PAPER CLEANING

Basic Preservation Techniques

Farmingdale Public Library
April 25, 2016

Sponsored by: LILRC Conservation & Preservation Committee
Overview

Paper cleaning removes harmful environmental pollutants such as mildew staining or smudging from general use of the documents, stabilizes the work, and extends the lifespan of the document and preserves the information contained therein.
Soot Sponge
Steps 1 & 2

1. Assess the work’s condition, and the nature of the cleaning required.

2. Secure the work with one hand, and then press the soot sponge above the debris to be cleaned.
Soot Sponge
Steps 3 & 4

3. Press the sponge down, and pull it along the work in the same direction.

4. Repeat Step 3 as needed until the debris is removed.
5. Use the air bulb to blow away any debris created during the cleaning process.
Dry Cleaning Sponge
Steps 1 & 2

1. Assess the condition of the work, and the nature of the cleaning required.

2. Secure the work with one hand while pressing the sponge down, and pulling it in one direction. Repeat until the work’s entire surface has been cleaned.
Dry Cleaning Sponge
Steps 3 & 4

3. Repeat Step 2 on each edge and side of the work.

4. Assess the work’s condition after cleaning; repeat the process as needed.
Ink Eraser [Incredible Eraser]

Steps 1 & 2

1. Secure the work with one hand while applying even pressure on the area to be cleaned with the eraser – do not use a back and forth motion.

2. Repeat Step 1 as needed, and then clean off the debris with an air bulb or brush.
1. Apply even pressure in the same direction on the area to be cleaned.

2. For wide surfaces, apply the broad edge of the sponge on the area to be cleaned.
Interior- Soot Sponge
Step 3

3. For book edges, apply pressure in a single direction away from the book.
Document Cleaning Pad
Steps 1A & 1B

1A. After assessing the nature of the cleaning required, apply cleaning powder by squeezing the cleaning pad.

1B. Evenly, tap the cleaning pad on the work.
2. Using a circular motion and slight pressure of your fingers, rub the cleaning powder against the area to be cleaned.

3. Repeat Step 2 as needed until the affected area has been cleaned.
1. After completing the document cleaning process, use the air bulb to remove the cleaning powder and debris from the work’s surface.

2. Assess the work, and repeat cleaning process as needed; after completing work, clean your work surface as well.
Absorbene Paper & Book Cleaner
Steps 1 & 2

1. Assess the condition of the work, and the nature of the cleaning required.

2. Pinch off a small piece of the cleaning putty.
Absorbene Paper & Book Cleaner
Steps 3 & 4

3. Between your palms, roll the putty into a small ball.

4. Add more putty as needed.
Absorbene Paper & Book Cleaner
Steps 5 & 6

5. Softly tap the putty ball across the area to be cleaned.

6. For large areas, roll the putty ball in small, circles across the area to be cleaned.
Gum & Adhesive Remover
Steps 1 & 2

1. Assess the condition of the work and the nature of the cleaning required.

2. Apply light pressure, and use long strokes in the same direction to clean away debris.
Gum & Adhesive Remover
Steps 3 & 4

3. To clean in close spaces, use the eraser’s edge point as described in Step 2.

4. Assess the nature of the work, and repeat cleaning steps as needed.
THANK YOU!

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