

Scrapbooking with Grandma

SPECIAL-FOLD CARD GUIDE

A complete collection using 8 1/2 x 11-inch cardstock

GATEFOLD	EASEL	Z-FOLD
STEP CARD	BRIDGE	POP-UP BOX
JOY FOLD	BUCKLE	WATERFALL

12 measured designs • cutting and scoring diagrams • assembly instructions •
matting suggestions

Created for Ruthy Brown's Scrapbooking with Grandma collection

Before You Begin

A few simple habits will make every fold cleaner and more dependable.

ESSENTIAL TOOLS	HELPFUL EXTRAS
Paper trimmer Scoring board + stylus Bone folder Ruler and pencil Strong double-sided tape	Low-tack tape Craft knife + cutting mat Foam adhesive Corner rounder 1/8-inch hole punch

Diagram Key

Blue dashed lines are score/fold lines. Red solid lines are cuts. Green arrows show the folding direction. All measurements are in inches.

Accuracy Checklist

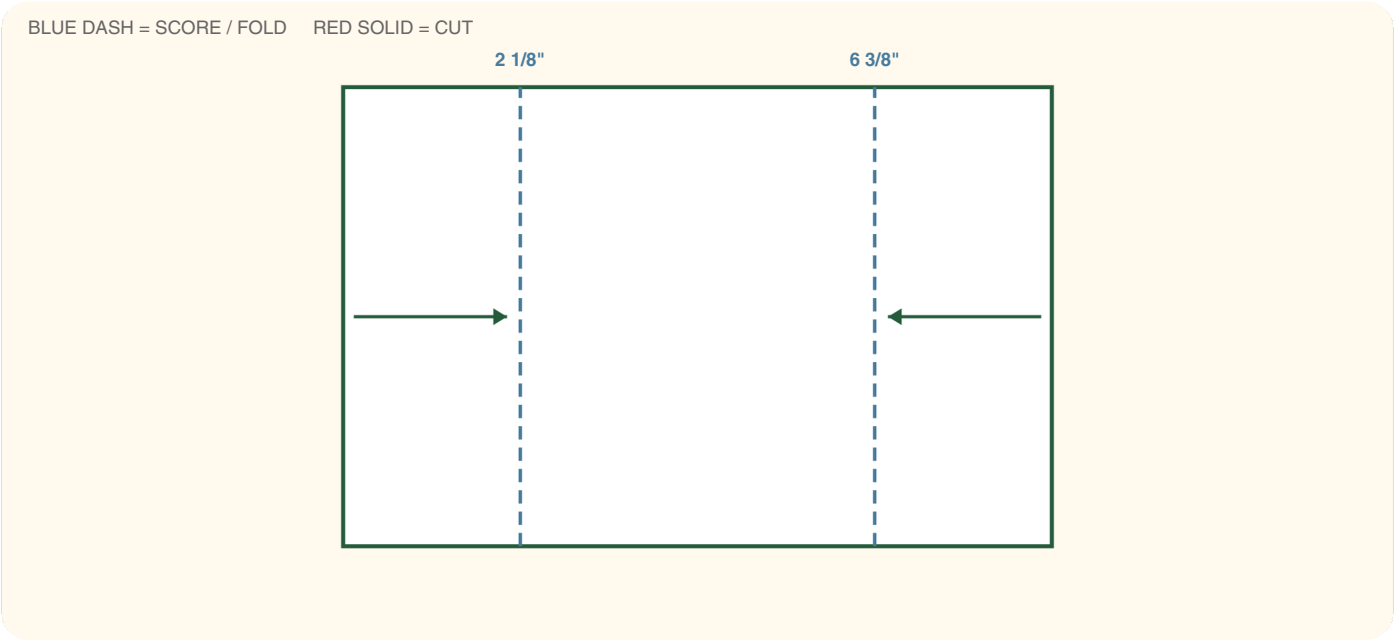
- Cut cardstock square before scoring.
- Measure every score from the same original edge; do not turn the paper unless instructed.
- Score first, then fold. Fold away from the ridge created by the scoring tool.
- Dry-fit moving parts before using strong adhesive.
- Print this PDF at Actual Size or 100 percent if you use the diagrams as visual references. The diagrams are schematic, not cutting templates.
- For mats, reduce each cardstock panel by 1/4 inch in both width and height unless a specific size is listed.

Envelope Note

Most designs collapse to A2 size (4 1/4 x 5 1/2 inches) and fit an A2 envelope. Thick embellishments, bows, and raised stoppers may require extra postage or a larger envelope.

Classic Gatefold

FINISHED SIZE	CUT PIECES
4 1/4 x 5 1/2"	• Base: 5 1/2 x 8 1/2" • Front mats: two at 1 7/8 x 5 1/4" • Inside mat: 4 x 5 1/4"



Scoring & Cutting

Score base at 2 1/8" and 6 3/8".

