

Exercise #9 Testing Inks for Solubility

It is necessary to test the manuscript and/or printed inks with moisture before humidifying any document.

Materials & Tools:

cotton swabs/Q-tips
spray bottle
squares of blotting paper 3”x 3”

Procedure:

1. Choose a well pigmented but small area to test, such as the dot of an “i” or the tail of a “Q”.
2. Moisten the cotton swab and **dot** the tip of the swab onto the chosen area.
3. Place the blotting square over the dampened area and press with your fingers.
4. Lift off and see if there is any offset onto the blotting paper.
 - *If there is any evidence of offset then do not continue with wet treatment.*
5. Moisten another cotton swab and **roll** the swab on the chosen area, again checking to see if there is any offset on the swab.
 - *If there is any evidence of offset then do not continue with wet treatment.*
6. Blot the page, close book, and put under a weight until dry.

