

When Life Gives You Lemons

or

I'll Take My Lemonade To Go

By Abby Carlson

Our convention was cancelled, our hearts had all sunk.
The hard-working committee was now in a funk.
One year we must wait, we hoped you would too,
But honestly, we didn't know what we could do.
Just eight months to go, we knew we could do it,
But how to keep up the interest to get everyone through it.
So, here are some tid-bits, a project, some fun,
To keep all excited, please enjoy - everyone!
Come along on a trip to our choice of place
Then keep track of your memories in one special space.
In what follows you'll find a scrapbook - make two!
Then glue souvenirs in we'll provide just for you.
Soon eight months will pass and in Portland we'll gather
And, the year's intermission will no longer matter.

For this project you will need:

- Scrapbook paper, your choice of design and color but textured is nice, cardstock is too heavy
- plain white copy paper
- ruler
- scissors or exacto knife
- white glue
- embroidery floss or equivalent thread to complement cover
- needle to match thread size
- 1/16" punch
- pencil for marking – a mechanical pencil really works best with its fine point

1. On your chosen paper – on the wrong side – draw two rectangles that measures $1 \frac{3}{8}$ " X 1". These will be your front and back covers.
2. Measuring from the left-hand side make two marks, one at $\frac{1}{8}$ " from the left edge then the second at $\frac{1}{4}$ " from the left edge.
3. Score top to bottom on the back side of the paper on each measurement.
4. With the front side of the paper facing you, fold on the first score line, which is closest to the left edge and glue lightly to the wrong side. This provides stability for the "binding" area.
5. Using a $\frac{1}{16}$ " hole punch, punch two holes through the two layers of paper that you just glued. You will use these holes as guide holes later. They should be located in the center – top to bottom - and nicely spaced apart. These holes are used for the binding thread. See examples below.
6. The second score line will provide ease in opening your scrapbook once it has pages in it. Just like a full-sized scrapbook.
7. Make an identical cover for the back.
8. Use a pencil and the holes already punched, to mark the correct placement for the "binding" holes so the covers will line up perfectly.
9. Using regular copy paper, cut your filler sheets just a tad smaller than your covers.
10. You will need a minimum of sixteen sheets, but you may want more.
11. Mark the correct placement for your "binding" holes on the filler paper then punch them so the filler sheets line up with the far-left folded edge and are slightly shorter and narrower than the covers.
12. To "bind" your scrapbook, you will need a needle that will fit through your punched holes and still carry about three strands of embroidery floss. With your threaded needle, go down thru a hole from the front to the back, then back up through the second hole and back to the front.
13. I found that at this point it was neater if I slipped a tiny bit of glue between the page ends, and also between the first and last sheet and the covers before I tied the threads together. You can also run a thin bead of glue along the spine edge of your filler paper squeezing the pages tight.
14. Once everything seems secure, tie a knot in your thread to complete the "binding" process.
15. Gently open the front cover on the second score line. And now you're ready for your first souvenir. Watch this space...

Notes:

This project will only take you 30 – 45 minutes in spite of the lengthy directions. It is really very easy.

I gilded the edges of one of my albums and it looked very nice. I used a "gold foil" pen.

I used a size 22 or 24 needle to do the binding.

I used size 8 pearl cotton for the ties, crochet thread would also be good as well as 2mm silk ribbon.

The scrapbook pictured was made using the textured paper. I also made one using a regular scrapbooking paper for a cover, then after the album was complete, I strengthened it with another sheet glued on the inside of the cover. I think it would be good to do that on the slightly heavier, textured paper as well. It just makes for a nice finish.



This is the textured paper.