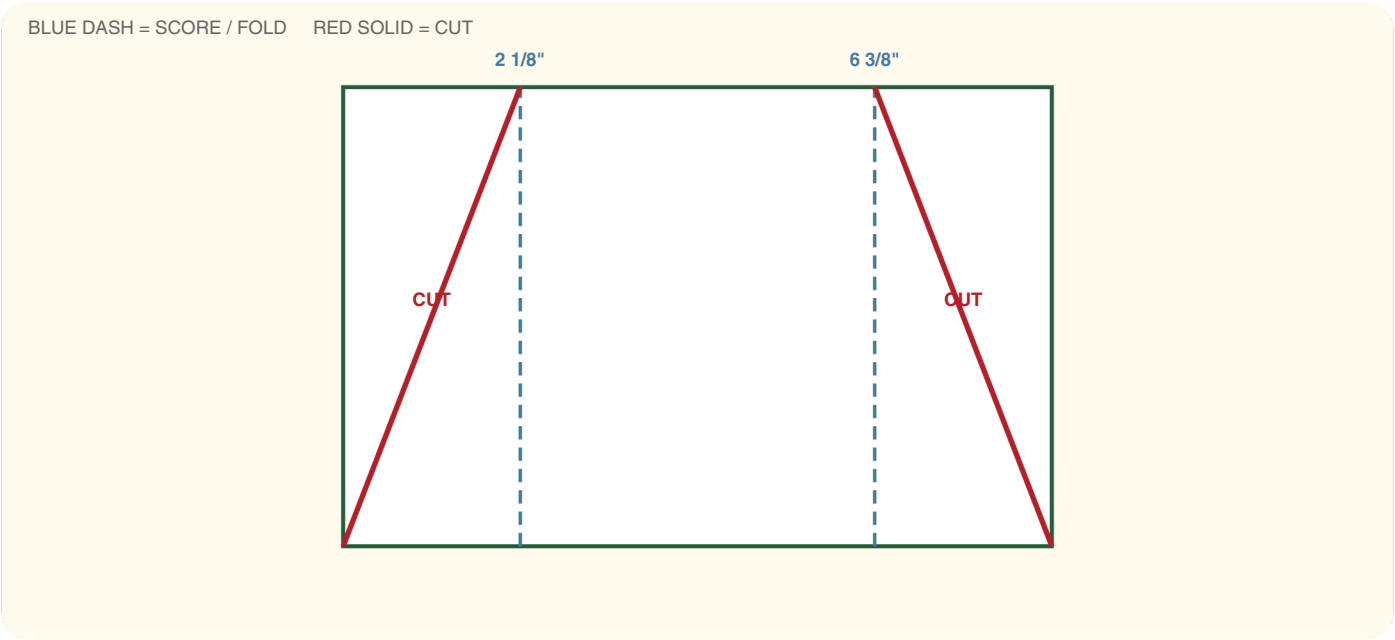
Assembly

1	Fold both outside panels inward so their edges meet neatly at center.
2	Burnish the folds, then add the two narrow front mats and the inside mat.
3	Add a belly band, ribbon, or centered embellishment; attach it to only one door so the card still opens.

GRANDMA'S TIP	Leave a hairline gap where the doors meet so decorated panels do not rub.
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Diagonal Gatefold

FINISHED SIZE	CUT PIECES
4 1/4 x 5 1/2"	• Base: 5 1/2 x 8 1/2" • Optional inside mat: 4 x 5 1/4" • Two patterned-paper triangles cut to fit



Scoring & Cutting

Score at 2 1/8" and 6 3/8". Cut from the lower outside corner to the upper score point on each side.

Assembly

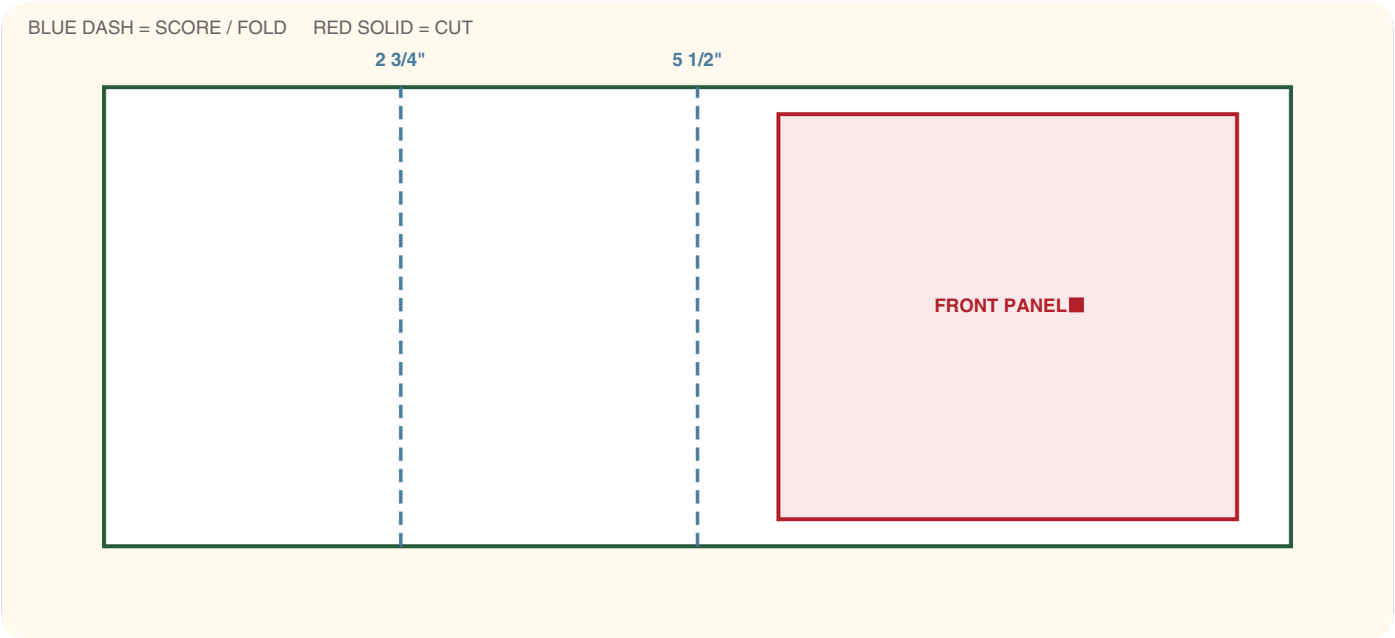
1	Make the two vertical score lines before cutting the diagonal doors.
2	Cut the left and right door diagonals as shown; fold both doors inward.
3	Decorate the triangular flaps. Close with a belly band or a layered shape attached to one flap only.

GRANDMA'S TIP

Flip one patterned-paper triangle before trimming so mirrored patterns face the same direction.

