

My *House* started as a written exercise that artist Susan Hensel gave herself to describe her childhood home as if discussing it with a stranger. She then realized there were ways to tie in related writings about her mother. "When you take the time to reflect on certain aspects of your life," she says, "other memories and emotions often well up unexpectedly." So her writing about her home then turned into a book in the shape of a house that looks back on her mother and the rest of her family—even her dog—when she was five years old. Hensel says she remembers the knotty-pine walls of her house in upstate New York, the way the light filtered in through the door, and how the slate floor outside looked when it had been washed down. These are some of the images she evokes in *My House*, which features printed images of a house she encountered as an adult that reminded her of her childhood home.

What You Need

10 sheets black Canson Mi-Teintes paper, 8 1/2" x 14" (22 cm x 36 cm)

10 sheets Wausau Royal Fiber, 8 1/2" x 14" (22 cm x 36 cm)

Two pieces black mat board, 8 1/2" x 7" (22 cm x 18 cm)

One roll heat-activated adhesive

PVA glue

Dry iron

Utility knife

Ruler

Cutting surface

Bone folder

Small, flat brush

Waste paper (such as an old phone book)



from **Making Memory Books by Hand**,
by Kristina Feliciano, Rockport Publishers,
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