

# FINDING A JOURNAL

MAISHA MALIHA

Being one of those people who NEED pen and paper to pour out their hearts, owning the right journal to go with one's personality is essential. A trip to the bookstore might end up being disappointing because all they have stocked are sparkly, soft-cover notebooks that say "NOTE-BOOK" at the top. Solution? Make your own journal.

Here's what you will need: cardboard boxes (cereal boxes are preferable), scissors, fabric glue (glue gun works as well), ruler and decorative papers, colourful scraps of fabric or even picture cutouts for decoration. Firstly, dismantle all flaps of the box and get rid of them by cutting them out until you obtain the flat book cover look alike. There will be two spines of the box. You must cut out one. Adjust the size of the cover to your liking depending on how big or small you want it to be. Slather on some adhesive to the side you have to cover. Using a paintbrush to do so proved to be helpful as it eliminated all the air bubbles that would otherwise make the decorative bits look bumpy and also provided an even coat. Next, decorate the cover however you want: you could use decorative papers, scraps of faux fur, magazine cutouts or even paint it yourself for a deeper personalized look. For a dash of quirkiness, you could print out quote clouds, pictures, fonts, strips of washi tapes, just about anything that describes you so that you can stick it all over the cover. After you're done painting a new face for your journal, place the ruler

along the lines on either side of the spine, and fold the front and back of the cover to enable easy opening and closing of the journal.

Time for some pages. Take out all the scraps of paper you've collected over the years - plain, colorful, oddly shaped, large, small, doesn't matter. You could paint a few pages or even print out different pictures on A4 size papers. Take 5 pages at a time and align them however you want to make a bundle of 10 pages by sewing them together in the middle. Make a couple of these bundles and sew them to the spine of the journal cover. Make sure you space them out evenly, otherwise the pages tend to tear. Add pockets in between pages to keep notes, memoirs or pictures.

Now, for the final touches, add two pockets on either side of the flaps. You could stick embellishments of your choice on the front cover, use rhinestones or even slap on a name sticker for a minimalistic look. If you get your hands on rustic ribbons, you could wrap them around the front flap of the journal along the opening for bohemian vibes.

With a journal that screams your name, you're ready to fill it up with memories, notes, and whatever your heart desires. Don't forget to show off your cool new journal!

*Maisha Maliha speaks what crosses her mind in the most positive way but is often misinterpreted and thought to be a lunatic. Unfollow her at [www.facebook.com/MyshoeMaliha](http://www.facebook.com/MyshoeMaliha)*



# Struggles of being a Wingwoman

ZARIN RAYHANA

We are all familiar with the idea of a wingwoman - the "brozoned" girl who helps to set you up with other girls. She will go the extra mile to decrease your chances of being #foreveralone, usually out of kindness, but sometimes because she wants to get a lot of treats.

If you're a wingwoman, the female BFF of a guy, or somewhere in between, you should know how it feels like to get him a date. There is a lot of fuss about how he should approach her without making things creepy and obvious. He will expect you to be his dating etiquette book - asking you for advice and throwing a yeah-whatever look when you pick out his faults, but then end up rushing to your doorstep if anything goes wrong. Sometimes, you have to third wheel. You have to endure that awkward PDA (which will only remind you of how single you are) and witness pointless arguments about which movie they will watch. Occasionally, you have to crack "yo mama" jokes to

keep their conversation alive.

The planning of your missions will be entirely your responsibility. It is fun, but rather tiring. Their relationship problems will consist of things you have never encountered, but you will be needed to solve them

vessel. He will always be there waiting for you to solve the problem. It is also more likely that he will appoint you to buy presents for his girlfriend. If you don't, you should be ready to receive endless calls in the middle of your class about which

girls, it is usually wingwomen who prove more successful in comparison to wingmen. Whether it is needed to confront that angry girl whom he dumped big time or her friends who want him to drink a big cup of cyanide, wingwomen are usually needed to fix the issues. I have had to solve countless problems like that, and fall into trouble in front of teachers and parents. I have been questioned, is it worth the struggle?

Honestly, I don't know. It just seems like that part of our adolescence when we do a lot of idiotic acts, which they say makes it easier for us to solve our problems in the future. Probably thirty years from now, I will be remembering these memories while laughing hysterically with my lonely self.



somehow otherwise he will start wallowing as if it was the end of the world. It doesn't matter if you are watching chick flicks with PMS on peak or having a headache the size of your mom's biryani

makeup brand is better than the other or which palette is a better bargain. Welcome to the club, boy. Even I'm forever confused about buying makeup for myself. Since girls tend to understand other

*Zarin Rayhana is a self-aggrandizing ambivert who ponders over philosophical epiphanies during rainy evenings and waits for her crush to jump straight out of her favorite novel. Treat her with novel suggestions at [ericaavianazarin@gmail.com](mailto:ericaavianazarin@gmail.com)*