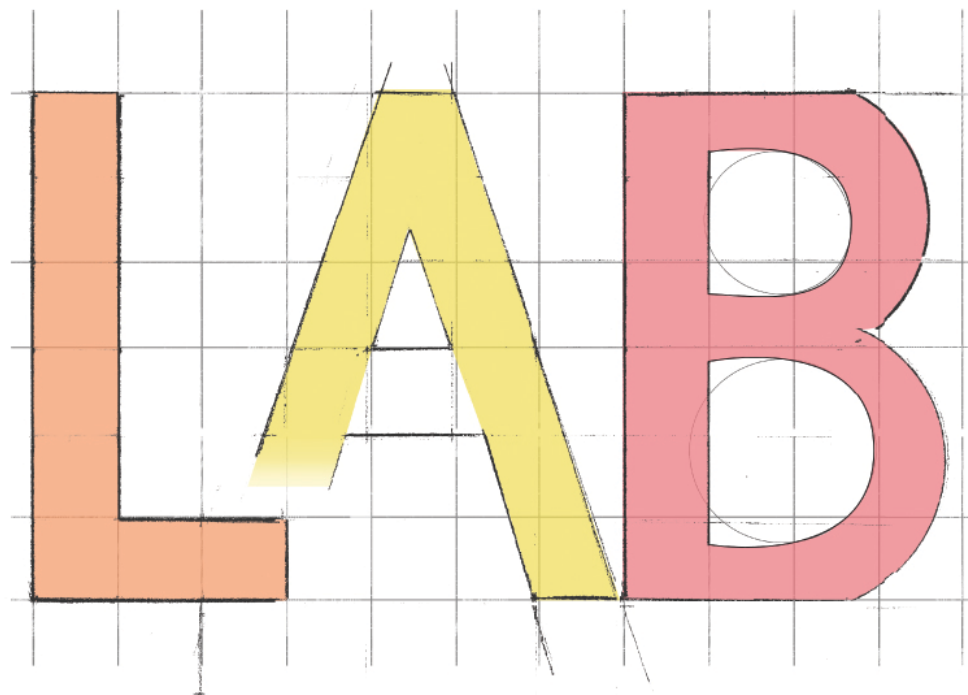


TEXTILE
DESIGN





Greetings! My name is Naila Malik and I am delighted to be February's Textile Design Lab Expert. I have worked in the fashion industry for several years designing all kinds of textile prints in-house and as a design bureau for childrenswear, womenswear, menswear, lingerie, corporate wear and many other areas. I have also been a course leader and lecturer in fashion and textiles. At the moment I am a freelance textile designer developing pattern collections and sell my artwork online through several galleries. Pattern, print and color have always been a part of my life and I am passionate about good design.

Over the years I have picked up useful tips and methods for creating sketch books and would like to share some of them with you today. I hope you will find this tutorial helpful and it inspires you in creating ideas and developing eye-catching sketch books whether you are new to the textile design field or a professional designer.

CREATIVE SKETCHBOOKS

The goal of this tutorial is to show you how to display your textile ideas and research in a creative and eye-catching formula

WHY DO WE USE SKETCHBOOKS?

Sketchbooks are a diary for the visually inclined. They are a place where artists can most comfortably explore their personal thoughts, work out their visual needs, practice, maintain a visual history, and capture unpolished concepts for the future.

A textile designer's sketchbook is any kind of book with blank pages which is used to keep a visual record of observations, plans for future projects, ideas, themes and collections which they are interested and inspired by. A sketchbook can be a paper notebook or a digital iPad, the form is less important than the function.

THE BENEFITS OF KEEPING A SKETCHBOOK

- Ideas are displayed in a way that is inspiring
- Easy to read
- Easy to access to when needed
- Refer to as reference
- Organized then saves time
- Safe record of your work
- Easy to share



