

An illustration of a brown string with several colorful clothespins (pink, orange, and yellow) hanging from it. Several white, torn-edge papers are clipped to the string. Some papers have green decorative patterns: a fleur-de-lis on the left and a starburst on the right. The background is a light green gradient.

SEASON 79  
AUGUST 10 - 16, 2025

# THE BOOK OF WILL

*By Lauren Gunderson*

Book making workshop presented by Johnny D. and Ben Kramer 7/29/2025



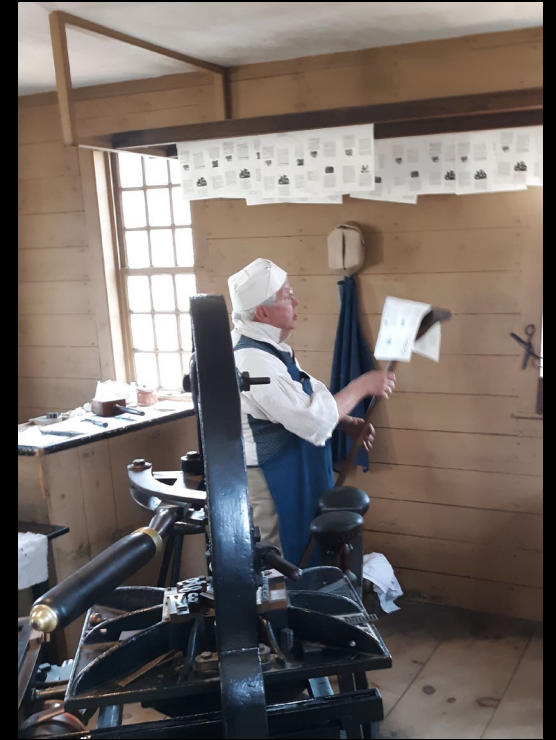
# Print shop:



Type cases



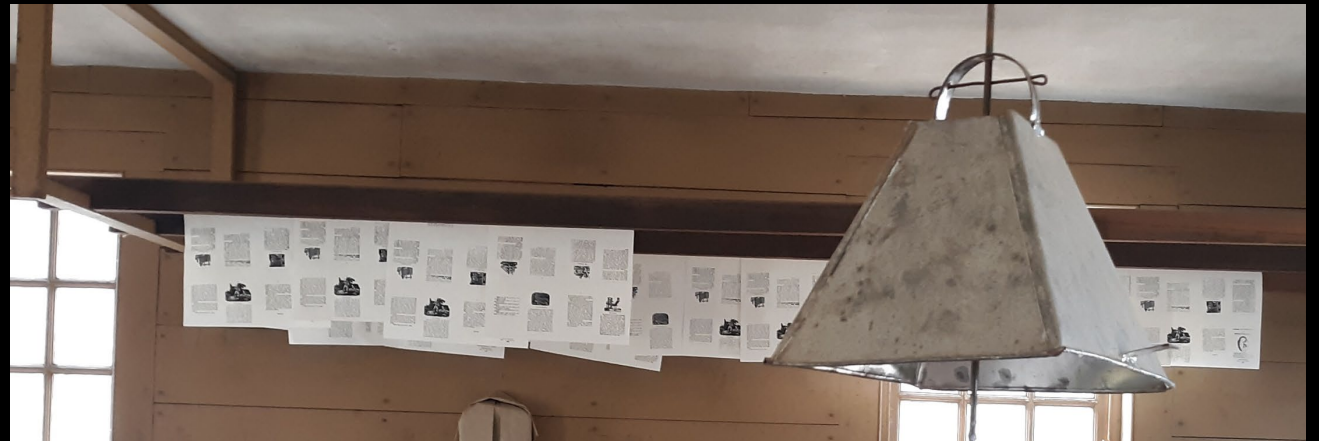
The printing press



Hanging pages to dry



Making up pages



# Making a print:



# Tools:



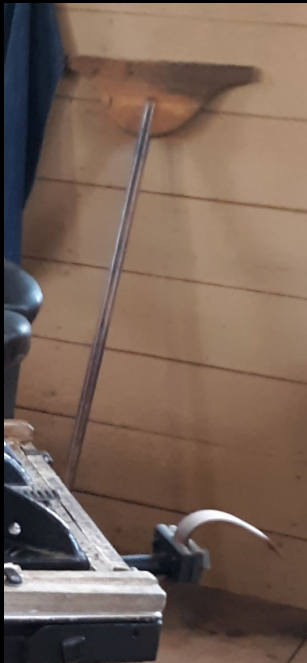
Needle (can be blunt for actually sewing the pages together)

Knife for cutting the pages (they are typically bigger than the printed area and need to be trimmed)

