

Recent Updates:

- 2023 AMAT Bookbinding Workshop Feedback
- Bookbinding Material/Tool Suppliers Page

# Welcome to Bookbinding

a community resource

# What's inside?

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## Using This Resource



Click heading titles or slide numbers to link to sections

# Using this Resource

Hello! 'Welcome to Bookmaking' is an online, shared resource to introduce the craft of hand bookmaking. It also offers visitors sources for further learning and community.

Resourceful approaches to simple hand bindings reveal how a seemingly unapproachable artform can be a powerful tool for self-expression. From Journaling to Zine-making to conducting culture and memory work, the uses of handmade books demonstrate that they can hold next to anything despite their ability to be made with next to nothing.

## Using this Resource

- Find slide number in the bottom right corner of all slides
- Find supplemental skills related to the included binding styles in the Appendix section
- Use the workshop slides to share bookbinding with others
- Find guided narration for each slide in the 'Speaker Notes' section
- Link to bookish orgs and communities for further engagement!

# Access & Accessibility

- Click here to visit Google's Accessibility for Google Docs, Sheets, Slides & Drawings (including **Screen Reader Compatibility** details)
- **Alt-Text** included for visual media as permitted (further updates forthcoming by 02/2024)
- **'Speaker Notes'** offer accompanying narration for slides as needed
- This file has been **evaluated for accessibility** using the Grackle Slides add-on to Google Slides.
- Approaching accessibility with understanding of **the intersection of Race and Disability** (Click here to access the "Intersections Between Racism and Ableism" resource library curated by The Disability & Philanthropy Forum)



# AMAT Bookbinding Workshop

Fri, Sep 22, 2023  
6:00 - 8:15 pm

# Your Facilitator

## Brandon Harrington (@bBindings)

- Pronouns: he/him/his
- Self-Taught Bookmaker
- Library Worker, Columbia U.
- MLS Student, Queens College



Brandon Harrington at the Burke Library

## Orienting principles

- Note/books & Connections
- Knowledge Sharing
- Centering Black, Brown, and Indigenous artisans, teachers, and book/paper traditions



Wahunsenacah, referred to as Chief Powhatan in Disney's *Pocahontas* depiction, offering timeless warning to the Powhatan people

# Gratitude

- Turtle
- Khane
- Camera Ready Kutz, Inc.
- To you...

# What to expect:

6:30 - 7:15 PM      → Materials  
                             → Anatomy of a Book  
                             → One-Sheet Book  
                             → Three-Hole Pamphlet

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7:15 - 7:25 PM      → Break!

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7:25 - 8:00 PM      → Finish pamphlet binding  
                             → Creative Time  
                             → Questions

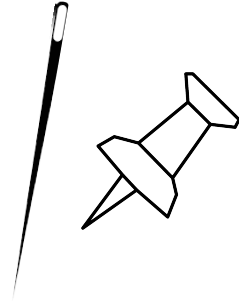
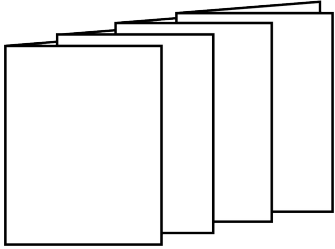
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8:00 PM              → Wrap Up



# Essential Materials

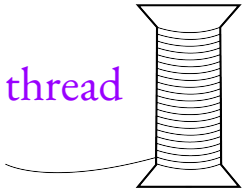
paper



needle, tack, nail, etc...

(something sharp enough to  
pierce a small hole through  
paper)

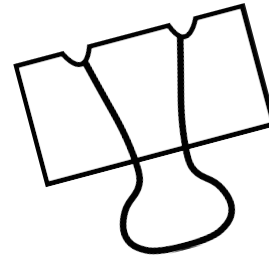
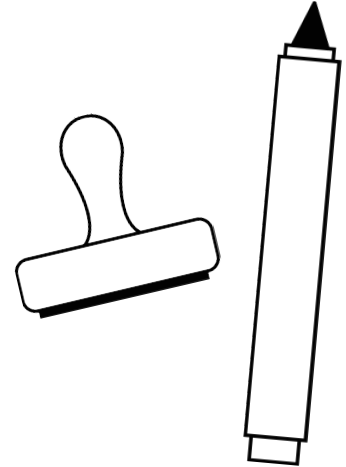
thread



