

8. Tie-on label

Pros and Cons of using labels

Pros	Cons
Easy to get from conservation suppliers	PH (acidity) should be tested if you don't know the origin
Easy to write on	Tyvek is slightly more difficult
Noticeable and easy to find	Easy to remove and lose
Can be written on in pencil or pen	Paper labels may fall apart in a flood
	Fibres from cotton may stick to artefacts
	String may be nylon not cotton and deteriorate and harm the object
	Cotton string may wick oil from the object, oil may cause ink to run
	Paper and cotton labels are an insect food source

Materials

Use white acid free paper or card labels or Tyvek tags with tape or string

Method

- 1) Examine the object to check if the method is appropriate. If in doubt, consult a conservator;
- 2) Write the object number on an acid-free paper or Tyvek using a suitable drawing ink and drawing pen;
- 3) Pass tape, string or thread (as appropriate to the object) through hole in label;
- 4) Tie tape loosely round the 'hole', 'handle' or 'neck' of the object using a reef knot or by looping it round and through itself.