

# Your Basic Guide to:

# ZINES



**Created By Taira Greager**

**Use these next few blank pages to sketch, draw, brainstorm some ideas for your zines.**

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## **Zine: A small press/small circulation publication**

Zines are created using a variety of methods and are traditionally reproduced using a copier machine. Topics and themes of zines can be very broad and pretty much you can make a zine about anything. They can include writing, poems, art, collage, and illustrations.

The best thing about zines is anyone can make them!



# A Brief History of Zines:

## 1910s -20s:

In the heart of the Harlem Renaissance, starting around 1917 and leading all the way through the 1920s, there were small publishings called little magazines. Little magazines featured a variety of writings such as poetry, prose, essays of radicalism, experimental writing, space for subversion, and critiques of white culture. These magazines were either produced by individuals or creative groups who highlighted smaller voices amongst the powerhouses of black literature. Little magazines were distributed locally, but some were spread nationally.

## 1930s

Science fiction communities began publishing Fanzines, short for Fan Magazine. Before the internet, this is how fandoms would create networks, share ideas, analyze and collaborate on writings.

## 1950s-60s

Counterculture in association with the Beat Generation created an underground press for artists, writers, and poets looking to have a voice outside of the mainstream media.

# ZINE PROMPT: Make a Perzine

## Idea list for your Perzine:

- A trip you took.
- An experience you had.
- What did I do during quarantine?
- What are my favorite things?
- What is my identity made of?
- What is something I do?
- What did I have for breakfast?
- A funny memory.
- Random thoughts and silly things

What is something you would like to share about yourself?

# Ways to create a Perzine

## Diary Comic

Tell your story in the form of a comic

## Poetry or Writing

You don't have to draw in order to express yourself.

## Only Using images

No words just pure imagery. You can draw or collage pictures.

## A Combination of Everything!

Can't decide? Don't feel like you have to stick to one thing.

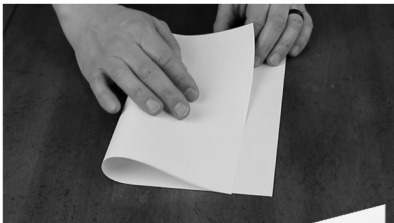
# A guide on assembling a collaborative zine

## Create Pages



**Gather the pages and photocopy them together**

**Stack the pages together and fold in half**



**Bind the zine using a stapler**



**You can even look up ways to bind zines with string.**

## 1960s-70s

Art and Literary Magazines are circled around on cheaply printed publications discussing art, politics, and culture.

## 1980s-90s

Punk zines start to rise consisting of music genres, fanzines, political tracts, aesthetics, ideals and sub culture. And then growing out of the punk movement Riot Grrrl took place by centering feminism, sex and chaos.

## ZINES TODAY!

Zines have exploded and expanded into many forms, communities, identities, and cultures. Zines have made their way around the world. There's a zine for everything and everyone. And some zines have even transcended paper and moved into the digital realm of the internet.

Leuven, Laura Van. "A Brief History of Zines." The Chapel Hill Rare Book Blog, 25 Oct. 2017, <https://blogs.lib.unc.edu/rbc/2017/10/25/a-brief-history-of-zines/>.

Jensen, Kelly. "Get to Know the Little Magazines of the Harlem Renaissance." BOOK RIOT, 5 Feb. 2019, <https://bookriot.com/harlem-renaissance-little-magazines/>.



# Types of Zines

## Political Zines

Zines discussing political ideas and events. Used by activist to spread information about certain topics like race, sexuality, gender and resistance to to higher oppression. Very popular in underground and punk scenes. These zines were often a way to spread information before the internet.

## Perzines

Or also known as personal zines. Perzines tell a narrative of the author's experiences with something or some sort of event.

## Comic Zines

Perfect for artists and comic artists to circulate their own comics without having to go through a publisher

## Fanzines

Zines that focus on a particular fandom. A lot of early fanzines were about Star Trek and Star Wars. And fun fact, this is how fan fiction was spread before the internet.

