

Many archival storage materials come in

BUFFERED

OR

UNBUFFERED

Which should you use to preserve your object?



pH is important for preservation



ACIDIC

NEUTRAL

ALKALINE



accelerate deterioration

ACIDS



An **ALKALINE** buffer



in storage materials helps counter acids

But some objects, such as those made with



animal protein,

shouldn't come in contact with buffering agents

Use the chart below to see which material is better for storing your heirlooms and collectibles

BUFFERED

- Paper
- Newspapers
- Collectibles
- Photographs
- Ceramics
- Other cellulose and plant-based fibers

UNBUFFERED

- Wool
- Leather
- Parchment
- Silk
- Pearls
- Feathers
- Animal specimens
- Other protein-based materials
- Blueprints and cyanotypes
- Albumen prints and dye transfer prints
- Mixed and unknown materials
- Textiles with unknown dyes

In most cases, you can use a buffered box for added protection even with materials made of animal proteins. Just be sure to wrap the item completely in unbuffered tissue paper, so the object doesn't come in contact with the box.



PRO TIP

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