

Make a Zine

This course is for everybody. No prior knowledge is necessary to participate.



Hello everybody!

I am very excited about our little lesson today as we will be making a zine!

A zine or fanzine is a self made magazine about a topic that you love. It could be about your hobby, a how-to-guide on your favourite recipe, it could be about your pet or it could tell a story, be a comic, or feature a collection of poems and songs.

Traditionally, fanzines are cherished companions of subcultures who share the same interests, for example they are common amongst the music scene, showcasing the local bands and spreading news and gossip. They are usually printed cheaply at home and distributed in the individual communities. But we won't need a printer.

You will need:

- A piece of paper
- Scissors (optional)

In my example I use an ordinary A4 sheet of paper. I would recommend not to use a smaller sheet but you can definitely use a bigger one if you have one, it will make the overall zine bigger. You could use wrapping paper, old newspaper or even the pages of books and magazines you don't need anymore. Of course if you do that, your pages will already show the print of the newspaper or book which could make for a nice effect if you were to paint on top of it or make a collage with some cut outs you stick on top. Let's go!

Step 1

Take your piece of paper and fold it in half.



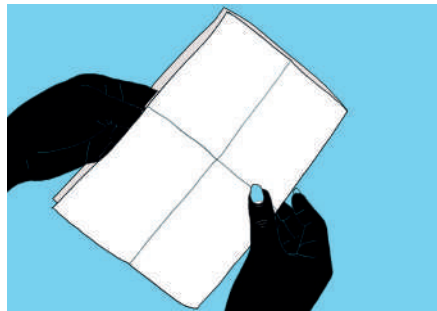
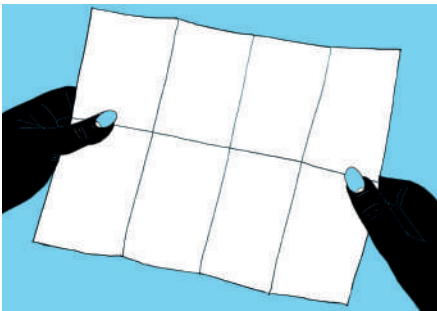
Step 2

Fold the sheet twice more. Use your nails to really push down the folds.



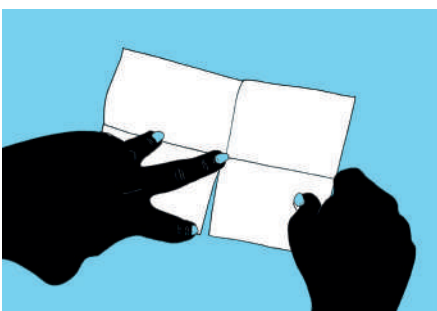
Step 3

Now unfold it again and fold it in half once more like in step 1.



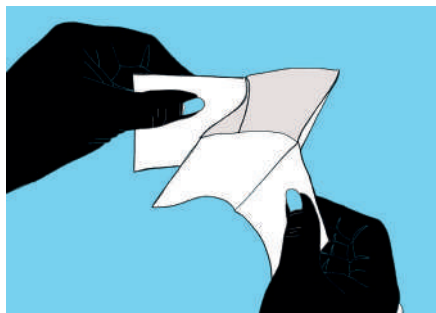
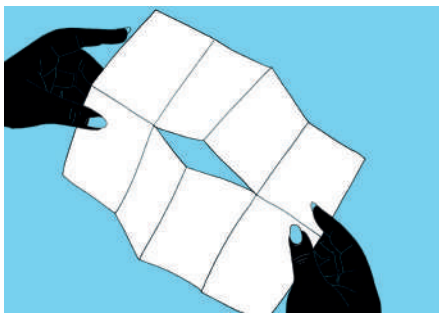
Step 4

Turn your sheet so that the fold is at the bottom. Either tear or use the scissors to cut through the fold, along the vertical crease. Only go to the middle of the sheet.



Step 5

Open up your sheet, fold it lengthwise and gently push the short sides together, so that the cut separates.



Step 6

Keep pushing until the sides meet in the middle. Now you have your zine!



Of course it is totally up to you how you fill your zine! You can write and draw directly onto the pages or glue in photos and cut outs. Here are a few examples:



For this I've used floral paper for my zine and glued on black and white text and pictures, which I'd cut out from a magazine.



And here I used newspaper for the zine and glued on cut outs of drawings I'd done.



Zines make lovely little keep-sakes as they document your own words and images about your favourite things! So I hope you have much fun making these and I can't wait to see your results!

Stay safe and lots of love

Vera xx