Tool for smoothing folds usually made of bone, but paint stir sticks work well

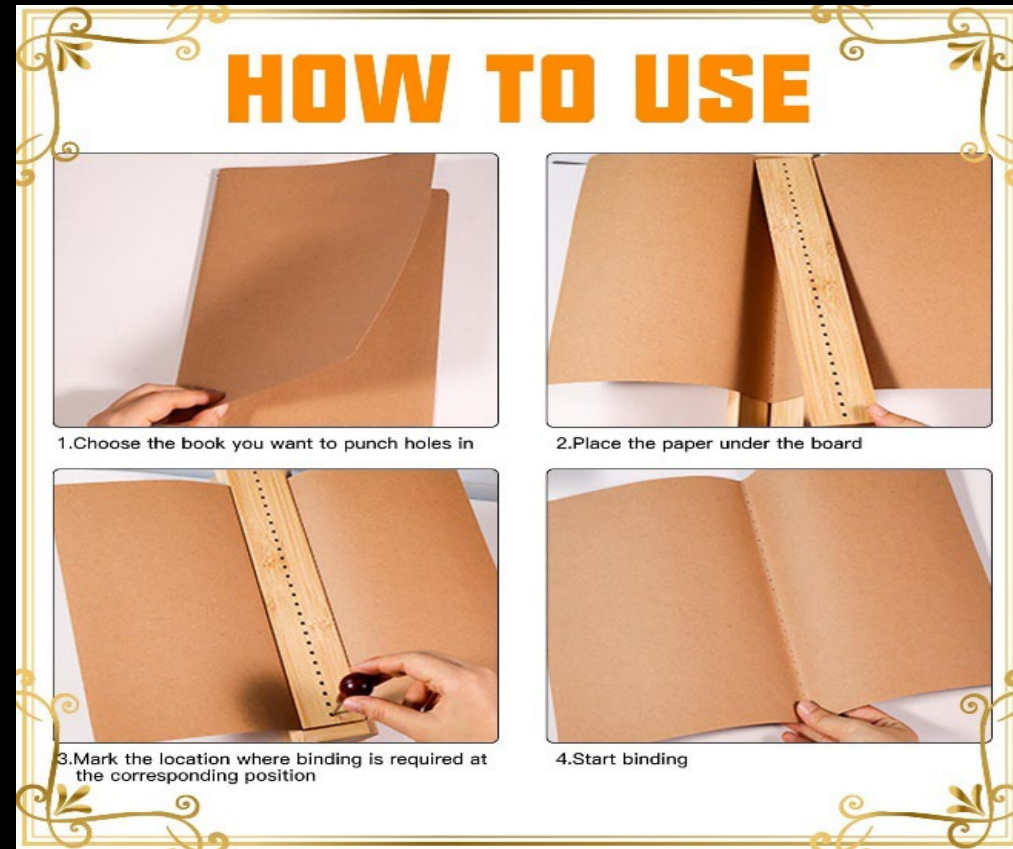
Steel rule for keeping the knife straight

Awl for punching holes for the sewing of the pages together



Tool for hanging freshly printed pages  
or retrieving dried pages.  
We're building this

# Bookbinding cradle:



Typically four pages were brought together and pierced at once for stitching. You would not use all the holes—they are present to cover a wide range of sizes of books.

We have built this

# Sewing Frame:



We have built this

# Sewing Frame—how it works:



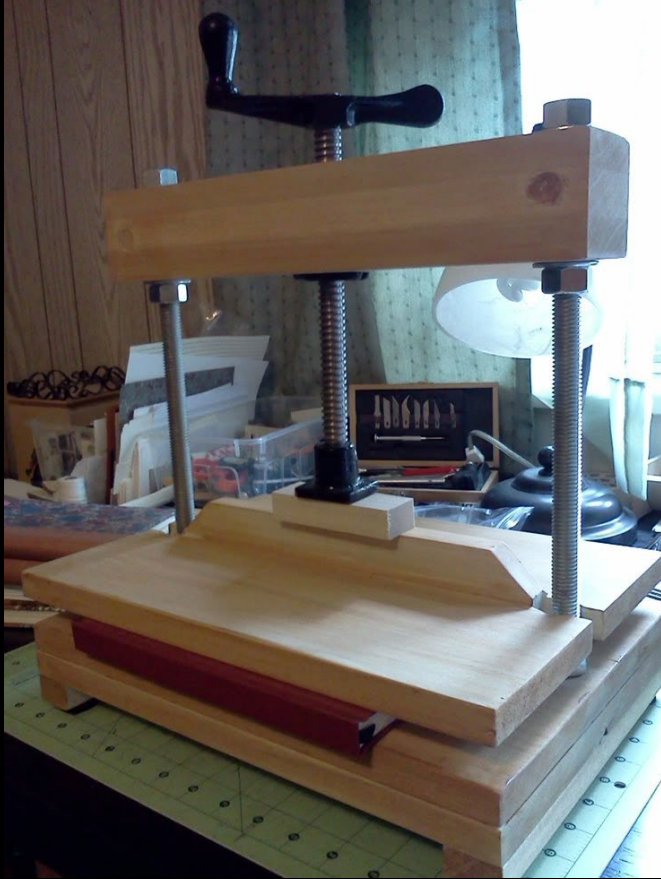
Sections to watch

:37-1:40

2:07-3:19

5:04-7:45

# Bookbinding press and vice:



Press (we're not building this)



Vice (we are building this)

# Bookbinding vice: how it's used



Sections to watch

5:47-6:14

7:08-8:13

12:38-13:02

Process steps that make sense to me for actors to be doing on stage in red:

**Step one:** hanging freshly printed pages—travel in and out of the “back room”

**Step two:** take down/stack dried pages

**Step three:** folding pages using the smoothing tool

**Step four:** gather sets of four pages together

**Step five:** use the bookbinding cradle to punch six spaced holes in the pages

Step six: set up the sewing frame with either cords or ribbons

**Step seven:** place folded pages in groups of four up against the cords/ribbons and sew them into place

Step eight: trim the pages

**Step nine:** stack more folded pages and repeat process until complete—use the smoothing tool to keep things flat as you move forward

Step ten: insert into press and compress the book

**Step eleven:** insert pages into book vice and start to form the binding

Step twelve: paste binding cords to front and back book boards (cardboard)

Step thirteen: glue on add leather cover and put in press