



**TRAVEL JOURNAL
WITH A GELPLATE
CREATE AN AMAZING TRAVEL
JOURNAL FULL OF MEMORIES**

HANDMADE CONCERTINA TRAVEL/ART JOURNAL

NOTE: *You can create any size but keep in mind the sizes of smaller gelplates that are more suitable for travelling with. My favourites are the 5" x 7" and the 6" square. Also if cutting down A1 sized art papers, some dimensions are more economical than others.*

The following dimensions are to suit a 5" x 7" gelplate.

COVER

- * I save the thick cardboard backing of all the paper pads I buy. These are strong and can be cut down to size for the covers of handmade books & concertinas.
- * ***Take extreme care when cutting heavy cardboard! I use a Stanley knife and a metal edged ruler on a cutting mat.***
- * For this concertina, I cut two covers 220mm x 160mm (8.75" x 6.25")
- * Seal cardboard by brushing all the surfaces with matte medium, especially the edges.
- * Collage, decorate covers prior to assembly so that the underside can be covered when you attach the end-papers of the concertina
- * Covers can be added at the end so you can theme them with your concertina.

PAGES

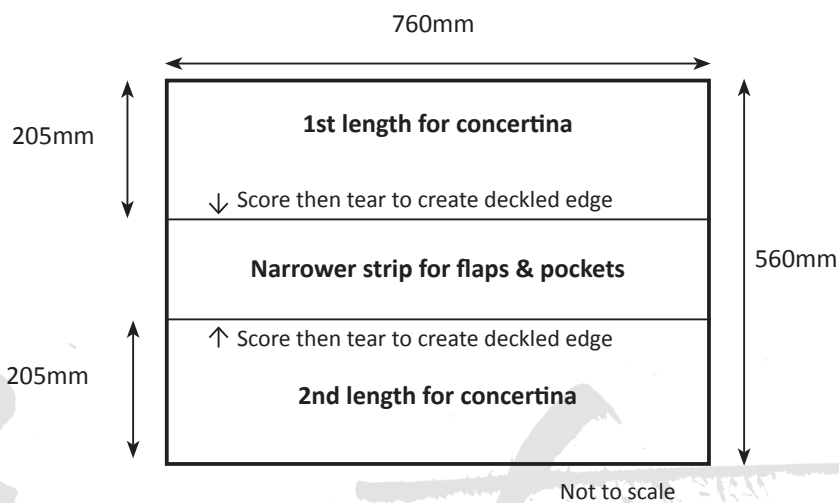
- * I buy large sheets from an art store, measuring approx 760mm x 560mm (30" x 22")
- * Look for papers which are recommended for printmaking and/or mixed media.
- * Choose papers with a smooth to slightly textured surface. Avoid rough and/or fibrous papers.
- * Look for 250-280gsm so they are good quality but easy to fold
- * Large sheets of paper with the deckled edge along the long edge of the sheet make a great concertina. The following instructions show how to use this edge as a feature in your book.
- * Each page of the concertina will measure 205mm x 145mm (8" x 5.25")



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CUTTING (OR TEARING) PAGES

These instructions are specifically if you want to retain the deckled edged-look for your concertina. If your paper has a straight-cut edge, then you can cut the long lengths.



* Measure 2 x 205mm marks along the short edge of the paper. If your sheet of paper has a deckled edge (referring to the natural uneven edge on handmade paper) along the long edge of your sheet, use the top and bottom sections to keep the lovely deckled edges as a feature in your concertina (use the middle strip for flaps and pockets in your book).

* Make a score line along the length of the paper with a bonefolder or blunt knife along a ruler.

* Fold back and forward multiple times along the score line to break paper fibres, making it easy to tear.

* Tear carefully along fold to create two lengths of paper. This will create a matching deckled edge to the natural one from the outer long edge of your paper.

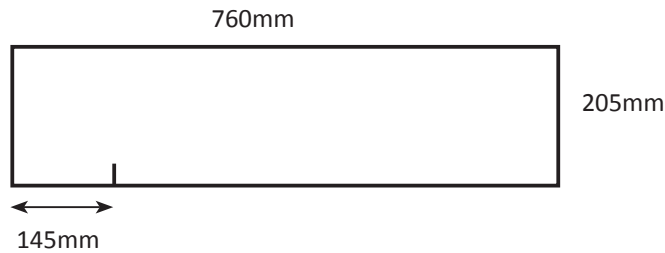
* There will be a narrower strip in the middle but this can be used to create pockets and flaps in your concertina. Do not cut through this section. More on this later.



