

Paper Miniatures: Esoteric Tomes

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This is a collection of paper miniatures of books in two different sizes, intended for use with 25mm to 30mm miniatures. There is a selection of covers, including some blank covers to create your own designs, and ample supply of filler pages. I recommend printing the following page out on cardstock for sturdiness, but these should assemble correctly from plain paper as well. To add your own titles, simply write them carefully on the cover in permanent marker before assembling the book. Pages can be customized as desired as well. These books can be used as "set dressing" for your miniatures, to represent important knowledge or treasure tomes, or even as a "goal" for war games or skirmishes. Imagine having a skeletal horde attacking a medieval castle for possession of an ancient and powerful magic book!

Cut out the desired covers first, leaving a bit of white on the top and bottom of each. Fold the covers along the gray lines that stick out from the top and bottom, and afterward trim off the excess white. To make thinner volumes fold along the right hand line and then fold again at the desired thickness, you may need to trim the back or bottom part of the cover even with the front cover. Covers can also be distressed, torn, or burned as desired – just be careful and be sure a responsible adult is present.

Cut out one of the correct size page strips for your cover. These should be cut along the outside gray lines. Fold the page strip accordion style, alternating the direction of the fold with each square. Once you reach the desired thickness, cut the stack of pages off along the gray line. Each strip of pages may make as many as three books depending on the thickness of the paper you are using.

To make a book that can be opened as desired simply glue one side of the accordion pages together and then glue the outside ends into the inside of the book cover. Special printed pages have been provided for open books, just glue the blank side of these pages together. If you wish, try printing the pages on different types or colors of paper, or use a wet tea bag to stain or age the pages as desired.

To make a sturdier closed book, put glue on both sides of the accordion pages and stick them together in a stack, then glue them into the inside of the book cover. The glue step can be messy, and you will probably want to find a small weight to place on the pages and/or the completed book while the glue dries. White glue should work well for this project, but I recommend glue sticks as easier to use.

