



# Aurora borealis

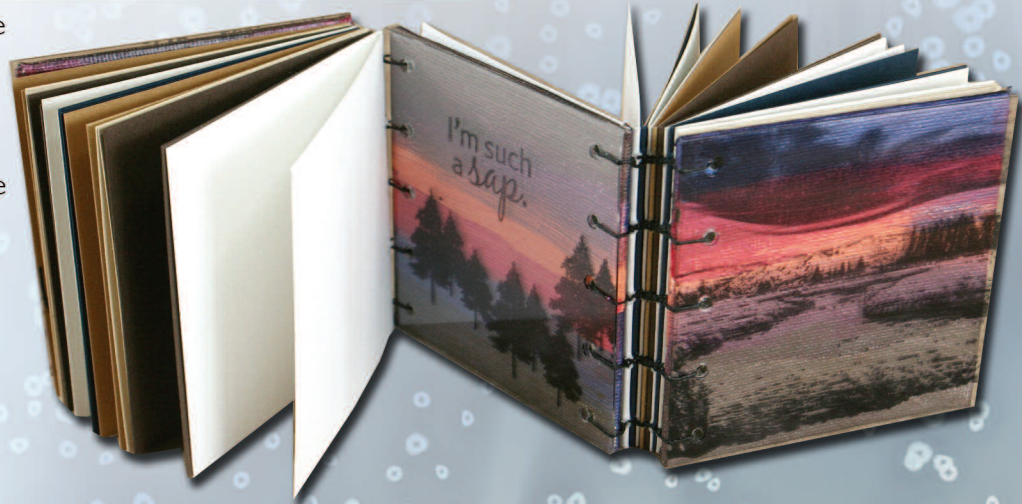
## project card

december 2011



### Mini Fat Book

The single needle chain stitch technique used to construct this adorable book might become a new favorite. The stitching creates a gorgeous spine as well as a unique way to attach the canvas covers without adhesive. Be sure to save your specialty curved tapestry needle, and use it again and again to create more unique books!



#### kit ingredients:

- (3) 3x6" Gold Plains
- (3) 3x6" Brown Plains
- (3) 3x6" Sand Plains
- (3) 3x6" White Plains
- (3) 3x6" Gray Plains
- (3) 3x6" Blue Plains
- (3) 3x3" Mini Canvas Covers
- 3 yards Black Waxed Linen Thread
- 8x8" Craft Plastic
- 1 Curved Tapestry Needle

#### tools & supplies:

- CS® Grid Ruler
- Pencil and Fine Tipped Marker
- 12" Paper Trimmer or Craft Knife and Cutting Mat
- Bone Folder
- Crop-a-Dile
- Paper Piercing Tool and Cork Board
- Black StazOn or Solvent Base Ink
- Acrylic Paint and Foam Brush or Paint Brush
- Club Stamp Unmounted Stamps and FontArt

Other Aurora Borealis products can be found online at

[clubscrap.com](http://clubscrap.com)





## preparation

**one:** Paint and decorate the 3x3" Mini Canvas covers. We altered ours with several stripes of acrylic paint. (Paint both sides, if desired.) The neutral color scheme will coordinate with just about any colors of paint that you have on hand. Allow the canvas to dry.

**two:** Trim three 3x3" piece from the craft plastic with a paper trimmer or ruler and craft knife. Remove protective blue film.

**three:** Stamp the plastic with images and quotes from the unmounted sheet with StazOn or other solvent base permanent ink.

