STASH

Storage Techniques for Art, Science and History

Storage Techniques for Art, Science and History collections (STASHc.com) an Online Resource for Collection Storage

https://stashc.com/

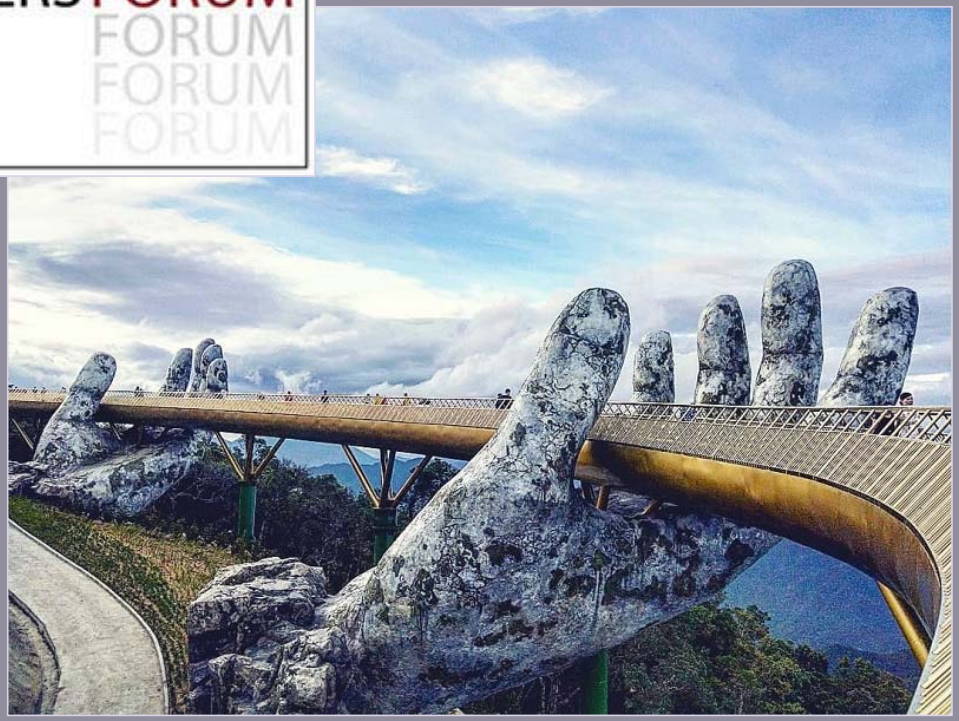
MOUNTMAKERS FORUM

Shelly Uhlir, Rachael Perkins Arenstein & Lisa Goldberg

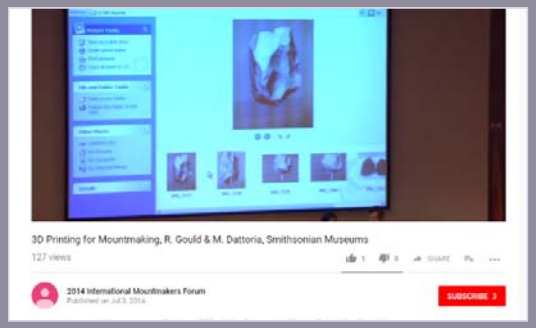
6th International Mountmaking Forum, Natural History Museum, London, September 26, 2018

