



MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

SCRAPBOOKS

Priority: Freeze immediately.

Handling Do not move items until a place has been prepared to receive them. Large
Precautions: scrapbooks should be supported with boards.

Supplies Needed

- bread trays
- dehumidifier
- fans
- plywood sheets
- polyethylene film
- sponges
- silicon release paper
- blotter paper
- extension cords
- masking tape
- scissors
- plexiglass sheets
- polyester film
- bookends/bricks
- freezer or waxed paper
- Hollytex (polyesterspunbond fabric)
- newsprint (sheets or rolls)
- pliers, screw driver, tin snips
- milk crates or Rescubes

Preparation If the scrapbook is not boxed and the binding is no longer intact, wrap in freezer paper.
For Drying: Freeze as quickly as possible, using a blast freezer if available.

Freezing - Equipment needed: milk crates; cardboard boxes for large items; large flat supports such as bread trays or pieces of plywood; freezer, waxed or silicone release paper or polyester non-woven fabric.

Air Drying - Secure a clean, dry environment where the for temperature and humidity are as low as possible. Equipment needed: flat surfaces for drying; fans and extension cords; dehumidifier; moisture meter; sheets of polyester film, non-stick interleaving material such as freezer, waxed or silicone release paper or polyester non-woven fabric.

Drying Vacuum freeze drying is the preferred method, although this should not be used
Methods: for photographs. See **PHOTOGRAPHS AND TRANSPARENCIES**. If the book is to be vacuum freeze dried, the photographs should first be removed. Wrapped scrapbooks should be packed laying flat in shallow boxes or trays lined with freezer paper.

Air drying may be used for small quantities which are only damp or water-damaged around the edges. The books should not have large amounts of coated paper or soluble adhesives.

Pages should be interleaved with uninked newsprint or blotter and the books placed on tables. The interleaving and page opening should be changed regularly and often to speed the drying. If the binding has failed, it may be advisable to separate the pages and lay them out individually to dry. Care must be taken to maintain page order.

Keep the air moving at all times using fans. Direct fans into the air and away from the items. Use dehumidifiers as needed to maintain humidity at or below 50% RH.