**four:** Measure and mark 1/4" from one edge of each canvas at 1/4, 7/8, 1-1/2, 2-1/8, and 2-3/4".

**five:** Punch a 1/8" hole at each mark with a Crop-a-Dile.

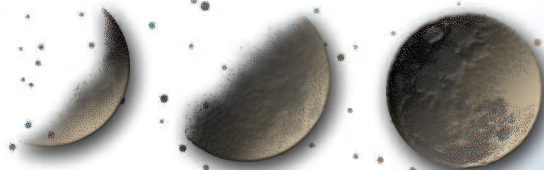
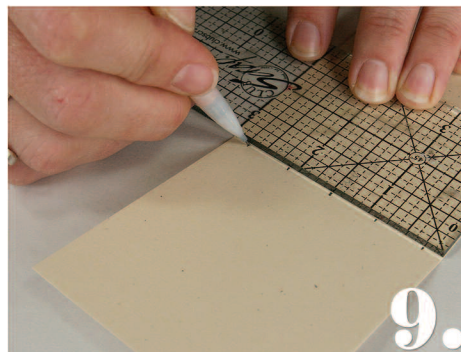
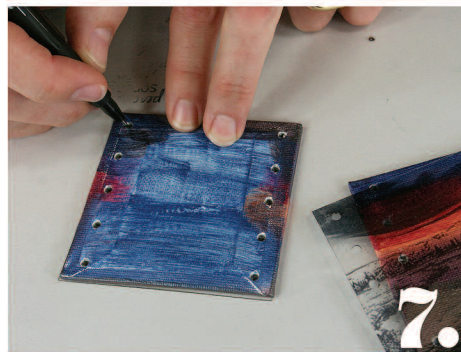
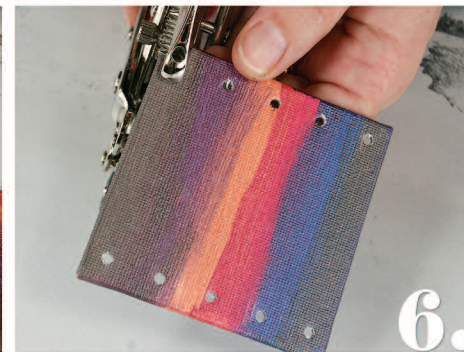
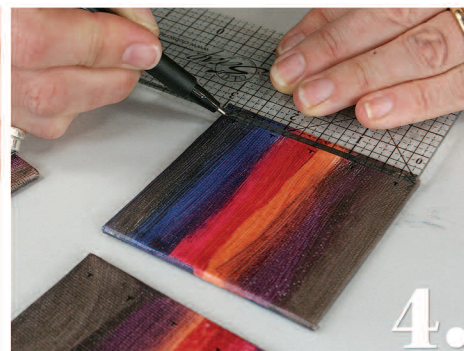
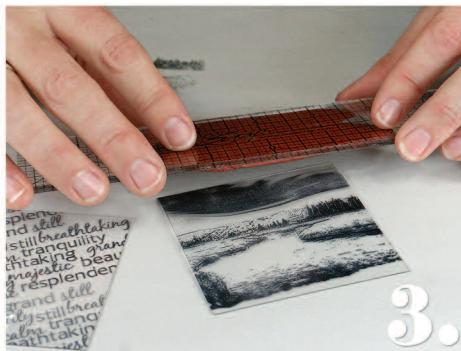
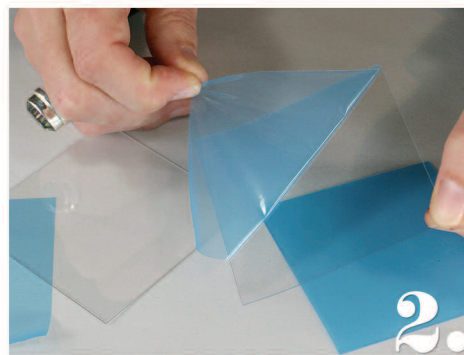
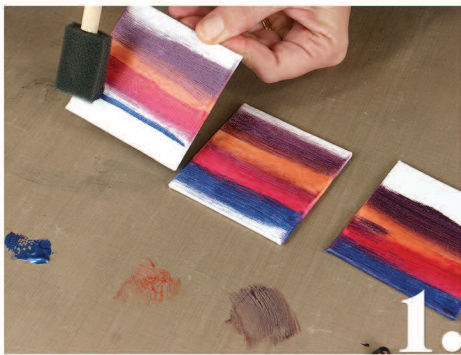
**six:** Add an additional row of five punched holes on the opposite edge of one canvas cover, using the same measurements.

