

NOTICE: This is a simple, general purpose manual for handling library materials based our experience at the National Diet Library. When you handle rare books or severely damaged materials, we recommend you to consult an expert in conservation treatment.

How to reattach a cover to a text block

When the cover and end paper separate from the text block, we paste a hollow tube (a cylinder made of paper) to the spine to reattach the cover to the text block.

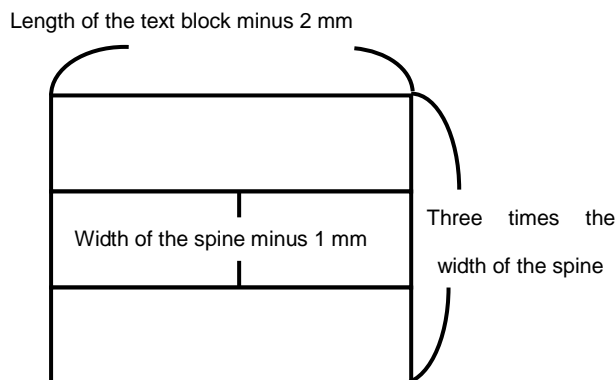


Materials

- ◆ Starch paste, about the consistency of cream soup
- ◆ Adhesive mixed with starch paste at a ratio of 1:1
- ◆ Kraft paper (thick)

Tools

Ruler, pencil, folder, scrap paper, cutting knife, cutting mat, glue brush for adhesive, glue brush for starch paste, dry cloth, cooking paper, press boards, weights



1. Cut the kraft paper to make a rectangle of the size shown above.

2. Fold the kraft paper in three



3. Place the kraft paper on a sheet of scrap paper. The place another sheet of scrap



4. Join the two edges of the kraft paper together to form a hollow tube. Then flatten

paper on the kraft paper, as shown. Apply mixed adhesive to the kraft paper, then remove the scrap paper.



5. Apply mixed adhesive to the face of the spine.

the tube into a strip



6. Before the adhesive on the spine dries, apply mixed adhesive to the single-thickness side of the tube.



7. Attach the flattened tube to the face of the spine, taking care to align the tube to the spine.



8. Use a folder to press the flattened tube firmly onto the face of the spine.



9. After making sure that the tube is securely attached to the spine, apply mixed adhesive to the flattened tube.



10. Before the adhesive on the tube dries, apply mixed adhesive to the the lining of the cover spine.



11. Place your left hand on the text block to hold it firmly in place, then use your right hand to close the cover so that the spine returns to its original position.



12. Cover the spine with cooking paper, then rub the spine and groove with a dry cloth to press the cover firmly in place on the text block.



13. Use a folder to press the cover along the groove firmly into place.



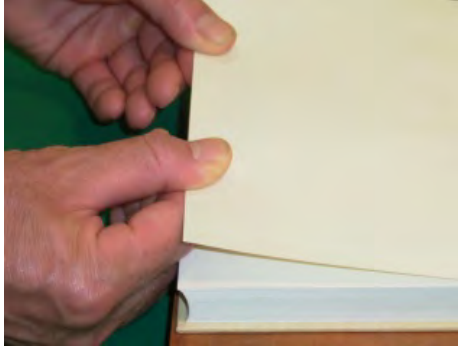
14. Place the book between two press boards, and place a weight on top of the upper board until the adhesive dries.



15. After the adhesive dries, open the book to the first leaf and place a sheet of scrap paper over it, leaving a 5-mm gap to the gutter.



16. Apply starch paste to the gutter gap, then remove the scrap paper.



17. True the edge of the free endpaper and the text block, holding them together with your left hand to keep them aligned.



18. Use a folder to press the free endpaper into the gutter. Be careful not to apply too much pressure.



19. Close the book slowly.



20. Place the book between two press boards, and place a weight on top of the upper board until the adhesive dries.