# Optional Materials

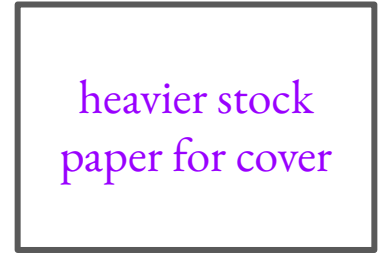
Tools & Supplies  
for adding content

(Stamps, markers,  
stickers, etc)

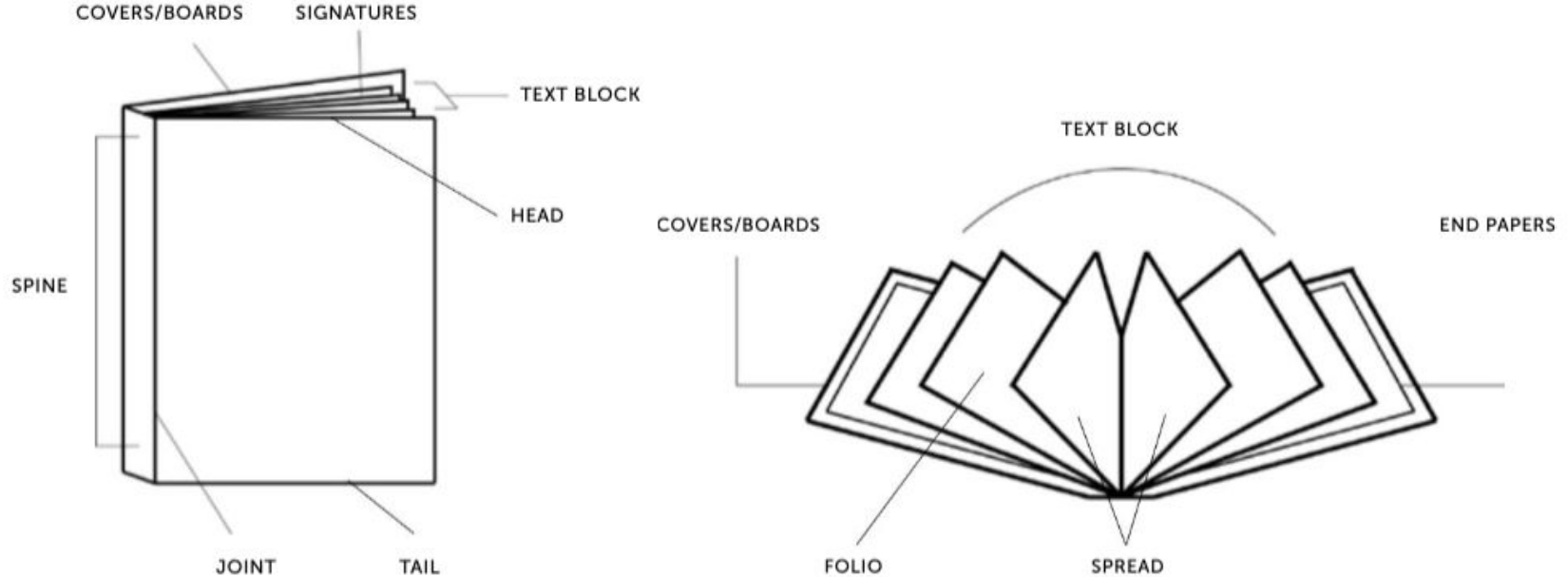


binder clips

heavier stock  
paper for cover



# Book Anatomy



# one-sheet book

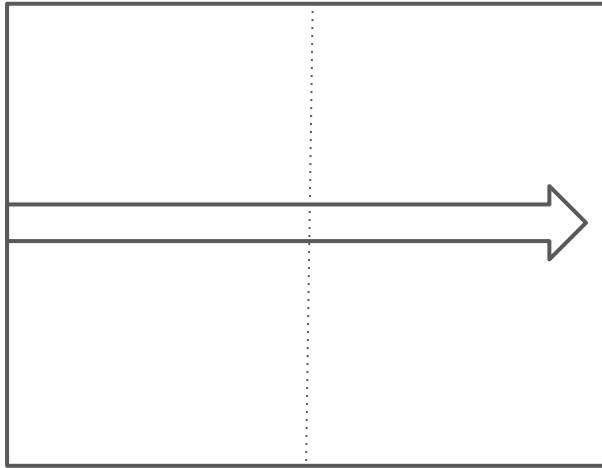


One-Page Zine Making Tutorial Video

with artist Seleena Lavern Daye

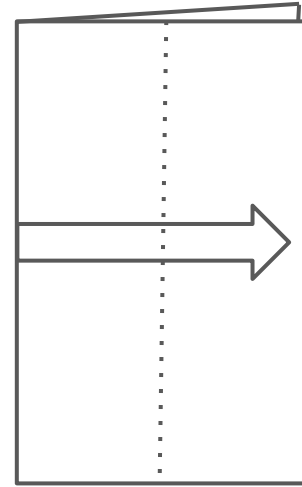
1. Take Sheet, Fold in Half.

