

# Bind your own Notebook



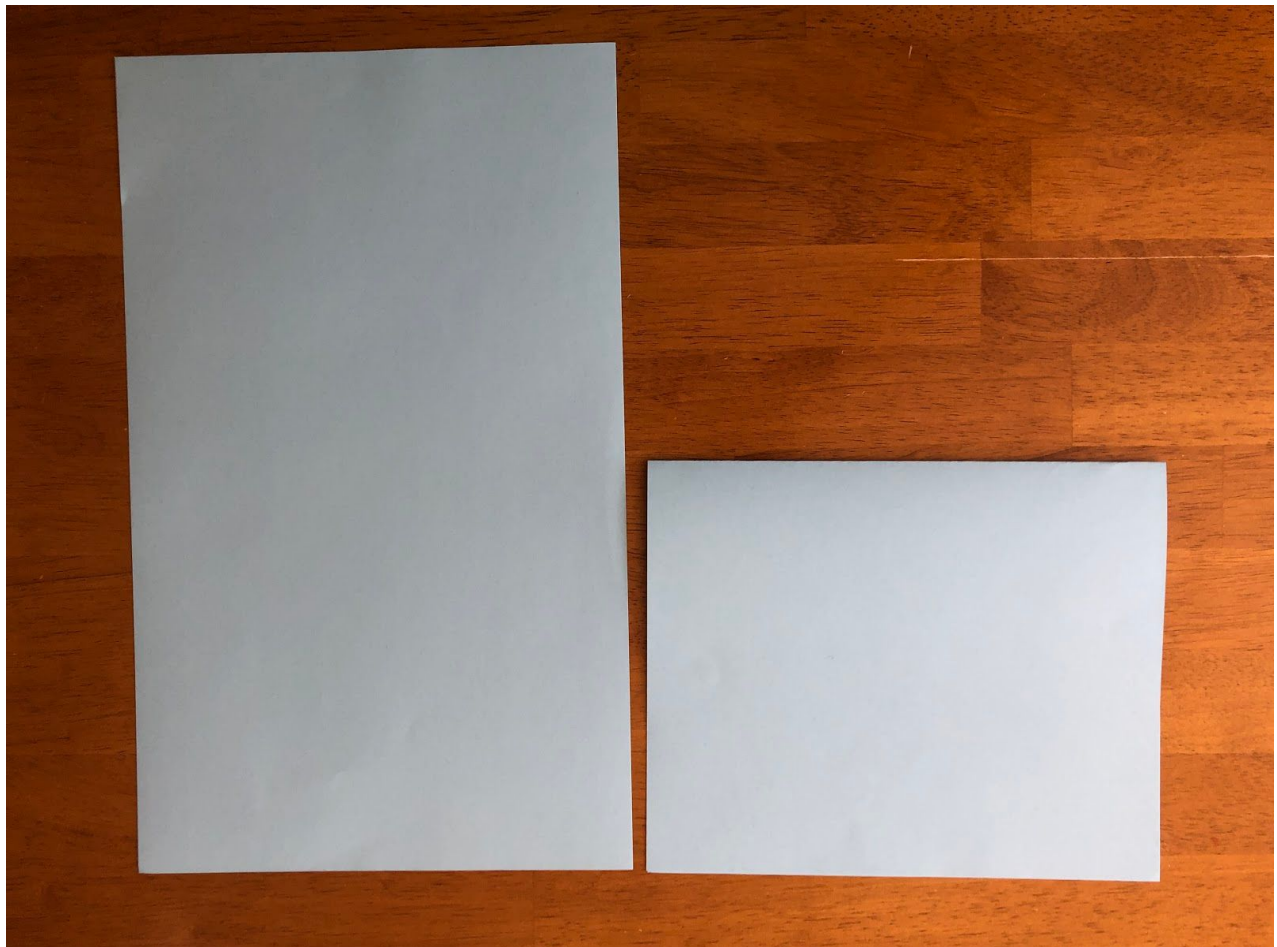
## You need:

