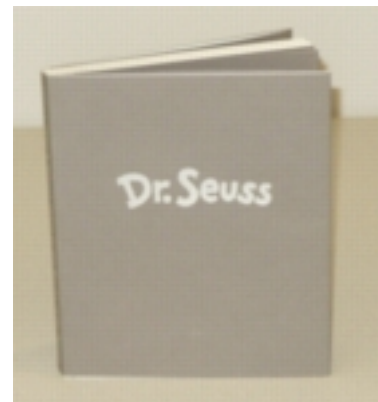


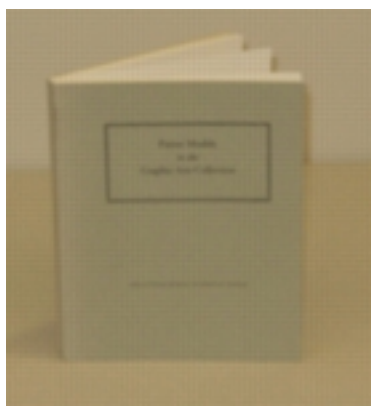
In-house binding – Multi-Signature Volumes

Books over 1/4” thick, consisting of multiple sewn signatures, have their covers reinforced with acid-free board. This is placed on the inside of the front and back covers. Any printed information on the inside of the covers is first photocopied and tipped in first.

Reinforced Cover



Adhesive Coptic Binding



I developed this adhesive binding alternative to fulfill a need for a comprehensive treatment of paperback books. The older styles (see below) did not meet this need, for they either were not durable and/or destroyed the covers. The coptic binding is a double-fan adhesive bound book, which is much more durable than a publishers perfect binding. The spine of the cover also springs away so the book can open totally flat, allowing it to be photocopied with out damage to the binding or pages.

Historical Models



The adhesive coptic binding is based on historical binding techniques thousands of years old. These two books represent the Ethiopian tradition (left) and Copt tradition (right). Contemporary bindings have even recently been found intact after sitting over two thousand years in the desert.

The way things used to be

Before reinforced covers and coptic bindings, books were either glued into shelf binders, bound using the Thermabind system (bottom example) or “cat” bound (standing example). These methods have broken down over time since their page attachment is not as strong as a sewing or double-fan adhesive binding. The conservation lab receives many of these each month which must be rebound in house or often times sent to the commercial bindery.