Like this:



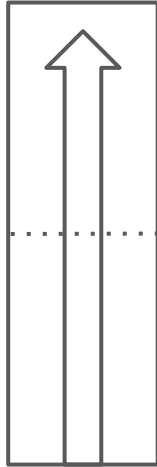
2. Fold in Half Again.

Like this:



3. Fold it in half again.

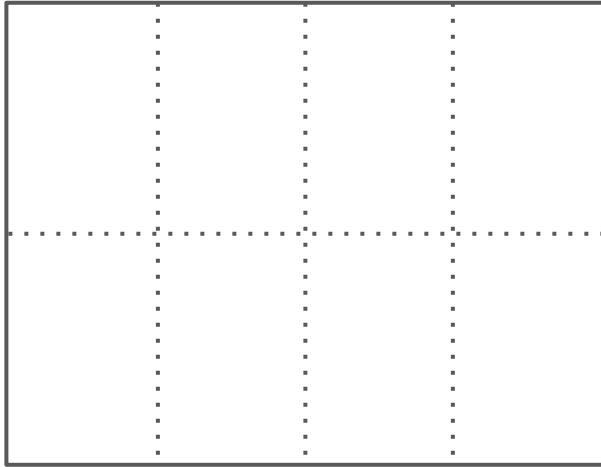
But like this:



(so it looks  
like this all folded)

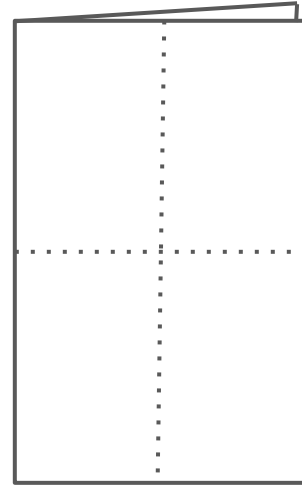
4. Unfold sheet,  
check it out.

Should have 8 little  
“pages”:

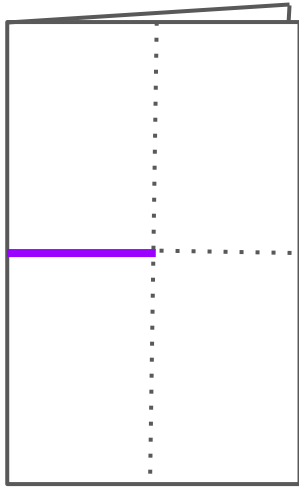


5. Looks good? Repeat  
the first fold in half

So we are back to:

