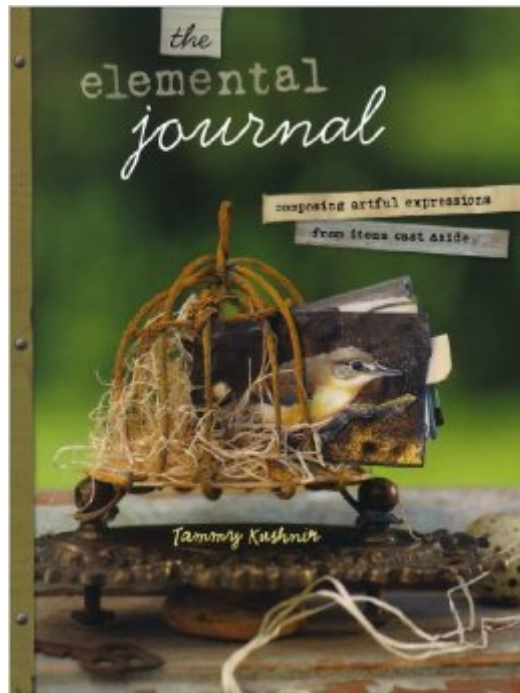


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# The Elemental Journal: Composing Artful Expressions From Items Cast Aside



## Synopsis

Create Expressive Books from Salvaged Treasures Rusty doorknobs, cardboard containers and plastic packaging may seem like trash to some, but through the creative mind, they are transformed into beautiful expressions - equally parts artful book and assemblage. "The Elemental Journal" will show you how to craft a wide variety of journals to hold your secrets or express your inner thoughts, and discover new ways to use wood, paper, fabric, plastic and metal in your art. Peek inside "The Elemental Journal" and you will find: 15 stepped-out journal projects made from unusual materials and found objects, from tree bark to dismantled photo albums to tin boxes. Tips for seeking out materials for your journals in flea markets, garage sales, and in your own attic or trash can. Inspiring gallery projects from 9 contributing artists, including Susan Tuttle, Jen Osborn and Jill Berry. One artist's trash is another's treasure. Discover yours with "The Elemental Journal."

## Book Information

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Product Dimensions: 8.2 x 0.4 x 10.9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.9 out of 5 stars Â Â See all reviews Â (44 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,092,580 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #165 in Â Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Crafts & Hobbies > Papercrafts, Stamping & Stenciling > Book Making & Binding #314 in Â Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Crafts & Hobbies > Scrapbooking #562 in Â Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Crafts & Hobbies > Mixed-Media

## Customer Reviews

One of the reviewers here points out that the projects in this book are so easy that even little kids can make them. This is true. And if you like projects that look like this, you will probably love this book. Likewise, if you prefer to work from a set of exhaustive instructions, you will not be disappointed. For one project--a stationery set made out of a compartmented box--there are a full 7 pages of instructions containing 26 very detailed steps such as: "Cut out...an image of a bird. Glue...to the front cover." Be aware, though, that not all the projects require things as simple (or as cheap) as a bird image. To make the projects as instructed, you will also need a piece from a metal

meat grinder, a miniature plastic elephant, a mini birdcage for the elephant to sit in, and a vintage camera cover. There are also specifications in various projects for imagery: hands, tree branches, love notes. And that's one of the reasons this book doesn't work for me. Its theory is self-expression. Its reality is

follow-these-26-steps-and-glue-down-the-bird-and-while-you're-at-it-put-the-tree-branch-images-THERE. Where I am at in my career, another paint-by-numbers book does nothing for me. But I realize that's just me. Judging from the reviews here, there are many who will wish to construct the projects as described. And that's my second qualm with this book. Many of the required materials fall well outside of the realm of the book's subtitle: "Composing Artful Expressions From Items Cast Aside." For example, if you do not have these things just hanging around your house, you will have to purchase them: fusible web, rub-on images, a vintage keyhole, wooden tube containers, and plastic test tubes.

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