Standing Easel Card

CUT PIECES	FINISHED SIZE
4 1/4 x 5 1/2" flat	• Base: 4 1/4 x 11" • Front panel: 4 1/4 x 5 1/2" • Raised stopper: about 3/4 x 3 1/2"



Scoring & Cutting

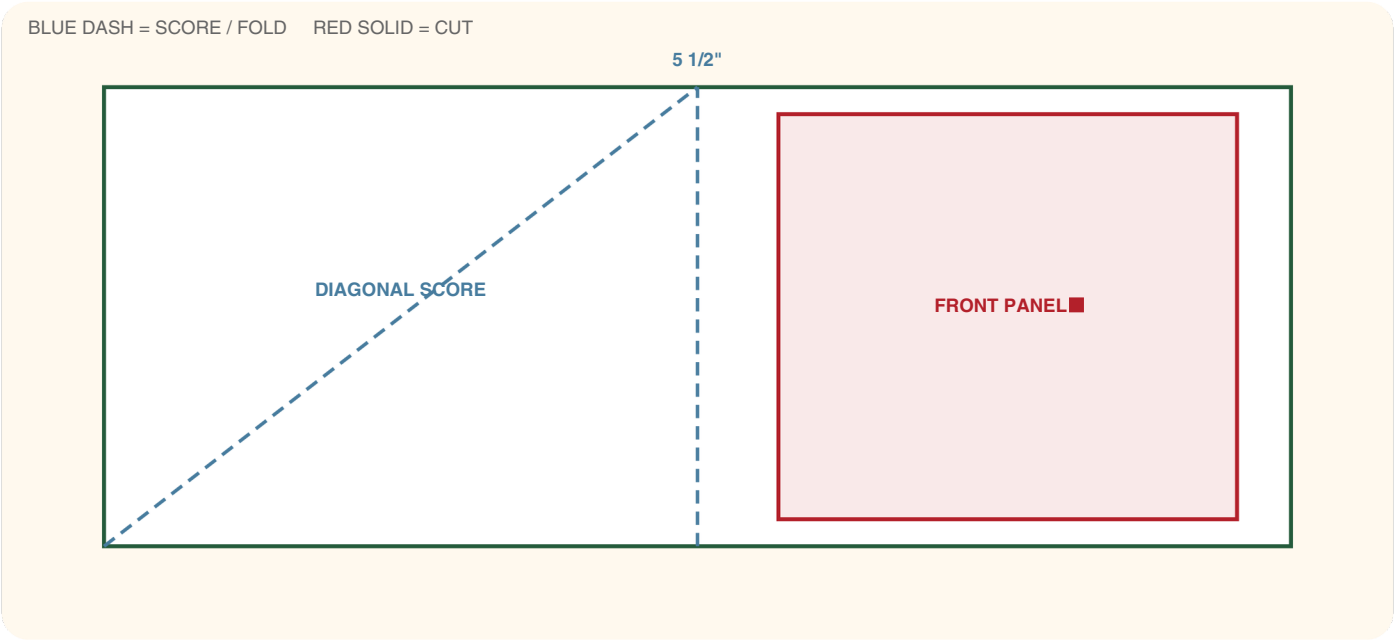
Score the base at 2 3/4" and 5 1/2".

Assembly

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 | Fold the base in half at 5 1/2", then fold the front half back at 2 3/4". |
| 2 | Adhere the separate front panel only to the lower 2 3/4" section of the folded base. |
| 3 | Inside, add a raised sentiment or layered strip to act as the stopper; tuck the front behind it to display. |
- | | |
|---------------|--|
| GRANDMA'S TIP | Use foam tape under the stopper so the easel catches securely. |
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Twisted Easel Card

FINISHED SIZE	CUT PIECES
4 1/4 x 5 1/2" flat	• Base: 4 1/4 x 8 1/2" • Front panel: 4 x 4" or 4 1/4" square • Small raised stopper



Scoring & Cutting

Score base at 4 1/4". On the left half, score diagonally from lower-left corner to the top center score.

Assembly

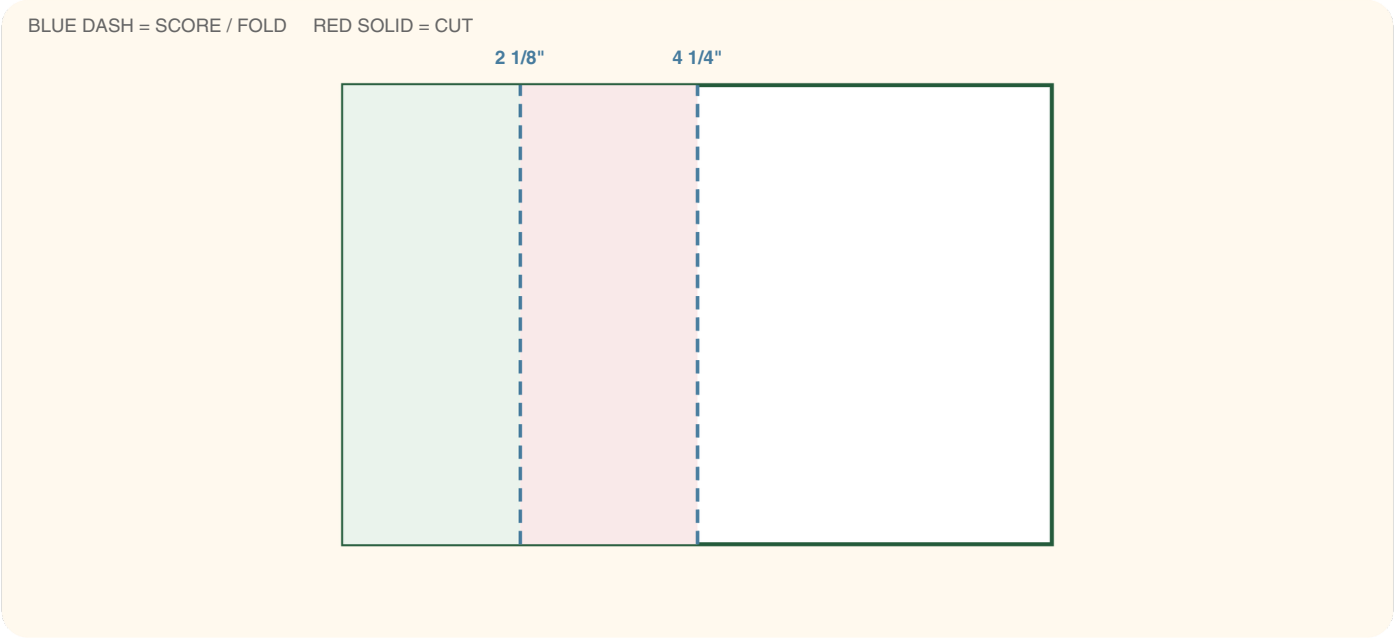
1	Fold the base at 4 1/4" like a square card. Fold and burnish the diagonal score.
2	Adhere the front panel only to the triangular section created by the diagonal fold.
3	Add a raised inside stopper so the decorated panel stands at an angle.