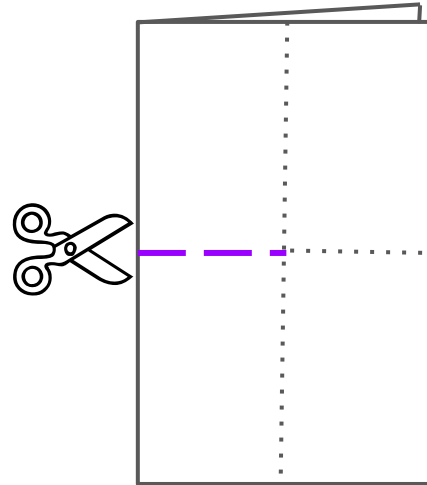


6. Identify this fold line  
Highlighted purple:



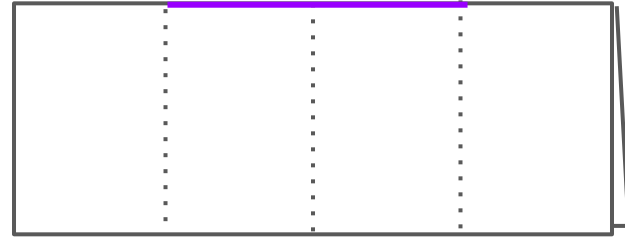
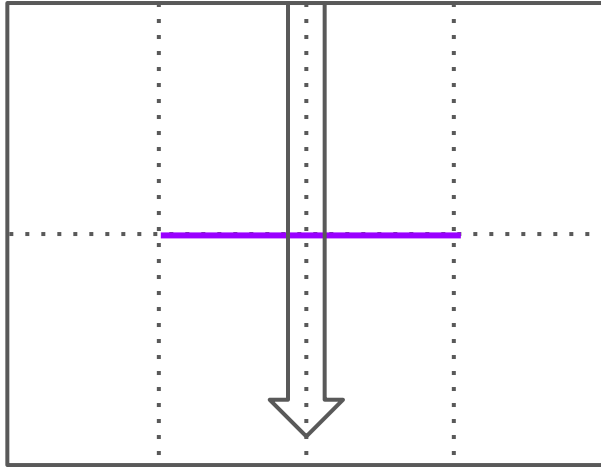
this edge is the initial  
half fold!

7. Use a tool like scissors  
to cut or carefully tear  
along the fold line  
Like this:



9. Unfold the now cut sheet *again*  
and fold the full sheet in half

Like this:

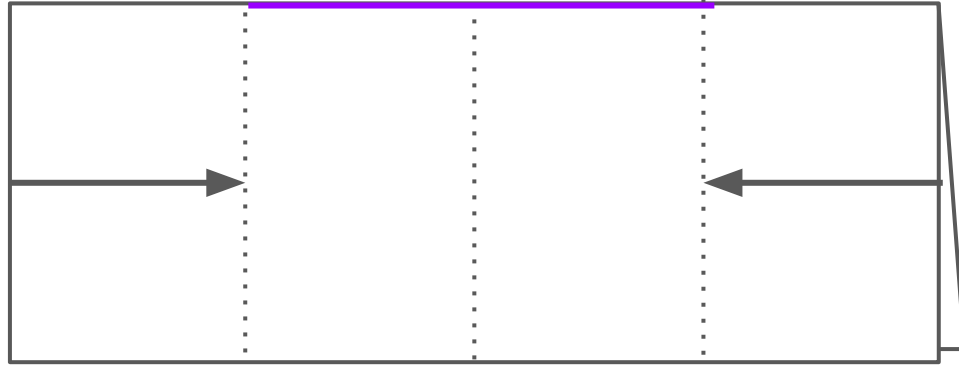


(so it looks like this)



10. Hold the sides of the folded sheet and push the sides toward the middle of the sheet, allowing paper to fold into a little booklet

Make the magic happen:



Books can be made  
with next to nothing.

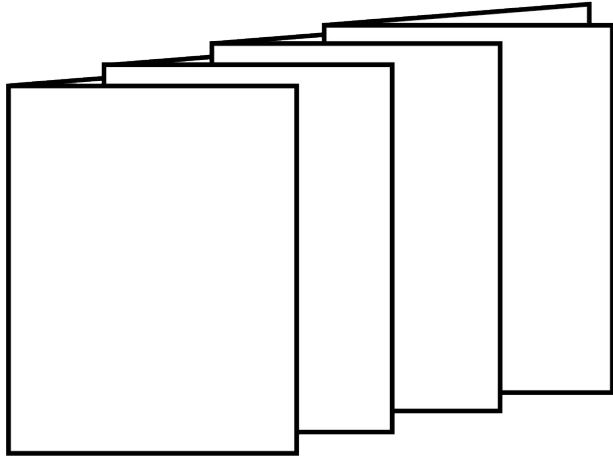
# three-hole pamphlet binding



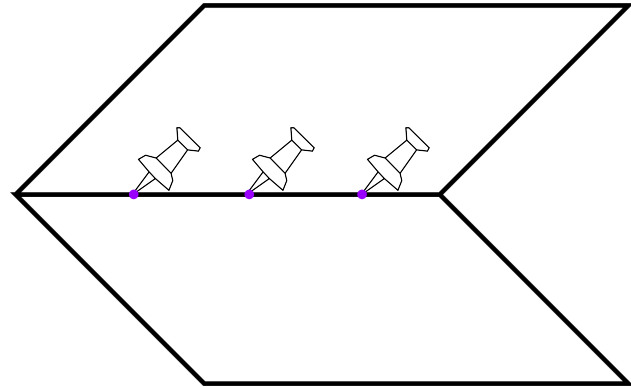
3 Hole Pamphlet: a simple lovely thing

With artist and Printed Matter, Inc.'s Chang Yuchen

1. Fold a stack of several sheets in half (nested) to form a signature (10-15, but up to 20-30 sheets)



2. Punch holes in the center of the fold and both midway points between the center and the outer edges of the paper (3 holes total)