Building Digital Bridges

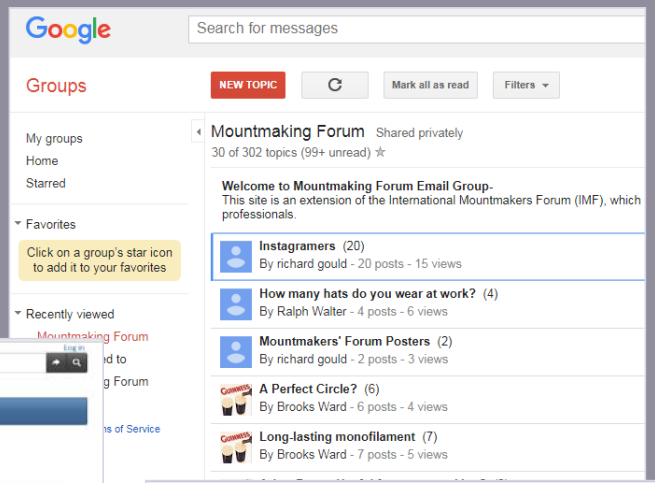
MOUNTMAKERS FORUM



Webcasts from IMMF Meetings

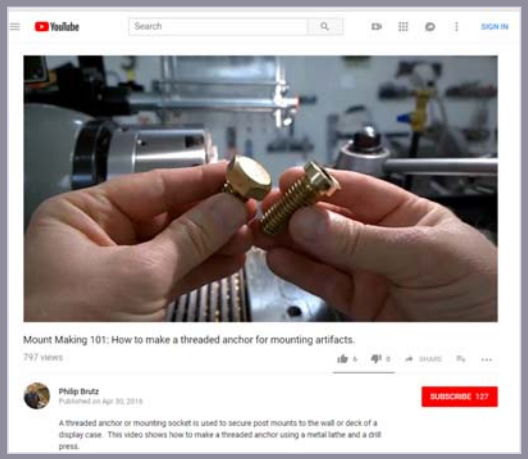


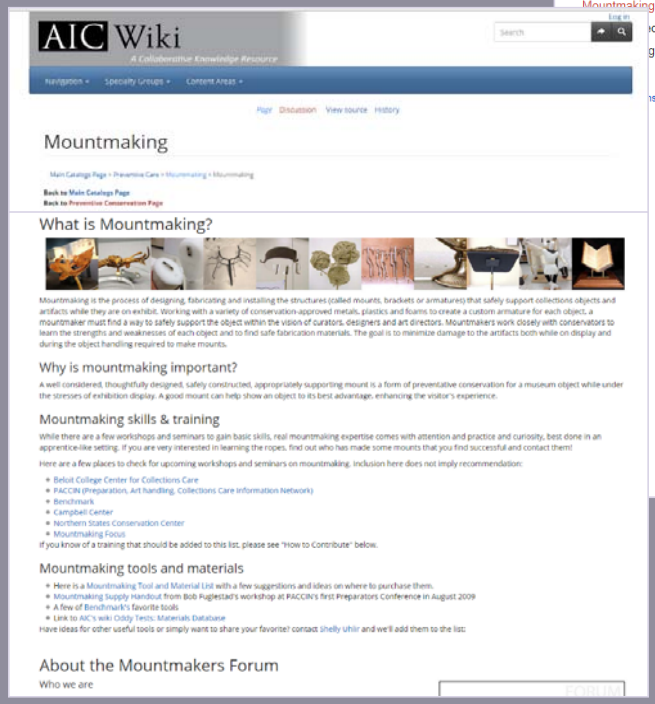
The Mountmaking Forum Google Group



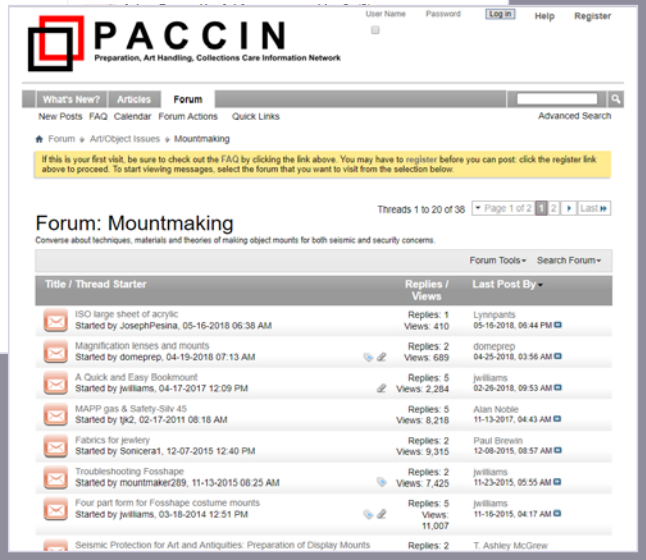
Instagram

YouTube Video "How-to's"

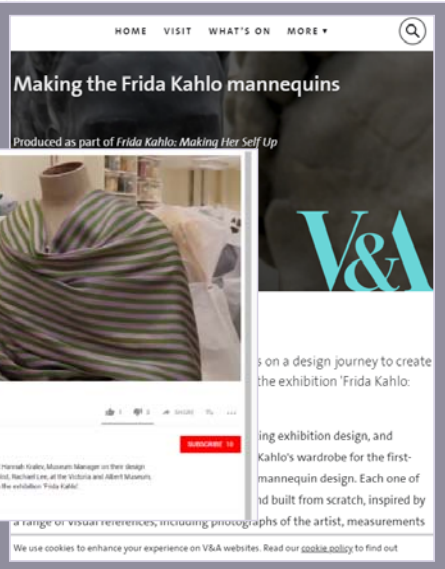




AIC Wiki Mountmaking Page



PACCIN Mountmaking Discussion Forum



Institutional Blogs and Videos

THE FOUNDATION OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR CONSERVATION OF HISTORIC AND ARTISTIC WORKS

AIC

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STORAGE TECHNIQUES FOR ART, SCIENCE, AND HISTORY COLLECTIONS

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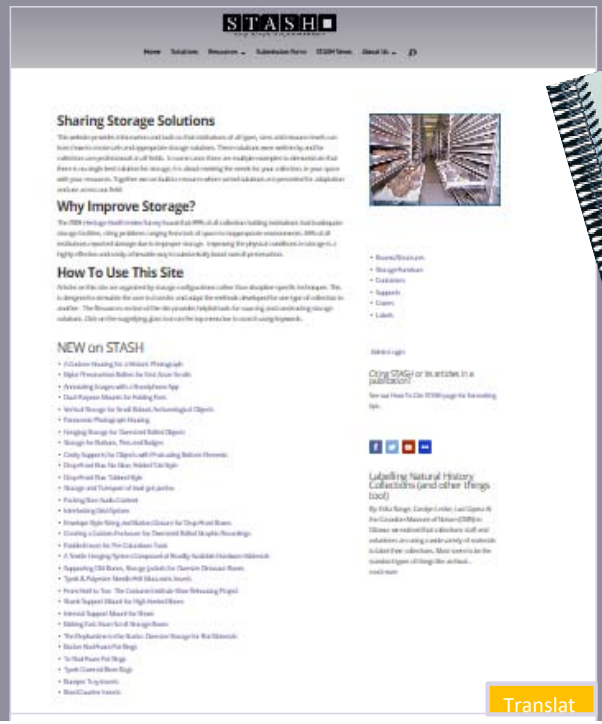
SPNHC
ADVANCING COLLECTIONS CARE

