

Zines

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1. What are they?
2. What are they all about?
3. Why are they important?
4. How do you make them?

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1. WHAT ARE THEY?

A zine (rhymes with "bean" and is short for "magazine") is a short form of ~~the~~ printed media that can be about anything and often contains works of art, literature, political opinions, DIY (Do it yourself) informational learning, or seeks to otherwise advance our social + ~~the~~ cultural understandings.

2. WHAT ARE THEY ALL ABOUT?

At their best, zines help fill the void left unsatisfied by commercial + popular media. They complement and showcase other media (art + music), scenes (Punk + DIY) and movements such as anarchy, mutual aid, community organizing, and social justice.

Zines are inherently:

- * Anti-racist
- * Anti-fascist
- * Non-commercial
- * Informational
- * Community - Centric

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When they fail to have these qualities, such zines ~~lose~~ ^{lose} credibility in the community and scene and amongst the people and are not circulated.

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As part of the Punk community, Zines adhere to an:

ANTI-RACIST + FASCIST

* Actively counters the racism + fascism that curses our country + society.

ETHOS

* Core beliefs *

INFORMATIONAL

* Practical and specialized to assist with self-reliance and counter mis-information.

NON-COMMERCIAL

* Zines should be either free or raising funds for a good cause. Pursuit of profit hampers accessibility and curates content for popular consumption.

COMMUNITY-CENTRIC

* Forms bonds with like-minded individuals and contributes toward mutual aid towards all in need. Encourages cooperation beyond social norms.

3. WHY ARE THEY IMPORTANT?

Zines operate as a literary version of punk music. They are ACCESSIBLE.

* Like punk music is relatively simple and short, zines have no formal format and can be hand-written, Xeroxed, or assembled any way you can.

They support the existence and expression of vulnerable populations and communities.

* Just as punk shows, venues, and scenes create safe spaces for women, people of color, ~~queer~~ ^{queer} + LGBTQ+, zines represent the same people and document their voices.

They are points for connection and outlets of emotion.

* Punk is social and it can be loud and aggressive.

Zines again ~~can~~ reflect this in physical form.

4. HOW DO YOU MAKE THEM?

First, decide what your zine will be about. They can be about a special interest, experience, trip or journey, thoughts or review on another piece of media or position. They can be a book of poetry or art, either by a single author or artist or a collection from a community. They can be serious or silly. Pragmatic or whimsical.

* Zines can be any size, color or binding. To save on cost, most are black + white and 8.5x11 or smaller. Use any PC program you're comfortable with or feel free to make them on paper and photo-copy the results. What matters is that you have fun and feel important + you are!

WAYS To Fold

There's unlimited ways to make & fold your zine!
But let's just go over a few options:

Booklet This is usually multiple pages stapled together and sometimes folded over. Here's a few examples with sizes:

Fold and Bind  Can be 11x17, 8.5x11 or any other size if trimmed. There's also legal size, which is 8.5x14.

Bind on Edge  Is useful to make 8.5x11 zines when your printer can't print on 11x17 paper

Accordion fold  Fold a strip of paper over on itself to create a unique zine!

Single fold  A short, 4 page zine of any size.

Brochure

 Usually a 8.5x11 folded over twice to give you 6 pages

Handbill

 Usually a 4.25x5.5 which is 4 to a 8.5x11.

Flyer

 Usually a 8.5x11.

Organizing the Content

You should put together the information in the

way that makes the most sense to you!

It can look as informational, catchy, or as creative as you'd like.

When it comes to formatting booklet zines, there are some additional challenges to face.

front	<table><tr><td>12</td><td>1</td></tr></table>	12	1	cover
12	1			
1 st page back	<table><tr><td>2</td><td>11</td></tr></table>	2	11	The Zine note on
2	11			
front	<table><tr><td>10</td><td>3</td></tr></table>	10	3	
10	3			
Middle pages back	<table><tr><td>4</td><td>9</td></tr></table>	4	9	
4	9			
front	<table><tr><td>8</td><td>5</td></tr></table>	8	5	
8	5			
last page back	<table><tr><td>6</td><td>7</td></tr></table>	6	7	centerfold
6	7			

The page numbers of folded, booklet zines work out like this. Please note how the page numbers land on the printed sheets of paper.

Some computer programs like Microsoft Word have automated settings for "booklet" in their "layout" section. This lets you not worry about doing this manually.