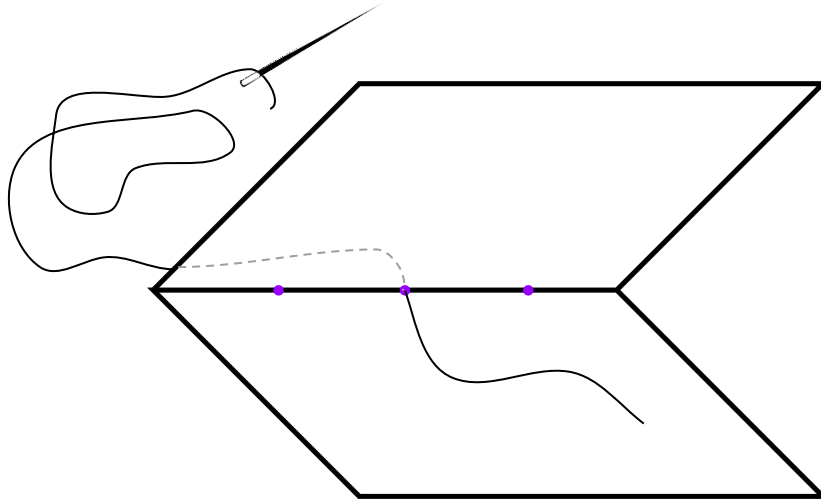
3. Thread needle with and sew through the center hole (start on the inside of the folded sheets)

4. Pull thread through to leave a ~3 inch “tail” of thread inside your book-to-be

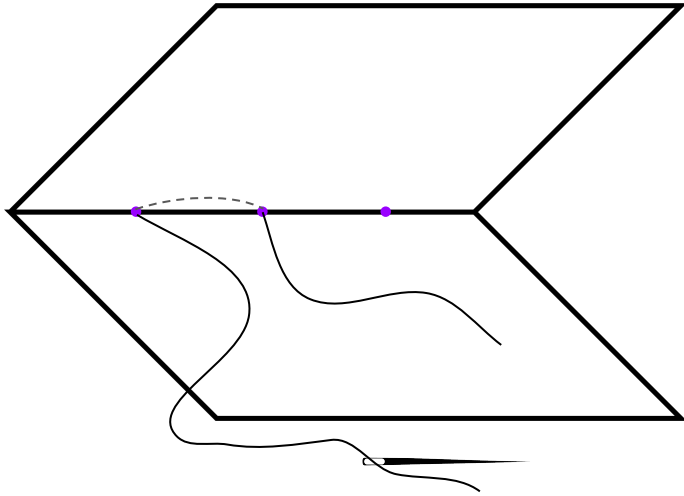
Tip



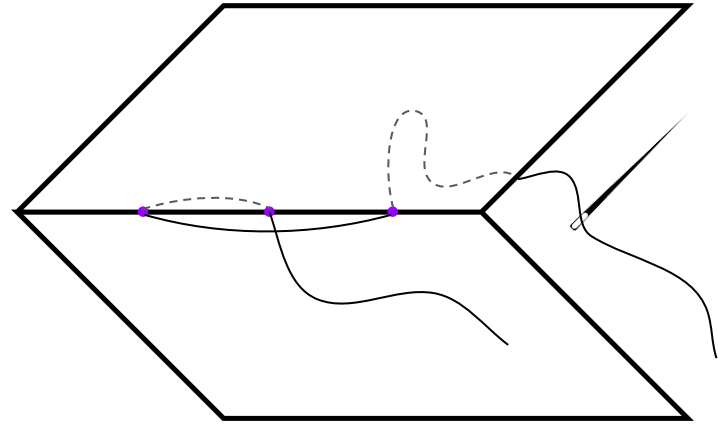
Use a length of thread  
3X the length of the book's  
spine