- 6 white letter sized papers (for example printing paper)
- One legal sized paper in the color of your choice
- A ruler and a pencil
- A sewing needle and 25" long thread
- A shoebox
- A short metal kitchen skewer (e.g. o-yaki skewer)
- Optional: cutting board, cutting knife
- Optional: scissors

## Preparing the pages

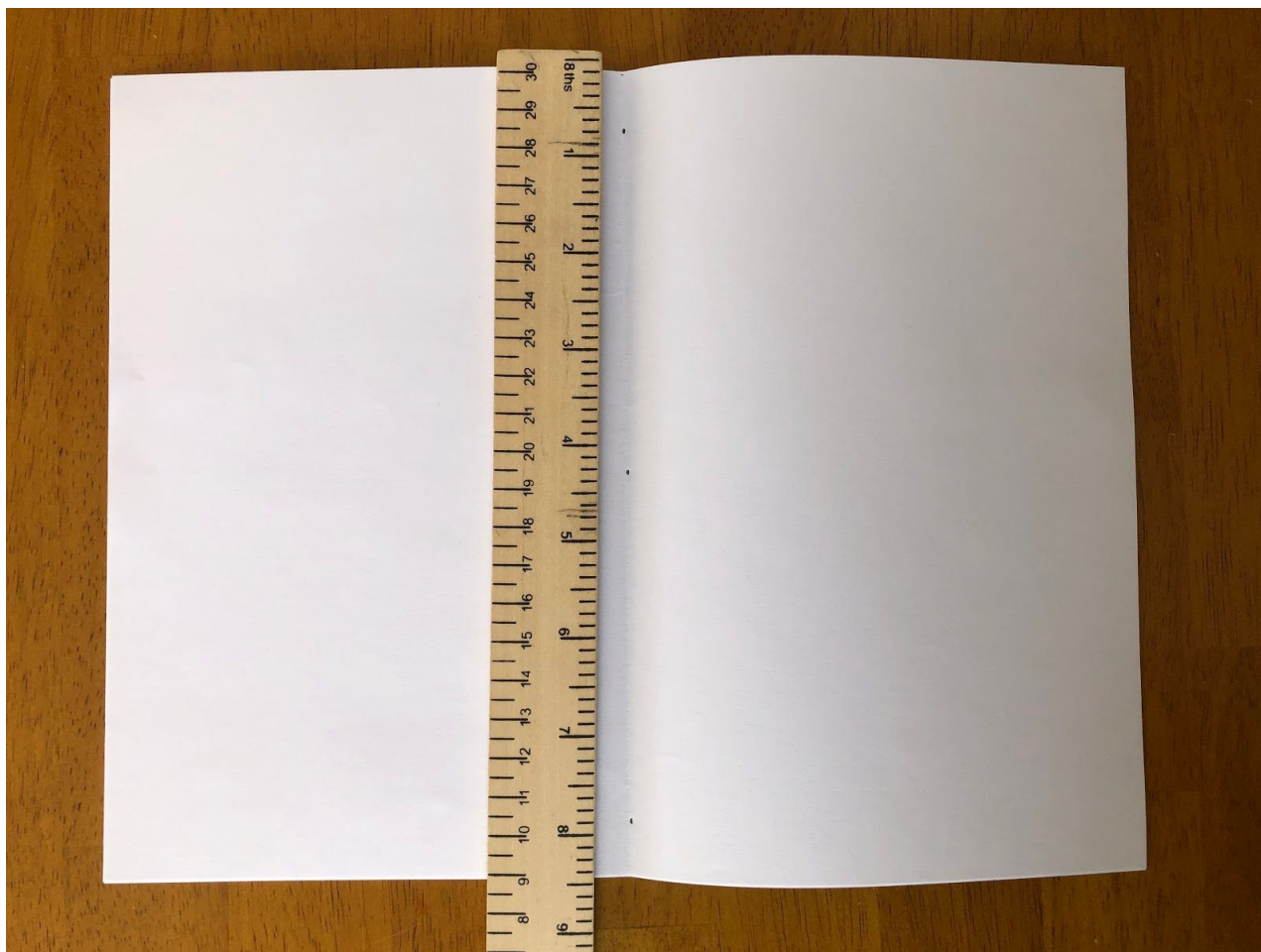
### Step 1:

Fold each of the six letter sized papers and the legal sized paper in half.