GRANDMA'S TIP

Before gluing, open and close the twist once to confirm the panel points in the direction you prefer.

Z-Fold Card

FINISHED SIZE	CUT PIECES
4 1/4 x 5 1/2" flat	• Base: 5 1/2 x 8 1/2" • Back mat: 4 x 5 1/4" • Two front-section mats: 1 7/8 x 5 1/4"



Scoring & Cutting

Score at 2 1/8" and 4 1/4".

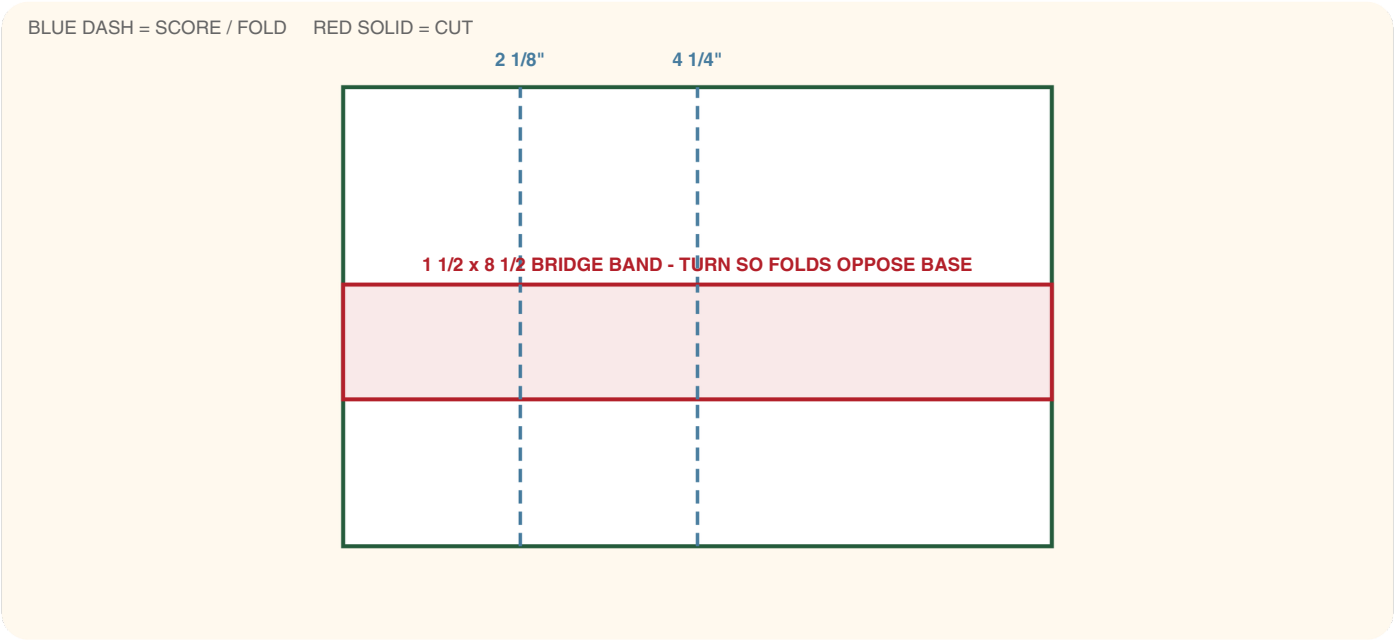
Assembly

- 1 Fold the 4 1/4" score as a mountain fold and the 2 1/8" score as a valley fold.
- 2 Decorate the back panel and both narrow sections.
- 3 Attach a focal image to the front section only, allowing it to overlap the back without being glued to it.

GRANDMA'S TIP	Keep the focal piece within the A2 outline if the card must fit a standard envelope.
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Double Z-Fold Card

FINISHED SIZE	CUT PIECES
4 1/4 x 5 1/2" flat	• Base: 5 1/2 x 8 1/2" • Bridge band: 1 1/2 x 8 1/2" • Decorative mats cut 1/4" smaller



Scoring & Cutting

Score both base and bridge band at 2 1/8" and 4 1/4".