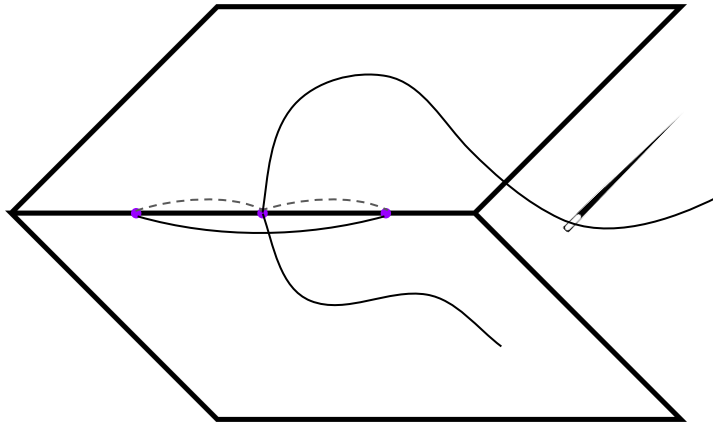
5. Sew back in through one of the outer holes to bring the thread back inside the folded sheets.



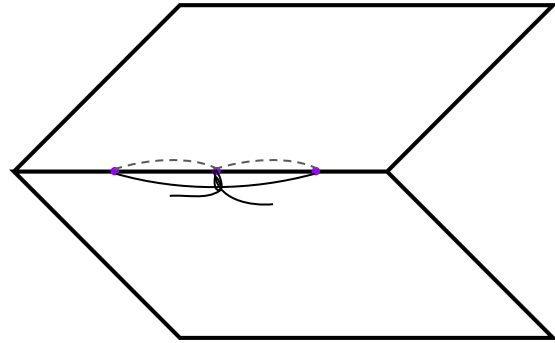
6. Skip the center hole and sew from the inside of the book back out through the last sewing hole.



7. Sew back through the center hole to the inside of the folded sheets where the tail of thread is.  
**Tighten up the stitch.**



8. Carefully knot, then double knot the two tails of thread around the thread spanning the outer sewing holes.  
**Trim excess thread.**



Books can hold next  
to anything.



What would you put  
in a book?

Respond to a writing prompt

diary

envision

notes

Use stamps

short stories

sketch

plan for another possible world

emotional outlet

# Add Content!

reading journal

doodle

poetry

collage

provide instructions on how to do/make something

manifesto?

stickers

maps

document stuff

make to-do lists

# AMAT Bookbinding Workshop 2023

## *Participant Feedback & Responses*

- Having printed instructions helped as a reference point during the bookmaking process [in-person participants received printouts of workshop instructions for easy reference during the event]
  - ↳ **Response:** *The original version of the workshop instructions can be printed for binding in the 3 hole pamphlet style (slides 19-23) by downloading >[the PDF version](#)< (last updated 09/2023). The PDF is designed to be printed double-sided flip on short side (either with a duplex printer or manually).*
- We are looking for funding to support the publication of a zine. What funding opportunities exist? What opportunities are especially supportive of trans and queer creators?
  - ↳ **Response:** *This is a fantastic question! While DIY can get you far, scaling up publication benefits greatly from financial support, greater exposure, etc. In this case, offering reliable and current information on funding opportunities, partnership organizations, and support resources deserves dedicated research. @bBindings has a resource guide in process to address the needs of bookbinders, zinemakers, storytellers, and other creatives in scaling up our practices. Stay tuned for more updates.*
- I am interested in library school, can we connect to talk more about getting a library degree and working as a librarian?
  - ↳ **Response:** *@bBindings loves to connect and chat about library school, library science, working in libraries! Let's connect - DM on Instagram @bBindings or email [bBindings.nyc@gmail.com](mailto:bBindings.nyc@gmail.com)*

# appendix

supplemental guides, learning more, and staying in touch

# paper grain direction



Grain Direction: go with the flow (of paper)  
with artist and Printed Matter, Inc.'s Chang Yuchen

# Where can I get materials and tools for bookbinding?

## Local NY Brick-and-Mortar

- [Blick Art Materials - Various Locations](#) ([Order Online](#))
- [Artist and Craftsman Supply - Brooklyn Locations](#) (limited bookbinding-specific materials, but great source for paper)
- [TALAS - Showroom Currently \\*Closed\\*, pick-up and shipping available](#)

## Online Only

- [Hollander's](#) (long-standing supplier selling at quantities suitable for smaller-scale binding)

## International

- [Shepherds London](#)
- [Schmedt: The World of Bookbinding](#)

