

Make Your Own Exquisite Slim CD Spine Labels! Best Ever!

Forget tape or adhesive stock. Bad idea. This type of label is usually applied to the OUTSIDE edge of the thin spine of a SLIM CD JEWEL CASE. Adhesive is typically on the BACK side so this looks strategically brilliant. Still hard to apply with precision while working fast with numerous cds, and your label is vulnerable to dirt, fingerprints, failing adhesive, and general unintended abuse in a busy room. The best place for your label is INSIDE the spine recess where it is protected. There's also a chance for a really nice fit – which is what I offer with this TEMPLATE. Compliments of www.HeatherSong.com

Buy CARD STOCK paper at any office supply. Typically used for business cards, etc. Comes in 8.5 x 11 and its "weight" is heavier than regular computer paper. Use standard cardstock thickness; do NOT use super-thick cardstock. For more attractive, noticeable labels buy color card stock. You can find variety packs. More cost-effective than color ink as filler. Just one sheet will yield 24 first-rate slim spine labels using this HeatherSong template. Yes, you'll have to cut them but the gridlines are printed for you – an EXCEL option I use in this design. Easy.

FIRST, WORK WITH THE LABEL ON THE TOP LEFT. Select it. Some of this is just knowing how EXCEL functions, but follow me. Change the tiny edge label wording to suit your needs (double click). If you like, play with color, add very small designs, but do NOT change font size. Or at least keep that whole edge the same size to fit the spine perfectly. What you see is a Font size 10 in ARIAL BLACK. If you experiment with fonts, look for similar visual fit and fonts you can actually **READ IN A HURRY IN A DIM ROOM WITH BAD EYESIGHT**. Some are way too cute for that and this is not the time! Make sure your tiny font is thick enough design-wise to be truly visible. Overall effect of font size can vary; there are other factors with font design. So not all Font size 10 may provide the desired outcome. You can BOLD it if you like.

Now for the upper, larger font. This larger font will run down the cd front and views differently. It's just WordArt. Double click on it to change it to your info. Again, it's Arial Black. When you're confident, you can go crazy with this one by trying other WordArt designs if desired. Resize to your liking – you see what space you have to play with, right? Always do test-prints on regular computer paper with just one or 2 labels printed. Cut them out, try them out for size, visual and color impact, etc. Obviously, make sure of your final product if you possibly can (we're all human) before you spend money and ink printing even a page.

Like what you see? Perfect the one on the top left. Then dup it over to the top right row. You can do this by mousing over to the bottom right cell corner of your original label, searching until the cursor becomes a CROSSHAIR. Then while holding down the left mouse button, drag that CROSSHAIR directly over to the top right column. You'll see the image override mine. You now see 2 identical, perfect labels of YOUR making! Here's how to DUP both columns down to the bottom. Make sure you only fill those cells sized for it, OK? Don't worry – you don't have to fill them all at once. You can repeat piecemeal until they are all filled. Go back to top of column 1 and locate that CROSSHAIR again. This time pull down and watch it fill in the other cells below identically while you drag and hold down the left button. Stopped half-way? Release the mouse, find the CROSSHAIR at the lowest label you have created, then pull more down from there. Cool, huh? Do so all the way down. Then go to the sample label at the top of column 2 on the right, find the CROSSHAIR in the lower right corner, and pull down or drag down that column. Watch the cells fill. Fill in both columns so that you have 24 identical labels. PRINT. Smile! Do a SAVE AS (not a SAVE) to a memorable location immediately as this is a TEMPLATE and you will lose all your work otherwise! OUCH!!

Now cut labels along gridlines. Just carefully; it's not surgery. Individually fold the spine edge up. Experiment until you're familiar, testing with the actual slim cd for fit. A protruding label will scrape the next cd on the shelf. Card stock thickness is part of our success. I cut and fold a batch of labels before I sit down to glue. Finished labels fit so snugly they don't even shake out. But we go one more step to impress EVERYBODY and ensure success . . .



www.ToolsGS.com : X001 **G-S Hypo Cement . . . has a great applicator tool!**

G-S Hypo Cement was invented in 1939 for use in the watchmaking and jewelry repair industries. It is a combination of a fine precision tool and a clear drying, medium-strength cement that will not damage surfaces. The cement is ideal for jewelry, beads, plastic, glass, metal, ceramics, painted or sealed woods and other non-porous surfaces. This is a no-waste product that is ideal for many applications. Full use of the precision applicator tip is maintained by inserting the cap wire into the tube when not in use, and by cleaning excess drops from the outside of the applicator with rubbing alcohol or nail polish remover. This is not an "instant glue." It becomes tacky in 10 - 15 seconds, allows parts to be adjusted, and dries in 10 to 15 minutes. The cement will not bond fingers, and has a slight odor that dissipates quickly. Great for model making, miniatures, fine

screw locking, sealing knots, precision waterproof sealing, precision repairs, optical and technical applications, crafts and hobbies. **\$6.99 here; \$5.99 at Craft Warehouse. Look around. Compliments of Laure Gomes, the "glue expert" at Craft Warehouse on Mill Plain in Vancouver, WA!**

I CAN be klutzy and impatient – but this is really not bad! PROJECT RESULTS EXCEPTIONAL! Read inside instructions by deconstructing the little box. I applied the TINIEST amount in each corner and the center of the larger flat area, but near the thin spine edge. NOT messy or really fume to me. The needle is so tiny and precise, it only delivers a minute amount but that's ALL you want anyway. It stops people like me from overdoing it. That's a miracle! I did NOT wait. I placed the jewel case on my protected work surface with back facing up and the spine edge nearest me. I applied a little glue and promptly slid the label in. It dried fast, consistently, and those labels are GOING NOWHERE! I even applied it to otherwise "completed" packages with cd and card insert already in position. No mess. This tube should last a while. With my application, the glue COULD be visible from the cd front – but it isn't. Results are more than artistically and functionally satisfactory. Labels are legible, promise longevity, and this technique makes a potentially wary project a REAL SUCCESS and worth the effort. I wouldn't kid ya! **THANK YOU, PHIL BOWLER and LAURE GOMES!!!! 8/26/11**