

BUILDING 3-DIMENSIONAL SURFACES

3-dimensional elements find their way into my binding design quite frequently. Consequently, I'm always looking for new objects to stick on and new ways of doing the sticking. These techniques were developed through the process of trial and error. There are, of course, any number of ways of making these attachments. This poster presentation is a compilation of some of the tricks I have found successful.

No matter how you go about building up the surface of a binding, three things are critical to your success:

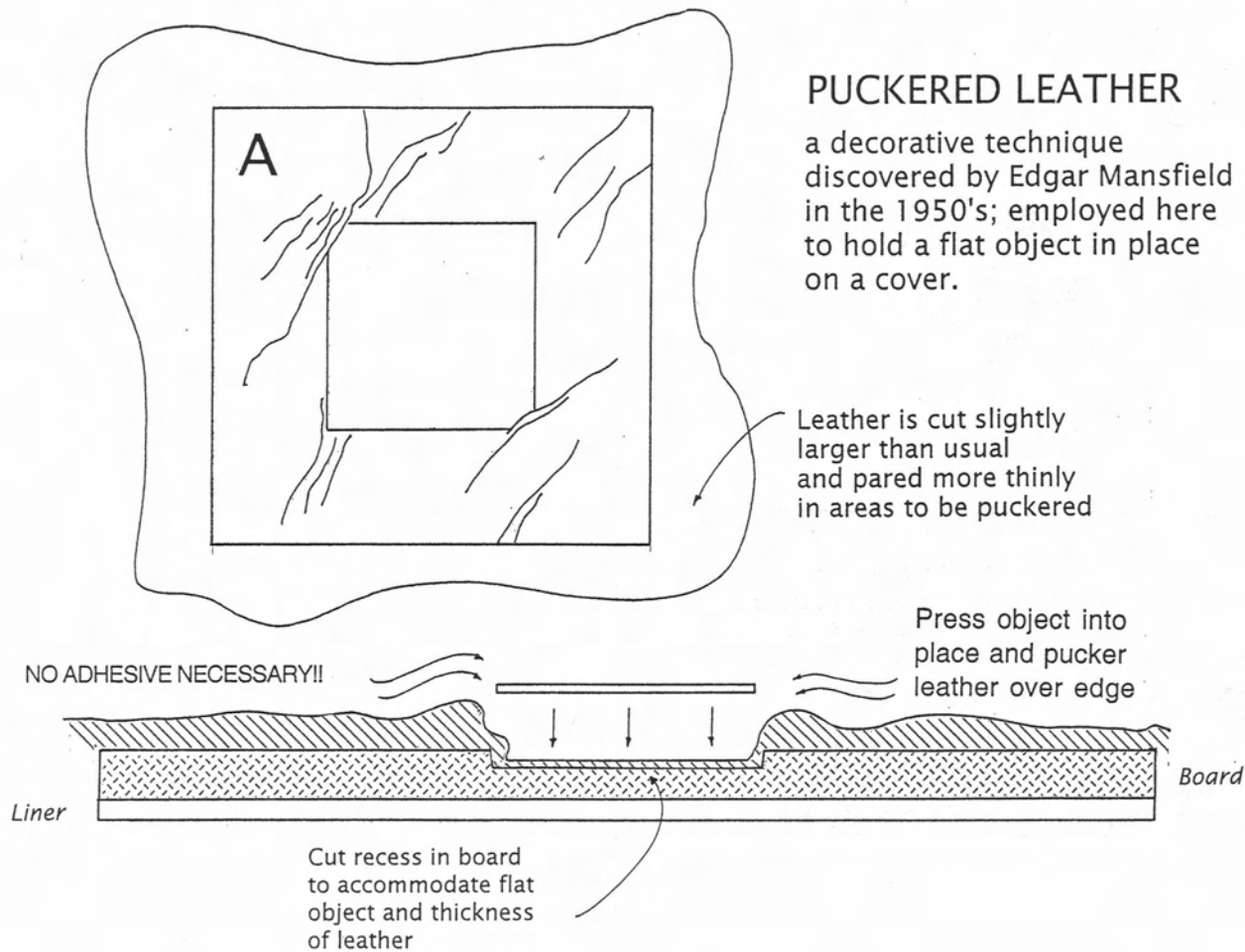
1. Planning the design is essential. (Many of the methods described required drilling holes into the coverboards and recessing areas - both front and back. Hard to hide these mistakes.)
2. The attachment must be secure. (Books are meant to be handled and read.)
3. The method of attachment should be invisible on the inside board. (Flat, clean pastedowns are important to the appearance of the binding AND to protect the textblock from damage and distortion from a sharp or lumpy inner board.)

