

Resource List

The Care of Leather and Fur

Thursday, September 26, 2013 at 1:00 p.m. (EDT)

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- [Care of Skin and Skin Products \(Leather\)](#), Minnesota Historical Society
 - Short article with general overview of definition/identification, deterioration, basic care (storage, repair, etc.), and proper display.
- [How to Care for Leather and Skin Objects](#), Canadian Conservation Institute
 - Links to CCI Notes (short articles) on several specific topics relating to leather and skin objects, from the Care of Rawhide & Semi-tanned Leather, to Removing Mould from Leather.
- [Saving Your Treasures: Organic Materials, Animal Materials: Skin & Leather](#), Nebraska State Historical Society, Gerald Ford Conservation Center
 - Video from the Conservation Center that comprehensively describes the chemical properties of animal skins as well as the main tanning processes, complete with visual examples.
- [Conserve O Grams](#) from the National Park Service
 - Online articles relating to a variety of museum issues, a few on specific leather preservation concerns. See especially 5.3 “Internal Supports for Buckskin Clothing Storage”; 9.1 “Leather Dressing: To Dress or Not to Dress”; 9.2 “An Easy-To-Build Museum Saddle Mount.”

Carter, David, and Annette K. Walker. 1999. Care and Conservation of Natural History Collections. Oxford: Butterworth-Heinemann.

(Although a comprehensive book describing collection concerns for natural history collections, some practical information on animal study skins that relates to leather and furs.)

Kite, Marion, and Roy Thomson, Eds. 2006 Conservation of Leather and

Related Materials. Oxford: Butterworth-Heinmann.

(Comprehensive book describing leather, tanning history and processes, the care of different leathers and furs, as well as case studies of conservation treatments.)

Rose, Carolyn L., and Amparo R. de Torres, Eds. 1995. Storage of Natural History Collections: Ideas and Practical Solutions, Vol. II. Washington, D.C.: Society for the Preservation of Natural History Collections.

(Guide for problem-solving a variety of storage issues for natural history collections, but can relate to leathers and furs, as well.)

Williams, Don, and Louisa Jaggar. 2005. Saving Stuff. New York: Fireside.

(General, easy to comprehend book on preservation of a wide variety of objects.)

Resources for Materials:

- Archival materials for storage and mounts: [Conservation Resources](#); [Talas](#)
- Cleaning sponges: cosmetic (pharmacies and supermarkets; any place make-up is sold), soot/"Absorene" brand ([Talas](#), some hardware stores, Amazon)
- Mounting "tapes": cotton twill tape ([Conservation Resources](#) under "Cotton labeling tape", twilltape.com), Teflon tape (plumber's tape usually available in hardware stores, like Home Depot)