



Altered Composition Book

Stephanie Loomis
Trailblazers
Mixed Media Team Designer

Stephanie and her creativity is at it again. Here's how to take an unappealing-looking composition book and transform it into a piece of beauty! Go wild, design your own custom looks!

Supplies:

Rubber Stamps (The Stamping Studio and The Angel Company)

Ink Pads – any kind

Composition notebook (Dollar Store or Wal-Mart)

Patterned cardstock (TAC Bella Flor used in this project):

2 pieces plus scraps

Solid cardstock (Bazzil):

2 pieces plus scraps

YES paste (or PVA adhesive—not Mod Podge)

O'So Sticky Red Liner tape—1/2" (PennyWiseArts)

Embellishments — buttons, brads, stickers, tags, etc.

1" ribbon (Miss Elizabeth's, Hancock Fabrics used here)



Directions:

1. Determine a theme for your notebook.
2. Cut patterned and solid cardstock pieces to 8" x 10".
3. Paste solid cardstock to interior covers of book. Let dry. Note: Try to avoid Mod Podge. It is an excellent product for many things, but for paper-on-paper, it tends to bubble and warp—and remains a little tacky even when completely dry.
4. Score and fold edges to the exterior covers. Cut corners to make folds smooth. Glue down and let dry. (I usually put clothespins or binder clips on the folds to hold the flaps down while the glue dries.)
5. Paste patterned cardstock to exterior book covers. Let dry, then trim.



6. Use O'So Sticky tape to secure ribbon to book spine.

7. Now the fun begins!! Use embellishments that fit your theme to decorate the front cover, the inside front cover, and the inside back cover. Some ideas include chipboard letters (Heidi Swapp used in this project), tags (TAC Bella Flor), brads, fibers, stickers, and stamps (The Stamping Studio and The Angel Company used here.)



8. Add stamped words and phrases from your theme on a handful of random pages in your book. There's something special about surprises.

9. Be sure to sign your artwork!