

Double-stick tape encapsulation with linen-thread barrier

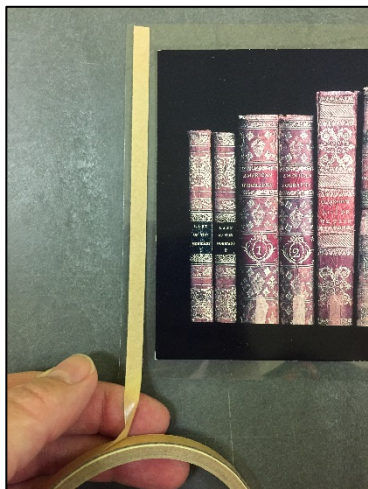
If you do not have access to a polyester welder, you can use double-stick tape to make polyester encapsulations. However, care must be taken to avoid contact between your object and the adhesive. To make sure your object doesn't slide into the tape once encapsulated, you can run a piece of linen thread along the tape's edges. This acts as a stop if the object shifts, and keeps it from getting stuck.

Supplies

- 3 or 4 mil polyester (Mylar, Melinex)
- 18/3 Linen thread
- Double-stick tape (1/8" wide)

Procedure

Cut two pieces of polyester slightly larger than your object. The size of the polyester should accommodate your object, the tape, the thread, and a small gap between the tape and the edge of the polyester.



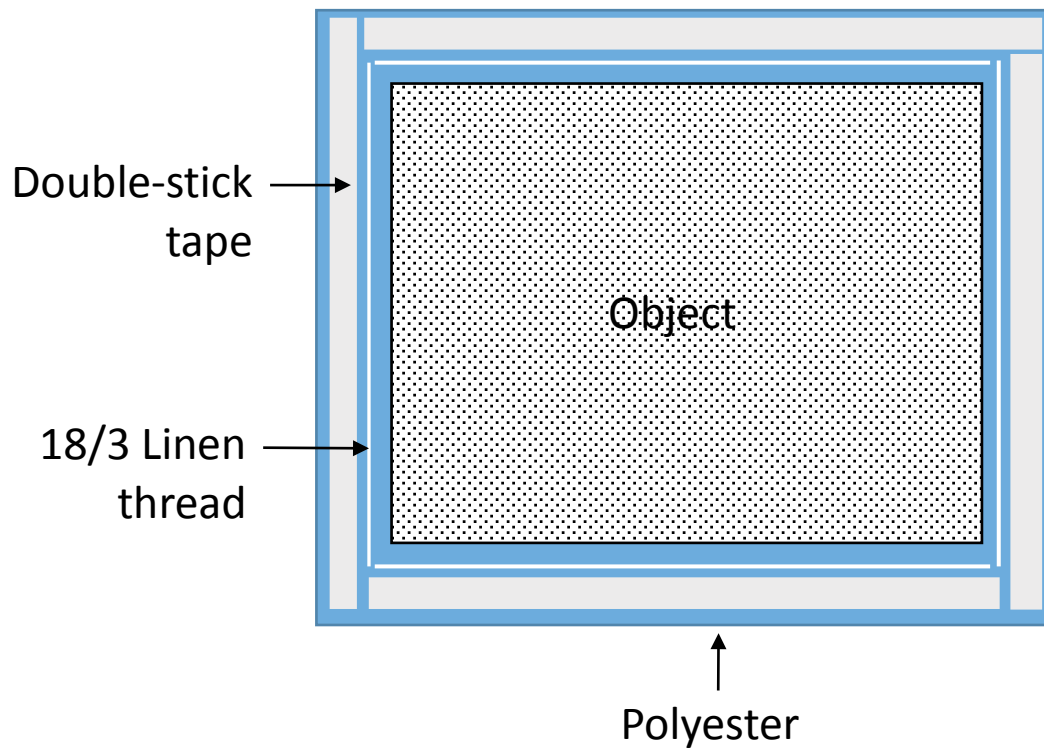
Cut a piece of double stick tape the height of the polyester, minus about 2mm. The tape should be placed with about 1 mm of space between the edge of the polyester and the edges of the tape at top, side, and bottom. This gap allows for adhesive creep.



Cut a piece of 18/3 Linen thread (or another unbleached linen or cotton thread that is as thick or slightly thicker than your object). Align the thread so that it just barely sits at the edge of the tape. You want the thread to slightly bump into the adhesive. Be sure there is no adhesive going past the thread towards your object.

Continue working around all four edges. Be sure the threads cover all of the adhesive at the edges, especially at the corners.

Carefully place your object in the packet and put the top piece of polyester on, making sure the edges are aligned. Press along the taped edges to make sure they stick well. If your object shifts now, it should bump into the thread and not the adhesive.



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