Making the actual attachments happens in a variety of ways with various methods. Some involve thread. All involve adhesive. And while it's always preferable to attach design elements with tried and true bookbinding adhesives, it's not always feasible. Paste, for example, is perfect when applying leather onlays; PVA, when adhering dimensional onlays that have a paper substrate. In fact, for most porous to porous material adhesion (wood, paper, leather, cloth) PVA or paste work best and are reliable. However, for objects that are not porous (horn, metal, glass or plastic), a different kind of adhesive is necessary.

After experimenting with numerous glues, I've come to love one product that is manufactured under a variety of names, but is most commonly known as Shoe Goop or Household Goop. Goop is a transparent, silicone-based glue. As such, it is both an adhesive and a sealer. Silicones were developed to work well under extreme conditions. They don't fail in cold weather and will continue to hold even if the bond becomes wet. While cold weather is not a pressing consideration when talking about binding, adhesion under wet conditions is. Goop allows objects to be set in place on the board and worked back around with wet leather without fear of movement.

Thick in nature, Goop is easily applied to intricate areas without running. It sets up within 15 minutes, adheres in 12 hours and cures in 24. Once cured, the adhesive becomes inert. Its most satisfying property, and the reason I use it almost exclusively when attaching 3-D forms, is that any excess that might ooze out from the application of too much adhesive can be cut away with a scalpel and peeled off most surfaces with no damage.

