



Garland Guest Book

A guest book or a decorative garland? It's both! This book is also called a snake book—Anna Wolf, who lives and works in the San Francisco Bay area and is active in the book-arts community there, is credited with its invention—or discovery—some of these forms just sort of happen.

Make these as long as you like—they're perfect for something open-ended where people might forget to participate! We made ours reusing pages from some bridal magazines—but use whatever papers appeal to you—they just need to be thin enough to fold. Use colors that make sense with your wedding. Paper is a great way to try color ideas—a much smaller investment than bridesmaid's gowns (or even fancy flowers from a florist).

You could have two colors of paper for people to write on—one for the bride and one for groom—and then alternate them in the long garland. Or use many colors of paper—or cut from bridal magazines (as we did), which you could intersperse with plain paper. You can even make this project from the wrapping paper if the bride is a careful unwrapper—me, I always rip open presents to see what's inside.



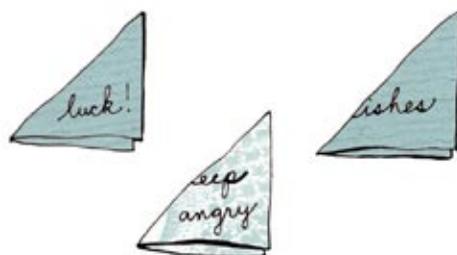
Materials

- SQUARES OF FOLDABLE PAPER
- BONE FOLDER
- ADHESIVE
- HEAVY-WEIGHT PAPER OR BOARD FOR COVER
- PAPER or BOOK CLOTH to cover board (optional, instructions on page 22)
- RIBBONS or STRINGS

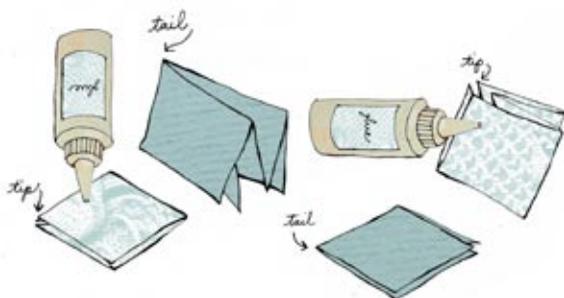
☞ We reused bridal magazines for this origami garland.



1 Mail squares of paper with the shower invitations—or hand the squares out at the party for people to write on. You can choose a theme—like advice for a happy marriage or wishes or drawings of the bride and groom—or just have guests sign their names. Even if you mail the squares, have extras at the party just in case—weddings (and life?) are all about having extras just in case!

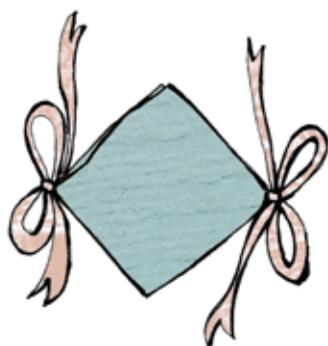


2 Fold the paper diagonally so that the message shows—open and fold horizontally and vertically, hiding the message. Pop so that the point sticks up and the paper folds into a neat little tucked-in diagonal square. The messages should be on the inside of the folded pieces. Note: If you would like to use collage, fold the squares and glue collage pieces before you send them to guests so that they avoid the folds.



3 Glue the squares together tip to tail, closed point to open point, as shown.

4 For your covers, cut heavy paper or boards the size of the folded pieces (one-quarter the size of your original squares). Cover the boards if you like (instructions on page 22).



5 At both ends of the garland, glue ribbons or strings to stick out on both ends between the pages and the covers. Glue your covers over the ribbons—burnish well and let dry under weight. (This drying step is a good reason to make the garland BEFORE the party—you could have a pre-party book-making party!).



6 Open and extend the garland to its full length and find a good place to hang it for party décor—if you do not burnish well enough or give it time to dry under weight, it might come apart (guess how I know this!)—but it is easy to repair.