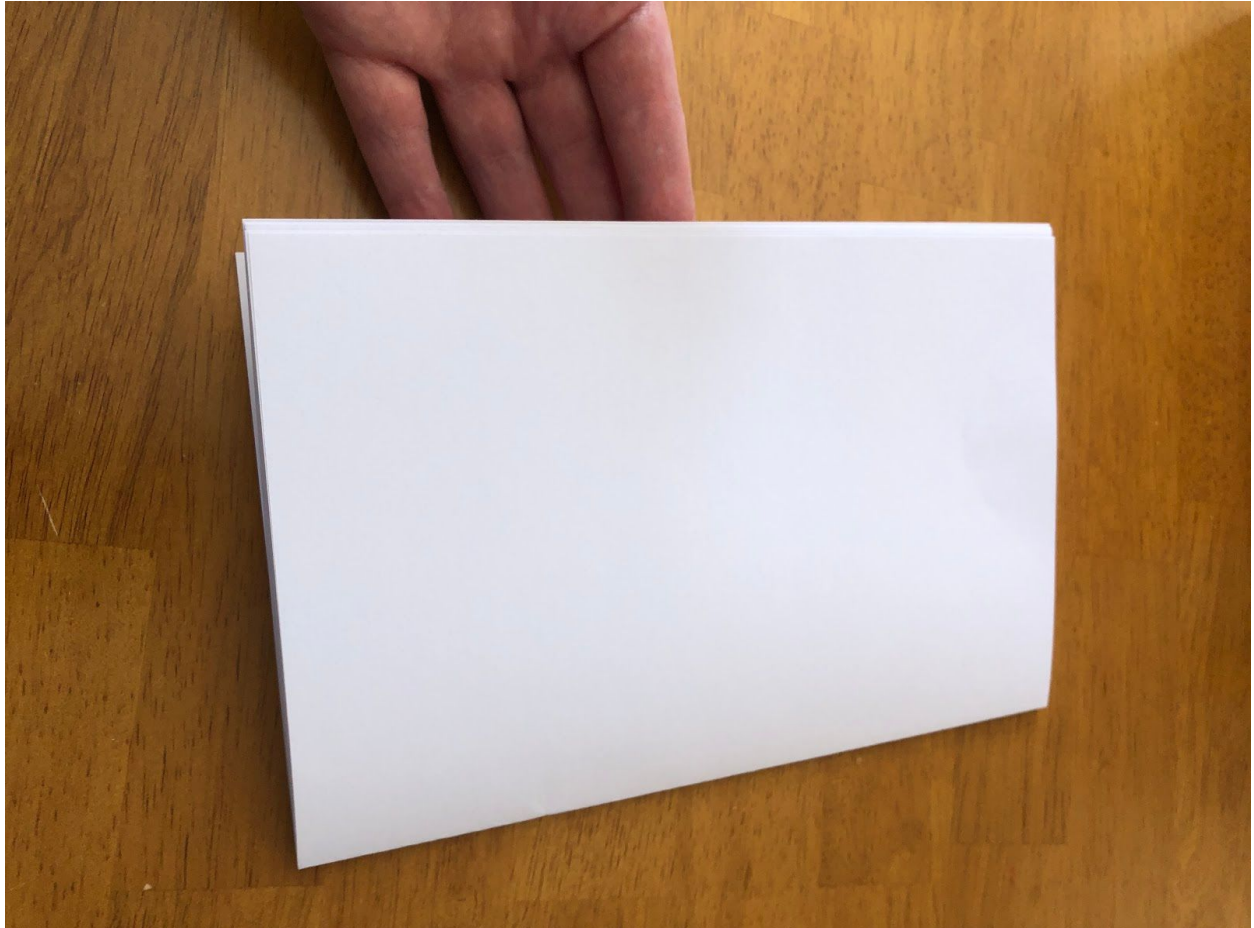
**Step 2:**

Fold one white letter sized paper open and mark three dots into the fold: One in the middle and two  $\frac{5}{8}$ " away from the ends. These marks will show you where to make holes with your skewer in step 4. The holes are needed to sew the pages together. The marked paper will be in the middle of your notebook.



