

1. Introduction



Board reattachment is a conservation procedure to join detached cover boards to the text block of a book using a flexible hinge.

Selecting the most appropriate technique or combination of techniques from over a dozen possibilities currently in use can be challenging due to multiple factors and variables that must be considered for each book.

2. Question



The book conservators at Library and Archives Canada asked the question:

“Can decision making for board reattachment be simplified?”

3. Methodology



Mapping the decision process began in 2010. Research into historical and current trends in board reattachment resulted in the development of a selection criteria template for each method.

Trials were conducted by applying thirteen board attachment techniques to eighty books followed by an evaluation of each technique relative to the characteristics of the binding features.

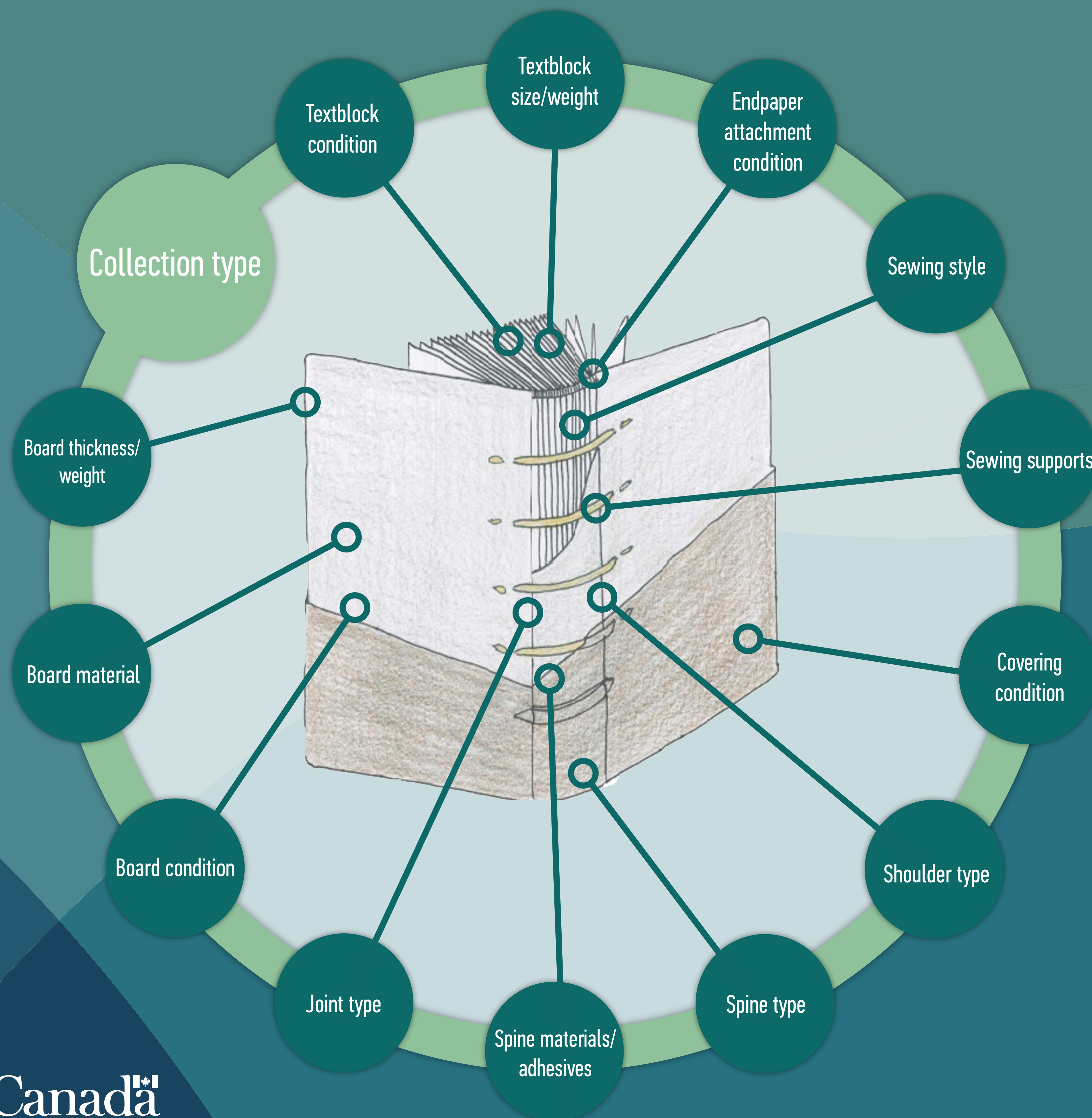
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Board reattachment decision guide for joint failure

Lynn Curry, Manise Marston and Genevieve Samson
Library and Archives Canada

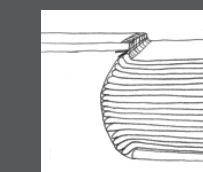
4. Binding features critical to board reattachment techniques



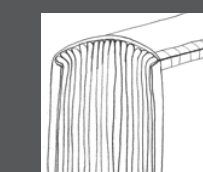
5. Board reattachment techniques

Strip repair

Japanese tissue hinge



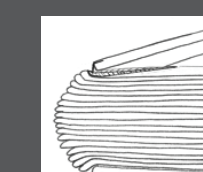
Solvent-set tissue repair



Inside cloth hinge



Pleated paper hinge

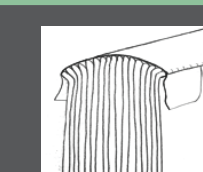


Spine lining

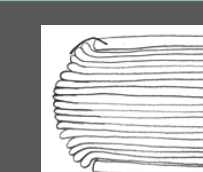
Full lining



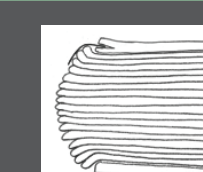
Split linen flange



Board slotting

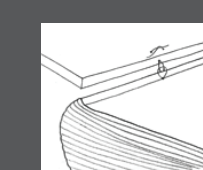


Split board

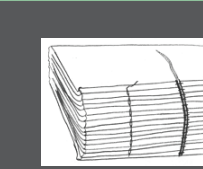


Extend supports

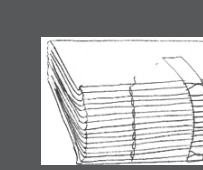
Joint tacket



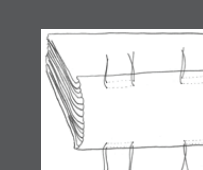
New supports - recessed cords



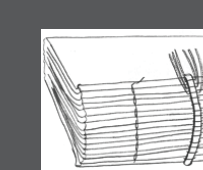
New supports - sewn or adhered



New supports - thread



Extend raised supports



6. Results



Board reattachment decision making is simplified by an in-house Excel tool which provides the best options based on the characteristics of each individual book.



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