

PHOTO ALBUM

Your grandparents probably have family pictures collected in photo albums. They also may have drawers or boxes filled with pictures. Here is a way to make an album to show off and protect those loose photos. Make this with your grandparents, or give it to them as a gift.

YOU'LL NEED

scissors

1 m (3 ft.) fabric, wallpaper or fancy wrapping paper

2 sturdy sheets of cardboard, 22 cm x 28 cm
(8½ in. x 11 in.)

white glue

20 sheets of black construction paper
22 cm x 28 cm (8½ in. x 11 in.)

20 sheets clear plastic, 22 cm x 28 cm
(8½ in x 11 in.), to protect the photos (optional)

a ruler

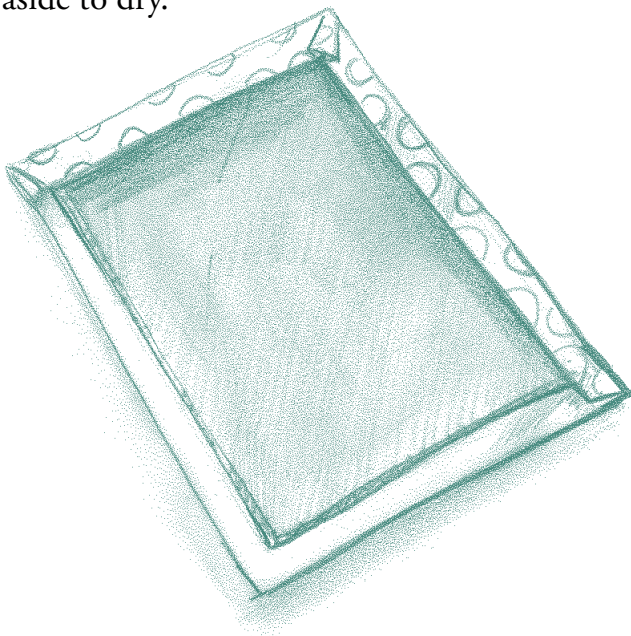
a pencil

a one-hole punch

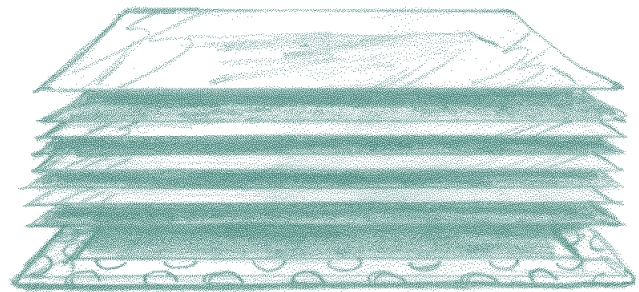
1 m (3 ft.) ribbon or shoelace



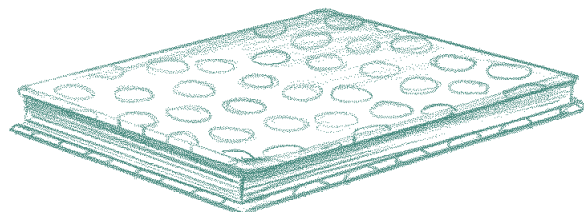
1. Cut the fabric into two rectangles, each slightly larger than your pieces of cardboard. Glue the fabric onto one side of each cardboard piece, folding it over the edges of the cardboard and smoothing it flat. Set them aside to dry.



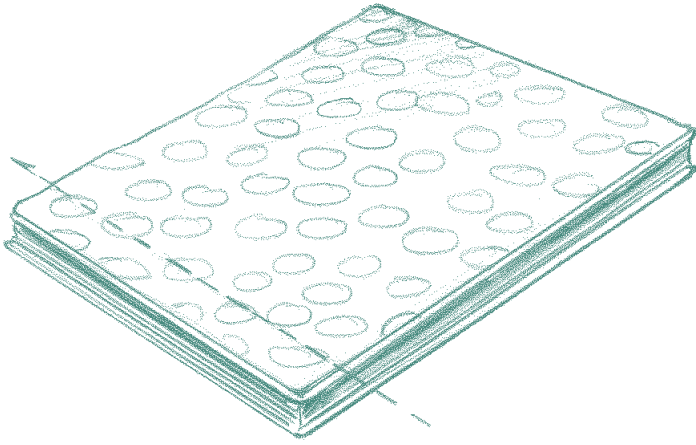
2. Make a stack of the construction paper sheets. If using plastic sheets, layer them in between the pieces of construction paper.



