

PRINTING & BINDING A BOOK FROM THE WEB

I have assumed that you have some familiarity with printing single and multiple sheets.

The books on the Kearey web-site have been arranged with the correct 'page set-up' for printing - in A5 format. To print your own book, is simple; applying a cover, and binding the pages, a lot easier than you might first imagine. Once you have achieved this challenging task you will appreciate a lot more about books, their bindings, jackets and the fine art of conservation and restoration. It only needs you to start. But before you do, read this step by step account and steal yourself to begin... I cannot emphasize too strongly that you do need to be patient.

FIRST: You are going to need certain tools and equipment. I have kept those to a minimum - considered the cost. What I propose will be the cheapest method. Once you feel more certain you can branch out – experiment, and broaden your horizons. It would be best not to start before you have all these items to hand. I shall not include the prices because I am dealing with the cheapest of items. However, I believe that at today's prices £100 English pounds will cover the whole exercise – including the printer and paper.

PRINTER: I use the most basic black and white LaserJet printer. It is three years old and gives good service. I keep a spare cassette to cover all eventualities. This is not necessary when you trying to get to grips with the process; eventually, if you wish to carry on printing your own book a spare toner/cassette will be useful.

PAPER: Do not buy A4 paper and have it cut in half to create a cheaper product. It will cause untold problems sequencing pages - will not be dry enough to separate in the paper tray. Buy only good quality, plastic wrapped, pre-cut, 80 gram, A5 paper. Do not open the packet until you are ready to print.

CARD FOR COVER: 10 pieces of Buff, 160gram, A4 card.

PAPER CLAMPS OR FINISHING PRESSES: From a metre and a half of wood, measuring 70mm x 20mm, cut four pieces 300mm long. Mark out in pencil where to drill two holes through each piece of wood... using these measurements... centre two holes 20mm from each end. Obtain four 70mm x 6mm coach bolts, four 20mm washers and four butterfly nuts. Connect up each pair of clamps. The domed ends can be countersunk, but this is not essential. You will also need:

MINI HACKSAW

SCAPEL with 3a blade or STANLEY KNIFE

7mm PAINT BRUSH

UNIVERSAL PVA BOND [Paper glue]

STEEL RULE

CUTTING MAT 450cm x 300cm.

Double click – desktop icon Internet Server.

Enter the site name, you wish to print from, in top search box.

<http://terence-kearey.net>

Click - full arrow, on the right of the box.

The home page appears.

Click – on book link < The Collins of Chard>

The book's content page appears...scroll to the bottom of the page... click on PDF Format.

The first page of the book appears.

Click on File > Print > Properties > open each these sub files:

Finishing	Effects	Paper	Basics
Default	Default	Default	1 copy
1 st page	100% normal	A5	portrait
<OK>	Watermark none	Plain paper	<OK>
	<OK>	<OK>	

Return to Print: Fill in boxes:

<Print Range>

- All

Pages box will fill in automatically

Subset: Odd pages only

Copies 1

Fit to Printable Area

Fill printer tray with well rifled paper before clicking:

<OK>

This will print the odd pages. It is best to keep your eye on the sheets being printed to check sheets are not stuck together. The speed of a modern printer is such that allows this.

When the odd pages have been printed remove the block of paper and once again rifle through the sheets easing the sheet curl out. If the last page has an odd number remove this before printing the even pages. Go through the Print selection again:

<File>

<Print Range>

- Pages [fill in.... highest – lowest even number.

[Even Pages Only]

Copies 1

Fit to Printable Area

√ Choose paper source by PDF page size.

<OK>

Print out a copy of the book contents page from the web site, and make-up suitable intro pages. Place these in order in your book, with a sheet of white paper, front and back, to act as fly leaves and waste sheets. Mark the back [the spine] of your book in ink to remind yourself where it is. Then place the book-block

into one of your clamps or finishing presses - with the spine uppermost – knock up the pages so that they are even at the spine [top] and one side before tightening the screws. Now apply the second clamp – the book-block is now covered leaving about 5mm of the spine showing. Taking the saw, cut a series of angled shallow channels in the spine - this allows the glue to grip roughened paper and gives a larger gluing area – this also simulates sewing the sections with thread. With your brush, paint on some water to the spine allowing it to soak in and soften the paper fibres. Squeeze out the PVA glue covering the spine. Allow the glue to dry over-night. Do not attempt to fan out the pages to glue; it is unnecessary using PVA glue. When you are far more adept you can simulate library binding with a case - your own hard cover.

This adhesive method of binding is known as caoutchouc, introduced in 1836, securing single sheets by means of a rubber cement instead of thread sewing. Today the rubber cement has been replaced by PVA

Take the now glued book out of the clamps. Fold the book cover to allow the spine a central position. Paint the spine area on the jacket with water – allow, to soak in, before applying the glue. To make the spine more durable a strip of tape can be introduced when gluing. Similarly marker string can be incorporated. Place the book-block spine down into the glued area of the cover and place in one of the clamps. There will be an amount of the book overhanging the cover. Trim this off. Place the second clamp into position. Allow overnight drying.