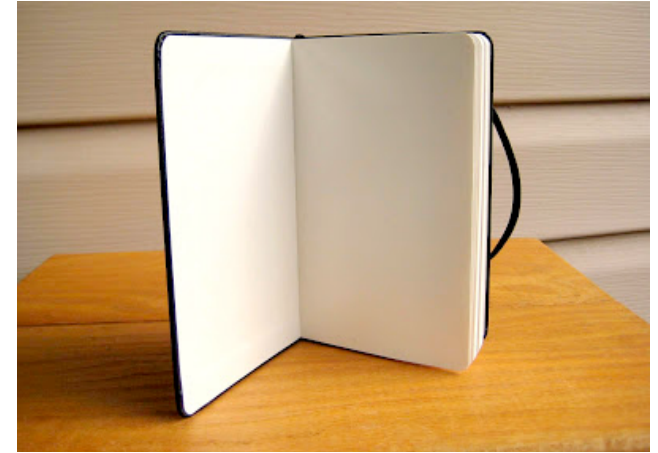
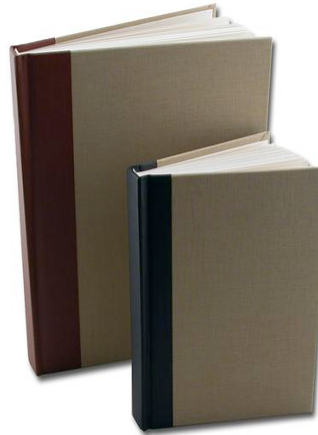
GETTING STARTED

The first step is to carefully think about what book best suits your lifestyle. It must be comfortable in size and practical for how you like to work. For example, you may prefer to create a digital sketchbook which you can easily access on an iPad.

Often we stumble on the correct type of book so keep your eyes open to new options when visiting art supply or bookstores. Sometimes the smallest details, such as paperweight, texture or paper color can have an impact on the type of book we prefer.

Try experimenting with old books or recycled sketchbooks with faded text, pictures or maps. Have a go at adding washes over the existing text or collage on top of the pages. Have fun experiment with the process.

GETTING STARTED



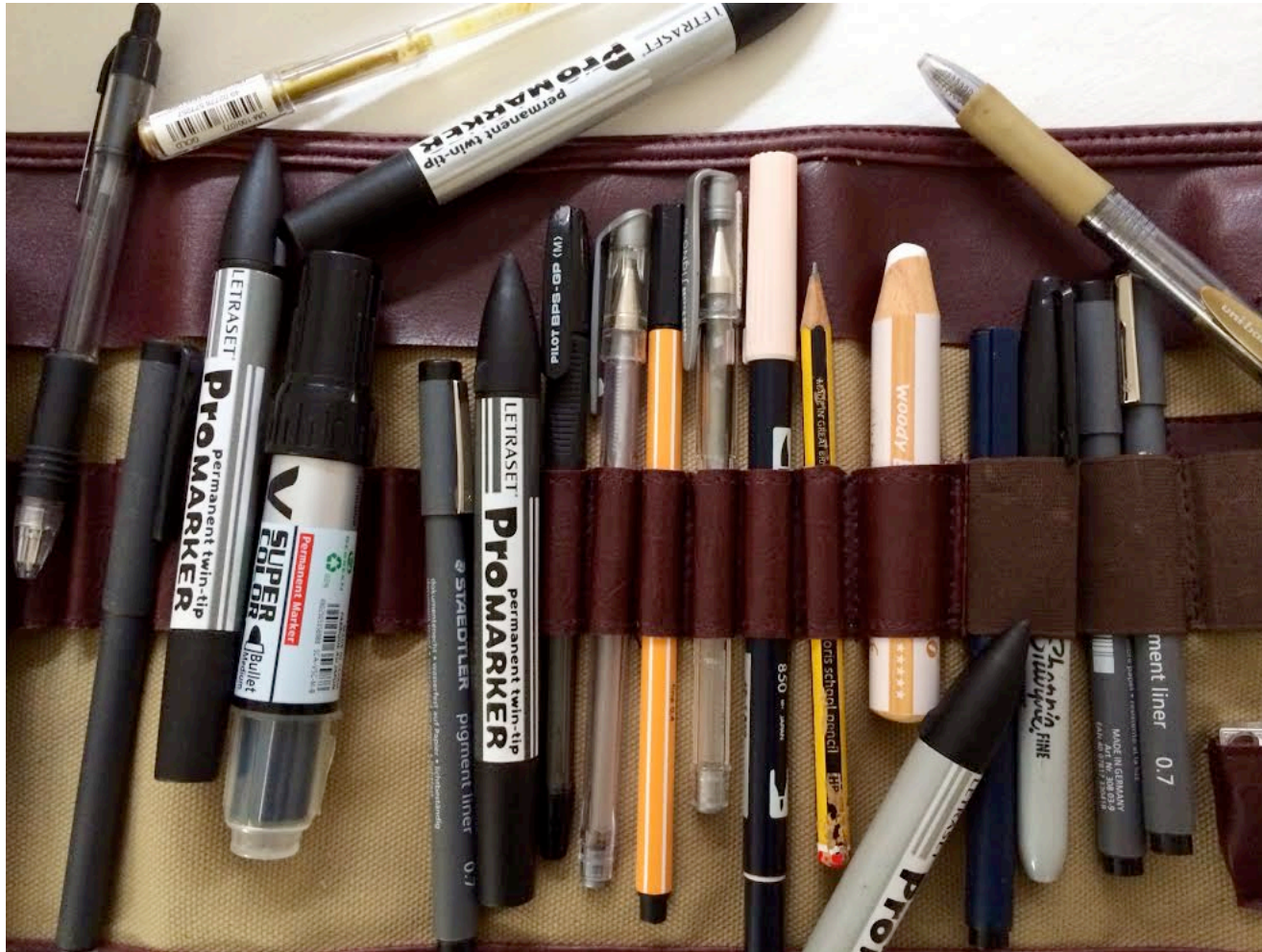
What type of sketchbook best suits your lifestyle?

