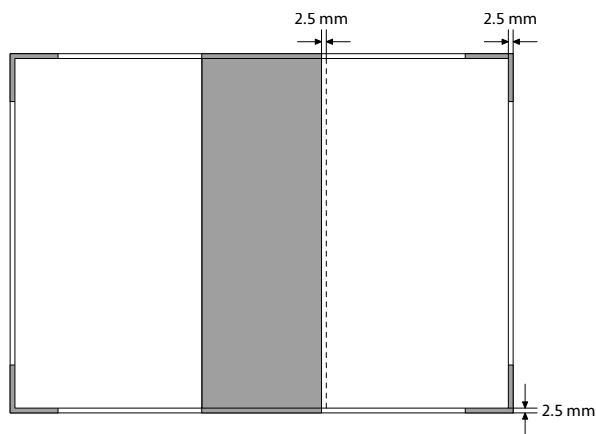


Figure 5: Inside cover material

- Cut the paper flaps to shape, as shown below, and crease 4 lines.
- Glue the three flaps onto one of the boards.

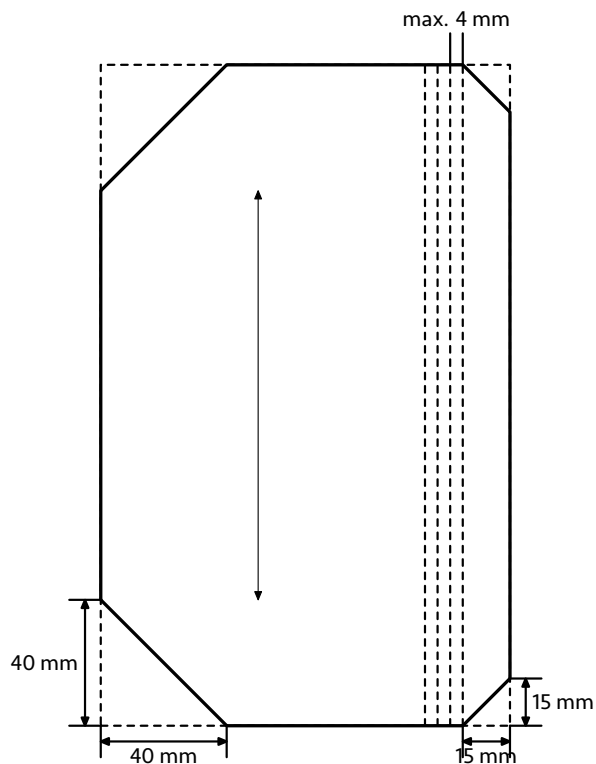


Figure 6: Flaps

Now your portfolio is finished! However, before using it, let it dry under weight in order to keep it flat!

◇ Willi Egger
w dot egger (at) boede dot nl