

Concertina Sketchbooks and Sketch-Walking: How to Guide by

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To make a concertina sketch-book, you will need:

Glue stick

Cardboard for the cover (eg a cereal box)

Scissors

Old non-glossy papers (eg old envelopes, old letters or junk mail)

Method:

Cut a cover from card, make it large enough to fold in half to make a front and back. A good size when folded is about 10cm x 12cm.

Cut papers so that their height fits within the cover. They can be any width.

Glue one paper to the next equivalent to about 6 to 10 times the cover's width.

Glue the left edge of the long paper into the nearest inside edge of the book's cover. Face the cover patterned side inwards so that you can add a title to the plain outside.

Folding back and forth in a concertina style, create pages which fit within your book until the strip of paper is used up.



For the sketch-walking, you will need:

A concertina sketch-book (or any other sketch book for that matter!)

About 3 mark-making implements (eg pencils, pens, paints with brush and water, charcoal, or crayons). Restricting the palette to about 3 colours can not only produce a better effect, but also be less to manage whilst out walking.

A shoulder bag or garment with big pockets can be useful for reaching into for mark-makers without having to bend down too much.

Choose a dry day that's not too windy. Consider footwear and dress appropriately for the weather. Keep to marked paths and consider your safety.

Set off and when you spot something that catches your eye, stop for a few minutes and sketch it. Often people produce their best work when working swiftly and intuitively. The more frequently you draw, the better your drawing will become.



If you don't have time to make a concertina book, or prefer to fill a sketchbook instead, consider dividing your page into smaller windows to capture a journey.



Happy sketch-walking!

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