

Agenda – Book Repair

1. Preventing Book Damage

- a. Purchase high-quality books: Library Bindings and Rebinds are greater than Publishers Hardbacks are greater than Paperbacks
 - i. Library Binding Vendor Suggestions:
 - ii. Rebinding Vendor Suggestions: Perma-Bound, Bound to Stay Bound, Mackin, Follett, Turtleback
- b. Cover your books
 - i. Hardcover Dust Jacket Covers
 - ii. Paperback Covers
 - iii. Children's hardcover without dust jacket: reinforce spine with clear book tape
- c. Open a new book properly to maintain the binding
- d. Teach students about and encourage proper book care

2. Deciding whether a book is worth repairing - some things to consider

- a. Time for Repairs: your time may be worth more than the money that might be saved by repairing rather than replacing a book
- b. How likely is the repair to return the book to service? How many different repairs does the book need?
- c. Quality of the book: cheap paperbacks are not worth spending a lot of time repairing, but some repairs can be quickly done and are probably worth it to get a few more circulations out of the book.
- d. Relevance/Popularity of the Book: if the book would already be a possible candidate for weeding because of low circulation or outdated information, take this damage as an opportunity to get rid of it.
- e. Video (she's talking specifically about water damage but it applies to other scenarios as well): http://youtu.be/pO9G-JvyN_4

3. Book Repair Tools and Supplies

- a. Erasers - STAEDTLER Mars Plastic is a white art eraser that works really well.
- b. Book Repair Glue - there are many different brands and names (I happen to have DEMCO Norbond) but you want a white pH-neutral ("acid free") liquid plastic adhesive - also called a PVA or polyvinyl acetate adhesive
- c. Brushes - for applying glue
- d. Wax Paper - the library supply places sell nice high-quality wax paper in sheets, but you can also use the cheaper grocery store variety, or even recycle the backings of label sheets.
- e. Scissors, Exacto knives, and razor blades
- f. Bone folder
- g. Knitting needles or dowels - for applying glue into loose hinges and other tricky spots
- h. Emery boards

- i. Book cleaner - there are two kinds, a goopy kind that you mix in with water, and a dry by pliable eraser-like kind. Both have slightly different use cases and neither are perfect.
- j. Paper mending tape - I have one called "Filmoplast"
- k. Clear Book Tape - the Scotch brand book tapes ("3M 845") offered at the district warehouse are great, but there are other brands and kinds, too.
- l. Hinge Tape - I have Tyvek hinge tape, there is also paper hinge tape and vinyl hinge tape - some of these come in various colors
- m. Single-stitch and double-stitch binder tape - for re-attaching covers that have come loose from the text block

4. Various Repairs

- a. Marked/Soiled Covers
 - i. Book Cleaner
 - ii. Razor blades to scrape off gunk
 - iii. Recovering dust jackets
 - iv. White erase markers to remove permanent marker
- b. Marked/Soiled Page edges
 - i. Emery boards to remove dirt or markings (pen, crayon, etc.)
- c. Marked/Soiled Pages
 - i. Erasers
 - ii. Razor blades to scrape off gunk
- d. Mending Torn Pages
 - i. Beveled tear: liquid plastic adhesive <http://youtu.be/3pUJ9lIr9Z8>
 - ii. Clean tear: paper mending tape <http://youtu.be/Uictc4qcUEA>
- e. Reattaching Loose Pages <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jYvZtfzd5TI>
- f. Tightening Loose Hinges <http://youtu.be/lp5uU73h204>
- g. Cover-bind machines – when and how to use
- h. Reinforce a Hinge – book repair tape: <http://youtu.be/routQtSqe0s>
- i. Repairing a broken hinge -- single stitch binding tape:
http://youtu.be/zZE9sN_hTVc
- j. Re-attaching a cover – double-stitch binding tape
 - i. <http://youtu.be/wzhCgiRi2YU>
 - ii. <http://youtu.be/5yU0G-NZhuQ>
- k. Repairing frayed corners
 - i. Glue down frayed layers
 - ii. Use ready corners or book tape to cover the corner
- l. Repairing Headcaps – book repair wings or tape: <http://youtu.be/PR-QFYXY24E>
- m. Water Damage
 - i. If the book is still wet, you have a better chance of salvaging it. Place it in a freezer in a ziploc bag. Then you can save it and go through the drying process later at your convenience.
 - ii. If the book has a strong binding and is only somewhat damp you can stand it open on a counter with the pages fanned out. This will allow it to dry. Running a fan will help expedite the drying process.

- iii. Otherwise, place a paper towel every 10-15 pages in the book. Depending on how wet the book is, you may need to change out these papers every hour or two. If it is a glossy book, you would need to put paper between every single page or they will stick together as they dry. Place in a bookpress or otherwise slightly weight it down.
- iv. <http://youtu.be/OS9BXdPSSjU>
- v. <http://youtu.be/jRw5cgdWsWY>

Resources

[Bookcraft: Simple Techniques for the Maintenance and Repair of Books](#) (PDF - a good little book repair manual by Gaylord)

http://www.gaylord.com/images/Bookcraft_BookRepairGuide.pdf

[Demco Library Collection Care Playlist](#) (Demco's YouTube channel; provides numerous book repair videos)

<http://www.youtube.com/user/DEMCOinc#grid/user/9876A71BE2C6220C>

[Raeco Book Repair Videos](#) (Another library supply vendor's YouTube channel with book repair videos)

<http://www.youtube.com/user/raesam01#p/u>

[Book Repair Manual - Dartmouth College Library](#) (no pictures or videos, but lots of detailed instructions)

<http://www.dartmouth.edu/~library/preservation/repair/index.html>