

# Jacobs Ladder

## Jacobs Ladder

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You can find pictures of each step at [www.dianaball-seitz.com](http://www.dianaball-seitz.com)

Not necessarily a book, maybe more of a toy but a wonderful format for stamping, artists' stamps and collage. Learn how to make this wonderfully fun and playful form. If you love ribbons, stamping and books, this is the greatest little thing you've made to combine them all in one.

### Determine the size of panels you want to use for your Jacobs Ladder.

1. Cut five boards all that same size.
2. Wrap or paint boards. Stamp and embellish as you wish.
3. Cut ribbon twice the width of your boards. (You will need three per four boards. Use two different colors of ribbon if possible, two-sided ribbon is even better.)
4. After you have prepared your boards by wrapping, stamping and or painting your boards, decide on, collect, or make your image areas.

### Layered image areas.

1. Create ten decorative layered pieces.
2. Make your image areas by layering different kinds of papers, stamped images, punched papers, die cuts, stickers, prints, collage materials, photos, etc. Use decorative scissors, or cutting wheels.
3. The finished layered pieces should be about 1/4" smaller from sides of your panel boards.

### Next glue ribbons and images on four boards.

1. On the left side of your panels glue one ribbon about  $\frac{1}{4}$ " from the top and one at the bottom. You will have two ribbons on the left.
2. Now glue one ribbon centered on the right side of four panels. After you glue the ribbons down, apply glue to the backside of your image pieces one at a time on top of your ribbons, right side up on your four ribbon panels.
3. Glue one side with image only with the ribbons underneath.
4. You should now have five panels. Four should have images on one side, with ribbons sticking out from behind the image area, two ribbons on the left of the panel and one ribbon on the right side. One panel should have NO ribbons and an image on ONE side. One of the ribbon panels should have an image panel on the back with NO ribbons behind it but ribbons on the front like the other four ribbon/image panels.
5. Line them up, your first image (if it matters) counting up, stacking vertically away from you on your worktable. Place your fifth panel furthest from you. Glue your image on the fifth panel, no ribbons on it, to the front side.

Assembling your Jacobs Ladder See diagram B.

1. Glue the back of panel #1 with the layered image back #1. It will be lined up with the image on the front. (Both image bottoms to the same bottom, just on opposite sides of the board.)
  2. Take board #1, lay it layered piece right side up with the two ribbons to the left, one ribbon to the right.
  3. Flip the two ribbons under board #1, from the left under to the right. Make sure they are smooth, flat and taunt.
  4. Now all three ribbons should be to the right of panel #1.
  5. Place board #2 layered piece down on the table next to #1. The single ribbon from #2 will lie across the layered piece on panel #1 and the two ribbons of #2 will lay to the right of #2.
  6. As you lay down #2 tuck the top of the #2 board under the #1 panel top double ribbon.
  7. Next slide the lower or bottom double ribbon from panel #1 on top of #2.
  8. Again be sure all the ribbons are not twisted, are flat, smooth and taunt.
- You will now need scissors, glue and your unattached panels.

1. Next, if needed trim your over lapped ribbons so they extend to about the middle of panel #2. When gluing, be sure to only put the glue where the ribbon will lay.
2. Glue the ribbons in place, alignment should be straight, glue them down leaving a space between the panels about as thick as a board thickness, a little less than more.
3. You will be gluing the double ribbons that started on the left side of panel #1, extend behind #1, and glue to the imageless side of the left side of panel #2.
4. Next trim and glue the side ribbon that extends under the #2 panel, from the right side of #1 under #2 and is glued to the right side of #2 imageless side.
5. Now apply glue to the back of your next image and glue the layered piece to panel #2. (Images #1 and #2 should be right side up.)
6. Now you are ready to add the #3 panel.
7. Pick up panel #3 and tuck the two ribbons from the left side of #3, under itself, lay it next to panel #2, sliding the panel under the top double ribbon and bring the bottom double ribbon from panel #2 across the bottom front of #3 (as in panel #1).
8. The single ribbon to the left side of panel #2 will run across #2 and tuck behind panel #3.
9. Now flip the whole thing over. It's easiest to hold all the loose ribbons on the right side and then flip the panels all in one motion.
10. If it all falls apart, go back to laying it out and try to flip it all at once again.

11. After you have flipped the whole thing over, flip back the double ribbons on the left side to get them out of the way.
12. Trim the two double ribbons on the right side (they extend from #2 behind #3. Apply glue and align and smooth.
13. Trim and glue down the single middle ribbon. (Extending from the face down side of panel #2.)
14. Now glue the backside of your next layered piece and glue it over the ribbons onto panel #3.
15. Now line up the fourth panel, turn it so it is upside down (the image or front) or so the single ribbons is on the left side. Tuck the center ribbon under and across the back of panel #4.
16. Flip the middle ribbon from the panel #3 back towards panel #3. (This is just to get it out of the way while you place panel #4.)
17. Lay panel #4 on top of the out stretched top double ribbons of #3. Now lay the middle ribbon of #3 back across the front of the middle of #4. All ribbons should be to the right. Hold them all together and flip your whole set of panels over again as you did before.
18. Flip the center ribbon from the left side out of the way. Now trim and glue the double ribbons from the left side down, and the center ribbon from the right side. Then glue the fourth layered panel down on the ribbons glued to panel #4.
19. Line up panel #5 with the fourth panel. The middle ribbon from the front of panel #4 should lay behind #5, and the double ribbons from the back of #4 will slide over the top of #5.
20. Slide panel #5 under the double ribbons. Pull all ribbons smooth and taut to the right of pane #5 and flip all the panels over again.
21. Now trim and glue your ribbons ends to the blank side of panel #5. Now glue the back of your final image, #5 back, over your last glued ribbon ends.
22. You can now play with your book/toy.

Was that rewarding or what? Think of the possibilities. Think of the fun. Think of the scraps you can now use up creatively. Dream, make, and play. Go make more books!