Paper Book Covers with CBTV Live

Chapter 1 - Chapter 1
Book covers
(light music) - Hi everybody, it's Faith and Courtney from Creativebug. - Hi everybody. (laughing) - Oh. - Coming at you live like we do every Tuesdays and Thursdays at 4:00. And this is a project. Sometimes we bring you things that are seasonally related or we've learned a new technique and we want to share them with you. This project was born out of serious need. - As the best ones always do. - I commute by train and I read a lot and I've been reading on my kindle so I haven't been paying attention to my book covers. And then this new book I wanted to read, I was scandalized by the cover. - You clearly didn't buy this because of the cover. - I bought it online. - Not in this case. - And the cover was different. And so I wanted to be modest with my reading or I mean, it also just looks a little smutty. So I wanted to cover it up and I came to Courtney with, asked her for her best book covering ideas. - Paper, why not right? - Beautiful paper. So she gave me these amazing sheets from Rifle Paper Company. - It's one of our favorites, right. You can't go wrong. - They're so good. - Yeah, really pretty. - They're really pretty. - You could paint your own of course as well. - You can paint your own, you could use gift wrap. But you need to make sure that your paper is approximately four times the size of the cover. That gives you enough space to wrap it around the spine and to tuck in the edges. - And this is a no adhesive project. - This is a no adhesive project. - No glue, and you can change out the cover if you have a seasonal change, if you're reading a really long book, and you need something updated. - Yeah. - Yeah, why not, just for fun. - Spruce up your covers. And also if you're one of those, I was gonna say lunatics. That's very judgemental. I think that the bookshelves by cover thing is very strange and disturbing to me. - Yes. - But I know several people. Some of them are in this very room, who are pro arranging by color. So they're not lunatics. They're great people. - Might be hard to find your books but... - That's my difficulty. - Yeah I understand, I get it. - But if you have books that don't match the color scheme you're going for and they're just outliers, you can wrap them in beautiful paper and stick them on the shelves. - And Faith will also show you how to label them so that you actually do know what the title is resting under that pretty paper. - Have you seen the one where they do the fore-edge of the books stacking out? So it's all... - I love that. We'll have to come back and do a lettering challenge where you're writing on the fore-edge of a book. - It makes me bonkers. - Yeah it's kind of insane. - It makes me itchy. - Yeah. - But anyway... - Also it would be really hard to take off the shelf. - Yeah. - 'Cause you can't grab the spine. We'd have to grab the little two edges. - It would turn you into a crazy person. If you weren't already a crazy person to do that in the first place. - Okay we don't recommend that option. We recommend this option which is to cover your book in something really pretty. - And we're gonna show you how to do that right now. So here is my previously covered book. You take your book and your sheet of paper and this was from Rifle Paper Company. I cut it in half. It's approximately the size we want. And you will begin by finding the top and bottom edge. And this you can eyeball. It doesn't need to be exact, the difference between the top and the bottom. And mark it with a pencil. And you're gonna want it to be just a smidge larger than your book. I think a smidge is the non-technical term for one... - We can see those there. - Oh right. - [Faith] For one 32nds of an inch. And then you will fold it in. - [Courtney] How do you get a really nice crisp fold? - [Faith] You use a bone folder. But I did notice for this particular project, because there's a slight depth to the cover with a really crisp fold it made the edges poke out a little bit more. Because it

