



Joe Rotella

## Scene in a Book

Bring a book to life by building a scene inside its open pages! [Proxxon](#) tools make it easy to build a “platform” as a base to bring your imagination to life.

### Materials

Hardcover book, where covers extend beyond the pages by 1/8”  
 1/8” Birch with a square corner  
 Hot glue sticks  
 Matte medium  
 1/2” thick Styrofoam sheet  
[1/2” Scor-Tape](#) double sided adhesive tape  
 Designer paper (for the back drop)

Brushes, paint, miniatures, moss, etc. to construct your scene. You can easily make a tree by coating the tips of a twig with green flock.

### Tools

Clamps  
 Pencil  
 Scrap paper  
 Hot glue gun  
 Scissors

[Proxxon MICRO Bandsaw MBS/E](#)  
[Proxxon Hot Wire Cutter THERMOCUT 115/E](#) (Bench Top)  
[Hot Wire Cutter THERMOCUT 12/E](#) (Handheld)



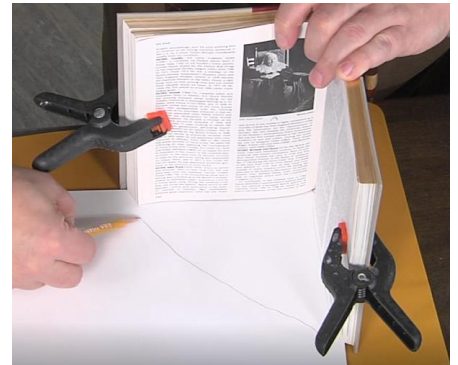
# Instructions

*\*Always wear safety goggles when working with tools and follow the manufacturer's instructions.*

1. Open the book to the center (so there's an equal number of pages on both sides) and clamp the pages to the covers.
2. Place the corner of the 1/8" birch in to the corner of the open book, so the pages rest on top of it. Close the covers of the book tight against the edges of the birch. Use the pencil to draw an arc on the birch between the front cover corners.
3. Use the bandsaw to cut the birch piece along the arc, making a "pie shaped" piece. Trim off about 1" from the corner of the piece so it fits better against the spine of the opened book. Be sure to wear safety goggles when operating the saw.



4. Place a piece of scrap paper on top of the birch. Nestle the birch piece (with the scrap paper on top) inside the opened book. Using the pencil to trace along one side of the curved pages, into the spine area, and then along the curved pages on the other side. This will give you a template for your Styrofoam base. Roughly trace the arc on to the paper as well, making sure it is just slightly larger than the wood base. Cut out the paper template with scissors.
5. Use hot glue to adhere the open book to the birch "pie shape."
6. Paint the edges of the book pages with matte medium. Try to fan the pages as you apply the medium so you get some between the pages as well. Let this dry well.



7. Cut the designer paper to fit the two sides of the book. Adhere the paper to the open pages using the double-sided adhesive tape.
8. Trace the paper template on to the foam sheet. Use the bench top hot wire cutter to cut the foam out following the pattern you traced. Fit the foam in to the book, mark any adjustments that need to be made, and trim it accordingly. Don't worry about the edge along the arc. Focus on the fit against the pages. It's important that the fit is nice and snug.
9. Adhere the foam to the birch base using double-sided adhesive tape.
10. Lay the book on a side and use the handheld hot wire cutter to trim the foam along the contour of the arc of the wood base. The hot wire can easily follow along the wood edge, so the edges match perfectly.
11. Use the hot wire cutters to make decorations for your scene. You can create small buildings, bridges, tombstones, etc. Paint the decorations as you like.



12. Build a scene on the foam base. You might want to start with a layer of moss and then add your decorations. Remember to cover the front edge (the 1/2" foam edge and birch base) as well, for a more finished look.