CHOOSING YOUR TOOLS

The next step is to choose a variety of tools and materials that you enjoy working with. I myself have favorite fine liners that I find great for jotting down notes quickly and sketching ideas when I'm at exhibitions and museums. When I have more time in my studio I then expand upon these sketches adding color and details.

For drawings and sketches, a pencil or fine liner tend to be the most popular especially because they are easy to carry around. Pastels and charcoals are fabulous, but are not always practical. Depending on your process, quick drying marker pens are often a great alternative.

CHOOSING YOUR TOOLS



Choose tools that are inspiring, but also practical.

GATHERING THE MATERIALS

The third step is to begin gathering materials for your sketchbook. Part of my process is to save and collect everything whilst on trips, shows, exhibitions and holidays. I place these collected items in clear plastic pockets so that I can quickly access them when the time comes to place them in my sketchbook.

Save everything and keep gathering! Tickets, postcards, exhibition tickets, stamps, color cards, old fabrics, textured papers, printed papers, brochures and interesting articles make for great additions to your sketchbook.

GATHERING THE MATERIALS

My samples of the type of things I've saved from a trip to France

Postcards

Drawings



Exhibition tickets
and leaflets

Brochures

Photographs

More sources collected from a trip to Alhambra Palace Gardens (Spain)

Decorative bookmark

Brochures, leaflets and books



Design
inspiration

Photos

Postcards

Color references

EXHIBITION INSPIRATION

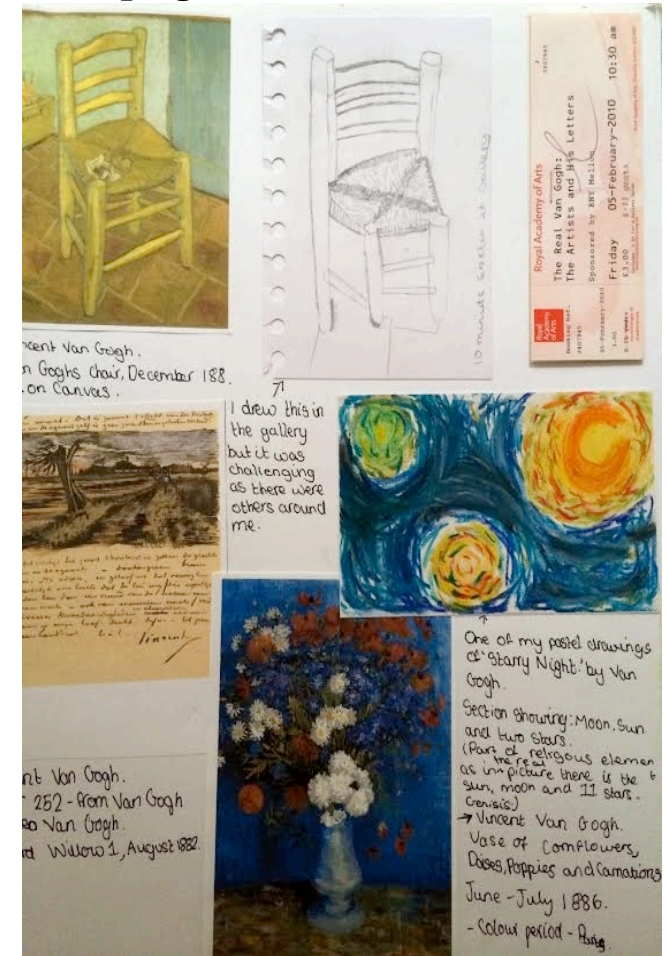
Postcards



Booklets and leaflets

Colour inspiration

Example of a page based on a Van Gogh (we will talk about this page later)



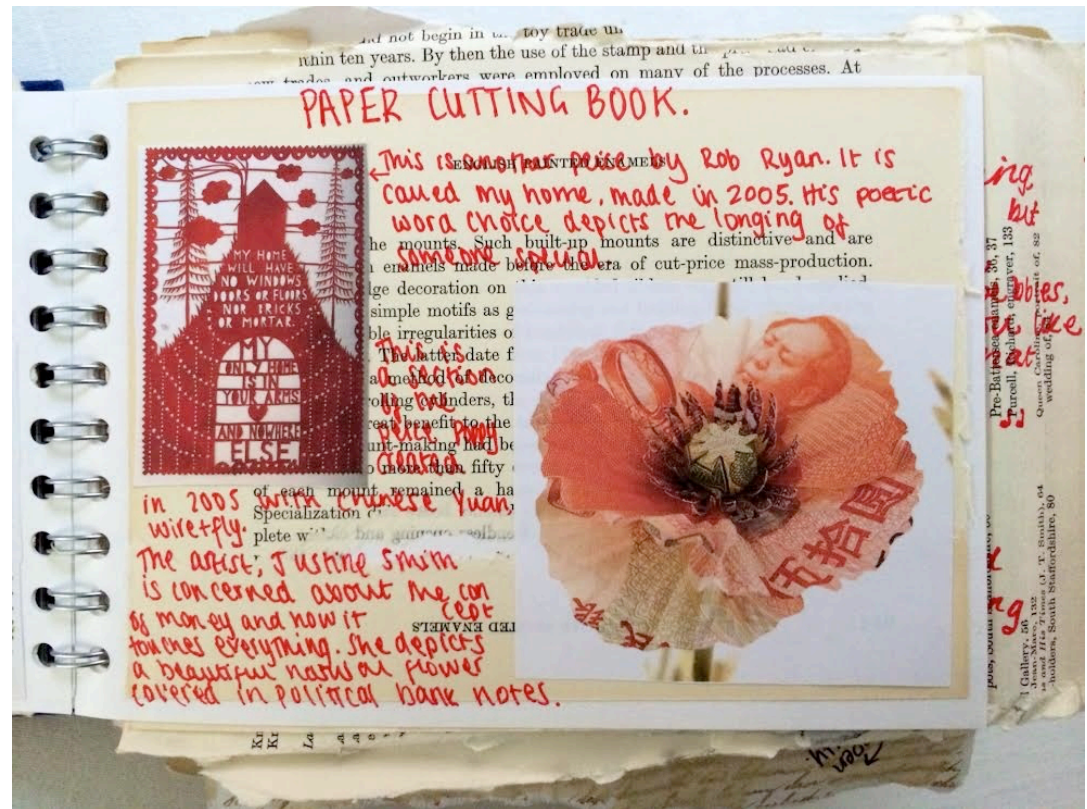
Don't forget to take photographs of things that inspire you



STARTING WITH THE BACKGROUND

Old faded newspaper background

Now that you have your materials, the six step process begins with developing the background of your sketchbook. A soft subtle background can work with the page, but be careful of anything that's too overpowering as a background. In this example the designer has incorporated elements of the artist Marc Chagall, breaking up the text and making the page more interesting.



To learn the rest of Naila's six step
formula for developing
sketchbooks that inspire her work
and those around her, join us in
[The Textile Design Lab!](#)