

APPLYING LEATHER HINGES AND BOARD LINING A Demonstration by Don Glaister

1. Open book carefully when it is dry after covering. (Allow at least over night.)
2. Remove waste signature or pages.
3. Clean joint area well.
4. Cut hinge leather to size and shape. Bevel mitered ends and turn-ins to make smooth join.
5. Paste up hinge with fresh paste and apply PVA to inside of joint.
6. Quickly apply hinge to book, adjust placement and rub down through paper with hands and bone folder.
7. Let hinge set. Rub down through paper often while preparing inside of board for lining.
8. Score a line around the dry turn-ins, inside where the paste-downs will be.
9. Bevel and smooth the leather with paring knife and/or sand paper.

Camouflaging Corner Miters

10. Pare very thin pieces of the waste leather saved from forming the corners. These should be feathered at the edges and large enough to cover the miter that will extend past the paste-down.
11. Apply camouflaging leather to paste, then to corner. Rub down carefully through paper and let dry.

Closing The Hinge

12. By the time the turn-ins have been beveled and the corners taken care of, the hinge should be close to dry enough to close the book. The hinge must be dry enough to not wrinkle when the board closes, but not so dry that the paste is hard and stiff. To test dryness, begin to close the book and sight down the corner of the hinge on the flat side as the board is slowly closed. If the leather seems not to pop up, continue slowly closing the book until it is completely closed. If the leather begins to wrinkle, open the book again, smooth out the wrinkles with a bone folder through paper and continue to rub until the hinge is dry enough to close without wrinkling. Use a blow dryer if necessary.
13. Once one hinge is closed, the turn-ins beveled and the corners are taken care of on one board, close the book and repeat steps 1-12 on the second board.
14. Set the book up vertically with the boards open a bit to dry.

Lining And Filling The Boards

15. Cut two pieces of light card to about the size of the scored lines used for marking the bevel (step 8).
16. Sand these filler papers aggressively, feathering them from about 1" in from the edge.
17. Glue both filler papers with PVA or a mix of PVA and methyl cellulose. Let the papers soak up the adhesive for a minute or two, then reapply glue.
18. Place one filler inside scored lines on inside of board. Rub down and place pressing tin well into the joint and close board. Repeat with other board.
19. Put book between pressing boards and press firmly over night.