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To generate an oxygen-free environment you will need a barrier film envelope, Ageless or RP System oxygen absorbers, and an iron or heat sealing device. The object will be placed into the bag along with the oxygen absorbers, and will be sealed.

1. Preparing the Object

Although the plastics used in making Mitsubishi's Escal and Foil barrier films are pH neutral and will not off-gas, we suggest you cover your object with a sheet of acid-free, tissue paper, a piece of cotton sheeting, or some other protective material. In the case of a very delicate object, you may wish to place it in a box or rigid frame (with or without panels removed so that you can view the object) before inserting it into the envelope. For large picture frames still containing the painting, you may tie a rope around the frame (and across the image) to prevent the barrier film from coming into contact with the image in the frame.

2. Sealing the envelope

You will need the barrier film envelope, the Ageless, and a tool for sealing the envelope. Do not open the plastic bag containing the oxygen absorbers until you are ready to seal the envelope. Place the object to be treated in the far end of the envelope, giving yourself as much material as possible next to the open end. Cover the table under the open end with a folded bed sheet to create an ironing pad. You may use a heat sealer, a regular hand iron or a tacking iron to seal the envelope. We recommend you set the iron to "cool polyester" (about 250 degrees F), and then raise or lower the temperature slightly if needed.) Sealing clips are also available, although our preference is for a heat sealed seam.

Before you proceed further, try making a test seal to ensure that the iron is at the right temperature. Too low a heat setting will not seal, too high a setting will bubble and then melt the barrier film's outer plastic layers.

Practice- Make sure the open end of the envelope is flat and wrinkle-free before you start to iron (you may use weights to help with this), and then start ironing slowly from the seamed edge. Continue to iron until the bag is sealed. Enough excess is usually provided for you to start again a few times. A hand made seal should be at least 3/4 inch wide, transparent, and upon examination there should be no folds or paths through the seal for air to enter the envelope.

When you feel confident of your sealing abilities, open the bag containing the Ageless and arrange it at one end of the bag, or around the periphery of the object. Avoid creating a pile, and be certain that it does not contact the object. (Don't rush, but do try and seal the envelope within fifteen minutes of opening the bag of scavenger.)

Before sealing the bag completely, gently push out the excess air. Leave a little room around the object- do not make the envelope too tight! Over the next day or so, the scavenger will absorb the oxygen in the air sealed within the envelope leaving only nitrogen. This will reduce the volume of the envelope by about 20%- you will notice some shrinkage of the bag.