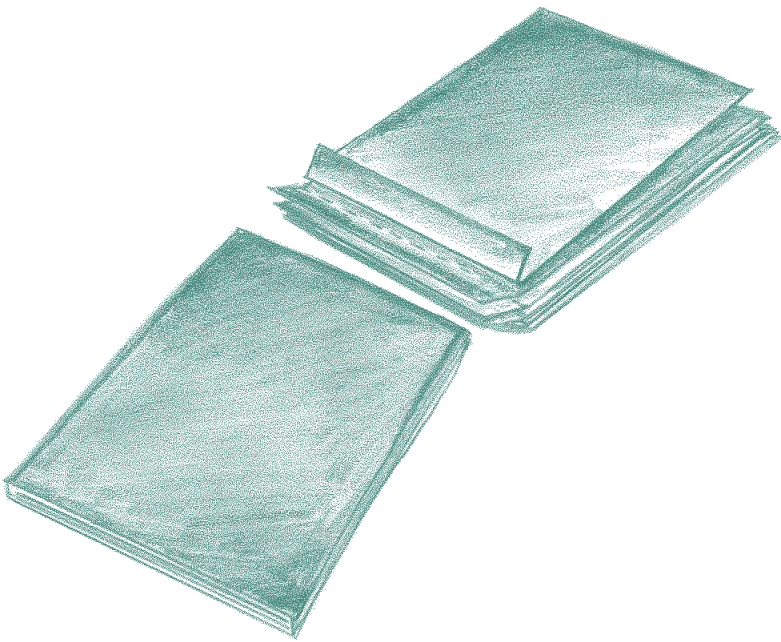
3. Place one piece of fabric-covered cardboard on top of the stack, fabric-side facing up. Place the other on the bottom, fabric-side facing down.



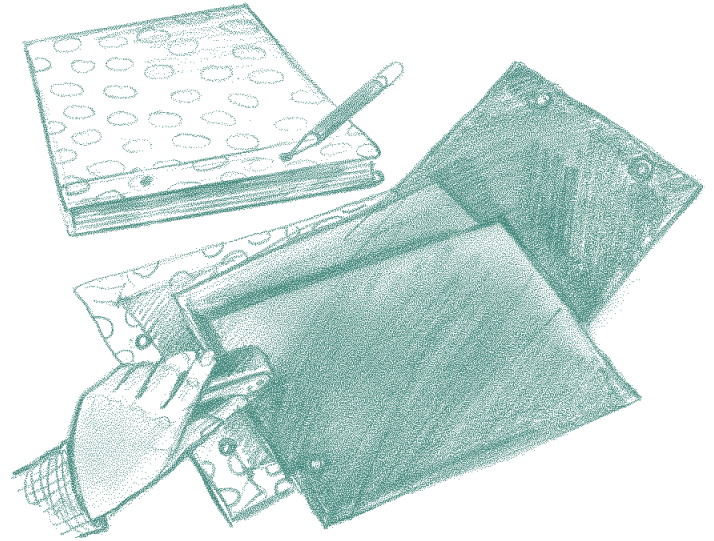
4. Straighten the stack and lay it horizontally in front of you. Measure 2.5 cm (1 in.) from the left edge of the card and make a vertical fold down the cardboard.



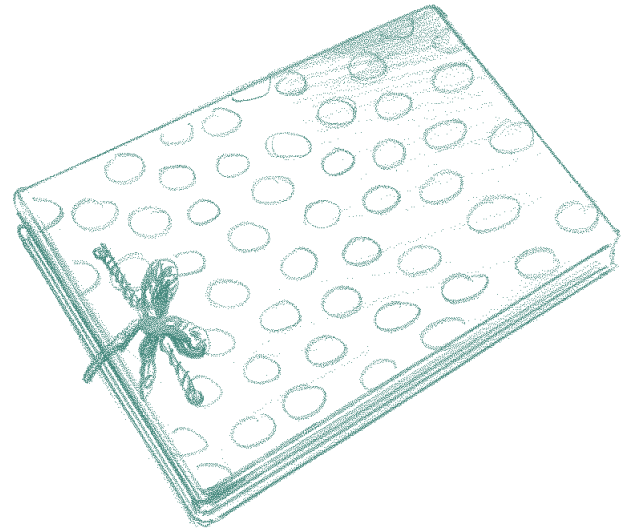
5. Make the same clean fold down every sheet of construction paper. Run the ruler along the folds to make them sharp. Open the folds and straighten the stack.