**Step 3:**

Lay the letter sized papers into each other so that they form a booklet. This is your “signature”. The middle paper should be the one with the pencil markings on it





**Step 4: optional**

The folded papers are creating an uneven edge at the opening. You can make this edge straight by cutting off  $\frac{1}{8}$ " with a cutting knife, cutting board and a ruler. Hold the ruler  $\frac{1}{8}$ " from the edge and cut along the ruler carefully several times.



## Making the Holes

### Step 1:

Place the folded legal size paper over the white pages. The legal sized paper will be the outside cover.

### Step 2:

Place all pages with the folded edge into a corner of the shoebox. Fold the papers open so that one half is on the bottom of the shoebox and the other held up at the side by your hand. Make sure that the fold is in the corner of the shoebox.

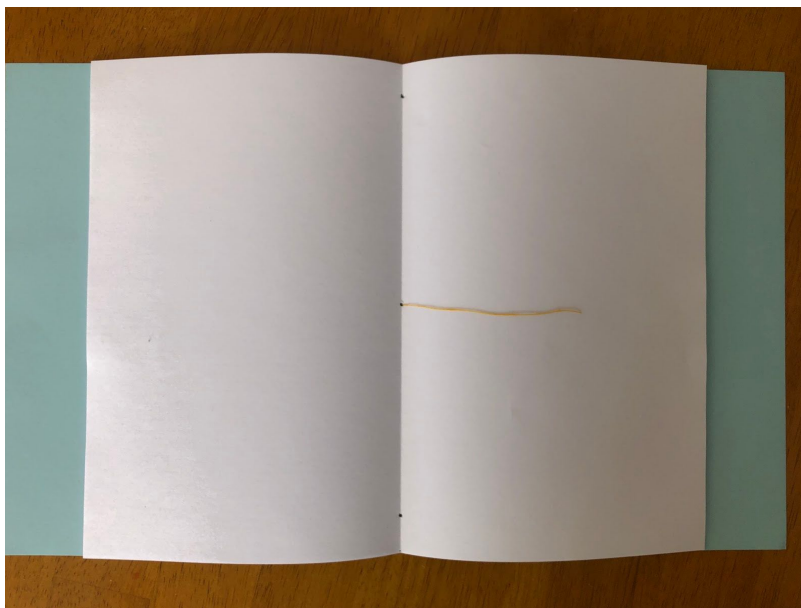
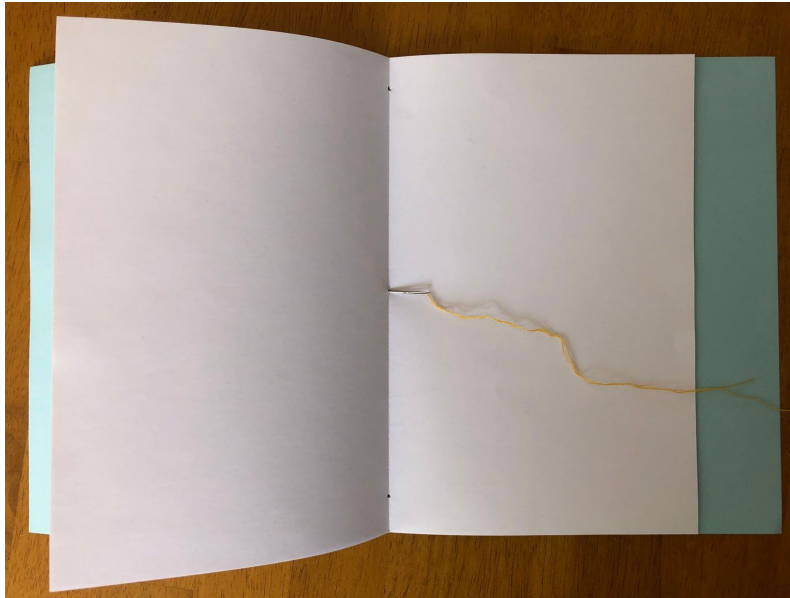
Pinch where the pencil marks are to make three holes. To do this, use the skewer and pinch through the pages into the corner of the fold and into the cardboard bottom edge.