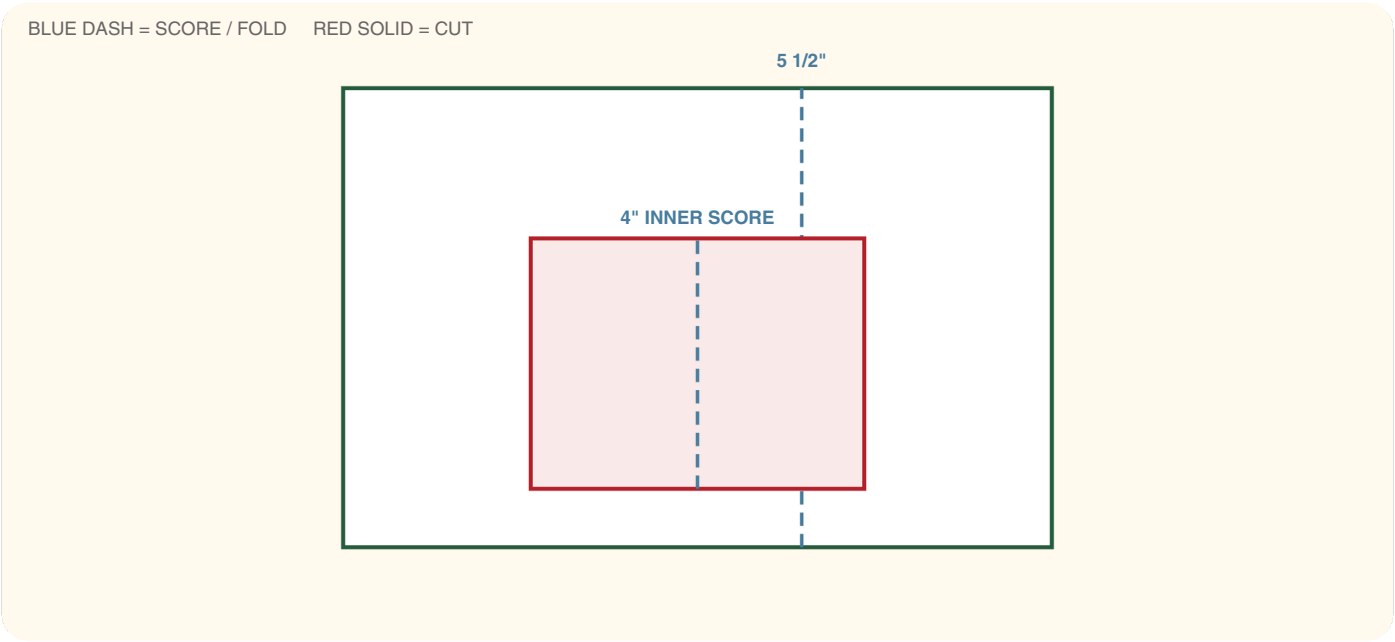
Assembly

1	Accordion-fold the main base into a Z. Fold the narrow band in the opposite direction.
2	Lay the card open and level. Adhere the band to the far-left front panel and the far-right back panel only.
3	Check that the card collapses flat before adding decorations to the band.

GRANDMA'S TIP	Mark the back of the band lightly so you do not accidentally assemble both Z folds in the same direction.
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Joy Fold Card

FINISHED SIZE	CUT PIECES
4 1/4 x 5 1/2" flat	• Outer base: 4 1/4 x 8 1/2" • Inner card: 3 x 8" • Outer front mat: 2 3/4 x 4" • Inner mats: two at 2 3/4 x 3 3/4"



Scoring & Cutting

Score outer base at 5 1/2". Score inner card at 4".

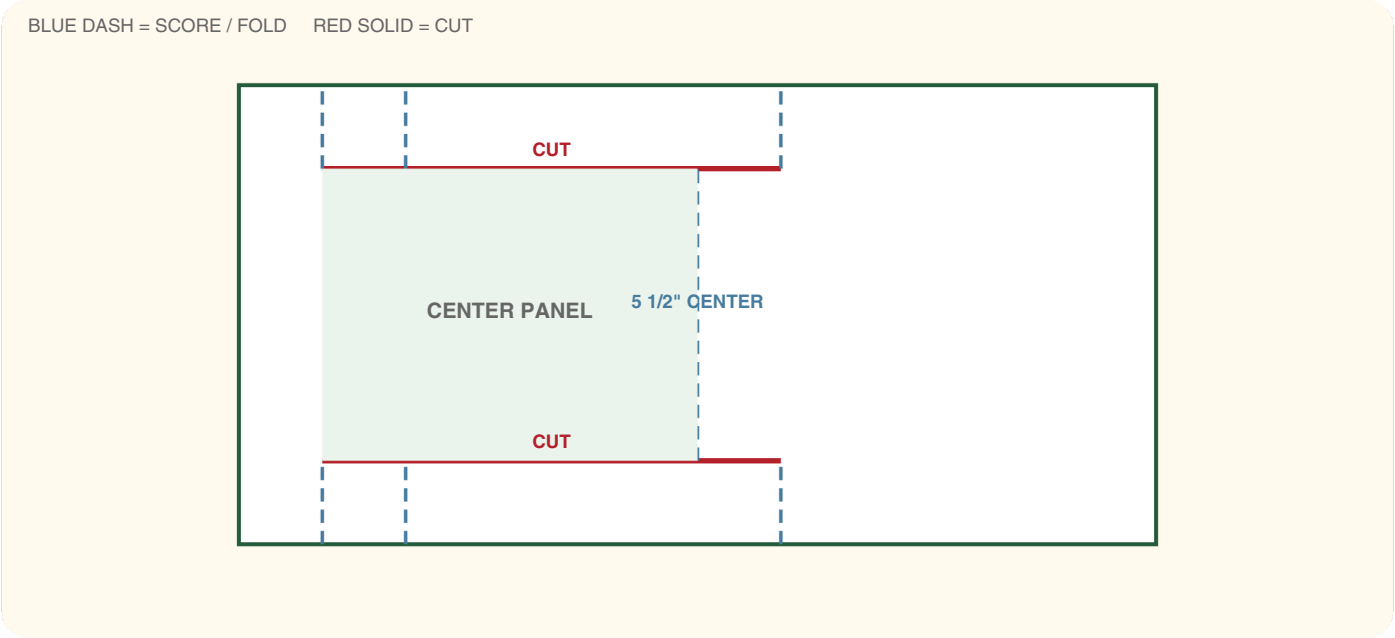
Assembly

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 | Fold the short outer flap inward. Fold the inner card in half. |
| 2 | Adhere the back half of the inner card inside the large outer panel, with its fold opening opposite the outer flap. |
| 3 | Close the inner card, then fold the short outer flap over it. Add a small tab or shape to hold the layers closed. |

GRANDMA'S TIP	Dry-fit the inner card so all edges clear the outer folds by at least 1/8".
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Center-Step Card

FINISHED SIZE	CUT PIECES
about 5 1/2 x 5 1/2" flat	• Base: 5 1/2 x 11" • Center mat: about 3 1/4 x 4 1/4" • Side mats sized after folding



Scoring & Cutting

From each short end, mark 1" and 6 1/2". Cut between those marks 1" in from both long edges. Score side strips at 1", 2", and 6 1/2"; score center only at 5 1/2".

