

CROSSED STRUCTURE BINDING LINKED

The crossing of the two sides of the cover is done before sewing: this feature makes the CSB Linked particularly strong. Once the sewing is done it is impossible to pull the covers apart.

CSB Linked

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 following *side a* of the template (see *template*), with three or more sewing straps according to the size of the book. The sewing straps should be long enough to be secured to the front cover after sewing.

Cutting the front cover

Cut the front cover following *side b* of the template (see *template*). The two sides of the cover will be linked together before sewing so we have to guess the approximate thickness of the spine. The front cover includes the cover itself, the spine and the panel that will remain hidden under the back cover. Make one vertical cut for each sewing strap to go in. This first row of slots is cut at the joint of the back cover, next to the extension flap. It is important for you to note

that the other two rows of slots should be cut after the sewing has been done, when the thickness of the spine is known.

It is extremely easy to invert the parts and get the slots in the wrong place. Making a dummy could help to understand their exact position.

The linkage of the two parts

The straps on *side a* go into the cuts on *side b*. In this way the two parts of the binding are linked before sewing.

Preparation for sewing

During the sewing, the book block will be lying on top of the panel over the back cover, while the front cover hangs loose before you. For the fixing of the cover to the sewing frame see image in the website: *Index - A Sewing Frame - CSB Linked*.

The sewing

The sewing has kettle stitches before and after the first and last straps (see *sewing 4*). Once the sewing is done the two parts of the cover stay linked to one another. 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.

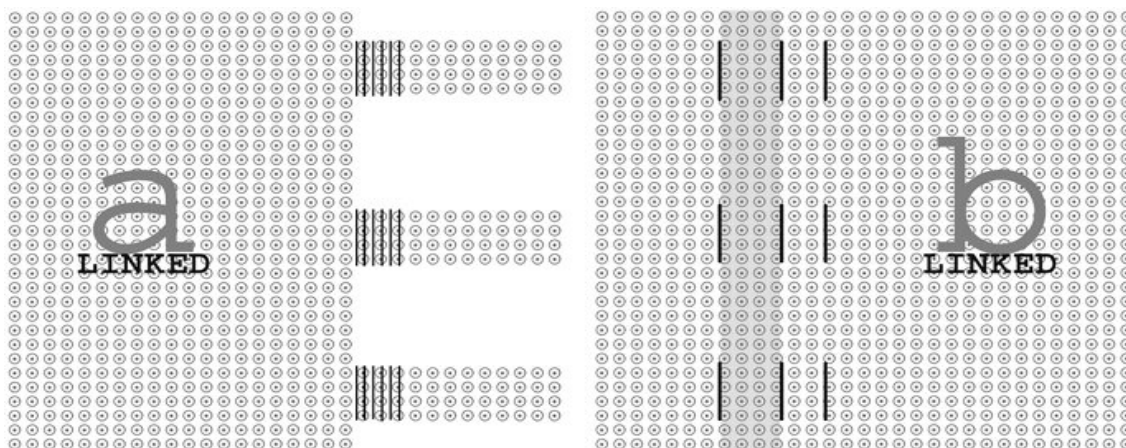
Cutting the front slots

The front cover wraps over the

spine as it comes forward to lie in position on the book block. Cut a row of vertical slots at the front cover joint and a second row of slots, parallel to the first, 10mm from the first row. Whilst, for reasons of illustration my diagram may show these two rows of slots

already drawn on *side b* of the template, do not be misled, they must be cut after sewing. The sewn straps are secured to the front part of the cover being laced out and in through the two rows of slots. See the binding's image in the website: *Index - CSB Linked*.

TEMPLATES



SEWING 4

WITH KETTLE STITCHES ON THE FIRST AND LAST STRAPS.
FOR CSB LINKED AND CSB SOLO

The first and last straps of sewing 4 are situated approximately 6mm from each end of the section (depending on the book's dimension). The kettle stitches are made inside the last strap at each end.

Sewing 4

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 in at the second hole on the right,

close to the right-hand strap, comes out at the first hole, encircles 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 it goes out before the last strap. It goes in at the last hole, encircling the strap and comes out through the same hole as before. The second section is laid in place.

Second section

The thread goes inside the second hole on the left, goes out at the first hole, encircles 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 but one hole on the right, then goes in at the last encircling the right-hand strap and out again through the same hole as before. 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 second hole on the right, close to the right-hand strap, comes out at the first hole and goes back into the same hole as before, encircling the strap. The thread then travels left, passing out and in the section and over the other straps until the last strap is

reached. 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 4