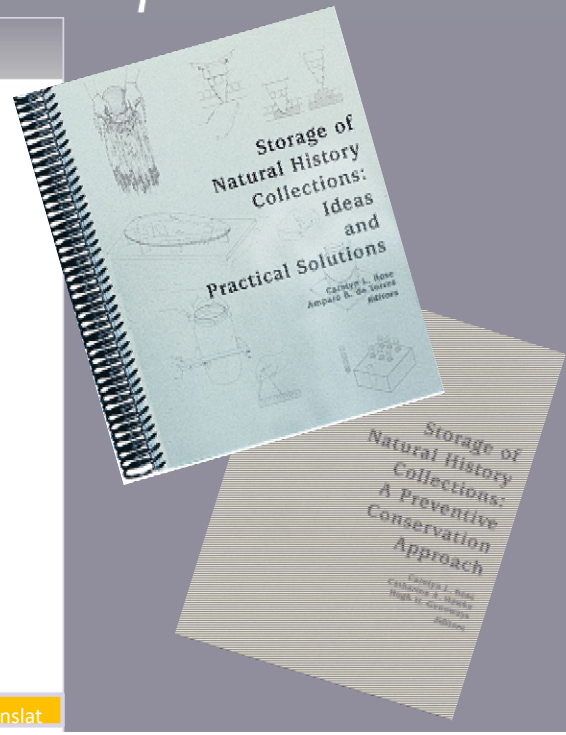
STASHc.com - *Online collaborative tool for collection care professionals*

WHAT IS STASHc?

In 2014 the Foundation for the American Institute for Conservation (FAIC) and the Society for the Preservation of Natural History Collections (SPNHC) launched **Storage Techniques for Art, Science, and History collections** (STASHc).

- This website is designed to gather, organize, and solicit information about collections storage exemplars.
- STASHc is an online tool to inspire new solutions among museum professionals worldwide.





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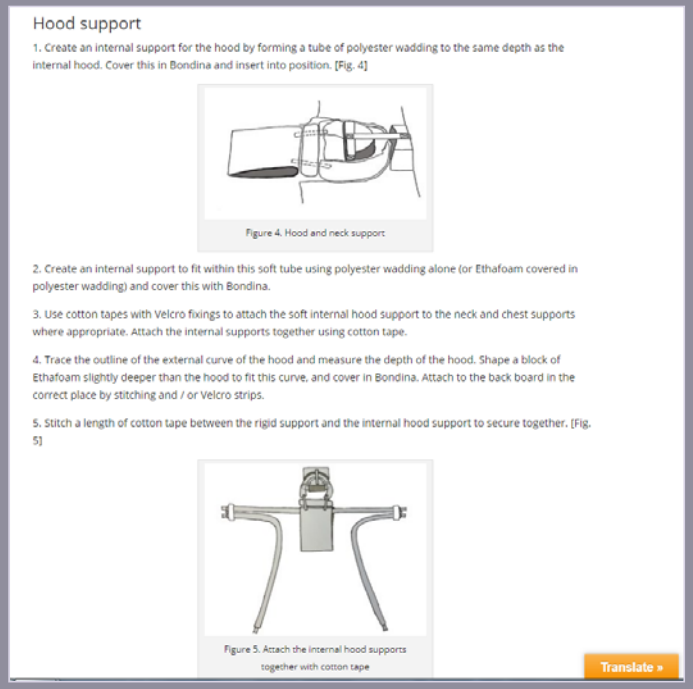

Hood support

1. Create an internal support for the hood by forming a tube of polyester wadding to the same depth as the internal hood. Cover this in Bondina and insert into position. [Fig. 4]

Figure 4. Hood and neck support

2. Create an internal support to fit within this soft tube using polyester wadding alone (or Ethafoam covered in polyester wadding) and cover this with Bondina.

3. Use cotton tapes with Velcro fixings to attach the soft internal hood support to the neck and chest supports where appropriate. Attach the internal supports together using cotton tape.

4. Trace the outline of the external curve of the hood and measure the depth of the hood. Shape a block of Ethafoam slightly deeper than the hood to fit this curve, and cover in Bondina. Attach to the back board in the correct place by stitching and / or Velcro strips.