Assembly

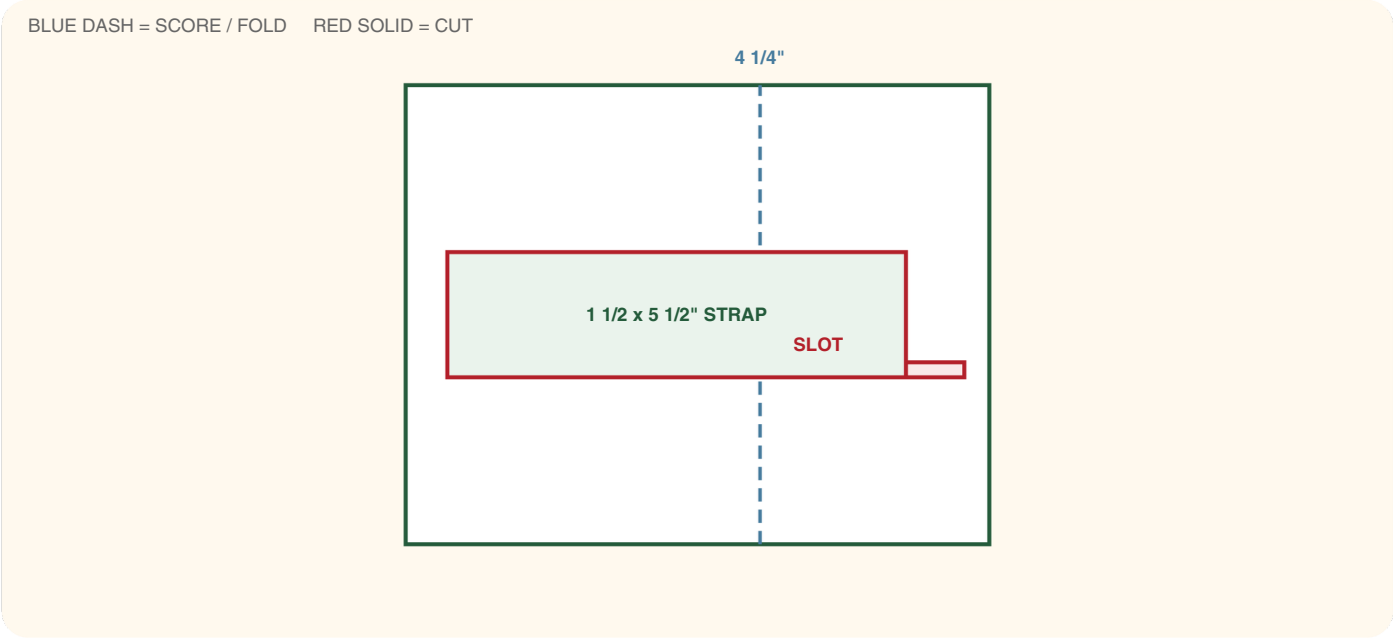
1	Make the two long parallel cuts first, stopping exactly at the 1" and 6 1/2" marks.
2	Score only the areas shown: three scores on each side strip and one score across the center panel.
3	Accordion-fold the side steps; fold the center panel back so it stands upright. Burnish and decorate.

GRANDMA'S TIP

Use a craft knife and ruler for the internal cuts; stopping accurately keeps the steps square.

Buckle Card

FINISHED SIZE	CUT PIECES
4 1/4 x 5 1/2"	• Base: 5 1/2 x 7" • Buckle strap: 1 1/2 x 5 1/2" • Front focal panel: about 3 x 3"



Scoring & Cutting

Score the base at 4 1/4". Cut a horizontal slot slightly wider than the finished strap.

