

## CROSSED STRUCTURE BINDING PROTECTIVE

This binding has hidden stitches and a protected fore-edge. If made in alum-tawed skin the CSB Protective is particularly suitable for old books because it enfolds the volume and does not need any adhesive.

### **CSB Protective**

I will assume that the book is ready to be bound and that all prior steps have been carefully carried out. The description refers to a full-leather binding with clean-cut edges. I will not work to any particular dimension, assuming the template to be clear enough for each person to adapt it to a given size.

### **Cutting the back cover**

For the cutting of the straps see images in the website: *Index - Cutting the straps*. The two sides of the cover are cut separately. Cut the back cover first following *side a* of the template (*see template*). The back is made of three parts: the fore-edge flap, the cover itself and the sewing straps, which should be long enough to meet the fore-edge flap when the binding is finished. See the binding's image in the website: *Index - CSB Protective*.

### **The sewing**

For the fixing of the cover to the sewing frame see images in the website: *Index - A Sewing Frame*.

You can choose two different sewings for this binding: either a simple sewing with kettle stitches (*see sewing 1*) or a headband sewing by adding two extra straps at head and tail on *side a* of the cover that can be cut short after

sewing (*see sewings 2 and 3*).

If you do not want to add too many holes in the sections you can split the sewing straps in the middle (just over the area of the spine depth) and sew as for double thongs.

The thickness of the thread should provide enough 'swell' in the spine to allow you to round the book. I always round by hand, not with a hammer. After sewing, the spine is still accessible and can be lined if desired.

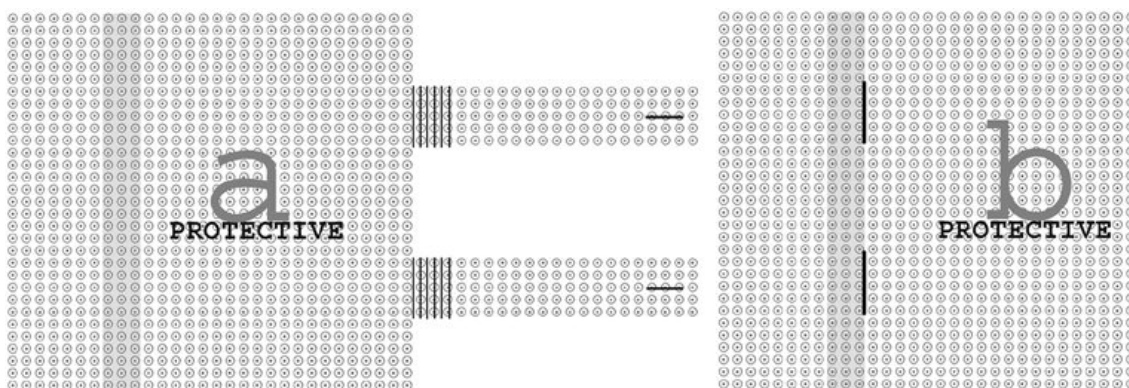
### **Cutting the front cover**

The front cover should be cut after the sewing has been done, as you need to know the thickness of the spine. Cut the front cover following *side b* of the template. The front cover includes the cover itself, the spine and the panel that will be fixed to the back cover. Two vertical slots, the same size as the straps, should be cut at the spine joint of the front cover (*see template*).

### **The crossing**

The sewn straps go from the inside out through the vertical cuts at the spine joint of the front cover. They pass over the front cover to be secured at the fore-edge flap. The panel of the front cover overlaps the back cover and is fixed to it. See the binding's image in the website: *Index - CSB Protective*.

## TEMPLATES



### SEWING 1

WITH KETTLE STITCHES.

FOR CSB BASIC, CSB PROTECTIVE, CSB MARCOPOLO AND CSB HIDDEN

This is the commonest kind of sewing and the first that the majority of us learned how to make, as it can be used for many different bindings. The thing to be careful about, if you are a beginner, is never to pull the thread in the opposite direction to the direction in which you are sewing, because it is quite easy to tear the paper. Try to be as even as possible and do the stitches neither too tight nor too loose. It all comes with practice. After 500 books it will be almost perfect!

#### ***Sewing 1***

See drawing and follow the direction of the red thread, then compare the image with your finished sewing. Here follows a very schematic description.

#### ***First section***

The thread goes into the first hole on the right (kettle stitch hole), and then travels left, passing out and in the section and over the straps until the left end is reached.

It comes out at the kettle stitch hole on the left and goes up into the next section.

#### ***Second section***

The thread goes inside the kettle stitch hole on the left, then it goes to the right, out and in all along. It goes out at the right hand kettle stitch hole. Before going up to the third section a knot is tied with the tail of the starting thread which is hanging from the first section.