5. Stitch a length of cotton tape between the rigid support and the internal hood support to secure together. [Fig. 5]

Figure 5. Attach the internal hood supports together with cotton tape

Translate »

detail from: *Storage and Transport of Inuit Gut Parkas by* Sarah Glenn, Nicola Harrison, and Pippa Cruickshank, V&A/ British Museum, 2016

PUTTING THE PARTS TOGETHER

18. Place the pleated support on the base and the fan on the support to check that the spread of the pleats and the slope are correct. If necessary, tighten or widen pleats to best accommodate the fan. Once the positioning is correct, place registration marks (we used small strips of tape) on the pleated support and the base so that pleat locations can be easily lined up when adhering in place (Figure 7).

19. First attach the upper guard sector in place with hot melt adhesive. Then work in short sections to affix the rest of the folder stock support with the adhesive. Lift the support and spread adhesive over a small section. lay the folder stock down in place based on the registration marks and allow the adhesive to set. Proceed by lifting the remaining portion and setting down another section as described (Figure 8).

FIGURE 7. Registration marks

FIGURE 8. Attaching the pleated leaf support to the base

CREATING AND ATTACHING THE STICK SUPPORT

20. Cut, in an arc, a piece of the unbleached cotton batting and adhere it to the mount with hot melt adhesive, minimally applied. Add enough thicknesses of unbleached cotton batting to ensure that the sticks are resting on the surface of the cotton without the cotton pushing on the sticks and elevating the fan leaf out of the pleated support (Figure 9).

21. Cut a piece of sueded polyethylene that is in the relative shape of the unbleached cotton with a little excess. Cover this cotton with the sueded polyethylene and push the excess sueded polyethylene with a skewer, or other pointed tool, underneath the pleated support (Figure 10). If necessary, use hot melt adhesive to tack down pieces that are not properly adhered, but make sure that no adhesive will touch the fan.

Translat

detail from: *Dual Purpose Mounts for Folding Fans* by Kesha Talbert, Lauren Gottschlich, and Pamela Young, Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, 2016

Materials, Tools & Supplies

- Stockinette polyester tubing (4 or 6 inch diameter)
- Loop knives (made from metal, wood and tape)
- Metal strapping or hacksaw blades
- Pencil
- Mat knife
- Ruler
- Straight edge
- Ethafoam tubing (3 or 4 inch diameter)
- Wooden support frame (optional)

Figure 8. Materials and Tools for making an Ethafoam preservation roller

Construction

Making Loop Knives

Loop knives are used to hollow out the bottom of the channel in the Ethafoam tube. The roller rod at the base of the scroll should fit loosely when it sits in this channel. Since roller rods come in various diameters, it is necessary to have on hand two or three knives with rounded blades that correspond to the depth and width of standard roller rods (figure 9). Measure the diameter of several roller rods to determine what sizes are necessary. Knives with blade diameters of approximately 1¼, 1½, and 2 inches are commonly useful.

The round blades can be made from flexible hacksaw blades or metal pallet strapping available at hardware stores. Bend each blade over a wooden dowel of a different diameter to help make it round and to approximate the required diameter. To secure the size of each blade and to make a handle, fit the ends of each blade over a 6 to 8 inch length of wood that is sized to the preferred diameter of the rounded blade. For example, a 1½ inch rounded blade would work best with an approximately 1½ x 1½ inch square length of wood. While maintaining the depth and width of the rounded blade, secure the blade to the wooden handle with a heavy

Fig. 9 – Examples of loop knives.

detail from: *Making Ethafoam Preservation Rollers for Storing East Asian Scrolls,* by the East Asian Painting Conservation Studio, Freer Gallery of Art and Arthur M. Sackler Gallery, 2015

Site Organization

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- Supports
  - Pallets
  - Papers and Boards
  - Tubes
  - Rigid Supports
  - Malleable Supports
  - Mannequins
  - Hangers
  - Taxidermy forms

Supports

Physical support helps objects retain their shape and can prevent damage from gravity, environmental conditions or poor handling. Proper support reduces stress on specific components or weak junctures and prevents flex. Note that this section does not include any type of enclosure. See the sections for covers and containers for information pertaining to these types of supports:

This section includes:
- Pallets
- Papers and Boards
- Tubes
- Custom supports
- Rigid Supports
- Malleable
- Mannequins
- Hangers
- Taxidermy forms
- Armatures for Skeletal Mounts

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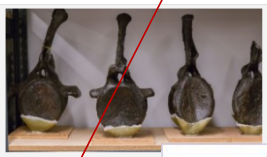
Rigid Supports

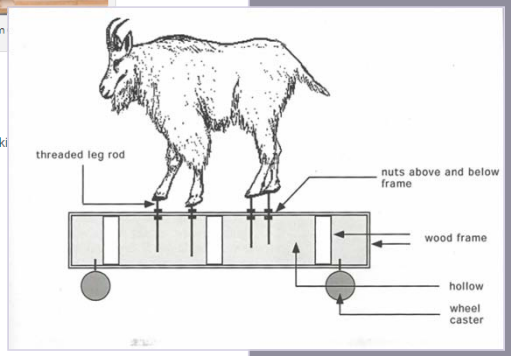
Formed to closely align with the rigid shape of an object, these supports provide overall and conformational support. They are often carved or cast.



