Cast Pulp Paper:

**Introduction**

Conservators are often faced with the task of filling losses that have been caused by mold, insect, or rodent damage. Conservators are often faced with the task of filling losses that have been caused by mold, insect, or rodent damage. Choosin cosmetics and the food industry as it has a very high viscosity. It is often used in conservation for.* Guar Gum is a polysaccharide made from the sugars

**Preparing Pulp for Casting**

Choose a paper that is a close color match for the desired fill. If no single paper provides a good color match, pulp from different papers can be combined to achieve the desired hue. Then pour the paper into small (less than a cup) and place it in hot water, preferably overnight. This helps to swell the fibers and wash out any sizing. If working with several different papers, scale each paper in a separate container.

After soaking, the paper is drained and added to water to create a uniform paper slurry. The slurry should be treated in such a way that they are slightly drier, which will allow the paper fibers to be more easily manipulated. Cast pulp paper can more easily replicate the texture and appearance of handmade paper samples, may be cast to fill the shape of an area of loss, and can be made from a variety of different quality sources or cotton handmade papers.

**Methods of Casting**

There are three primary methods for casting small sheets of pulp repair paper: a spray, a petal leaf caster, or on a suction table. Larger sheets of paper can also be produced in a vat with a mold or a decision is made. These methods are a bit more involved and require a larger amount of water.

**Spray:** Place a piece of screen material (paper, polyester, silk screen, or other) on top of a thick, semi-dense slurry. Use a tile and sturdy plastic container open at both ends, press a film and evenly into the spray and screen material. Quickly pour the slurry while always releasing pressure on the container, allowing the slurry to rise, the water to drain, and the sheets to form a sheet on the screen material.

**Petal leaf caster:** Two tall, sturdy, square frames, one is for the leaf caster. One to hold the petal leaf is placed in the middle of the leaf, which supports the screen material. The paper slurry is poured quickly and the outer cylinder is slowly raised, allowing the water to drain and the fibers to form a sheet on the screen material.

**Suction table:** Place a suction box (a small, open area on top of a sheet of screen material and a layer of absorbent material) and remove the excess slurry. Then pour in the suction box, adjusting the suction as needed to degrease the water.

**Screen material:** Any material that will result in the desired appearance of the cast pulp sheet can be used, such as open polyester, silk screen, or various screens.

Dry paper after casting:

- Allow the sheets of cast pulp paper to dry under pressure between spun polyester and blotter, a vacuum press, or a plastic sheeting to control the suction.
- Slowly lower the plastic sheeting to control the suction. When using the spray or the petal leaf technique, the water can be used for the next cast.

**References**


Using and producing cast pulp paper is a fun, inexpensive and useful alternative to traditional materials in books and paper conservation. Known side effects: Dept. education performed. We would like to thank our colleagues for contributing in one way or another to this free poster by sharing their knowledge, experience and skills with us. Please contact us if you would like to learn more about Cast Pulp Paper.

**Cast-to-Shape Infills**

Cast pulp paper sheets can be easily shaped just like the traditional paper infills. The edges can be water torn and then refined with a sanding disk or ground down with a sander. Cast pulp paper is also a great option to membranes offering a less stiff result.

**Tradational Infills and Mends**

Traditional infills and mends are not available anymore because of the limited availability of the materials. The limited availability of the materials.

**Authors**

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Jennifer Evers: the Olmsted Book Conservation at the Huntington Library and Gardens in San Marino, CA. She has held an advanced conservation internship at the Folger Shakespeare Library in Washington, DC, and an Andrew W. Mellon Fellowship at the Walters Art Museum in Baltimore, MD. Using and producing cast pulp paper is a fun, inexpensive and useful alternative to traditional materials in books and paper conservation. Known side effects: Dept. education performed. We would like to thank our colleagues for contributing in one way or another to this free poster by sharing their knowledge, experience and skills with us. Please contact us if you would like to learn more about Cast Pulp Paper.

**References**


**Cast Pulp Paper:**

**an Alternative for Traditional Repair Materials for Infills in Book and Paper Conservation**

Renate Mesmer, The Folger Shakespeare Library, and Jennifer Evers, The Huntington Library and Gardens