

Your own Little SQUASH Book

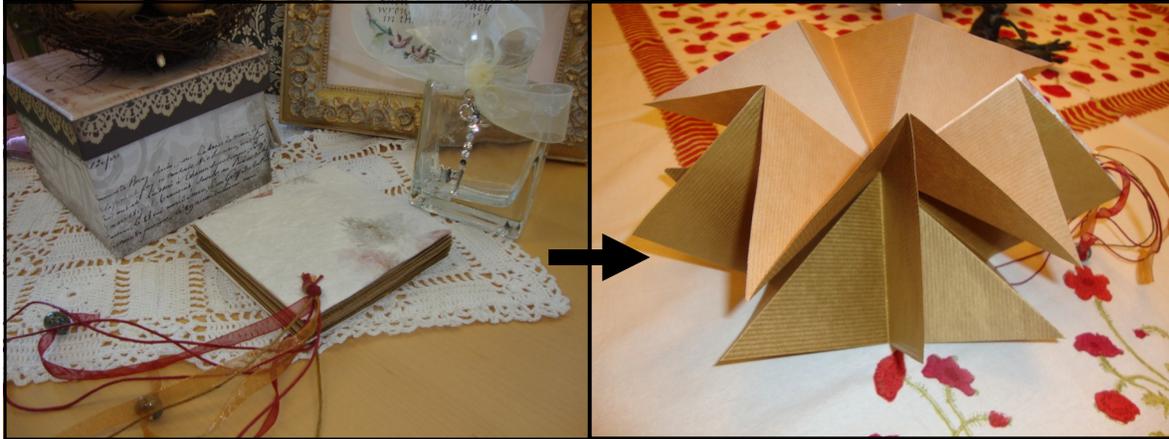
*An original design by Major Ronda Gilger

What is a Squash Book you ask?

A squash book is a three dimensional "scrapbook of sorts" which opens up in such a manner that it resembles a "squash". The idea is not new, and many squash books were hand-made during WWII by wives and girlfriends who placed photos, love notes and mementos from their sweeties overseas inside. Over the years "my squash books" have become journals, mini-photo albums, memento and love note "hide-a-ways". I have taught this class to young people— creating the most amazing Mother's Day card ever; to women, seniors...and it is always a "winner" of a program. I just love to watch the eyes of those opening the "squash book" for the very first time!

Wonder and surprise and a sense of achievement. "I did it!"

You can too!



Materials:

Tacky Glue & Scissors

Misc ribbon / beads (3)

2 pcs: 4x4" cardboard

2 pcs: 5X5" cover-papers

Here's where you can get really creative!

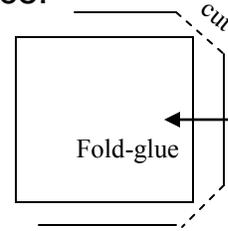
5 pcs 8x8" paper to coordinate.

Center your 4" square pcs.
of cardboard
onto the wrong side
of your cover paper.
Glue lightly in place.

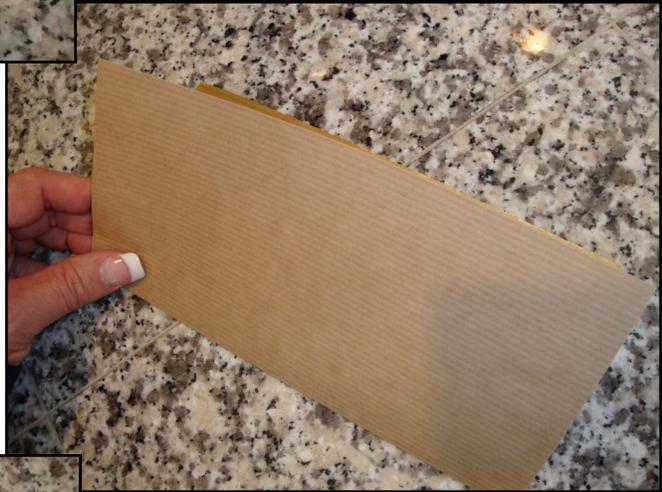




Cut corners off, leaving 1/8 of an inch as shown and fold-edges forward to create the squash book's cover. Nice!



Fold 8x8" papers in half-
Right side together.



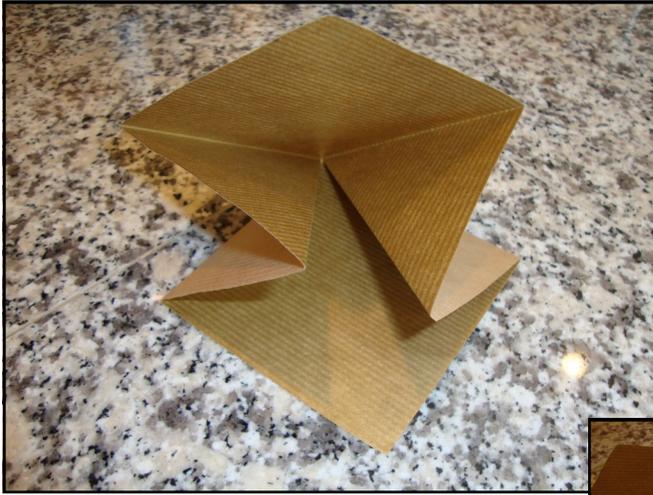
Open and fold to create
another crease as shown.



Turn your paper over-
wrong side up.
Create a diagonal fold
as shown.

Now, to assemble the book!





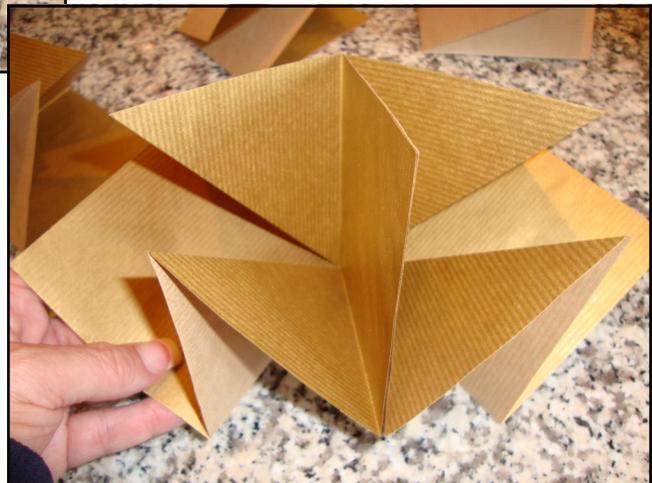
Turn your paper right side up and “take the end of your finger and press down on the center where all folds intersect... it “jumps” a little– and you fold your “squash flower” into the shape seen here.

Repeat on all 5 pcs. of paper.



Glue “squash flowers” end to end to create a “Chinese Lantern” effect where the squash opens up like an accordion.

Tip: Make sure to line them up so that they all OPEN UP the same way– with all center folds together!





Glue your covers to each side!
The inside of the first squash blossom will hide all your folds! Hooray!

Create 2 “Ribbon ties” by cutting 3-5 ribbons at a 10” length & knotting on one side. Add a few beads securing with a knot, or use scrapbooking techniques to decorate your cover!
Glue ribbon fob to the corner of your squash book that is opposite the “binding” fold. Repeat on other side.



Glue “squash flowers” end to end to create a “Chinese Lantern” effect where the squash opens up like an accordion.

Open each page and add your photos, mementos, poetry, favorite scriptures..... Have fun!

Teach someone else!
Have a Squash Book Party!
Extend it into a group—
that makes one a month—
finishing & embellishing the insides.!