## How to Guides

Zines with instructions or showing you how to do something.

## Webzine

A zine but solely published online.

**There are many types of zines. these are just some of the more popular ones to make.**

Page 2

Page 3

Page 4

Page 5

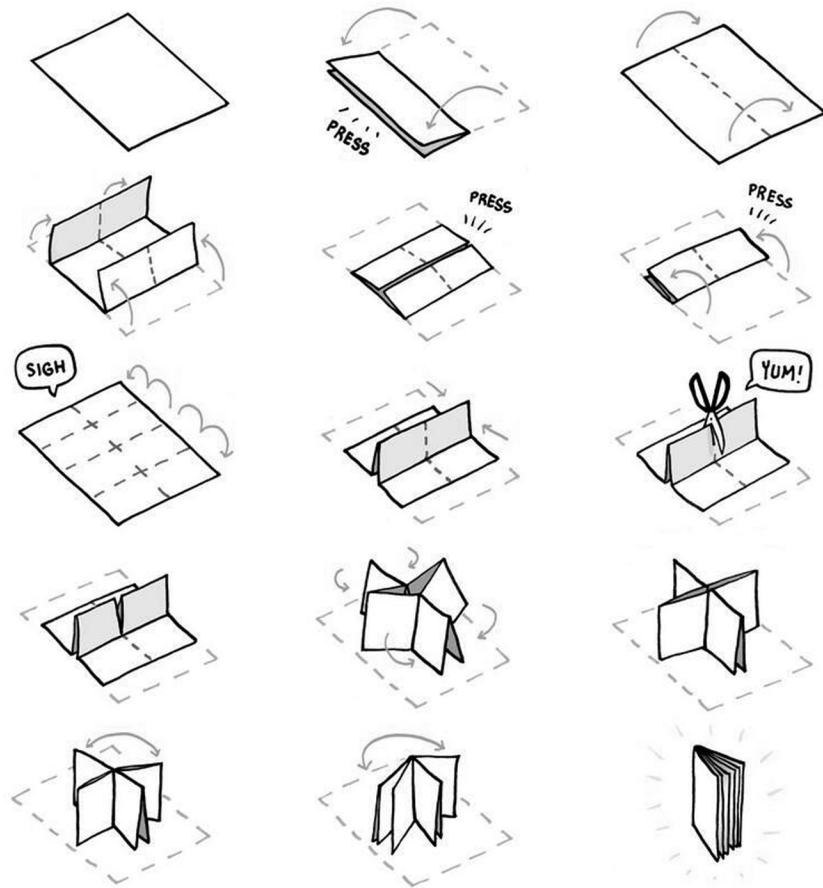
Page 1  
(front Cover)

Page 8  
(Back Cover)

Page 7

Page 6

HOW TO FOLD A  
**SHEET-O-PAPER**  
INTO A  
**8-PAGE ZINE**



**Instructions originally from Umami Design Studio**

**Next page is a format guide for if  
you want to draw out your zine flat**

## Zine formats

### 8 Page out of 1 Sheet

A technique used to create a zine only using 1 sheet of paper.

### Booklet

Created using multiple sheets of paper folded in half to create a zine. Can be bound together using staples or stitching with bookbinding thread.

### Accordion

A long continuous strip folded into a booklet.

## Printing Zines

Traditionally and most often used is the photocopier.

Although there are other creative ways to reproduce zines, like screenprinting and block printing.

Zines can also be created digitally using drawing programs like photoshop. This allows for zines to be turned into PDFs and shared digitally online.

# Individual and Collabrative

Creating zines can be a individual or a collabrative experience.

## Individual Zines

Creating zines by yourself can allow you full creative controll and let you be the sole voice for your zine.

## Collabrative Zines

But creating zines doesn't have to be a solietary activity. Zine collabration can be a great way to connect to communities that you have shared interest and identity with. A lot of zines rely on submissions from multiple people to be created.

**Now that you've learned  
about zines,  
LET MAKE ONE!**



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