Courtesy American Museum

Articles

Making Ethafoam Preservation Rollers for Storing East Asian Scrolls, Freer|Sackler Gallery
Mylar Preservation Rollers for East Asian Scrolls, Freer|Sackler Gallery
Dual Purpose Mounts for Folding Fans, Kesha Talbert, Lauren Gottschlich and Pamela Young
Cavity Supports for Composite Objects with Elements Protruding from the Underside, Emily Wroczynski
Cradle Mount for Objects with Rounded Bases, Brigid Sullivan
Encapsulating Support for Large, Three-dimensional, Fragile Specimens, Dan S. Chaney
Foam Protector Rings for Ceramics, Nancy Odegaard
Internal Support Mount for Shoes, Laura Mina and Lisa Stockebrand
Shank Support Mount for High Heeled Shoes, Laura Mina and Lisa Stockebrand
Support for Lightweight Conical Objects, Geoffrey I. Brown
Support No. 2 for Objects with Shafts, Russell B. Varineau and Nancy Odegaard
Support for Small Taxidermy Mounts, Linda L. Thomas
Support for Large Taxidermy Mounts, Tamsen Fuller
Support System No.1 for Small Taxidermy Mounts with Extended Leg Wires, Tamsen Fuller
Support System No. 2 for Small Taxidermy Mounts with Extended Leg Wires, Tamsen Fuller



Site Searching

Search for “shoes”

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shoes

Internal Support Mount for Shoes

by Rachael Perkins Arenstein | Oct 28, 2014 |

Solutions Solutions Rooms & Structures Storage Furniture Cabinets Shelving Units Racking Systems Crates Carts Containers Folders, Envelopes, Enclosures Bags Boxes Drawers Trays Subdividers Jars Vials Supports Pallets Papers and Boards Tubes Rigid Supports...

Shank support mount for high heeled shoes

by Rachael Perkins Arenstein | Oct 28, 2014 |

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Abstracts for STASH Flash 2014 presentations

by Rachael Perkins Arenstein | Dec 12, 2014 | Events, STASH Flash, STASHc News | 0 comments

11 Presentations were chosen for the inaugural STASH Flash session that officially launched the STASH website a AIC’s 2014 Annual Meeting. Solutions were grouped into three themesSolutions for individual itemsSolutions for groups of itemsSustainable...

From Heel to Toe: ♂The Costume Institute Shoe Rehousing Project

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  - Malleable Supports
  - Mannequins
  - Hangers
  - Taxidermy forms
- Covers
  - Shelving covers
  - Object Covers
- Labels

Internal support mount for shoes

Purpose

This support system is appropriate for shoes with ankle straps or other design elements that need support in the shaft or ankle area. It allows the object to be stored and viewed as it was originally designed to be seen.

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Website: http://www.philamuseum.org/

Photographs: Laura Mina and Lisa Stockebrand

Publication: 2014

Description

A foot-shaped mount of heat-activated polyester felt. The mount provides semi-rigid support to all areas of the shoe.

Materials, Tools & Supplies

- Heat-activated polyester felt
- Heat steamer
- Sewing supplies, needle and thread
- Slipper pattern
- Mannequin foot
- High-loft polyester batting

Article Contents and Access

- Purpose
- Description
- Materials, Tools & Supplies
- Construction
- Comments
- Adapted From

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Malleable Supports
Mannequins
Hangers
Taxidermy forms
Covers
Shelving covers
Object Covers
Labels
Drawer, shelf, cabinet and other labels
Tray/Jar Labels
Object Labels
Environment

Drop-Front Box: No-Glue, Folded-Tab Style

Purpose

The purpose of the re-housing project is to get objects out of non-archival materials that were used following a major earthquake into housings that will keep the objects dust-free, viewable on the shelf, and to provide ease of viewing with limited or no handling when used for classes.

Author(s)

Angela Yvarra McGrew Object Conservator San Francisco Bay Area

Photo Credits: Angela Yvarra McGrew

Publication: 2016

Figure 1. Completed folded tap drop-front box

Description

The first version of the drop front box uses the basic template of a fold-tab box with minor modifications to a both sides) to fold down. The basic version of the folding tab box has the flaps tucked neatly inside the fold.

This design is one of two that was used during a major rehousing project. The other Drop-Front Box – Tabbe available on STASH.

Materials, Tools & Supplies

- B-Flute (1/8") or E-Flute (1/16") corrugated board
- Box cutter
- Bone creaser
- Wall mounted board cutter – Optional
- Gridded ruler – Optional
- Bag or oblong leather punch. Optional. e.g. 1.75" long punch. They are all about ¼" wide. available at C.S. Osborne [Fig.2]

Construction

1. Start with the basic template for a standard fold-tab box. The diagram indicates how much must be added

Comments

Muslin can be used instead of Tyvek® for the cover, however, the Tyvek® is already flame retardant, and the paper-like Tyvek's® stiffness allows for less material to be used to make the metal frame.