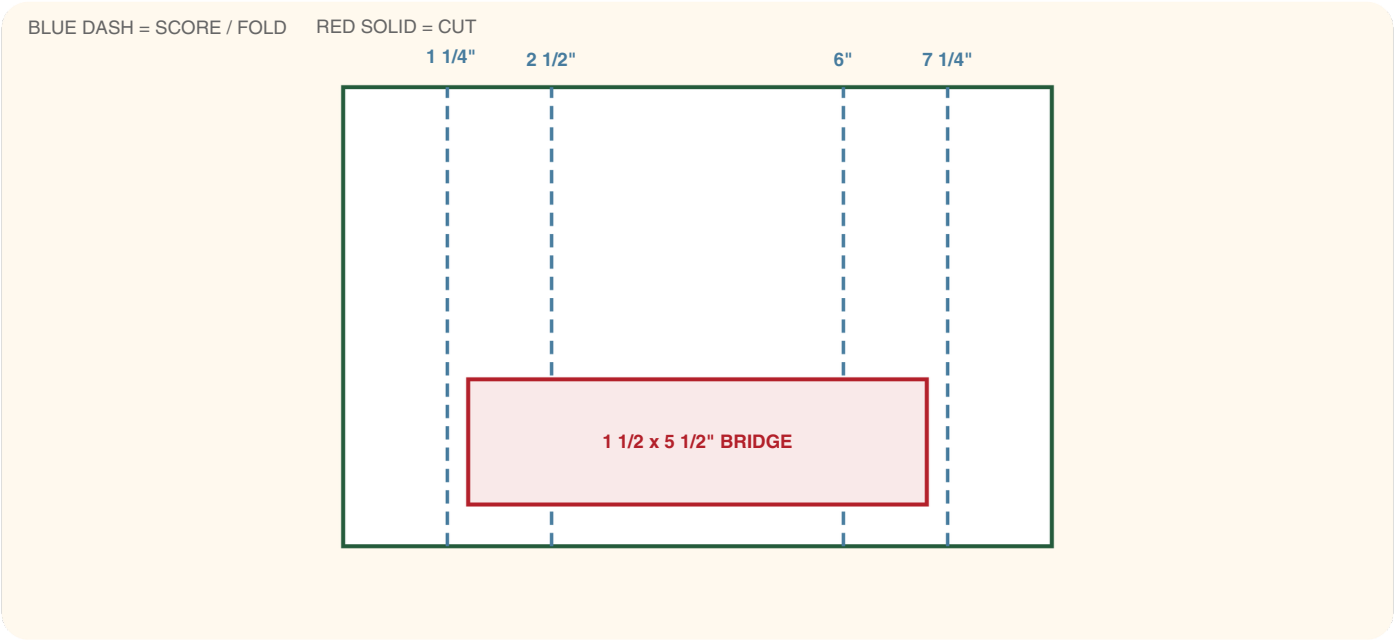
Assembly

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 | Fold at 4 1/4" to create the full back and short front flap. |
| 2 | Adhere one end of the strap behind the focal panel on the short flap. |
| 3 | Cut a slot in the back layer; thread the free end of the strap through it to close the card. |

GRANDMA'S TIP	Make the slot about 1/16" wider than the strap thickness so it slides without tearing.
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Bridge Fold Card

FINISHED SIZE	CUT PIECES
4 1/4 x 5 1/2" flat	• Base: 5 1/2 x 8 1/2" • Bridge strip: 1 1/2 x 5 1/2" • Center mat: 3 1/4 x 5 1/4"



Scoring & Cutting

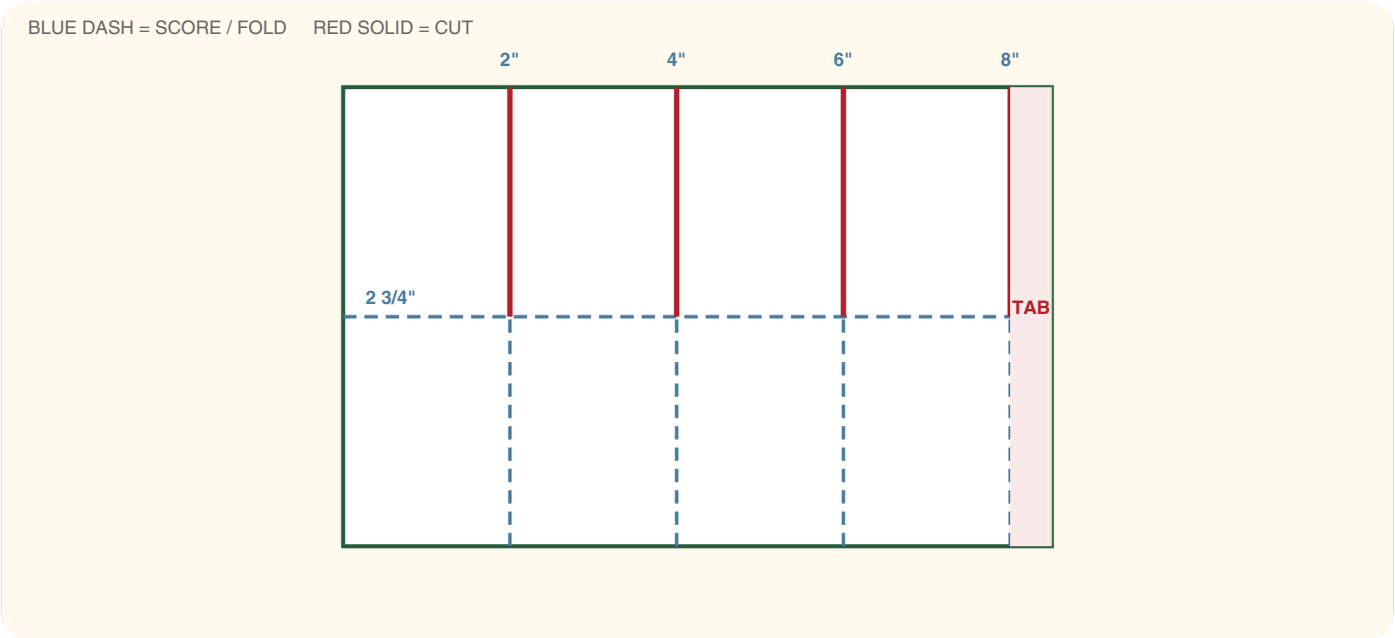
Score at 1 1/4", 2 1/2", 6", and 7 1/4".

Assembly

1	Accordion-fold both side sections to form two shallow standing columns.
2	Stand the card upright and position the bridge strip across the lower front.
3	Adhere the bridge only to the two front-facing side panels, checking that the card still folds flat.
GRANDMA'S TIP	Decorate the center panel before attaching the bridge; it is harder to reach afterward.

Pop-Up Box Card

FINISHED SIZE	CUT PIECES
2 x 2 x 2 3/4" open; A2 flat	• Box base: 5 1/2 x 8 1/2" • Two inside supports: 1 x 3" • Decorative panels: three at 1 3/4 x 2 1/2"



Scoring & Cutting

Score vertically at 2", 4", 6", and 8". Score horizontally at 2 3/4" through the first four panels.

