This quick and easy journal cover is designed to fit a standard composition pad. It features a pen pocket, an inside pocket for notes or receipts, and a tie closure. It can be made from one fabric or a combination of coordinating fabrics. Instructions and yardage given are for a journal cover using three coordinating fabrics. This design includes an optional label on the front (instructions included), but you may choose to omit the label and decorate your journal cover with buttons or other details.

Yardage needed:
Exterior: 1/3 yd of Stella-348 Indigo
Lining: 1/3 yd of Stella-349 White
Pockets: 1/4 yd of Stella-187 Navy
Tie: 1/8 yd of Stella-187 Ocean
Front Label (optional):
   fabric scrap at least 1 1/2” x 4”
   Wonder-Under® scrap of the same size

Cutting instructions:
From the Exterior fabric: cut one piece 27” wide x 11 1/4” tall
From the Lining fabric: cut one piece 27” wide x 11 1/4” tall
From the Pocket fabric: cut 2 pieces 2 1/4” wide x 6 1/2” tall
cut 2 pieces 5 1/2” wide x 6 1/2” tall
cut one piece 2” x width of fabric (44”)
From the Tie fabric:
cut one piece 3 1/2” wide x 1 1/4” tall
cut one piece Wonder-Under® 3/4” x 3”
For the optional Label:
cut one piece 3 1/2” wide x 1 1/4” tall
All seam allowances are 1/2”.

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**Make the Exterior/Lining**

1. Place the exterior and lining pieces right sides together. Pin and stitch around the outside edges, leaving a 4” opening on one long edge. Backstitch at the beginning and end of the stitching.

2. Clip the corners and turn the cover right side out. Use a turning tool to push out the corners and make them square. Press the seam edges flat, including the seam allowances at the opening.

3. Topstitch 1/4” from the edge on both short ends. This is a great place to use a decorative stitch if you have them on your machine!

**Make the Pockets:**

1. Place the pen pocket pieces right sides together. Pin and stitch around the outside edges, leaving a 2” opening along one long edge. Backstitch at the beginning and end of the stitching.

2. Clip the corners and turn the pocket right side out. Use a turning tool to push out the corners and make them square. Press the seam edges flat, including the seam allowances at the opening.

3. Topstitch 1/4” from one short end (this will be the top edge of the pocket). Use a decorative stitch if preferred. Stitch only across one short end.

4. Repeat these steps to stitch the other pocket.

**Make the Tie:**

1. Trim the selvage edges from the ends of the tie piece. Fold the tie with wrong sides together along the length, creating a 2” wide piece.

2. Open the tie and fold each short end in 1/2” and press. Then fold each long edge in to meet the center crease and press.

3. Refold the tie at the center crease, enclosing all raw edges and press again.

4. Edgestitch 1/8” from the edges all the way around the tie.
Make the Label (optional):
To make the label, center the Wonder-Under® on the wrong side of the label piece (leaving 1/4” on all edges) and fuse in place, leaving the paper backing on the Wonder-Under®. On the right side of the label, use a permanent marker to write your label, keeping the lettering within the edges of the Wonder-Under®. Fold all edges 1/4” to the wrong side and press.

Putting it all together:
1. Place the exterior/lining piece on a flat surface with the exterior facing you. Using the following measurements, place both pockets on the exterior. All measurements refer to the bottom edge and right edge of the pockets and label. Pin and stitch, leaving the top edges of the pockets free. Backstitch at the beginning and end to secure.
   ~ Pen Pocket: 1 1/2” from the bottom edge and 10 1/2” from the right edge of the cover
   ~ Inside Pocket: 1” from the bottom edge and 1/2” from the right edge of the cover

2. Measure over 14” from the right edge of the cover and up 5 1/8” from the bottom edge and place a pin. Fold the tie in half lengthwise to find the center and mark with a pin. Place the tie on the exterior at the pinned mark, matching the center of the tie to the mark. Stitch across the width of the tie at the matched point, stitching several times to secure.

3. Remove the paper backing and place the label 1” from the bottom edge and 6” from the right edge of the cover. Fuse in place and edgestitch all the way around the label.

4. Flip the cover so that the lining side is facing up, fold in each short end toward the lining 5 1/2” and pin along the upper and lower edges. Make sure the edges are even so the “flap” you are creating does not show on the outside of the cover.

5. Edgestitch 1/8” from the edge along the upper and lower edges of the journal cover, stitching through both the exterior and the flaps.

Slide your composition pad covers inside the flaps and tie it closed.

You’re ready to make several more because everyone who sees yours will want one of their own!