NOTES



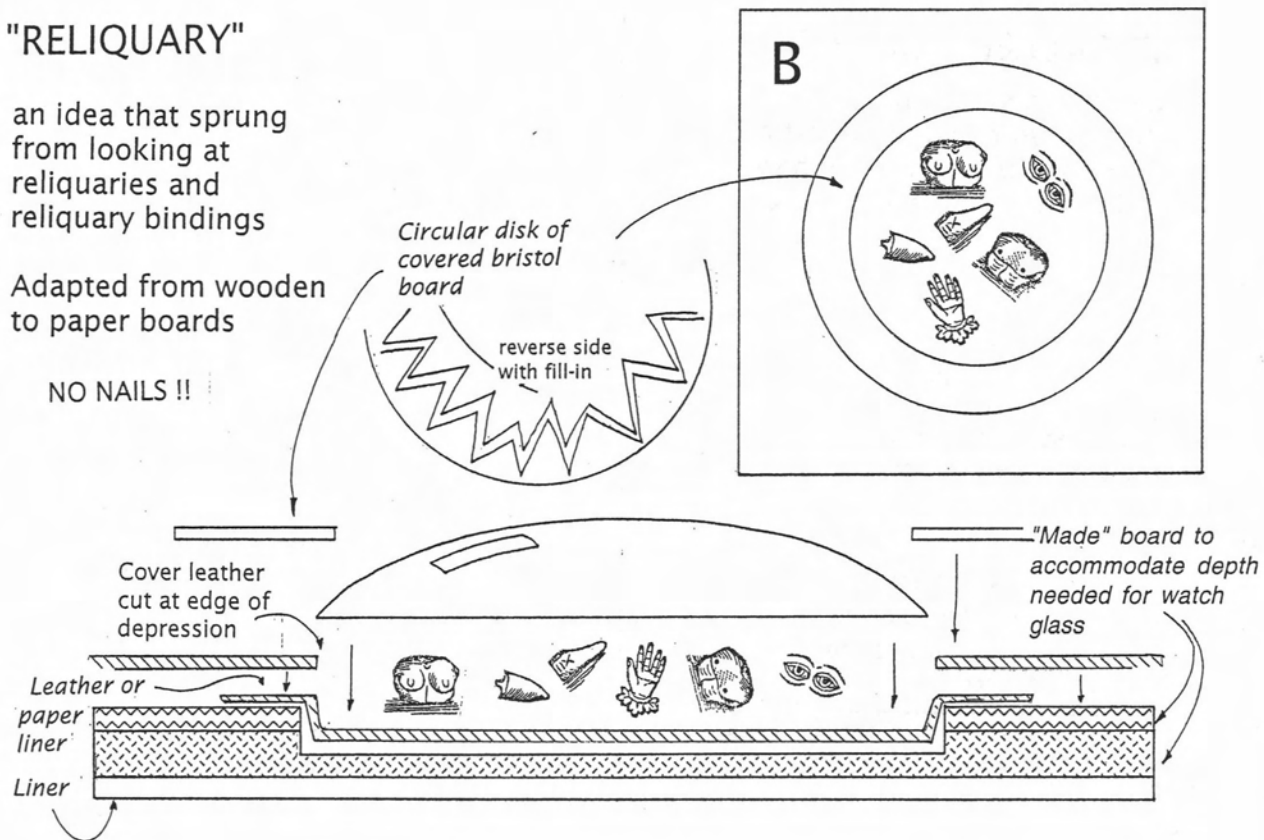
NOTES

"RELIQUARY"

an idea that sprung
from looking at
reliquaries and
reliquary bindings

Adapted from wooden
to paper boards

NO NAILS !!

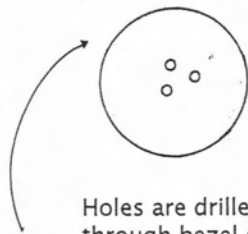


NOTES

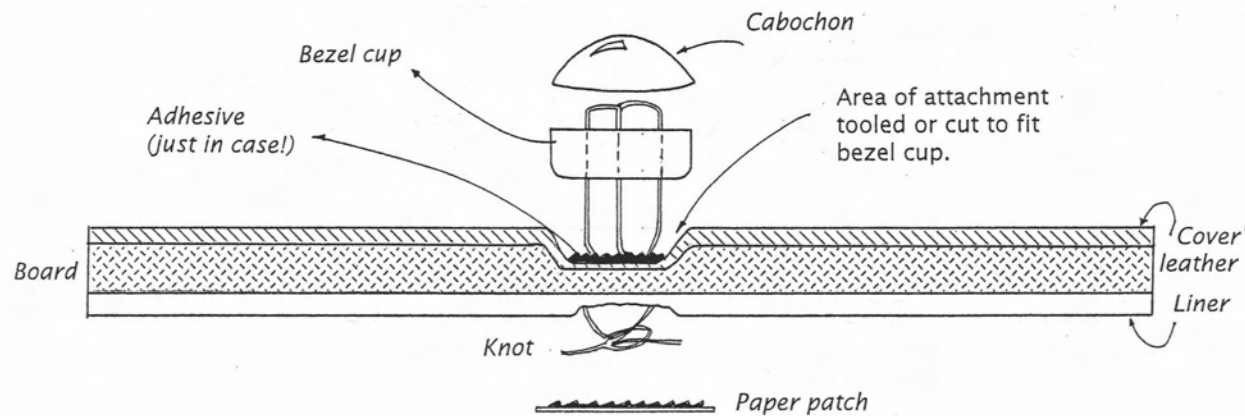
GEMS, STONES & JEWELS

useful for objects
that will sit in a
bezel.