## Sewing the Notebook together

### Step 1:

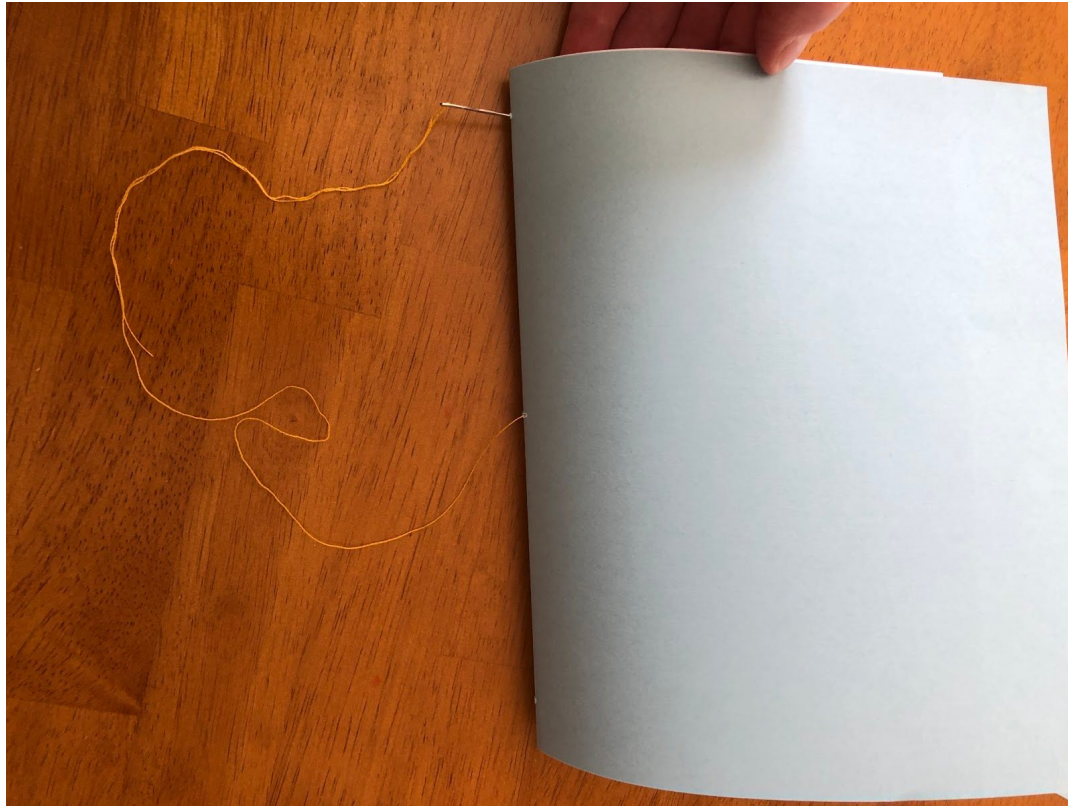
Thread the needle with the thread. Make one or two knots approximately 3" from the end of the thread that is bigger than the hole. Enter the needle into the middle hole from the inside of the notebook.



**Step 2:**

Enter the needle through the hole at the upper edge from the outside to the inside.