6. Mark two points down the left-hand edge of the cover. Center the points between the edge and fold line. Punch holes at those points through the covers and each sheet in the stack.



7. Thread your ribbon or shoelace through these holes and tie the ends in a bow.



8. Turn the page for ideas about how to select and display the pictures in your album.

OLD ALBUMS

Although old photo albums may be faded, they tell stories. Your forebears selected, ordered and labeled the photographs according to their own tastes and family history. Don't be tempted to spoil these family treasures by removing pictures.

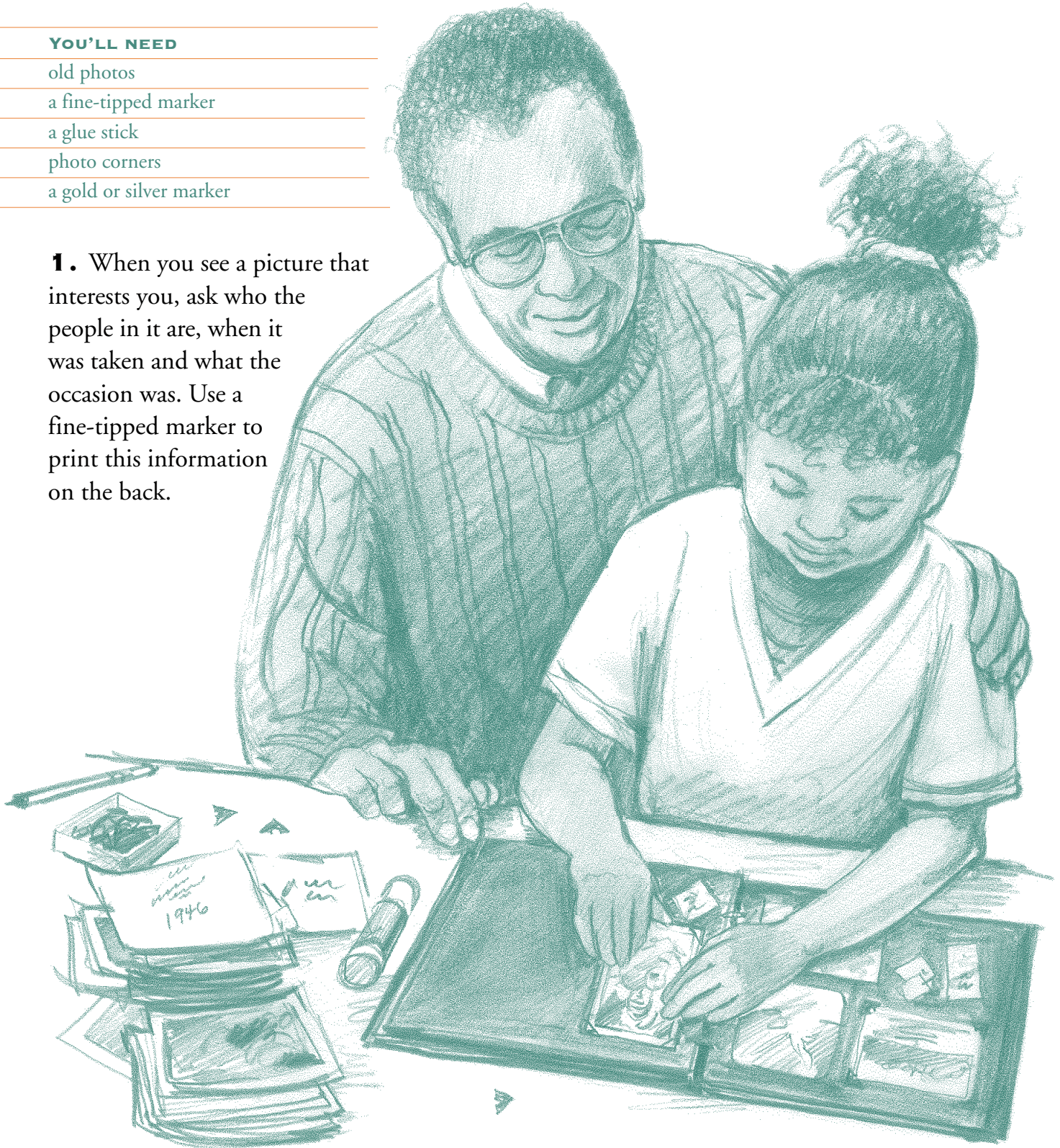
FAMILY PHOTOS

Once you have an album to display family photographs, ask your grandparents to help you select pictures to put in it.

YOU'LL NEED

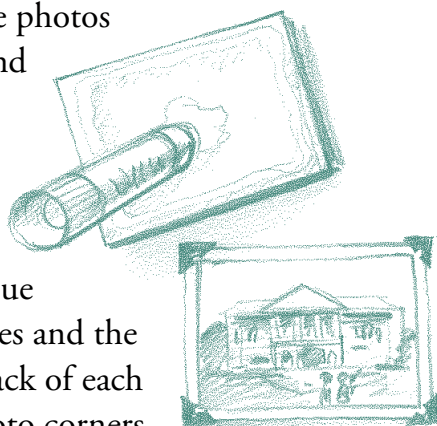
- old photos
- a fine-tipped marker
- a glue stick
- photo corners
- a gold or silver marker

1. When you see a picture that interests you, ask who the people in it are, when it was taken and what the occasion was. Use a fine-tipped marker to print this information on the back.

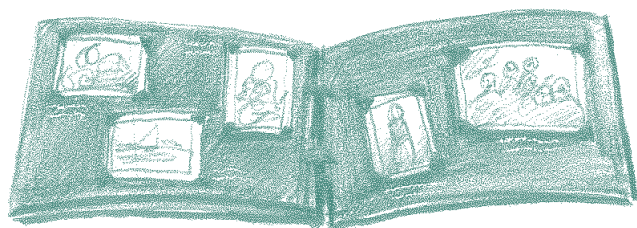


2. With your grandparents' permission, choose photos to display in the album.

