

Preservation Tips

Custom Storage Boxes

For some objects standard storage boxes are not adequate for safe storage. In these cases the creation of a custom storage box is a simple, inexpensive solution.

Benefits of custom storage boxes:

- Protection from dust, dirt and other particulate debris.
- Economical way to protect objects that do not fit in a standard size box.
- Provides moderate protection during emergency situations by acting as a buffer to environmental changes and pollutant damage.

Tools needed:

- Straight edge
- Utility knife
- Bone folder
- Ruler/Measuring tape
- Pencil
- Cutting mat
- Acid free board such as blue or gray board.
- Polyvinyl acetate (PVA) emulsion adhesive

Box Construction:

You will need to take the height, width and depth measurements of the object. For odd size objects measure maximum height, width and depth of the object. Transfer these markings to an uncut piece of board. (fig 1).

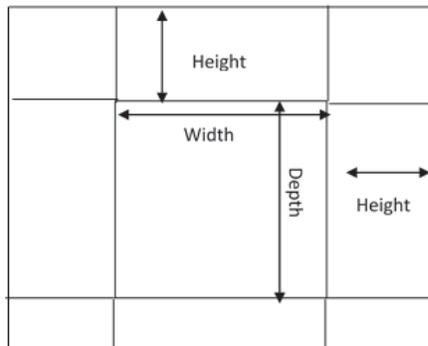


Figure 1

Preservation Tips

Custom Storage Boxes

Preservation Tips: Custom Storage Boxes

Cut off excess board (fig 2).

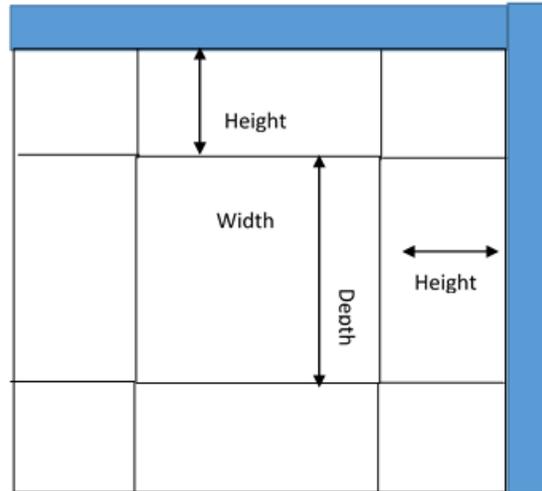


Figure 2

If you are making a standard box, fold along solid lines, cut along dotted lines (fig 3), fold tabs around sides of box and glue.

If you are making a drop front box, fold along solid lines, cut along dotted lines, fold tab around side of box and glue. (fig 4)

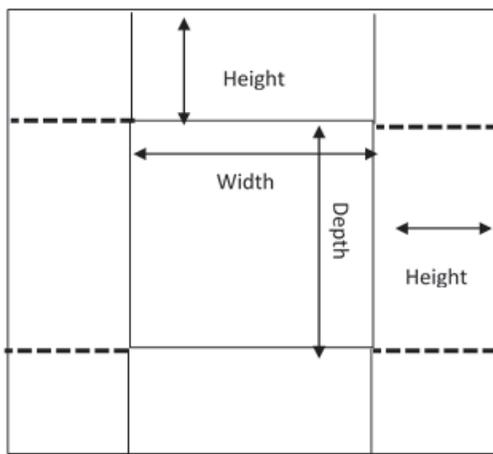


Figure 3

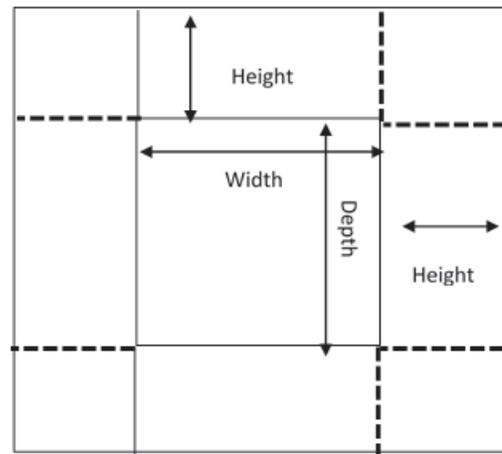


Figure 4

To make the lid for the box. Follow the same steps as for a standard box, but add the thickness of your board to each width and depth measurement.

Helpful tip: check measurements by placing the completed bottom on the outline of the top before cutting. The outline for the top should be slightly larger than the bottom.

If you are interested in learning more about USAHEC conservation and preservation practices, or for more information about the organization, please contact us at: 717-245-3972 or visit us at: www.usahec.org or 950 Soldiers Drive, Carlisle, PA 17013.