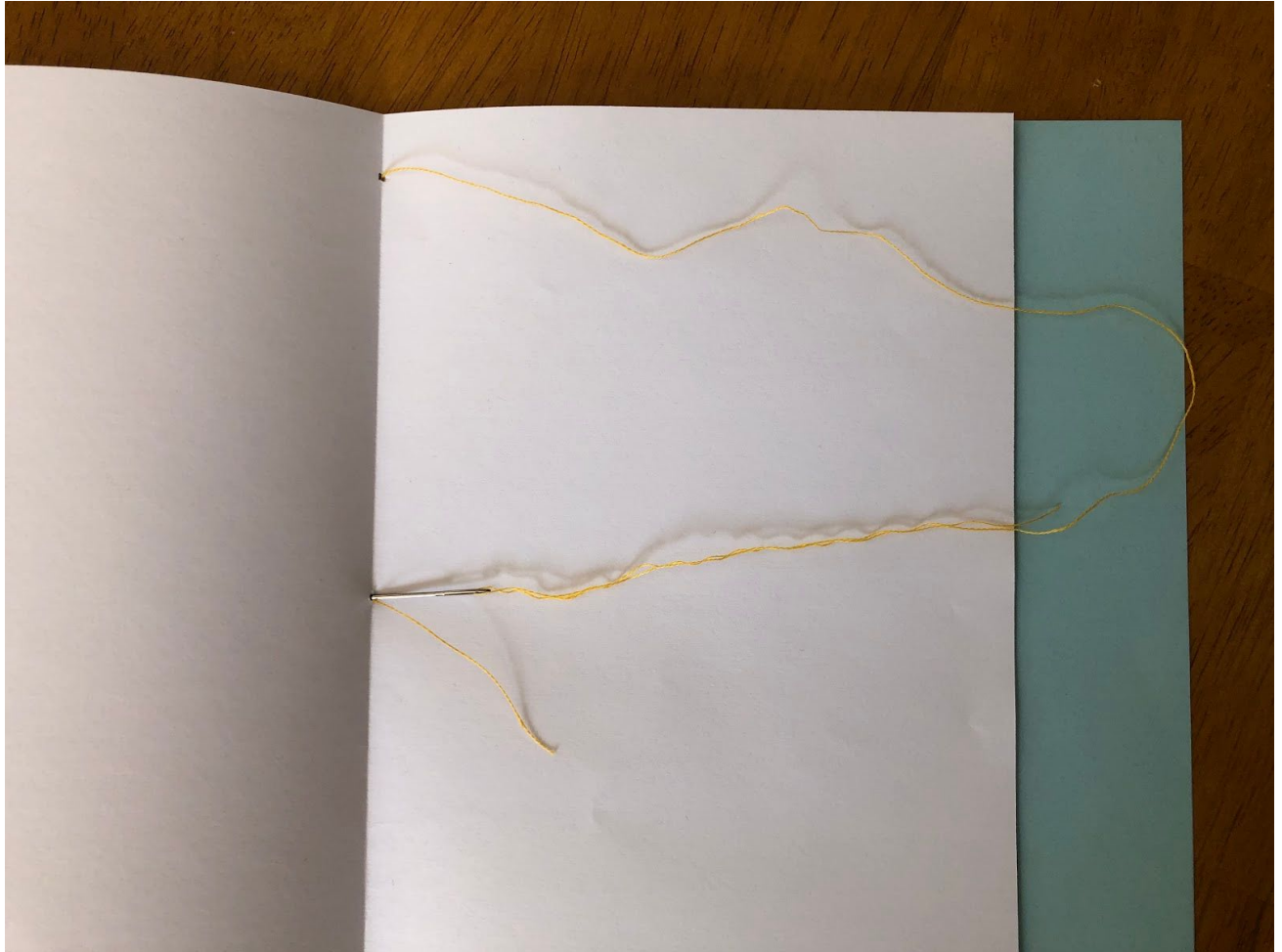
Be careful not to pull so much that the end of the thread follows through the middle hole.