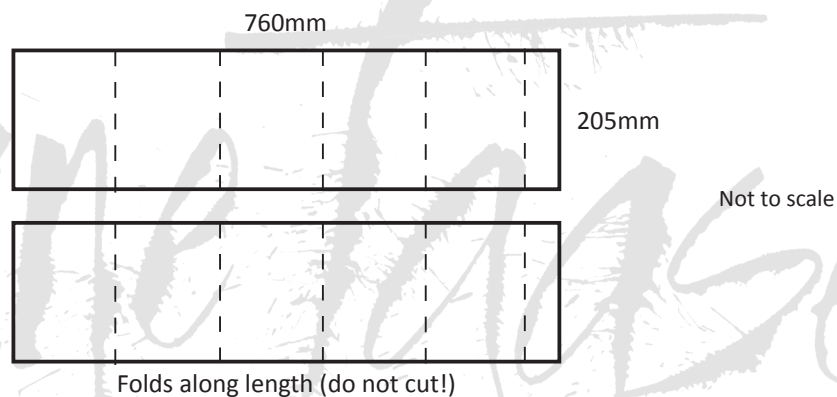
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FOLDING PAGES

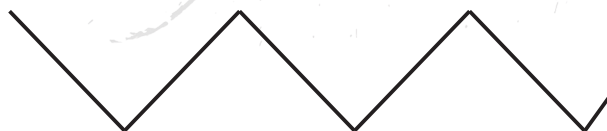
* On one of the main pieces, make a small pencil mark 145mm in from one edge



* Use this mark as a guide to carefully make the first fold. Align the bottom edges and fold up. This will be demonstrated in the Jane Faase Creates course video. Continue to make folds down the length of the paper as follows, keeping the pages the same size and aligned with each other as you fold back and forward. You should end up with 5 pages plus some leftover.



* Depending on the exact measurements of your paper, there may be a short piece at the end. Don't cut this off. You will use this to glue the two sections of the concertina together.

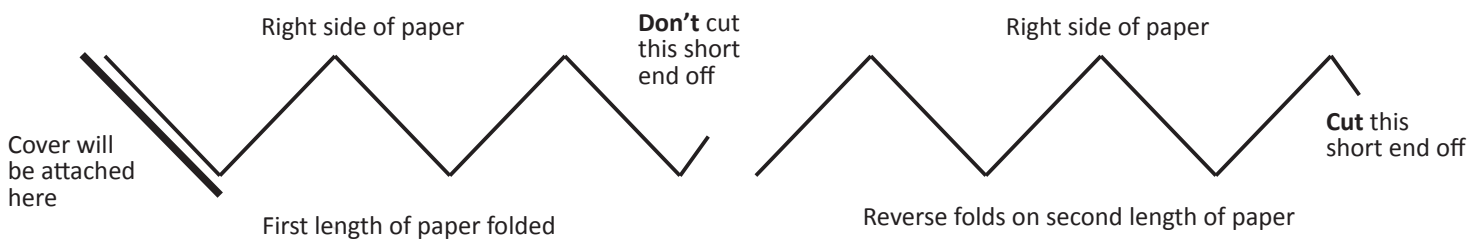




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CREATING YOUR CONTINUOUS LINE OF PAGES

* Line up the two pieces together. Make sure if there is a right and wrong side to your paper, that you match them. Next you need to work out which folds need to be valley folds and which folds are mountain folds to suit the layout of your concertina. See next illustrations.



* Glue the two lengths of paper together by overlapping the short end with the first page of the next length.



* Make sure the short flap sits behind so that the join is only seen in the fold of the front side. If you intend to use both sides of your concertina, then think of creative ways you can cover the join with collage on the back side.

FLAPS & POCKETS

* Use the narrow middle strip for flaps and pockets in your concertina book. Refer back to Jane Faase Creates course video for ideas.



Cut a variety of pockets and flaps from this middle strip



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COLLAGING & ATTACHING THE COVERS

* Collage your cover with your choice of vintage paper, gelprinted papers etc. As you glue them to the cover, have enough overhang to glue the papers over the edge and around to the back. Make sure there is sufficient length to these papers that the scrappy ends are covered by the end papers of your concertina.

*Use strong glue such as YES! Paste (or strong double sided adhesive tape) to attach the covers to the concertina pages. (See course video for collaging and gluing the covers onto the concertina pages.)

VARIATIONS

Once you understand the principles of making a concertina, you can change the size and number of pages. You can also create any number of different covers including old book covers.