Use your scraps. We want to use as little Tyvek® as possible, which includes sewing scrap pieces together in a patchwork design. Just overlap the pieces and use a zigzag stitch for each edge of the Tyvek® for added support (Figure 25).

Figure 25. Use your scraps to minimize Tyvek® waste material.

Construction

1. Start with the basic t
measurements to acco

1/4"* + Height + 1/4"+ Height + Length + Height + 1/4" + Height + 1/4" * (note: 3/16" is perfect but 1/4"

Adapted From

Fuller, T. (1992). Hoop and Bag Cover. *Storage of Natural History Collections: Ideas and Practical Solutions* (p. 121). (http://stashc.com/the-publication/covers/object-covers/hoop-and-bag-cover/)

Literature Cited

Fuller, T. (1992). Hoop and Bag Cover. *Storage of Natural History Collections: Ideas and Practical Solutions* (p. 121). (http://stashc.com/the-publication/covers/object-covers/hoop-and-bag-cover/)

Keywords

container, taxidermy, cover, framed cover, protective cover, large object cover, custom storage, collections management, preservation, long-term storage, oversized, collections storage

Special Purposes

Microenvironment, Special Considerations

Collection Type

Natural Science

Translate »

Additional Site Features

Glossary

Materials List

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Glossary

This glossary defines terminology used throughout the site and in the original SPNHC printed volume. This is not an exhaustive list. For more on particular materials or terminology please access the following resources:

- **Conservation & Art Material Encyclopedia Online (CAMEO)** – CAMEO is a searchable information center developed by the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. The database contains chemical, physical, visual and analytical information on historic and contemporary materials used in the production and conservation of artistic, architectural, archaeological and anthropological material.
- **AIC wiki** – The AIC wiki contains professional information on conservation topics written by practicing conservators, conservation scientists and other allied professionals. The Lexicon Project and the section on Research & Analysis as well as other areas of the site contain information relevant to the subject of storage and preservation.
- **MuseumWise: Workplace Words Defined** – This 2003 reference, compiled and edited by Paisley S. Cato, Julia Golden and Suzanne B. McLaren, focuses on defining terms relating to managing and preserving collections. The book is published by the Society for the Preservation of Natural History Collections.

Glossary list

[A] [B] [C] [D] [E] [F] [G] [H] [I] [J] [K] [L] [M] [N] [O] [P] [Q] [R] [S] [T] [U] [V] [W] [X] [Y] [Z]

A

abrade: to wear away by scraping, rubbing, grinding or friction.

abrasion: wearing away of surface material from a solid by the friction or action of another solid, a liquid or a gas (or combination); surface loss caused by friction.

absorption: penetration of a substance into the structure of another, such as through capillary action or as radiant energy passing into or through a material.

acetone: dimethyl ketone (CH_3COCH_3); a colorless, low boiling, volatile liquid soluble in water and many other organic liquids. Commonly used as a solvent for adhesives. Highly flammable.

acid-free: a term loosely used for papers and other materials which are often pH neutral or alkaline buffered; could be any pH from 6 up to 11; more descriptive and hence useful terms are "neutral" or "alkaline buffered."

acid-free

Materials, Supplies & Tools

This materials list is organized generically. To search for a product, one first should determine what material it is made of (e.g. paper, polyethylene, aluminum) then search for it in the appropriate category. Tools are an exception and are listed by their common name. Suppliers and manufacturers chosen by the authors a listed as well.

This list is not comprehensive and mention on this site does not constitute an endorsement by FAIC, SPNHC or any other organization or individual. Visit our Sponsors page [internal link] for a list of vendors who support the STASH website.

Formulations of commercially available products can change without notice. Before purchasing supplies, check with the manufacturer to ensure that the favorable properties of the material are still present.

For additional information on materials and supplies visit Conservation & Art Material Encyclopedia Online (CAMEO).

[A] [B] [C] [D] [E] [F] [G] [H] [I] [J] [K] [L] [M] [N] [O] [P] [Q] [R] [S] [T] [U] [V] [W] [X] [Y] [Z]

Material	Brand name/Cross Reference	Manufacturer	Supplier	Comment
A				
			Conservation Materials Ltd.	
			Fisher Scientific	
			chemical, lab or	

Distance

Length / Distance Converter

Unit converter for length

Conversion Tables Conversion of lengths, weights and volumes listed throughout the site are provided here for handy reference or use the converter tool for your calculations.

