

SUPPLIES

Paper, cut to size
Cardboard backing, cut to size (optional)
Heavy books (or paper clamp)
Padding compound (the glue!)
Adhesive-backed magnet (optional)
Paintbrush

STEP 1

Cut all your paper and cardboard backing to your desired size. Ours are 5.5 x 8.5 inches — a sheet of paper cut in half.

You can make these to any size you want, however thick you want, and you don't even have to use the cardboard backing if you don't feel like it. Yay, options!

STEP 2

Stack paper and cardboard backing, then evenly align the edge you plan to glue. Since you are using your own paper cutter and not a professional cutting machine, don't worry about the side edges being perfect; this is a handmade product!

If using heavy books like I did, place the stack of paper on a flat surface and very carefully place the books on top, making sure you line them up as close as possible to the edge being glued.

You can also use a clamp; they adjust to accommodate various sizes, and they press the edge super firmly to ensure a really neat edge. But, they cost money (booo!) and as far as I can tell you can only make one notepad at a time.

STEP 3

Brush the padding compound onto the edge of your paper stack. I apply two coats, waiting for the first to dry before applying the second. It takes about a half-hour to dry, depending on how much compound you use.

fyi: The red padding compound looks pink in the bottle but it turns red when it dries. Also, if you are using books as your press, don't worry about getting the compound on them; it peels right off when it's dry. Do keep it off of paper book sleeves, your nice dining room table, carpeting, pets, etc.

STEP 4

If you want your notepad to hang on the fridge, this is where that adhesive-backed magnet comes in. Just peel the protective paper off the adhesive magnet, and stick the magnet onto the back of the notepad. **TADA! You are done.**