

## Exercise #6 Hollow Tube

A hollow tube allows the casebinding to remain functioning as a hollow back binding. The outermost layers of the hollow are adhered to the spine of the text block and the innermost layer of the hollow is adhered to the spine cover, resulting in a hollow space. The successful preparation of the hollow back depends on accurate measurement and cutting.

**This repair is most often used for:** reattaching paperback and case bound book bindings that are intact, and reattaching loose spines.

### Materials and tools:

wheat paste	bone folder
methyl cellulose/ PVA mixture	cotton wool
Japanese paper - Sekishu or Osokawa paper	sharp knife
Mohawk superfine 70 lb or 80 lb	waxed paper
water brush	straight edge

**Preparing the spine:** the old spine linings should be removed or consolidated.

### Procedure:

1. Place the book either in a lying press or horizontally on the table under a board and weight.
2. Scrape the back of the spine with a blunt knife to remove the original paper linings mechanically.
3. Check if the remaining adhesion is working by wiping a lightly dampened ball of cotton wool over the spine. If bubbling occurs then the spine is not well attached.
4. If the old adhesive is starch paste or hide glue then the linings can be removed with moisture.
  - a. Further dampen the paper lining with moistened cotton wool or methyl cellulose, and with the blunt knife remove the residue of the linings. Be careful not to remove the mull/super lining.
  - b. Brush a thin layer of wheat paste as a barrier onto the cleaned spine and let dry.
5. If the old adhesive is not removable then consolidate any remaining lining.  
(The spine can be re-glued with PVA and a hollow tube placed directly onto the spine.)

**OVER**

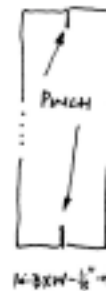
## Making the Hollow Tube Procedure:

1. Cut a piece of Seikishu, Osokawa, or Mohawk (whichever is appropriate weight) the height of the text block and roughly three times the width of the spine. The grain direction should run parallel to the spine and one edge should be square.

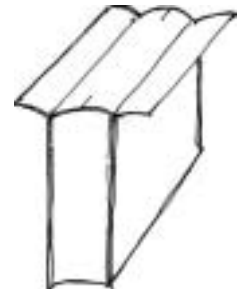
- To measure and mark the width of the spine, use a scrap of paper and make a pencil mark at the spine edges or rub a pencil along the highest point.



2. Pinch the paper in half at the head and tail, and mark with pencil.



3. Pencil mark the center of the spine at the head and tail of the text block.



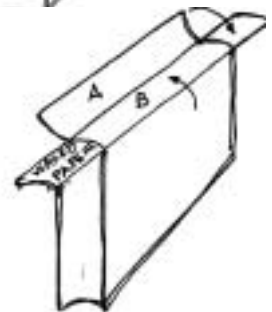
4. Apply adhesive to spine.

5. Center the hollow on the pencil marks on the spine, matching the creases with the pencil marks. Rub down with a bone folder.



6. Apply adhesive to Flap A.

7. Fold Flap B over a strip of waxed paper. Fold Flap A on top and rub down well with a bone folder. Check to see that the waxed paper moves up and down inside the tube, that it is not stuck to itself.



8. Do NOT remove the waxed paper until the tube is completely dry.