

TIPS ON CARE AND PRESERVATION OF QUILTS

- Just because it is old doesn't mean it worth preserving
- Roll quilts to prevent creases
- If folded refold every 6 months
- Best way is to use acid free tissue paper making a 'pillow' and using gentle curves
- Don't keep quilts in a wooden box or on wooden ladders. If you do, use 2 coats of Minwax clear gloss
- If keeping quilts in plastic tubs look for the symbol 5 on the bottom
- Best way..... use boxes made from inert cardboard, acid free using the gentle fold method
- For archival supplies try Brodart, Brantford, Ontario
- Do not store your quilts in basements or attics. Temperature should be 70-72' and 55% humidity
- Keep out of sunlight. The damage from light is irreversible. Rotate quilts. LED lighting s ok.
- Wet cleaning..... Use Orvus Paste. Soak in a bathtub 1 TBSP of paste in 2 gallons of water.
- Dry cleaning(not the dry cleaners).....use a vacuum cleaner hose covered with a nylon stocking and light suction
- Spot cleaning try 'Dirt Eraser sponge' tear off a small piece and rub gently
- Spray basting use 505, don't use sulky
- All fusible webbing is not good, fusible batting last well.
- If framing make sure to go to someone who knows what they are doing.
- To repair holes try tulle over the top of hole. Match the colour of the fabric
- Documentation: set up your list like a catalogue with all the particulars.
- If you have something really special find a conservator or go to AQS for appraisal references
- Some references:
 - Gaylord Archival University Products
 - Light Impressions by Dick Blink
 - International Preservation Studies Center
 - C3 Center for Collective Care

Tips from Laura McDowell Hopper @ sonicstitches

Quilt Con February 2019

Orvus Paste can be bought on Amazon.

Cleaning a quilt needn't be rocket science.

Lisa H. Calle shares some tips:

Always wash new fabrics after purchase

We feel giddy with excitement when encountering the best deal ever! We've all succumbed to amazing fabric deals we've uncovered from local stores, the Internet, and national retailers. More often than not, we sadly realize that the "incredibly marked-down" product proves to be anything but a bargain. Less doesn't mean more—especially when it comes to purchases that can make or break a priceless design. The price we pay is often fading fabric—or worse yet, your gorgeous material bleeds. Unfortunately, we don't always know the factories where these textiles are created, the quality of the material, or the harsh chemicals that are incorporated during the manufacturing process. Trust me, there are times in quilting when "you get what you pay for," and what you end up getting isn't worth that little bit of extra change in your pocket.

Harsh chemicals residing in my fabrics or bleeding dyes are not acceptable. As a quilter, there's nothing more reassuring than knowing my finished pieces have been thoroughly washed. Moreover, because I bestow quilted gifts to special people in my life, I love the fact that these gifts are made of clean, soft, and color-safe fabric.

What do I use?

I initially learned of Orvus W.A. Paste from fellow quilters at a quilt show several years ago. I soon realized that Orvus had been there all along. Orvus has been widely reviewed and recommended in countless books, like Harriett Hargrave's *From Fiber to Fabric: The Essential Guide to Quilting Textiles* and *The AQS Guide to Quilt Care*.

Stained quilts can be saved

I've had rust on an heirloom quilt that has been stored in a trunk and a once-brilliant quilt stained from last Thanksgiving. We all have at least one quilt that we would love to bring back to life. Believe it or not, you can! Stop hiding that heirloom or holiday quilt! **For stubborn stains on delicate fabrics, I only trust Orvus W.A. Paste Quilt Soap.** Orvus has stood the test of time for 85 years—cleaning tough, set-in stains on delicate fabrics for generations. Apply Orvus directly to the stain and then let the quilt soak in lukewarm water mixed with 1-2 tablespoons of Orvus in the bathtub for a few hours. If this time-tested solution won't remove the stain, I am afraid nothing will. (And yes, Orvus removed that rust stain and brought the holiday quilt back to life!)



"I wash fabrics the day they come home from the store in the washing machine with a proven, trusted gentle cleaner. I always use Orvus W.A. Paste Quilt Soap to clean harsh chemicals from new fabrics and to prevent colors from bleeding." — Lisa H. Calle
www.lisahcalle.com

To wash your fabrics, the steps are easy. According to *The Essential Guide to Quilting Textiles*, 1-2 tablespoons of Orvus per washload is sufficient on delicate cycle. Never use the dryer. Simply dry by laying quilts on a towel and allowing them to air dry. It's that simple; I am a firm believer in making life easy.



"For smooth, soft, safe, and gentle fabrics with colors that do not bleed or fade, I reach for the best product and only trust Orvus W.A. Paste Quilt Soap."

You can find Orvus W.A. Paste Quilt Soap easily online, #12638 at shopAQS.com, at AQS QuiltWeek, at local notions stores, and at national retailers. If your local quilt store or national retailer does not have it, don't hesitate to request that they begin carrying Orvus. They can simply email Orvus at service@orvusbrands.com. Orvus is a family-owned American company, and in my experience, they always reply immediately to email inquiries.