

make it mini

Traveller's Notebooks—not just for travel anymore!

BY LAYLE KONCAR

In a nutshell, a traveller's notebook is a system of refillable notebooks consisting of a simple cover with elastic bands that holds paper notebooks inside. I LOVE using a traveller's notebook for just about everything and anything: note taking, list making, planning, sketching, bullet journaling, memory keeping, etc. I could go on and on! One thing that I love is that they're totally customizable so you can easily make them fit your purpose. With so many choices of sizes, covers, and inserts, you can truly make your notebook your very own. Best of all, they're portable and small enough to take with you on the go so you can create any place or any time!

MINI SIZE:

5½ x 9



hello fall

supplies PATTERNED PAPER, DIE CUT SHAPES, STICKERS: Carta Bella Paper; STAMPS: Andy Kay Art, Kerri Bradford; INK: Ranger Industries; ENAMEL DOTS, LETTER STICKERS, NOTEBOOK: Doodlebug Design; TRIM: Hobby Lobby; NOTEBOOK INSERTS: Carpe Diem; ADHESIVE: Therm O Web

GETTING STARTED

I like to use patterned paper to create a slipcover for my traveller's notebook inserts (more simply put—a paper notebook) to customize and personalize the look and theme of my notebook. It reminds me of grade school when we would cover our textbooks with a brown paper grocery bag!

- ✓ **MAKE IT TIP: Dress it up!** When I start working with a new traveller's notebook, my favourite thing to do is decorate the interior pockets using 3 x 4 cards, stickers, and die cut shapes. This is a super quick way to add colour and excitement as well as a great opportunity to convey the theme for the notebook. Pop dots are essential when decorating the pockets to give some lift and dimension.
- ✓ **MAKE IT TIP: Tack it down.** Use a bit of strategically placed adhesive to tack the pieces down to the cover so they stay in place.
- ✓ **MAKE IT TIP: Add a snazzy pen!** If you're on the go, you'll always have a pen with your traveller's notebook. Invest in a cute one that matches the rest of the theme.



✓ **MAKE IT TIP: Mix it up with your inserts!**
I combine lists, photos, journaling, and even my monthly calendar. The best thing about a traveller's notebook is that I can keep everything together in one place.

✓ **MAKE IT TIP: Make colour coordination simple!** Let your paper collections guide your colour choices. Choose seasonally appropriate palettes for different seasons in your notebook.

✓ **MAKE IT TIP: Get interactive.** Don't be afraid to incorporate some of your favourite mini book techniques in your inserts! In mine, I've created a waterfall of cards and photos using washi tape to get the most out of the space on the page.



✓ **MAKE IT TIP: GO BIG!** When it comes to adding photos to my traveller's notebooks, I love to print larger sizes for maximum impact. Whether a single large photo or a large photo block made up of smaller photos, the bigger the photo, the better!



Get more creative ideas from Layle by visiting her website laylebyemail.com