**seven:** Pair each piece of stamped craft plastic with one canvas cover. Using the canvas covers as a template, mark and transfer all punched holes to corresponding craft plastic.

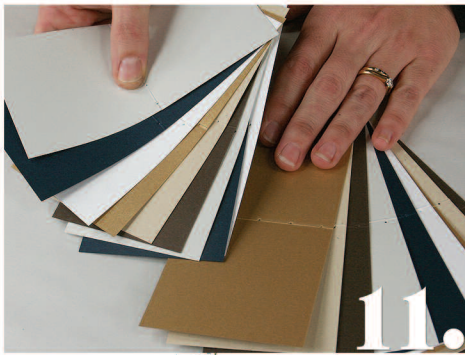
**eight:** Score and fold all 3x6" papers in half at three inches, and burnish creases with a bone folder.

**nine:** Measure and mark stitching holes onto the crease of one open 3x6" page at 1/4, 7/8, 1-1/2, 2-1/8, and 2-3/4".

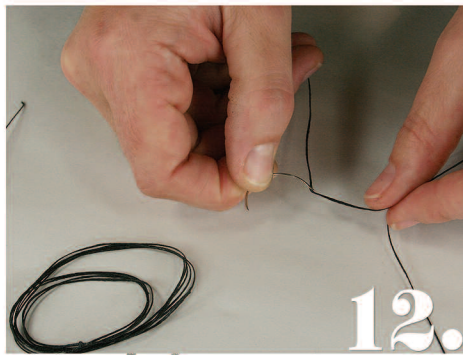
**ten:** Neatly stack the marked page on top of several additional open pages and pierce stitching holes into the fold at each marked location. Repeat until all pages are pierced, using the original pattern paper each time.







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**eleven:** Sort the pages into two stacks of nine pages each, arranging the papers in the order desired. Each page will be one signature.

**twelve:** Cut the waxed linen thread in half and thread one portion onto the curved tapestry needle.



## stitching

**one:** Open one signature page and bring the needle into the bottom (first) hole. Pull thread through to the outside, leaving a 3" tail.

**two:** Place one canvas/plastic cover on top of the first signature with the punched holes aligned with the stitching holes. Stitch into the first hole of the cover, from front to back, exiting between the cover and first signature.

**three:** Pull most of the thread through, leaving a small loop. Pass the needle through the loop to form a "half-hitch" knot. Pull the knot snug.

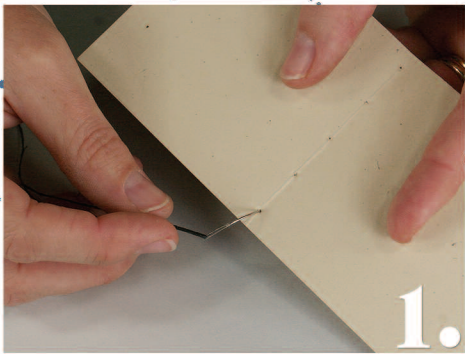
**four:** Insert the needle back into the first hole of the signature and pull thread to the inside. Exit the signature through the second hole.

**five:** Repeat steps two through four until reaching the top of the signature. Upon making the last half-hitch knot, do not re-enter the first signature.

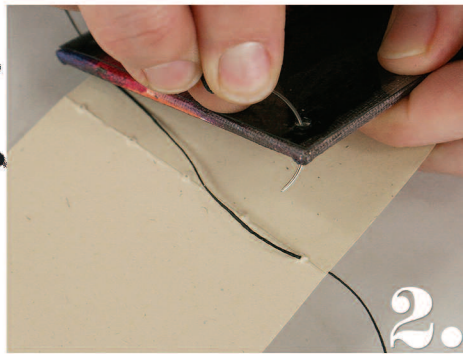
**six:** Close the first signature page. Place a second signature under the first. Insert the needle into the top (fifth) hole of the signature and pull thread to the inside. Exit through the fourth hole, pulling thread each time.