# More Bookish Resources

## Bookbinding

[An Introduction to Bookbinding \(The Public\)](#)

[Brooklyn.org Education Manual \(2021\)](#)

[Community Resources from Outlet PDX studio and press](#)

**HOW-TO GUIDES**

## NYC Zine Libraries

[ABC No Rio](#)

[Barnard Zine Library](#)

[@ Brooklyn College Library](#)

**And beyond!**

[Queer Zine Archive Project](#)

[Search near you on ArchivGrid](#)

**ZINE LIBRARIES**

## Book Arts

[Center for Book Arts](#)

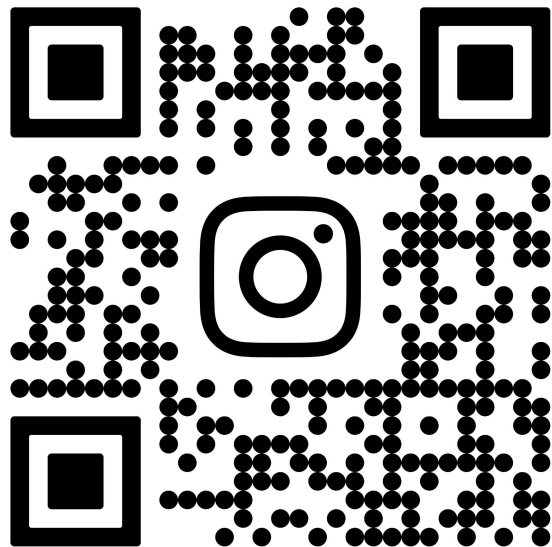
[Printed Matter, Inc.](#)

**Printmaking**

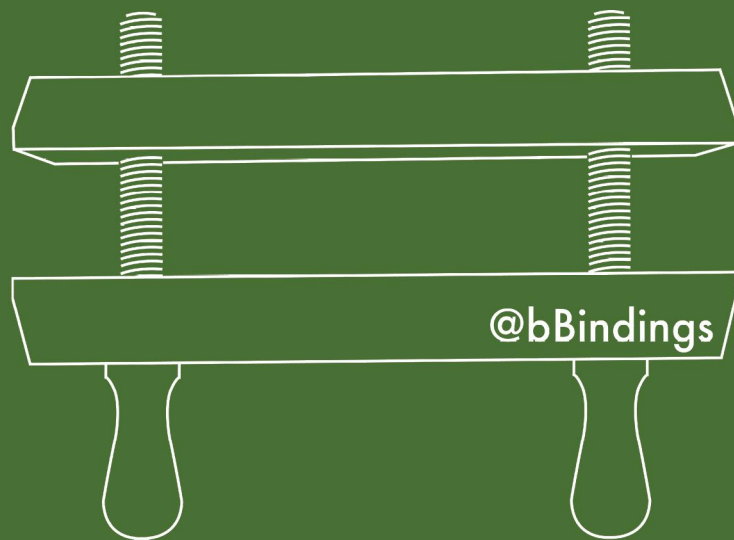
More soon - with links!

**BRICK-AND-MORTAR**

# Contact



Instagram: @bBindings  
Email: [bBindings.nyc@gmail.com](mailto:bBindings.nyc@gmail.com)



BROOKLYN, NY • HANDMADE BOOKS & PRINTS



Do you have expertise about  
bookbinding, bookmaking, Book  
Arts, etc? We welcome you to  
contribute to this online resource!

Please connect with  
Brandon Harrington  
via email at  
[bBindings.nyc@gmail.com](mailto:bBindings.nyc@gmail.com)  
to discuss additions, edits, and  
your involvement

Thank you for considering

**Community  
Resources  
are built  
with and through  
our collective  
expertise &  
experience**

## Sources consulted for workshop instructions development

Booklyn (2021). *Booklyn education manual*. Brooklyn.org. <https://booklyn.org/programs/booklyn-education-manual-2/>

Library of Congress (n.d.). *Paper and book arts*. LOC.gov. Accessed, September 9, 2023  
<https://www.loc.gov/preservation/resources/educational/bookarts/index.html>

Luther, J. (n.d.). *Make zines! A list of helpful resources*. JasonLuther.net. <https://www.jasonluther.net/zines/>

*Let's make a one page zine!* (n.d.). Outlet PDX. <https://www.outletpdx.com/one-page-zine>

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