

# Reinforcing Hinges

## Disclaimer:

*These instructions are for general circulating books only, and are not intended for any materials with historic or intrinsic value. Consult a Conservator for any valuable or special items.*

## Supplies needed:

### White glue

Any kind will do. If glue is too thick, use a little water to thin.

### Plain copy paper

Most copier papers are colorfast and pH neutral.

### Small paintbrush

An old makeup brush will work too. Stiffer bristles are better.

### Small jar of water

For keeping brush from becoming stiff with dried glue while you're working.

### Bone folder

Or side of a clean ruler or anything you can use to smooth down your hinge repairs.

### Wax paper

So your repair won't stick together.

### Scrap paper

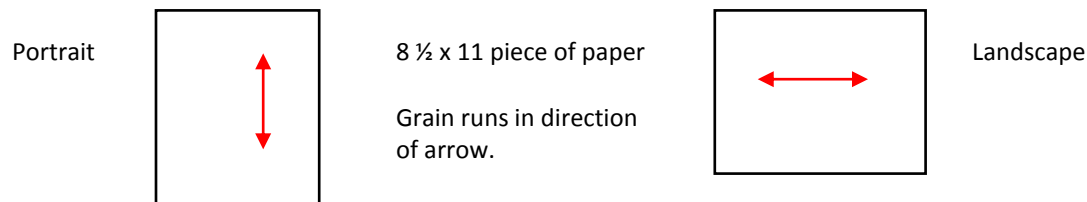
Reduces clean-up and mess when brushing glue on your patches.

### Paper towels

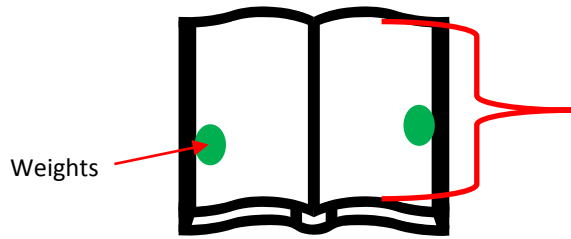
To clean up mess you make anyway. 😊

## Directions:

Always cut your reinforcement hinge patch with the grain of the paper. For copy paper, that's the long side. Cut patch wide enough to adhere to each side of the hinge without interfering with any text or pictures.



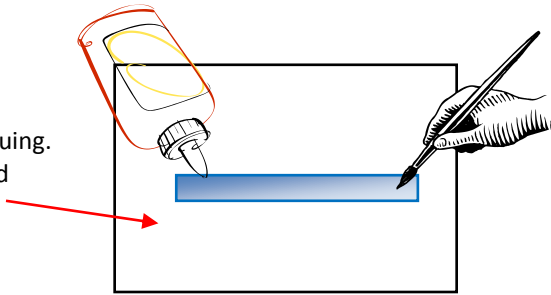
Lay book flat and open to hinge needing reinforced. Use something to hold the book open if necessary (paperweight, bean bags, pet rock, your iphone, etc.) Measure and cut patch to height of textblock.



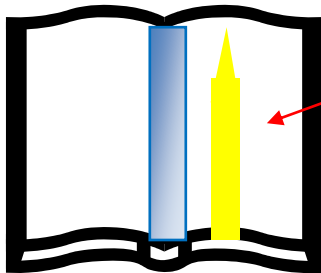
Height of textblock.  
Hint: Use paper patch to measure to save a step.  
Mark with pencil and cut.

Cover patch with light coat of white glue.

Hint: Catalog pages make nice scrap paper for gluing.  
Toss immediately after gluing to reduce mess and adhesive accidents.



Adhere one side of the patch to page, then use bone folder or smoothing tool to mold patch into hinge and onto the other page.



Hint: Smooth with the long edge of the bone folder to prevent poking through your patch

Let patch dry a few minutes, then insert wax paper down to the gutter and close book. Square up your textblock. Let dry overnight.

