

Part Three: Preparation Of Woodcock Taxidermy Embalming Birds

Woodcock taxidermy is a challenging but rewarding art form. With the right techniques, you can create a beautiful and lifelike woodcock mount that will be a treasured keepsake for years to come.



TAXIDERMY: NOTIONS AND TECHNIQUES VOL. 1

BIRDS: Part Three Preparation of a woodcock

(Taxidermy, embalming birds Book 3) by Rosario Andronaco

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In this article, we will discuss the process of embalming woodcock, which is the first step in the taxidermy process. Embalming is essential for preserving the bird's body and preventing it from decaying.

Materials You Will Need

Before you begin, you will need to gather the following materials:

- Woodcock carcass

- Embalming fluid
- Injection syringe
- Scalpel
- Scissors
- Forceps
- Cotton balls

Step-by-Step Instructions

1. Prepare the carcass.

The first step is to prepare the woodcock carcass for embalming. This involves removing the feathers, entrails, and any other unwanted tissue.

To remove the feathers, use a sharp scalpel to make a cut down the center of the bird's back. Then, use your fingers to gently pull the feathers away from the skin. Be careful not to tear the skin.

Once the feathers are removed, use a scalpel to make a cut around the bird's anus. Then, use your fingers to pull out the entrails. Be sure to remove all of the entrails, as any remaining tissue can cause the bird to decay.

2. Inject the embalming fluid.

Once the carcass is prepared, you can begin injecting the embalming fluid. Embalming fluid is a chemical solution that helps to preserve the bird's body and prevent it from decaying.

To inject the embalming fluid, use an injection syringe to insert the fluid into the bird's body. Inject the fluid into the bird's chest cavity, abdominal cavity, and any other areas where there is exposed tissue.

3. Seal the incisions.

Once the embalming fluid has been injected, you need to seal the incisions. This will help to prevent the embalming fluid from leaking out and will also help to keep the bird's body from drying out.

To seal the incisions, use cotton balls to plug the holes. Then, use a scalpel to make a few small cuts around the edges of the incisions. This will help to create a seal and prevent the cotton balls from falling out.

4. Store the carcass.

Once the incisions are sealed, you need to store the carcass in a cool, dry place. This will help to preserve the embalming fluid and will also help to prevent the bird's body from decaying.

The ideal temperature for storing an embalmed woodcock carcass is between 40 and 50 degrees Fahrenheit. If you do not have a refrigerator that can maintain this temperature, you can store the carcass in a cool basement or garage.

Tips and Tricks

Here are a few tips and tricks for embalming woodcock:

- Use a sharp scalpel to make all of your cuts. This will help to prevent tearing the bird's skin.

- Inject the embalming fluid slowly and carefully. This will help to prevent the fluid from leaking out.
- Seal the incisions completely. This will help to prevent the embalming fluid from leaking out and will also help to keep the bird's body from drying out.
- Store the carcass in a cool, dry place. This will help to preserve the embalming fluid and will also help to prevent the bird's body from decaying.

Embalming woodcock is a challenging but rewarding task. By following the steps outlined in this article, you can create a beautiful and lifelike woodcock mount that will be a treasured keepsake for years to come.



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