



# Denim Notebook

Technique:	Sewing
Designed By:	Linda Turner Griepentrog
Skill Level:	Beginner
Crafting Time:	An evening
Finished size:	Custom

## Featuring Dual Duty XP®, Coats Jeans thread

Whether you're covering a binder, a book, or a composition notebook, recycled denim is a great way to go. It's fun to find an embellished pocket and repurpose it. Adding topstitching with Coats Jeans Thread accents the pocket.

## Supplies

- Coats Dual Duty XP® All-purpose thread in coordinating color
- Coats® Jeans thread
- 1 pair of jeans with decoratively stitched pockets\*
- 4-6mm twin needle, size 100/16
- Topstitching needle, size 100/16
- Paper-backed fusible web tape, 1/2" (1.27cm) wide

*\*If you don't have a pair of jeans to repurpose, check your local thrift store for likely candidates. Look for great pockets—size doesn't matter much.*

## Measuring/ Cutting

1. Carefully cut the pocket out of the jeans back, trimming close to the fold, but not cutting into it.
2. Lay the closed book or binder on the tabletop and measure its length, width, and depth. Add  $4\frac{1}{2}$ " (11.43cm) to the total width/depth measurement and 1" (2.54cm) to the length measurement to determine the cut size needed for the cover front and back.
3. Depending on the size of the jeans, it may be necessary to piece the fabric to create the rectangle shape needed for the cover. If so, add  $\frac{1}{4}$ " (.64cm) to each edge that requires piecing and sew adjoining pieces together. Press seams open. The featured cover was cut from the upper leg portion of the jeans, requiring piecing along the spine.
4. Cut the pieces determined in Step 1 and sew together.

## Embellishing the Cover

5. Draw lines across the cover, spacing as desired.
6. Using the guidelines in your owner's manual, set up the machine to use a double needle and thread both with Jeans Thread. Test stitch on a sample of the jeans fabric and adjust the stitch length and tension as needed for a nice stitch.
7. Sew along the marked lines using the double needle.
8. Center the embellished fabric over the closed book and pin the pocket in place on the front surface.
9. Change back to a single needle and using the Jeans Thread, stitch the pocket sides and bottom in place next to the original jeans stitching line.

## Assembling the Cover

10. Using matching thread, press under and stitch a  $\frac{1}{4}$ " (.64cm) hem on each end of the cover rectangle to finish. Do not hem the top or bottom edges yet.
11. Fold back the flap on each end of the rectangle. With right sides together, stitch the upper and lower edges using a  $\frac{1}{2}$ " (1.27cm) seam allowance. Repeat for the opposite end.
12. Fit the cover over the book again to double check the fit and make any needed adjustments. Pin under the upper and lower hems.
13. Using a strip of fusible web tape inside, press under and fuse the upper and lower hems.
14. Put the cover on the book by tucking the front and back covers into the flaps.