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didn't allow for room of the cover. So this I think you can just use your fingers. - [Courtney] I love that. And then how do you get like a really nice clean fold? Show us on the next one how you line everything up. - [Faith] Oh, okay. So even though I made this other mark, I'm lining it up to the bottom just to be sure. So it actually looks like my mark is... We can do it this way. A little bit excessive, so I'm gonna fold to the inside of that line, right there. And you're gonna want to make sure that these two sides are perfectly lined up. I use the back of my fingernails so that it's butted up against something hard. And then make it crisp. Also this is a technique that you've probably used in the past for covering school books. But my favorite part of this technique, which is the trickiest to learn if you want really crisp spine like we have here is how to fold the center portion. And to do that, you line up your book on the edge and you make a mark. And then you do it on the other side. You line it up. And you make a mark just to the outside of the spine. And this honestly blew my mind the first time I saw it. It just sounds a little extreme for a folding technique but... - [Courtney] It really makes a huge difference. It's like a very easy way to not have to use a ruler and get a really accurate measurement. Also don't forget we're live so you guys can ask Faith questions. - [Faith] Oh yeah, or you questions. - [Courtney] Or me, I'm just hanging out over here. - [Faith] So you line it up to the line that you made. And you crease it. And then you flip it over to the other side, and you line it up to that other marking you made. Then you crease it. And I've found this is so much more exact than when you wrap it around the spine. There we go. And before we do the edges that you fold over, we're just gonna test to make sure this is what we want. I mean also, as far as book covers go, this isn't that bad. - [Courtney] So pretty. And I love how exact that is. That technique of that folding method is amazing. Works for so many things. - [Faith] Okay, and now at this point, we can wrap around the book or we can make a mark and fold it in. - [Courtney] Oh, I'm just gonna remind everyone that Faith has a degree in book binding. So she's very, very precise. And that's why everything she does looks perfect. - [Faith] Go on. - [Courtney] It's true. - [Faith] We should do this together more often, Courtney. That was very flattering. - [Courtney] Faith also has a great daily planner how-to, if you're interested in book binding. So you guys can check that out on Creativebug. It's a really beautiful lie flat customizable planner. - [Faith] And lots of folding. - [Courtney] Lots of folding. If you just want to watch Faith fold for a long time you can watch that class. (Faith laughing) - [Faith] It's true. Okay, so this. - [Courtney] Ooh, it's looking so pretty already. - [Faith] Isn't that nice? So it has a little bit extra edge to it. I don't think I want that much. I think I want to pull it in a little bit. - [Courtney] So you can do that. You can, I mean that's what's nice about just hand folding and not using the bone folder. You have a little bit more flexibility. - [Faith] I think we decided that a smidge was an eighth of an inch. And a tad was a 32nd. We made up very arbitrary rules for those tiny measurements. - I like that. - It's kind of like how... - And it is an eighth. - [Faith] how like a pinch is a decent measurement. - A dash. - A dash, exactly. - [Faith] Okay, so we're gonna repeat that on the other side. And fold it up. - [Courtney] So you could use this for textbooks, paperbacks, hardbacks, journals. If you spilled something on the cover this would be a great way to cover it up. - [Faith] I kind of thought for a second you were advocating doing this to a library book that you've accidentally damaged. But you would never do that. - [Courtney] Don't put ideas in my head, Faith. First of all, the library wouldn't take that back. They would be like, what book is this? - The only book I've ever destroyed from a library was... I don't know if I've told my mom this. I think my dad and I just handled it quietly. It was a Super Mario Brothers magazine. And it was all the cheat codes for how to get to the star levels. And we left it outside and it got rained on. - Oh my God, that's amazing. - I know. - And then what happened? - I feel bad for my dad that I told the secret. Hopefully he doesn't remember. Although it's his birthday in two days. Happy

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Birthday dad, sorry. - Hopefully, Faith's mom's not mad at you. - Nope, they're in Kathmandu. So they have some time to figure it out. - They're not even watching this, it's totally fine. - I hope not. - [Courtney] Are you still a Super Mario, are you good at that? - [Faith] No, 'cause I ruined the book. I don't know anymore. With all the cheat codes. - [Courtney] Don't cheat. - [Liana] I can beat that without the cheat codes. - [Faith] I mean, and you didn't ruin a book. You're just getting back at me for the color coding comment aren't you? So now we have our cover folded. And we're going to slip the edges in here. - [Courtney] I love this. - [Faith] This is very satisfying. - [Courtney] So great. - [Faith] And I do love this paper design. It's absolutely gorgeous. - [Courtney] So pretty. I love the scale of the pattern. - [Faith] This part's a little finicky. And this was also the part that would probably make you crazy when you were trying to do your math textbook because it's a hard cover and you can't wiggle it as much. - [Courtney] Yeah, but I would say that these thin paperbacks work much better for this. - [Faith] Tah-dah, look how beautiful. - [Courtney] So beautiful. - [Faith] And now we have to write the title, of course. - [Courtney] Oh yeah, show us your washi tape trick. I have to say that like this is why books, you guys. Books. - [Faith] Are the best. - Like the weight of a book. They cannot be replicated. So special, I love that cover. - I mean, I love my Kindle but not as much as I love my books with busts on them. - Or flowers as you change it. - Or flowers. - [Courtney] Love the washi tape. Nice choice, Faith. - [Faith] I'm just gonna write House Frau. - [Courtney] You can use a sharpy, a micron or some other permanent marker on your washi tape so it stays. Just give it some time to dry. - [Faith] I do find I always want to write an exclamation point at the end of the title. 'Cause I get so excited. - [Courtney] I love it. - [Faith] And I'm gonna write on the spine too. - [Courtney] Oh, but not this part? Not the fore-edge? (laughing) - No! That would be crazy. - [Courtney] I would say. - [Faith] It is right side up. - [Courtney] Yes, you did. I would say write it here and then put it there. 'Cause once your tape comes up it's easier than trying to write on it. Don't you think? - That's why I came to you Courtney. 'Cause you have the best ideas. - The washi tape expert for sure. I find that easier. Otherwise you're like this. - [Faith] You literally wrote the book on washi tape. - [Courtney] I might have. - [Faith] What's the official title? - [Courtney] Oh my God. 101, I'm not sure. (laughing) - [Faith] You don't remember your own book? - It's called Washi Tape: 101 Projects, Ideas, and Inspiration. But actually it has 105 projects in it. - Really? That's insider information. That's why you tune in live. And also to ask questions if you have any, don't hesitate to ask. And if you have a book that you felt embarrassed about reading in public, definitely let us know. - We would love to hear that. - We can share it together. So this is the... - [Courtney] This is so pretty. And look how pretty they look together. - [Faith] They look really pretty together. - [Courtney] Stacked. - [Faith] You wouldn't even know. - Oh my God, I love it. This is definitely the thing that you do before you go to like the in-laws house and you're reading something a little bit naughty. Or maybe a marriage book. - I did also have a book. I have a good friend. Hi Grace, who loves self-help books. We both love self-help books. And she was like you gotta read this. And it's something about like improving your marriage. And I'm not married and neither is she but she's like, it's just a good book in general. And it has like rings on the front and it's like a faded purple. - Oh, The Five Principles of Making a Marriage Work, by John Goht-lin? - It's not that one. - Oh, I'd read that in college. - Really? - Yeah for my Generating Communication class. It was a psyche class. I outlined almost like, underlined so many of those little how-to's. - Do they work? - I definitely wasn't married. I was like 19. - I guess you're right. - It was super interesting though about how men and women communicate. I was into it. - Well we'll have to talk more about it later. How about you want to show your ideas? - For me, I'm not so much as reading. I haven't picked up anything recently that has boobs on the cover. (Faith laughing) So my necessity comes from something a little bit

