

SUGGESTIONS FOR THE CARE AND READING
OF
THE GENTLING BOOK OF TEXAS BIRDS

If a few simple procedures are observed, the reader should be able to enjoy this volume without difficulty while avoiding any damage to the unbound pages of the text and color plates.

STEP 1.

Remove the book from its cardboard shipping box. (Save this box for storing the book if you do not wish to keep the book on display) Place the book on a flat surface large enough to support both halves of the linen-covered box when it is opened. The side with the label should be on top.

STEP 2.

Open the book and allow it to lay flat. The two portfolios within should be snugly fitted into the right-half of the linen-covered box. Do not remove the portfolios from the box.

STEP 3.

To open the first portfolio grasp it by the spine and pull it toward your left about half an inch so that you can grasp and lift its cover. After opening its cover, push the portfolio back to the right so that it again fits snugly into the right-hand side of the box. As you read, gently slide the pages one-by-one from the right side of the box to the left side. Go through the portfolio one page at a time in the proper order. Do not skip pages. DO NOT TURN THE PAGES. SLIDE THEN TO YOUR RIGHT OR LEFT.

When you have completed portfolio I or have read as far as you wish, gently return the pages by sliding them back to the right side of the box, one-by-one in the reverse order that you read them. Keep this portfolio tightly fitted into the right side of the box. This will keep the edges of the portfolio and the edges of the pages properly aligned as you return them.

STEP 4.

When all the pages have been returned, close this portfolio and carefully slide it to the left side of the box, making sure that none of its pages slip out of alignment..

STEP 5.

Open portfolio II and read it by using the same procedure as in step 3, keeping this portfolio tightly fitted into the right-hand side of the box. When you are finished, return the pages in the same manner as with portfolio I and then gently slide the first portfolio back to its place on top of portfolio II.

I must repeat that the portfolios should not be removed from the linen covered box, and the reader should keep each portfolio securely fitted into the right side of the box while it is being read and when returning its pages. If you wish to remove a page for viewing, pick the sheet up with both hands, holding it towards the top of the page. Do not pick up a page or hold it with only one hand. It is also a good idea to wash your hands before reading the book.

Do not expose the box or the pages of the book to direct or strong indirect sunlight or to areas of high humidity near open windows or air-conditioning vents. These precautions should be observed with all works of art — not just with this book.

You will soon find that OF BIRDS AND TEXAS is much easier to read than these instructions may make it appear. If you and other readers follow the procedures outlined above, you will insure a long life for this publication, and you will be able to enjoy it and keep it in good condition so that it can be enjoyed by future generations.

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