

SUPPORT FOR CRADLEBOARD COVERS

Purpose

Cradleboard covers require two types of support systems, internal and external. See Padded Supports for Cradleboards. This external support system provides support for the rounded shape of a cradleboard cover (Fig. 1).

Description

The cradleboard cover mount is formed from three to five pieces of blueboard carved to the shape of the cradleboard cover. Areas that are in contact with the cradleboard cover are protected with softer, thin closed-cell or crosslinked polyethylene foam sheeting to avoid abrasion. The mounts are secured to a standardized or custom-made box.

Materials, Tools, and Supplies

- Variable heat hot glue gun
- Glue sticks
- Flexible ruler
- Metal straight edge
- Soft-structure Tyvek
- Volara
- Ethafoam, 1/8in
- pH neutral blueboard, 1/4in
- Utility knife

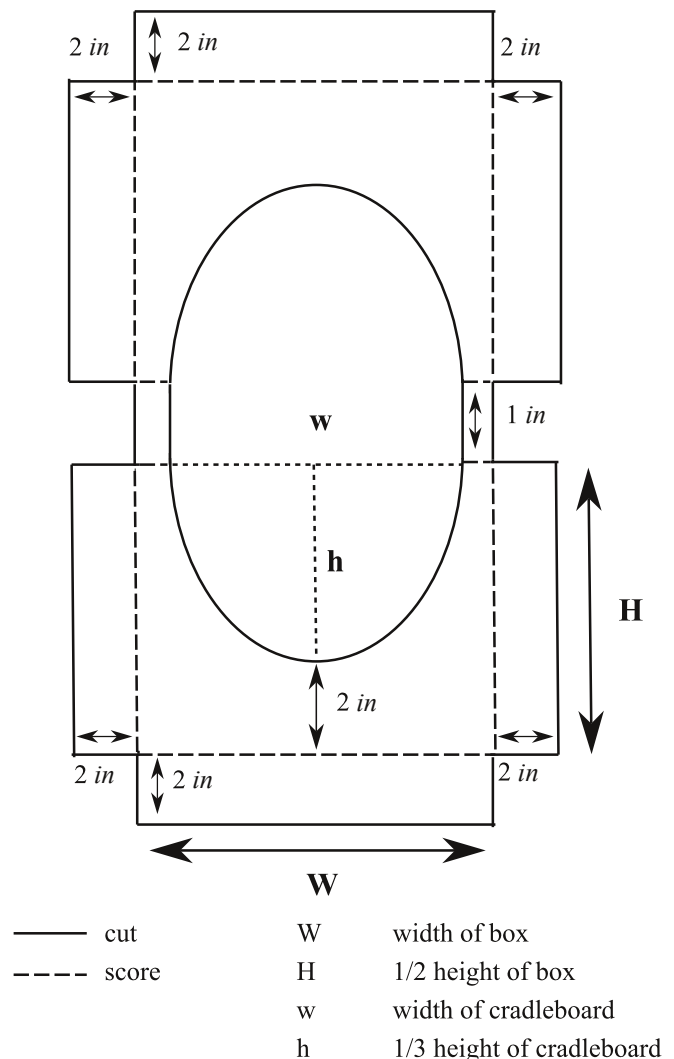
Directions

- 1) Determine the dimensions of the cradleboard cover (length, width, height). Determine the size box needed to house the cradleboard cover.
- 2) Draw the mount support according to the diagram on a piece of blueboard. When drawing the mount, use solid and dashed lines as illustrated in Fig. 2.
- 3) Use the width of the box to determine the width of the mount. The height of the mount should be 1/2 the height of the box.
- 4) Measure the full width of the cradleboard cover and 1/3 the height of the cradleboard cover to determine the measurements for the cross-section.



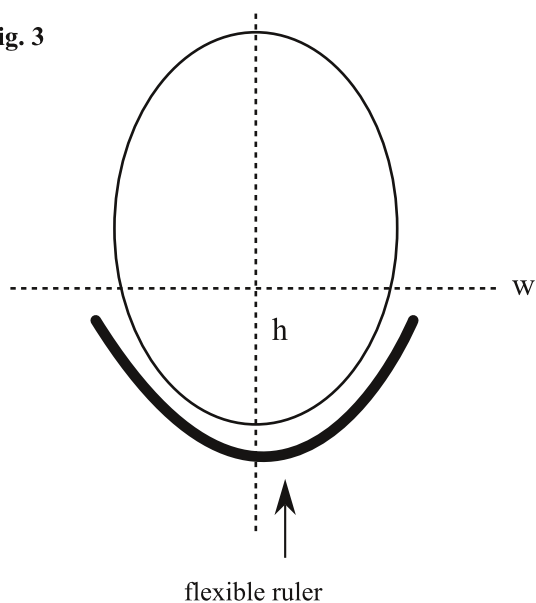
Fig. 1 Housing for cradleboard cover

Fig. 2



- 5) Use the flexible ruler to determine the shape of the bottom of the cradleboard cover (see Fig. 3)
- 6) Cut out the tray and cross-section with a sharp utility knife. Change the blade often. Cut along solid lines only.
- 7) Score the dashed lines using the utility knife or bone folder and straight edge. Be careful not to cut through the underside of the blueboard.
- 8) Score the two center lines on the underside of the blueboard to fold it in half.
- 9) Fold the blueboard along the scored lines. Be careful and work the blueboard gently to avoid splitting the board.
- 10) Make sure the cradleboard cover fits adequately into the mount. Pare away the blueboard with a utility knife or file so that the fit is close enough to prevent rolling or pitching of the object during transport. Make sure the fit is not tight enough to exert pressure on the sides of the cover or inhibit easy retrieval of the cradleboard cover from the mount.
- 11) The cut surface of the blueboard can be rough. To avoid abrasion, line the curved area with cut pieces of Volara.
- 12) Determine the number of mounts needed based on the length of the cradleboard cover. Space the mounts equally down the box. See Fig. 1.

Fig. 3



- w width of the cradleboard cover
h 1/3 height of the cradleboard cover

- 13) Using the hot glue gun on high setting, adhere the side and bottom flaps to the sides and bottom of the box.
- 14) If the cradleboard cover has a beaded tab with fringe, measure the length and width of the tab. Cut out a piece of polyethylene sheeting and cover it with soft-structure Tyvek using the tab's dimensions.
- 16) Adhere the covered polyethylene pad to the bottom of the box underneath the tab.
- 17) Cut three to four long strips of soft-structure Tyvek to be used as slings for lifting the cradleboard cover from the mount.



Fig. 4 Padding for fringed tab.

COMMENTS

The NSHS cradleboard covers were placed in custom made boxes to fit onto the shelves. The number of mounts were determined by the length of the cradleboard cover. An average of three mounts were made, and sometimes up to five mounts.