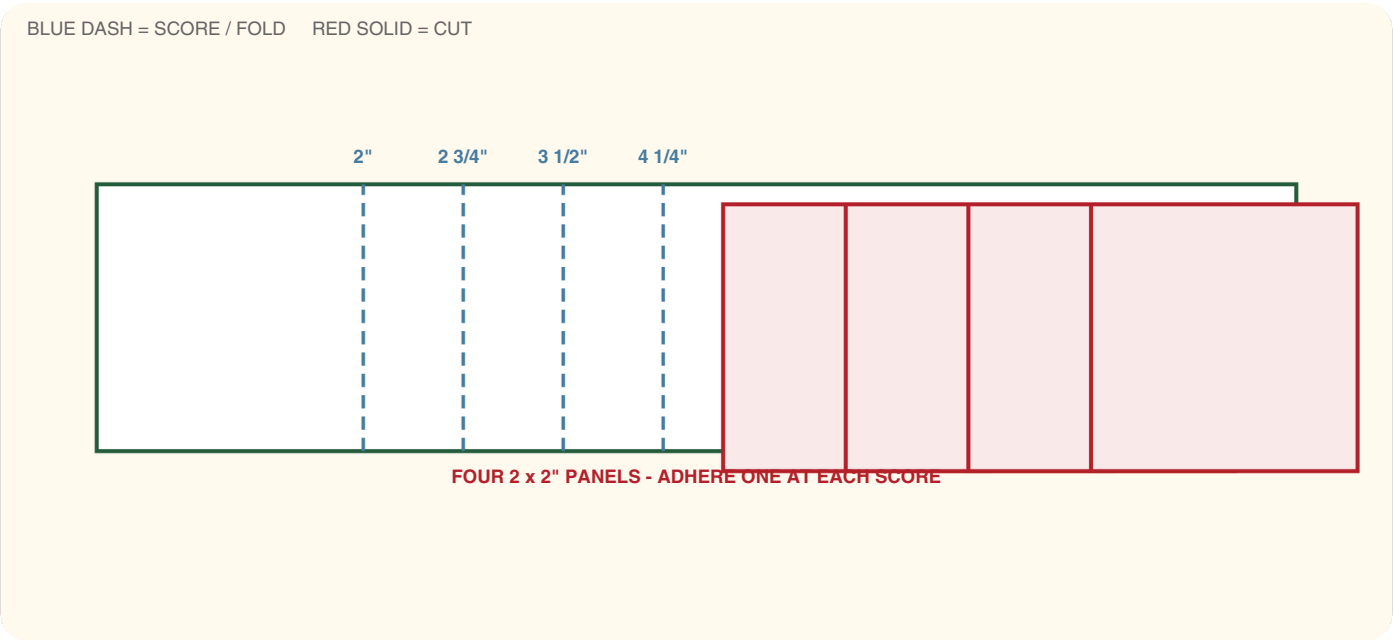
Assembly

- 1 Cut down from the top edge to the horizontal score at 2", 4", 6", and 8" to form flaps. Remove the upper half of the 1/2" tab.
- 2 Fold and glue the side tab to form the box. Leave the back flap standing; fold the other three flaps outward.
- 3 Score each support 1/2" from both ends, fold tabs, and adhere supports inside. Attach embellishments to the supports.

GRANDMA'S TIP	Arrange tall pieces toward the back and check the card folds flat before final glue sets.
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Waterfall Card

FINISHED SIZE	CUT PIECES
4 1/4 x 5 1/2" card front	• Card base: 5 1/2 x 8 1/2", score at 4 1/4" • Mechanism strip: 2 x 9" • Four image panels: 2 x 2" • Anchor strip: 3/4 x 4"



Scoring & Cutting

On mechanism strip, score at 2", 2 3/4", 3 1/2", and 4 1/4" from one end.

Assembly

1	Attach one 2" panel to the first 2" section. Attach the remaining panels only along their top edges at the next three score lines.
2	Slide the long unscored tail behind the anchor strip. Adhere only the ends of the anchor strip to the card front.
3	Adhere the mechanism front to the center of the anchor strip. Pull the tail downward to flip the panels. Add a reinforced pull tab.

GRANDMA'S TIP	Use strong, narrow adhesive at each score line; glue that extends below the line can stop the waterfall action.
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Quick Measurement Index

Use this page when you already know the fold and only need the base and score measurements.

CARD	MAIN BASE	MAIN SCORE / CUT POINTS
Classic Gatefold	5 1/2 x 8 1/2"	Score base at 2 1/8" and 6 3/8".
Diagonal Gatefold	5 1/2 x 8 1/2"	Score at 2 1/8" and 6 3/8". Cut from the lower outside corner to the upper score point on each side.
Standing Easel Card	4 1/4 x 11"	Score the base at 2 3/4" and 5 1/2".
Twisted Easel Card	4 1/4 x 8 1/2"	Score base at 4 1/4". On the left half, score diagonally from lower-left corner to the top center score point.
Z-Fold Card	5 1/2 x 8 1/2"	Score at 2 1/8" and 4 1/4".
Double Z-Fold Card	5 1/2 x 8 1/2"	Score both base and bridge band at 2 1/8" and 4 1/4".
Joy Fold Card	Outer base: 4 1/4 x 8 1/2"	Score outer base at 5 1/2". Score inner card at 4".
Center-Step Card	5 1/2 x 11"	From each short end, mark 1" and 6 1/2". Cut between those marks 1" in from both long edges. Score at 1" and 6 1/2".
Buckle Card	5 1/2 x 7"	Score the base at 4 1/4". Cut a horizontal slot slightly wider than the finished strap.
Bridge Fold Card	5 1/2 x 8 1/2"	Score at 1 1/4", 2 1/2", 6", and 7 1/4".
Pop-Up Box Card	Box base: 5 1/2 x 8 1/2"	Score vertically at 2", 4", 6", and 8". Score horizontally at 2 3/4" through the first four panels.
Waterfall Card	Card base: 5 1/2 x 8 1/2", score at 4 1/4"	On mechanism strip, score at 2", 2 3/4", 3 1/2", and 4 1/4" from one end.

Make it yours

Use patterned papers, the Christmas Print Then Cut embellishments from this collection, and your favorite sentiments. Once you understand the mechanism, the same measurements work for birthdays, family memories, thank-you cards, and every season.