

Sink Mat – Standard Mat with Cover for Insecure Media (Friable or Flaking)

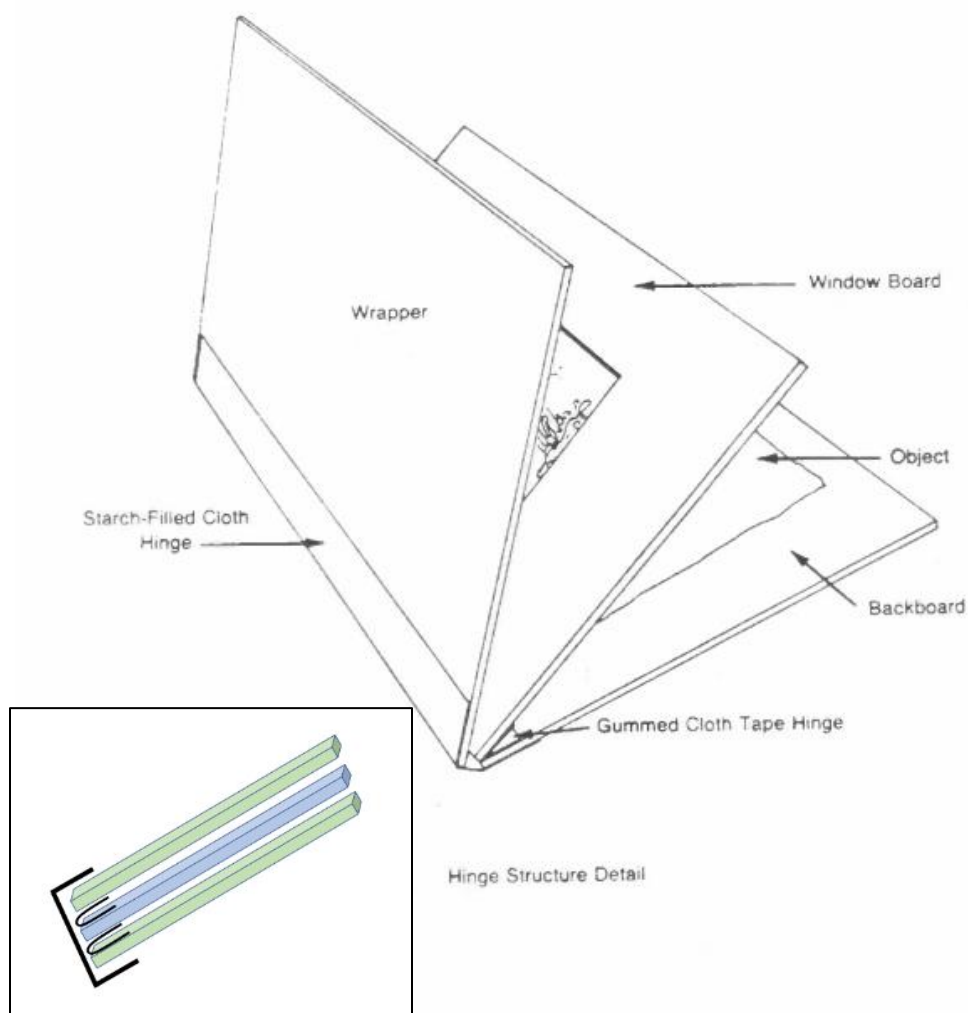


Image Credit: http://cool.conservation-us.org/coolaic/sg/bpg/pcc/40_matting-and-framing.pdf

Matting Requirements:

Extra separation using deep windows or spacers, rigid support to avoid flaking where media is brittle. The Library of Congress recommends this mat for objects with friable media where a cover sheet may not be used for protection.

Materials/Tools/Supplies¹:

- pH neutral linen tape, water activated adhesive, or Tyvek tape
- pH neutral paper board (4-ply matboard) or corrugated paper board (for oversized pieces)
- Teflon bone folder
- Scissors
- Scalpel/Olfa knife
- Pencil
- Straight edge (ruler)

¹ Conservation grade supplies can be purchased at Talas: www.talasonline.com (212) 219 - 0770

Construction:

- a. Measure the object, be mindful of the friable media.
 - If there is space to overmat, give yourself about 2” perimeter or more around the media and at least 1” extra beyond the friable media (the extra space will allow for the attachment of photo corners, when it’s time to secure the object to the mat). Otherwise, overmat about ½ inch all around.
 - If the friable media extends to the edge of the paper, please consult with a conservator before proceeding.
- b. After you’ve determined your measurements, prepare 3 pieces of four-ply matboard the same size. When choosing matboard, it is best if the GRAIN DIRECTION of the mat board runs long (it runs parallel to the length of the board).
- c. Prepare one of the three as a standard single window mat that has a two-inch frame all around.
- d. Cut a strip of Tyvek tape the length of the long edge of the matboard and 1.5" - 2" wider than the thickness of the three boards.
- e. Position the standard mat alongside the window mat securing them in place before applying Tyvek tape along the full length to the inner hinge. Use a Teflon bone folder to fully secure it in place.
- f. Align the cover over the window mat. Weight in place. Apply Tyvek tape along the full length to the inner hinge. Use a Teflon bone folder to fully secure it in place.
- g. Check to make sure all three matboards align before applying Tyvek tape to the outer edge.
- h. To secure the object to the matboard, use the *Photo Corners* guide.
- i. Place the art appropriately centered behind the window mat. (The friable media is securely placed away from the edge of the mat) Weigh it in place to prevent shifting, but do NOT place anything directly on friable media, use outer edges.
- j. Gently place each photo corner at each corner of the object. Tape it according to the diagram in the *Photo Corners* guide.