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different. I actually ordered a copy of Everything is Illuminated by Jonathan Safran Foer. And I was very specific about getting the beautiful hand-lettered cover. And instead I got Elijah Wood's face on the cover. - Which is fine. - And I was not happy. I really, really am not a fan of the books that have the movie tie-in. - No. - For me, I do buy a book by its cover on some occasions. And so I was actually just gonna like donate the book to the library. And then I was like you know what, I'm just gonna make a new cover for it. I think I might even paint a cover. But that is the place where I would make a cover. And my book covers are a little bit different than Faith's. Because in these cases I was working on hardback books. And the slipping in is a little bit trickier. This is just 11 x 17 photocopy paper. If you saw my pattern surface design class on Creativebug, you could totally come up with a super easy pattern using these awesome Koi brush pens. So I did that in about 15 seconds. That is a fun little project. The other thing that you can do is we have a daily lettering challenge coming out on April 1st. And keeping that in mind, I just made some fun lettered books. Beloved and the BFG are two of my favorite books. So that would fun just to make your own covers. I think it would be really cool to do with kids like instead of, I wish I had gotten the homework assignment that was not the book report but instead it was illustrating your own book cover. That would have been amazing. - Did you have the option of two? - No. - Did you have to pick out of a hat? You just mean like in general. - Yeah, we could make a diorama. That's the one I always picked. - Love the diorama. - But I thought this would have been really fun too. - It's really lovely. I feel like this would be super nice on like black paper with like a silver pen. - Absolutely. If you guys are curious about lettering, stay tuned for the April lettering challenge with Michaela from Sakura of America. She's gonna cover all of that. And then I did this garden of verses one too where I just got to play with embellishment and it was a little bit abstract but also a little bit informational, so. - I love it. - That's fun. - Do we have a question? - [Liana] We do. Our first question is, "Any tips on covering spiral bound books "and or sketch books." - That's a great question. I have seen some pretty nice versions that are sewn. It's basically this but it's fabric. And it's folded over and it's sewn on the edges to put in. If you did want to try out a paper one, I'd recommend using a thicker weight paper and then lining the spine with electrical tape. - Yeah, great for adding a little bit of stability. Something that you want to... - No like it's sort of the metal rubs against the paper it's actually rubbing against the electrical tape so it won't break through. - That makes sense, right. 'Cause paper's not fabric and it will wear holes. The other thing you have to remember is you have to leave like room for your book to open and close. So just measuring this dimension is not the same as like what Faith showed you. She's really like creating the book to the proportions of the cover by actually testing it in its skin right. So just make sure you leave room for your book to open and close. I think that's great advice for the spiral bound. And then if you did do something like fabric or canvas then it lasts a long time. I've also in my day I was like really into duct taping everything. So I would just take a sheet of paper and then duct tape it to make it like... - That's a great idea. - Or use contact paper. - Duct tape was big when we were kids. - Yeah. - Or teens. - All my wallets, or in your 20s. - Are you kidding? - No, not at all. - No, I mean about the wallet. Not about, I mean duct tape is super cool. - Also Ursula, our CEO is showing us how she used to cover her schoolbooks. And she said that they used old wallpaper which would be fun. - It sounded like a really dreamy situation. And then you would know what the inside of everybody's house looked like 'cause you'd actually use leftover wallpaper samples from your home. - I love it, upcycling. - On that note. - Is that it? - Thank you so much for joining us. - We'll see you next time. - Have a good one. (light music)

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