

How to Make Book Cloth

Materials & Tools:

100% cotton quilting fabric, ironed
Sumi sketch paper or other lightweight paper, 1" larger than fabric
Non-stick surface, such as glass, plexiglass, teflon/silicone mat or freezer paper
Large piece of cardboard
2 Glue brushes (I use inexpensive 2" bristle brushes)
Wheat/rice paste powder
Saucepan
Heat proof bowl
Whisk
Craft knife
Ruler

Make Wheat Paste

- Put a couple of inches of water in the saucepan and bring to a boil.
 - Place bowl over a pan.
 - In the bowl mix 1 part wheat paste to 6 parts cold water.
 - Continually whisk paste to desired thickness (5-7 minutes).
 - Allow to cool to room temperature before using.
 - Paste can be kept in refrigerator for several days.
 - If using paste from the refrigerator, reheat in microwave for 30 seconds with a little water and whisk out any lumps.
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Make Book Cloth

- Place fabric right side facing down in the center of the cardboard and smooth flat with your hand. Spritz with water if necessary.
- Place backing paper on non-stick surface, and cover thoroughly with a thin layer of glue.
- Gently lift paper and place it onto the fabric glue side down.
- Gently press down with your hands, taking extra care to adhere the edges.
- Smooth carefully with a clean dry brush.
- Leave overnight and cut away fabric in the morning with a sharp knife.
- Note: a small paper border will be left on the cardboard.