

Magnetic Personality

The look of this magnet board is only limited by you and your favorite fabric, which is great news! After you've wrapped up this little project, be sure to zip forward to the next project so that you can make some fun magnets to go on your new board. Everyone will admire your attractive homemade goods.

Supplies

FABRIC

2 pieces of light- to medium-weight fabric (at least 2" larger, in width and height, than your foam core)

Thin, flat sheet metal. (The metal has to be magnetic, such as zinc-coated steel or galvanized flashing, which can be found at home improvement stores.)

Tin snips (if you buy the metal sheeting larger than you need)

Foam core (at least 1" larger, in width and height, than your sheet metal)

Craft knife

Duct tape

Fabric scissors

Yardstick

Spray adhesive

Ribbon, about 3 yards

Hand-sewing needle

MY COLOR NOTES

Because this fabric will be the background for the pictures and items you post on it, I went with a smaller and finer print that won't distract too much. I also kept in mind how the fabric would look with black-and-white as well as color photos of loved ones. Everyone looks good in pink! For the ribbons, I chose a complementary color and pattern.

- 1 When you purchase the metal sheeting, you may want to have some magnets handy to be sure you are getting magnetic metal (aluminum and stainless steel are not). Determine the size you want for your metal board, and the rest of the material measurements will follow this size.
- 2 Cut your foam core with a craft knife to be longer and wider than your sheet metal by 1" on each side.
- 3 Spray some adhesive on one side of your metal, and immediately center it on the foam core and press firmly all over. You'll want to do this outside and possibly with a protective mask to avoid inhaling the fumes.
- 4 Starting at one corner and going toward the opposite corner, layer duct tape over the edge of the metal by no more than a 1/2" and wrap it around to the back. Press firmly on both sides. Repeat this on all four sides of the board, and set it aside.
- 5 Measure and cut both your front piece and your back piece of fabric to be 2" longer in each direction than your foam core.
- 6 Cut six lengths of ribbon at about 18" each.
- 7 Lay two ribbons side by side at either side of the center point of the fabric top, aligning edges and *right* sides together. Pin them in place and then do the same with the other two pairs of ribbon, an equal distance from the center ribbon, wherever you desire, but at least 2" or 3" from the sides.
- 8 Sew the ribbons to the fabric with a 1/2" seam allowance, reversing over the ribbons at least once to secure them well.



9 Pin together *right* sides of the fabric, letting the ribbons lie in between, and avoid pinning the loose ends anywhere else. Leave either the right or left side of the fabric rectangles open.

10 Sew the top, one side, and bottom together at a 5/8" seam allowance and with a short stitch length.

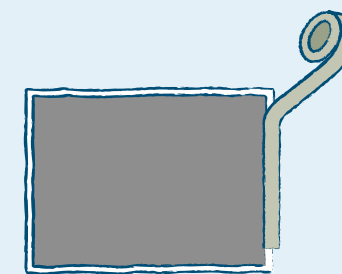
11 Clip the two corners that are sewn and turn them *right* side out, poking out the corners neatly.

12 Press all the sewn edges with an iron, invert the open end 5/8" inward, and press a crease.

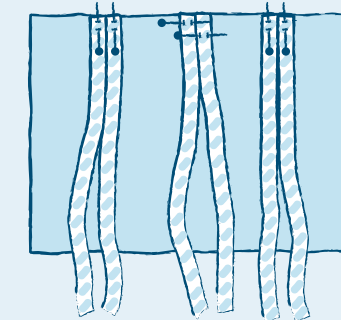
13 Now slide your metal board into the opening with the metal side facing the front piece of fabric.

14 Blind-stitch the opening by hand to close it.

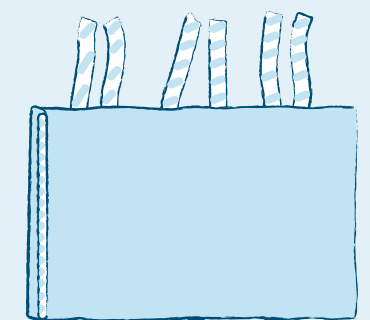
15 Tie the ribbons into bows or knots for hanging. You may need to redo this once you hang it to get it level, and then you can trim your ribbons to a desired length.



Step 4



Step 7



Step 12