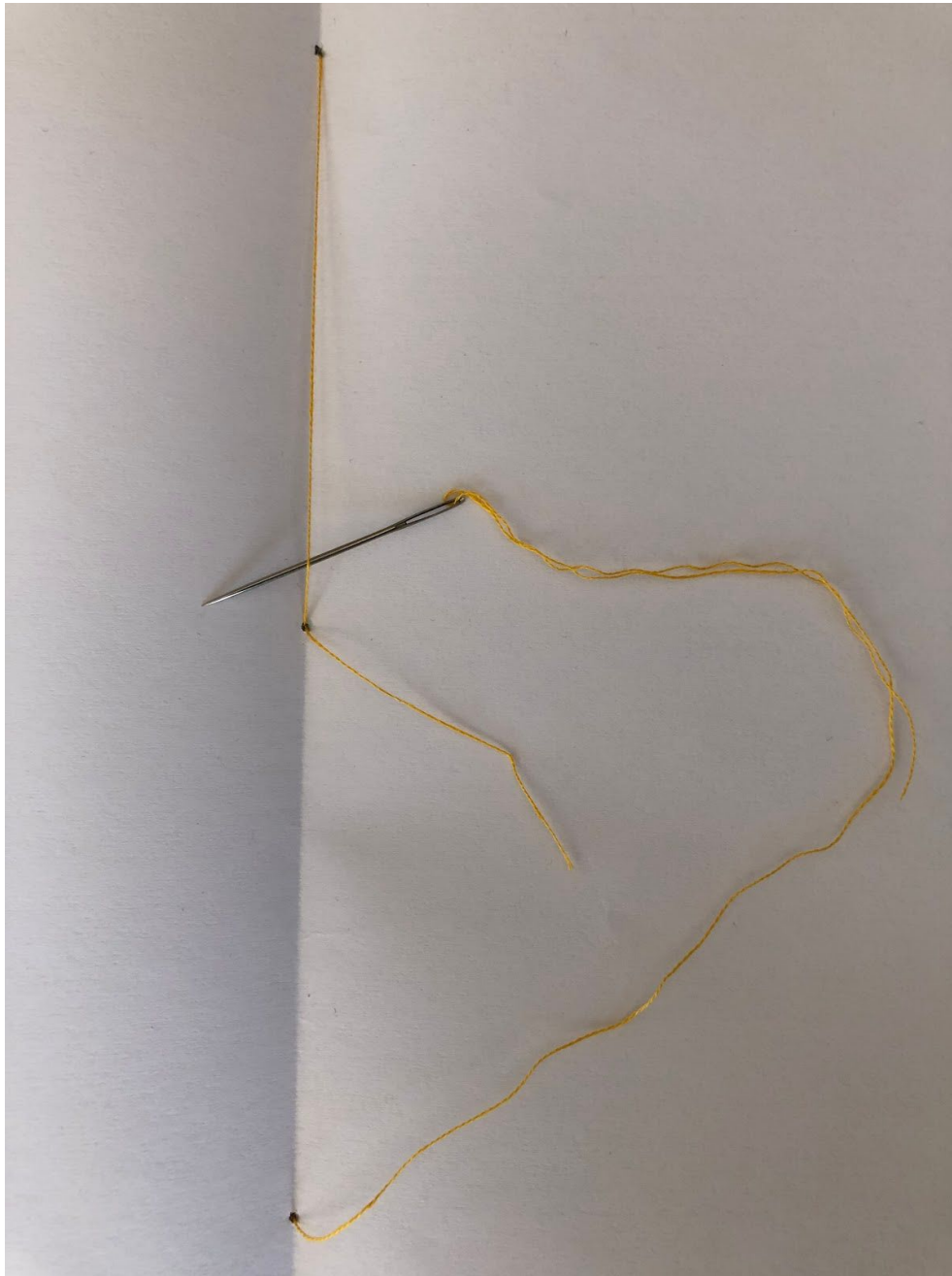
**Step 3:**

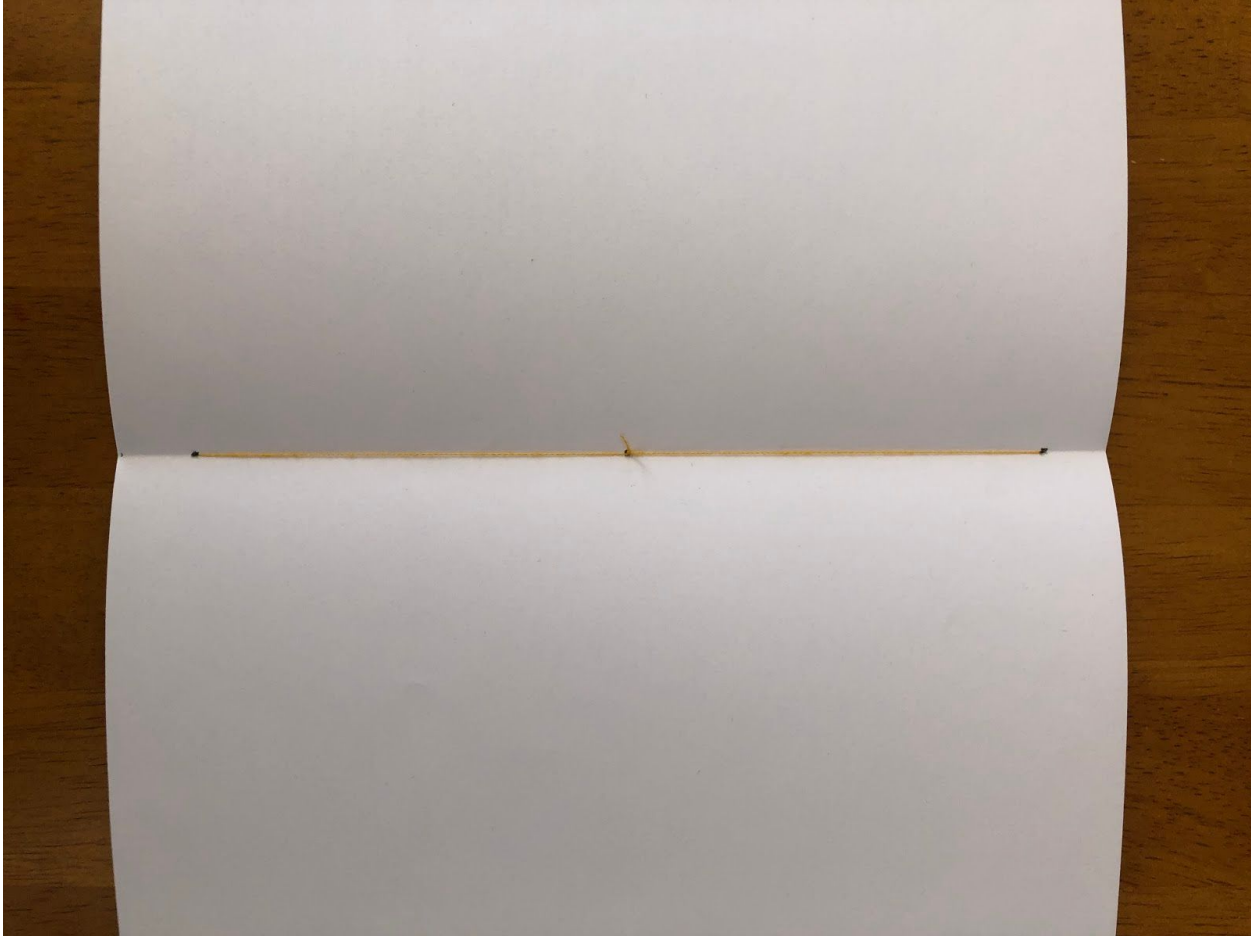
Enter the needle again into the middle hole from the inside of the notebook and pull to the outside.



**Step 4:**

Enter the needle through the hole at the bottom edge from the outside to the inside. Then put the needle underneath the upper inside stitch. Pull the thread tight while holding the end of the string and knot the ends together and cut the ends of the thread short.





## Finishing the Notebook

Fold the cover edges so that they match or extend the white pages by  $\frac{1}{8}$ ". If you want you can cut the edges as marked in the picture below. Decorate the cover of your notebook as desired.