3. Arrange the photos in the album and paste them in using a glue stick and photo corners. Run glue around the edges and the center of the back of each photo. The photo corners will give the older photos extra protection. Leave space around each photo so it is framed by the construction paper.



4. With a gold or silver marker, write a caption below each picture using the information you collected in step 1.



5. Make a page that shows you, your parents and your grandparents all as babies. Think of other across-the-generations pages you can create — you could use photos taken at the beach, grade school classroom pictures or ones that show you and your relatives posing with pets.

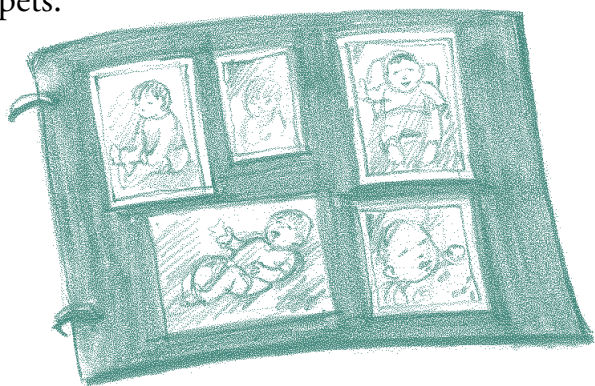


PHOTO FASHIONS

When you don't know the date of some photos, look for clues in the pictures:

- How are people posing? One hundred years ago, people posed with serious expressions. Nobody thought it proper to “say cheese.”



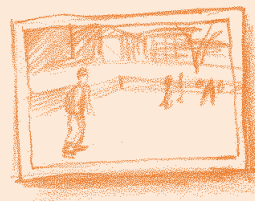
- What are people wearing? Your grandparents will know when certain fashions were popular.



- How old are the people in the picture? If your great-grandmother was a toddler in the photo and she's 92 now, then the picture is about 90 years old.



- Where was the picture taken? Ask when the family lived in or visited that place.



- Is the photo in color? Color processing was invented in 1907, but not widely available for many years.

