

Textiles.

What is My Goal?

- Long-term preservation for future generations ?
- Short-term preservation for myself?
- Fixing an item up to wear or use regularly?

Is My Workspace sufficient and clean?

Document It

- Why is it important? Write it down. Take pictures!
- Create an "Artifacts Album" with pictures, text, or audio recordings so your family has access to those wonderful memories and they know what is important to you.
- Keep stories/notes/photos, etc. close to (but not making contact with) textile treasures, in their own sleeve or container, alongside or on the exterior of the textile storage. Clearly label and compile any digital files.

Cleaning

- Avoid "doing" if you cannot "undo"
 - consider the materials you are introducing. Tacking a white item with blue thread will likely stain it. Look to vetted conservation sources for their treatment recommendations.
- Sniff it. Smells can give you an idea of what's going on in the fabric. Mildew smell? It may need to be moved to an area with less humidity.
- Approach cleaning textiles with caution, but...
- Clean items as well as possible BEFORE moving to appropriate storage
- No-water, gentle cleaning method:
 - HEPA-filter vacuum (low suction setting if possible), nylon piece firmly covering nozzle, and/or a fine-mesh screen with covered edges, placed on the textile as a barrier. Lift & lower nozzle (don't sweep side-to-side) in a grid pattern.
 - Not for embroidered or beaded items!



Storing it: Clean, Cool, Dark, Dry

- What is significant? Why?
 - make that information part of the plan and preserve it as well as the item
- Decide how to approach it
 - how much space for storage?
 - Where will it be in preservation conditions?
 - Who, if anyone, will it go to someday?
- White gloves are a plus in handling textiles
- We love our fuzzy friends. Our textiles do not. Keep treasured materials out of pets' reach.
- Fabrics are all different, and react differently to treatments. Be cautious and do your research.
- Check items a couple times a year. Refresh acid-free tissue paper and storage wraps/rolls every few years.

Information.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/conservation-institute/services/preventive-conservation/guidelines-collections.html>



https://fidmmuseum.org/2010/08/the-fidm-museum-conservation-collection.html?utm_source=bookmark



<https://extensionpublications.unl.edu/assets/pdf/g1820.pdf>

<https://museum.gwu.edu/caring-textiles>



<https://www.archives.gov/publications/prologue/2016/summer/preserve-textiles.html#:~:text=Storing%3A%20Store%20textiles%20in%20a,people%20is%20suitable%20for%20textiles.>



<https://www.canada.ca/en/conservation-institute/services/conservation-preservation-publications/canadian-conservation-institute-notes/testing-colourfastness.html>



Professional Assistance.



<https://preserveart.org/>

For professional assessment and conservation of art - \$\$\$

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FIND A PROFESSIONAL

www.culturalheritage.org/about-conservation/find-a-conservator#.VlxkjOlOhpx

MN Historical Society- textiles preservation videos

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8WD-kk-mxvs>



Supplies.



www.lightimpressionsdirect.com/



www.gaylord.com/resources



<https://ccaha.org/resources/selecting-materials-storage-and-display>