Value

From Millimeters

To Millimeters

Convert

LENGTH
Centimeter (cm) = 0.394 Inches
Centimeter = 0.01 Meters
Foot (ft)= 30.48 Centimeters
Foot = 12 Inches
Inch (in)= 2.54 Centimeters
Meter (M) = 39.37 Inches
Meter = 3.28 Feet
Meter = 1.09 Yards
Micron (μ) = 0.001 Millimeters
Micron = 0.000001 Meters
Mil = 0.001 (10-3) inches
Millimeter (mm) = 0.001 Meters

WEIGHT
Dram (dr) = 0.0625 Ounces
Dram = 1.772 Grams
Gram (gr) = 0.0353 Ounces
Kilogram (kg) = 1000 Grams
Kilogram = 2.205 Pounds
Milligram (mg) = 0.001 Grams
Milligram = 0.0000353 Ounces
Ounce (oz) = 28.350 Grams
Ounce = 16 Drams
Ounce = 0.0625 Pounds
Pound (lb) = 16 Ounces
Pound = 453.592 Grams

VOLUME
Cubic Foot US (ft3) = 28.316 Liters
Dram (dr) = 3.697 Milliliters
Dram = 0.125 Fluid Ounces
US Fluid Ounce US (oz) = 29.572 Milliters
Gallon US (gal) = 4 Quarts US
Gallon US = 3.785 Liters
Liter (L) = 1.057 Quarts
US Liter = 0.264 Gallons US
Quart US (qt) = 0.946 Liters
Milliliter (ml) = 0.001 Liter
Milliliter = 0.0338 Fluid Ounces
US Milliter = 0.00211 Pints US

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RE-ORG in Action at the Colchester Historeum

by Rachael Perkins Arenstein | Jan 18, 2017 | Events | 0 comments

Authors: Alicia Ghadban, Simon Lambert, Canadian Conservation Institute and Margaret Mulrooney, Colchester Historeum

RE-ORG Canada is a storage reorganization training initiative organized by the Canadian Conservation Institute (CCI) in collaboration with ICCROM, provincial museum associations, and the Museums Assistance Program (MAP). It is based on the RE-ORG methodology (developed by ICCROM and UNESCO) – a tool designed to help smaller museums in developing countries reorganize their storage and documentation systems. The program combines training and distance learning over a one-year

Figure 1. View of overcrowded metal shelving units.

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University of Arizona


width and length must be measured out depending on desired final shape. These can be created by cutting a long strip of the fabric, folding it in half (smooth surfaces to the inside), and sewing along the long edges. The pillow can then be turned inside-out and stuffed with polyester fiber fill.

Figure 12: Tyvek 'snake' created before insertion.

Figure 13: Completed internal mount.

For the Teflon, the polyester batting can be placed on the outer edge of the foam ring to provide enough padding, and the Teflon wrapped around the ring and secured at the end by tucking. The length of the outer ring material is dependent on the size of ring or snake desired. For constructed outer rings, not snakes, the ring should fit snug onto the inner ring without slippage and should be able to stand on its own, in order to create an outward pressure to support the basket.

Figure 15: Internal mount fitting snugly within a flexible basket on a storage shelf.

National Museum of
African American History and Culture

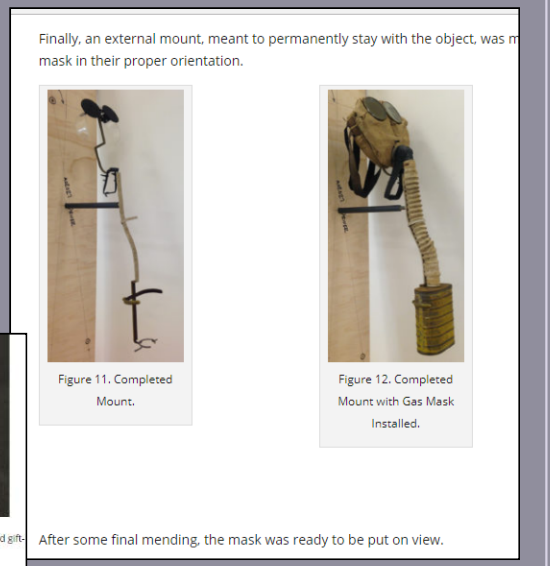
Finally, an external mount, meant to permanently stay with the object, was m
mask in their proper orientation.

Figure 11. Completed Mount.

Figure 12. Completed Mount with Gas Mask Installed.

After some final mending, the mask was ready to be put on view.

Royal Ontario Museum


Description

The newly designed hangers utilized the wire hangers covered with polyethylene pipe insulation as t
support, but instead of a muslin slip, a padded body-form was used as a cover. The form provides su
entire interior of the jacket and also alleviates stress on the shoulder area by distributing the jacket's
across a larger surface area. The body form is made out of muslin and padded with ¼" inch thick poly
batting. The form consists of a padded torso and a pair of padded arms. The torso is slightly cinched
waistline and also has an extended neck piece. This piece covers the wire twist of the hanger and red
of snagging. The pair of arms is attached to the torso by tying them around the neck of the hanger w
twill tape. This allows the length of the arms to be adjustable depending on how long or short the tw
(Figure 2).

Figure 2. Wire hangers covered with polyethylene pipe insulation were used as the

Natural History London


conditions.

- Re-storing these specimens under anoxic conditions, rather than eliminating RH, was deemed the best option in order to halt the decay process, as clay-based fossils may dry out causing irreversible damage through shrinkage as interstitial water is lost. In addition to this, if you were trying to just control the RH, the silica buffers would need to be conditioned to <30% RH unless all specimens are treated with ammonia vapour, which has a large cost and time implication.