The stone is "set"
after bezel is
attached.



Holes are drilled
through bezel cup
and board. Cup is
stitched into place.

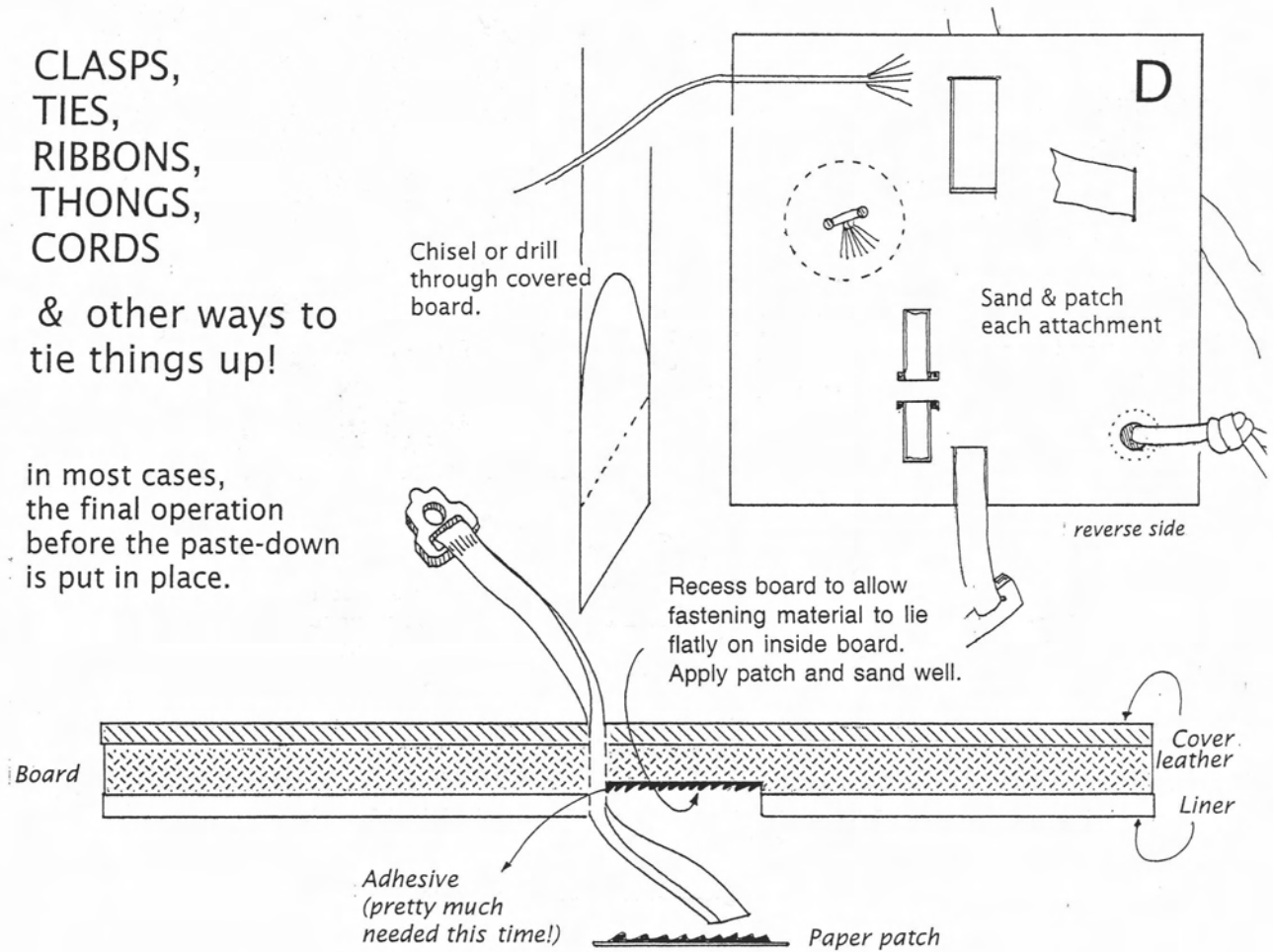


NOTES

CLASPS,
TIES,
RIBBONS,
THONGS,
CORDS

& other ways to
tie things up!

in most cases,
the final operation
before the paste-down
is put in place.



