



# Humidification Tips

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## **Some things you shouldn't humidify**

- Items with tape, glue, or other adhesive on them.
- Items that have been painted with watercolor paints.
- Dirty items. These should be cleaned before humidification.

## **Length of time to leave documents in chamber**

- This depends on many things, including the temperature of the water, the temperature of the room, and the type of paper being humidified.
- It can be anywhere from a few minutes to a few days. Room temperature water will usually not take less than an hour or two.
- If the process takes longer than a day, check the chamber and the document very carefully for mold once a day, and change out the blotters once a day if you're using the Horton humidifier. A document shouldn't be left in the humidifier over a weekend. It is better to take the document out and dry it over the weekend, and start again the next week.
- Using very hot water will significantly speed the process, since the resulting steam will raise the humidity very quickly. It can bring the humidification process down to a few minutes. However, this method shouldn't be used for items that have inks that may run. If this method is used for photographs, the photographs shouldn't be in the humidifier for more than about 10 minutes.