Fig. 1 – Specimens stored in a recently sealed gift-bag style anoxic microenvironment

Description

The anoxic microenvironment shown in figs. 1-3 consists of a gas-barrier film and oxygen scavenging sachets, RPK's. RPK oxygen scavengers are used as they maintain RH ambient at the time of sealing. Our enclosures are sealed at 40-50% RH, which is appropriate for pyritic clay fossils like the Gault. The bag is heat-sealed at the top leaving enough additional material so that it can be cut open and re-used (Figure 1). Once a specimen has been accessed, the oxygen-scavenging sachets are replaced and the bag is resealed.

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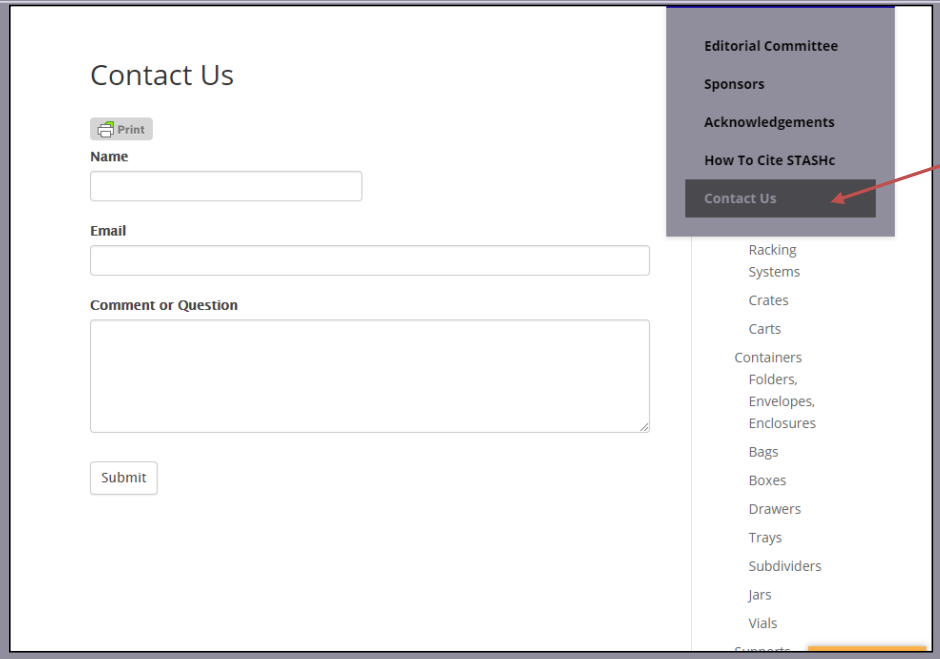

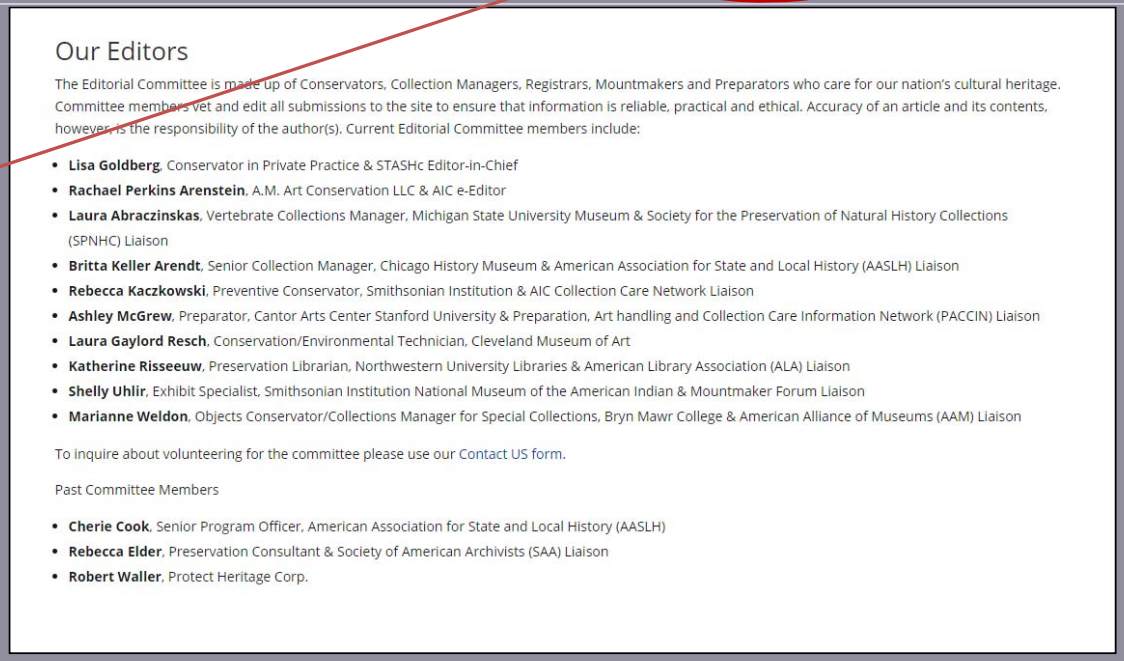

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