**seven:** Pass the needle, from left to right, beneath the stitch connecting the first signature to the cover. Pull the thread tight. This will form your first chain stitch. There is no need to drop the needle through a loop, as you did when connecting the cover.

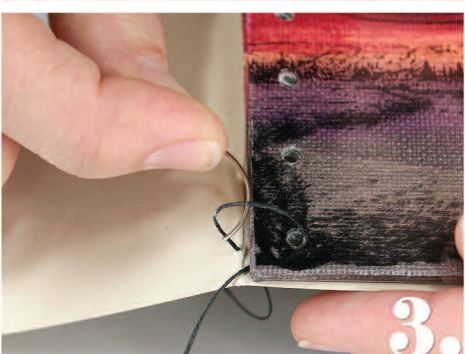
**eight:** Insert the needle back into the same hole of the signature, bringing the thread into the interior. Exit out of the third (center) hole and bring the needle beneath the stitch connecting the first signature to the cover, bringing needle left to right each time, and re-enter the same hole. Repeat until reaching the bottom of the signature. When exiting the last hole, do not re-enter the bottom hole in the current signature.



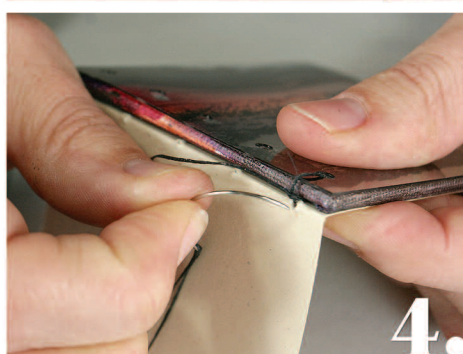
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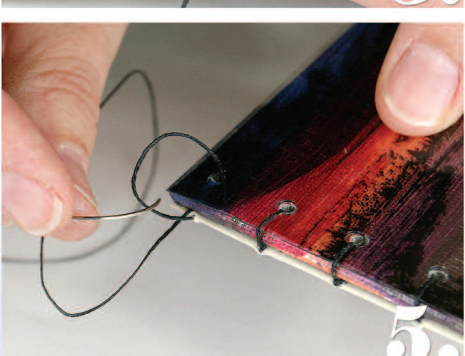
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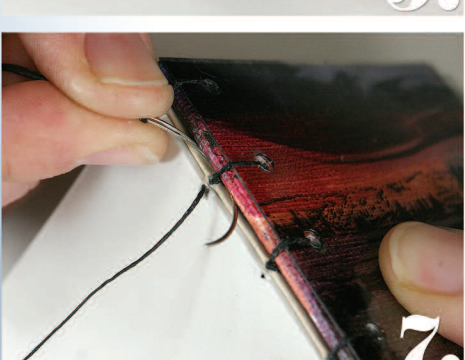
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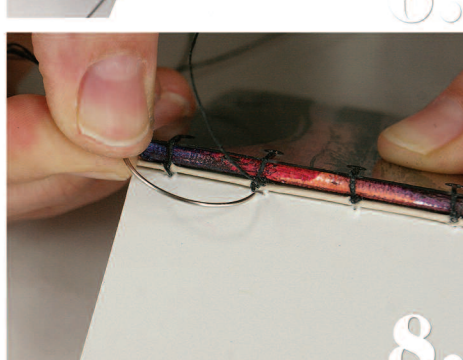
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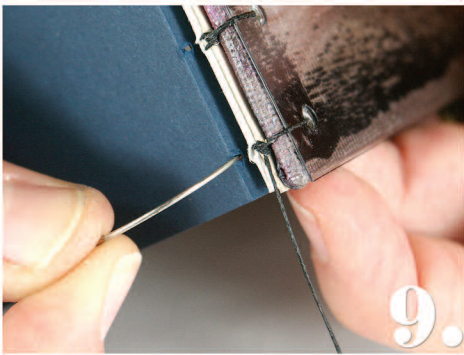