NOTES

THICK & THIN 3-DIMENSIONAL ONLAYS

covering plastic,
wood, paper, board

Position thick 3-D
onlays on boards
so that they don't
interfere with the
opening of the book

Virtually anything
can be covered with
leather or paper and
added to the cover
of a book.

Paper clay and molds
allow for duplication
of unique objects.

Areas where 3-D
onlays turn over
the edges of the
board should be
recessed to allow
thickness of onlay

Adhere onlays with
PVA after slightly
abrading cover
leather

Onlay

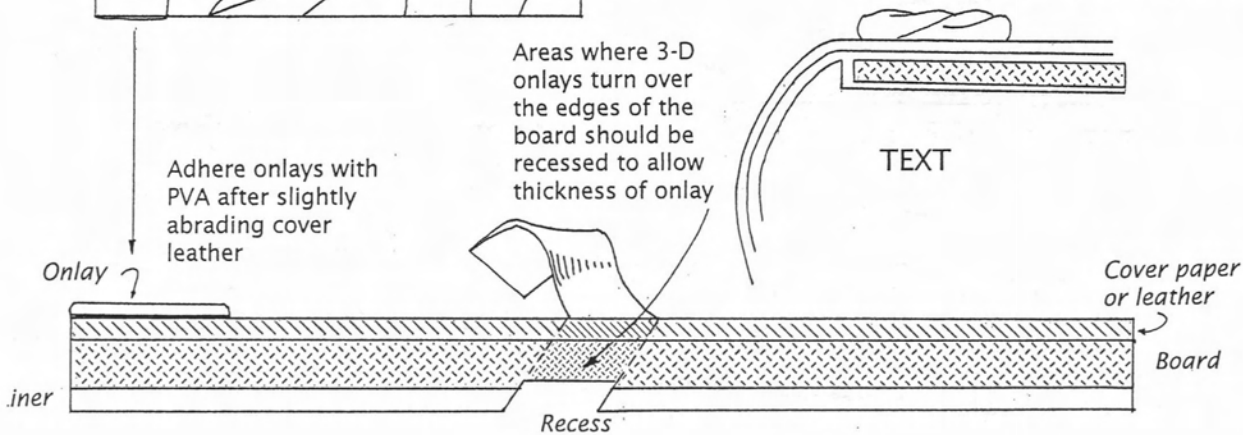
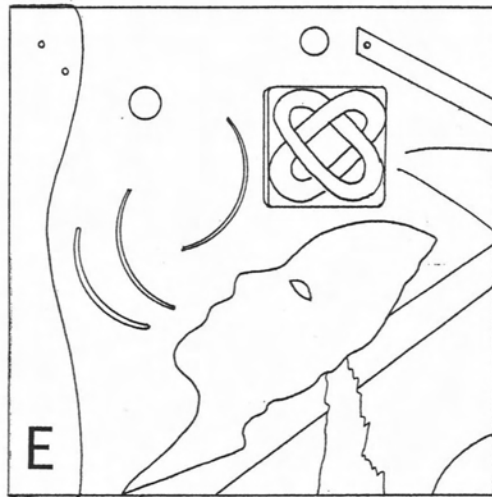
TEXT

Cover paper
or leather

Board

Recess

inner



NOTES

MISCELLANEOUS OBJECTS

a few last minute
ideas...

or how to attach nails,
make pulls for boxes,
see yourself or others
in the cover of a book!