#### ***Third section***

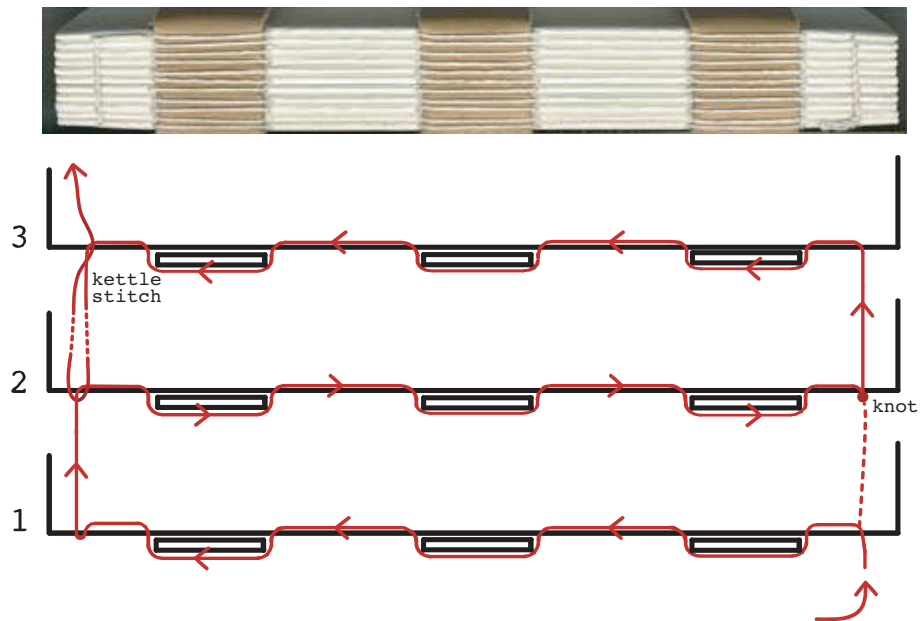
The thread goes inside the kettle stitch hole on the right and then it goes to the left, out and in all along. It goes out at the kettle stitch hole on the left. Before going up to the following section a kettle stitch is made by slipping the needle under the section which is below the one which you have just sewn on; slip the needle behind the thread which links it to the section below that, and loop the thread over the needle as

it emerges from between the sections. Tighten the thread by tugging it upwards. NB The needle must always be slipped behind the thread in the same direction as the direction in which you are sewing (usually

outwards, towards the edge of the book-block.)

From this point the sewing goes on in the same way, making kettle stitches at each section before going up to the next one.

# sewing 1



## SEWINGS 2&3

WITH HEAD AND TAIL SEWN STRAPS.  
FOR CSB BASIC AND CSB PROTECTIVE.

### **Sewing 2**

See drawing and follow the direction of the red thread, then compare the image with your finished sewing.

Here follows a very schematic description.

#### **First section**

The thread goes into the first hole on the right, close to the right-hand end strap, comes out at the end of the section, passes over the top of the section, encircling the strap and goes back into the same hole as before (each time you go back through the same hole, be careful not to go through the thread when inserting the needle).

The thread then travels left, passing out and in the section and over the other straps until the end strap is reached. The thread comes out before the last strap, passes over the top of the section to encircle the strap and emerges through the same hole. The second section is laid in place.

#### **Second section**

The thread goes into the first hole on the left, close to the left-hand end strap. Comes out at the end of the section, passes over the top of the section, encircling the strap and goes back into the same hole as before. The thread goes to the right, out and in all along. It goes out at the last hole and out again after encircling the right-hand strap.

Before going up to the third

section a knot is tied with the tail of the starting thread which is hanging from the first section.

#### **Third section**

The thread goes into the first hole on the right, close to the right-hand strap, encircles the strap, goes back into the same hole as before, and goes out and in to the left.

The thread comes out before the last strap, goes over it, goes back into the section and comes out at the same hole. Before going up to the next section a kettle stitch is made by slipping the needle under the thread you have just sewn around the strap and also catching up the thread at the same point in the section below the one which you have just sewn on. The needle then goes back up and under the thread that emerges from the upper section, making a loop. (NB The needle must be slipped outwards, towards the edge of the book-block). Tighten the thread by tugging it upwards to make the characteristic pattern that you can see in the image above.

From this point the sewing goes on in the same way, making kettle stitches at each section before going up to the one above.

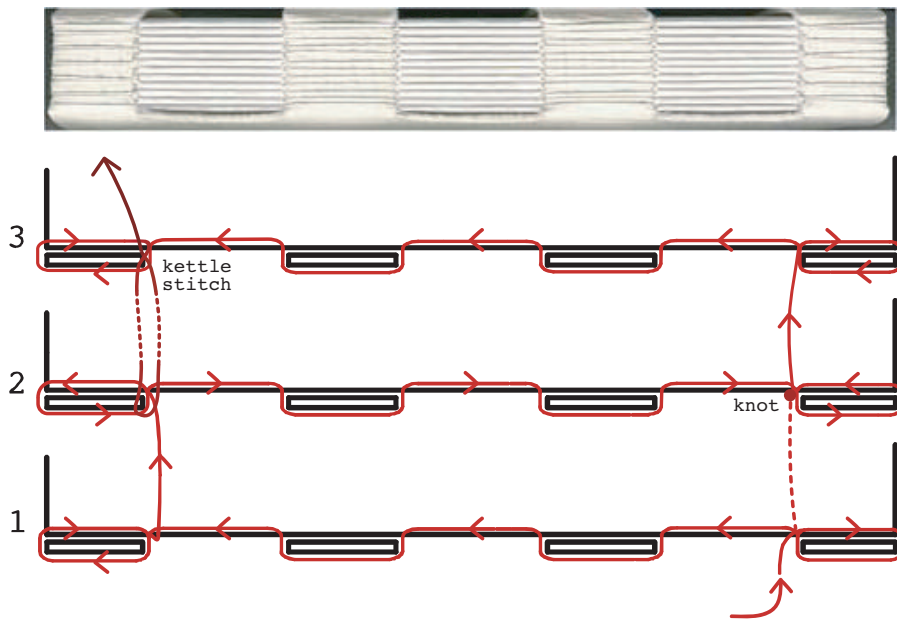
### **Sewing 3**

See drawing and follow the direction of the red thread, then compare the image with your finished sewing.

Seen from the outside there is no difference between Sewing 2 and 3. The process is as before but this time the thread encircles each strap. This gives an all-along sewing inside each section, with the

thread running over head and tail edges as well. It keeps a consistent swell along the volume's spine and can be a good choice for larger or heavier books.

## sewing 2



## sewing 3