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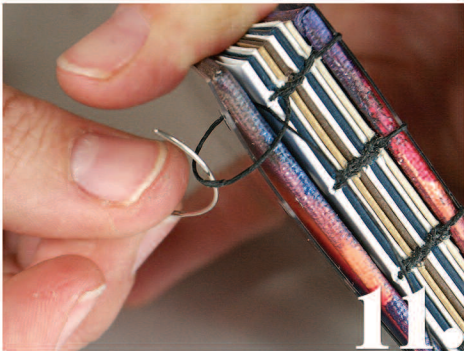




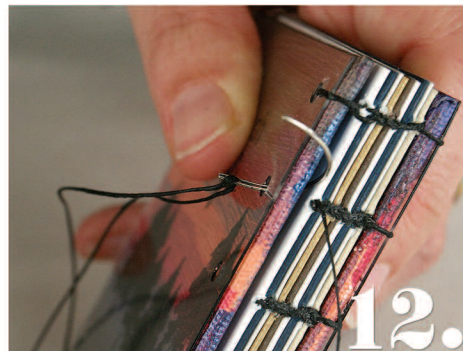
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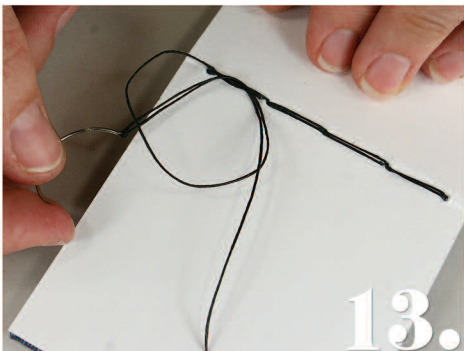
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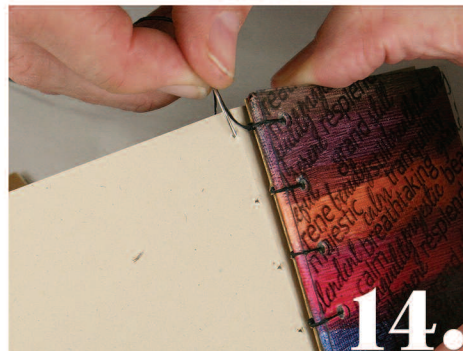
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**nine:** Close the second signature. Add a third signature beneath the first two, and continue stitching the pages together in the same manner; stitching up and down the spine, always sliding the needle under the stitch that connects the previous two signatures. If you consistently bring the needle from left to right under the stitch, a beautiful chain will be formed. This is where you will fall in love with your new curved tapestry needle!

**ten:** When the ninth and final signature has been added, exit the last stitching hole and bring the needle beneath the stitch connecting the previous two signatures. Place the canvas and craft plastic with two sets of stitching holes underneath the stack of stitched pages. Pass the needle through the first punched hole of the cover/plastic, from the outside to the inside, going between the cover and the last signature.

**eleven:** Pull the thread until it forms a small loop. Drop the needle through the loop and pull to form a knot, just as you did when attaching the front cover.

**twelve:** Enter the first hole of the last signature, and exit at the second hole. There will already be stitches on the inside of this signature. Simply add a second stitch over the top of the first. Repeat steps ten and eleven to attach the cover at each sewing station.

**thirteen:** After attaching the cover at the final punched hole, re-enter the stitching hole on the last signature. Bring the needle beneath the last stitching thread and pull until a small loop is formed. Pull the needle through the loop to form another half-hitch knot. Pull snug and trim thread tail to about 2".

**fourteen:** Using the same technique, attach the third cover/plastic combination to the nine remaining signature pages.

**fiveteen:** Attach the stitched pages to the double-punched cover by repeating steps ten through thirteen. The Z-shaped book will then have two outside front covers opening in two directions and one pivoting cover in the middle. Enjoy stamping and decorating the inside pages as you wish!

*More spectacular  
Aurora Borealis stamp images  
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