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## FORMULAS FOR BOOKBINDERS

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Author's Note.  
Being a brief out-  
line of the text.

tion upon which the whole success in the art of finishing depends. This one application in finishing is the one which is the least appreciated. There are, of course, other particulars important for superior finishing which have received due consideration in exhaustive treatises on finishing. I present here a number of formulas bearing on this subject, which will provide a fund of knowledge never offered before. These instructions will prove of inestimable value to those who aim high and possess perseverance.

Very closely allied to finishing, is stamping. On this subject, too, the book contains valuable information, comprising suggestions on stamping badges in gold and other metal; the stamping of large surfaces solidly in gold; the stamping of ooze sheep, ooze morocco and ooze calf, a line of leathers now rather extensively used in most binderies; and many other suggestions of equal importance.

In my own practice, as well as in my capacity as bindery foreman, I do not even tolerate use of powder, excepting for lettering leather goods for the store trade. Even in the latter instance, sizing should be applied whenever the price to be received permits. For stamping badges, cases, etc., and for finishing of books of any description, powder is entirely unsuitable. It does not permit the practical handling of the work, ruins the delicate finish of certain materials and can only with difficulty be removed from grained stock of any description. Gold fixed in this way wears off soon and does not possess the desired lustre.

Among the formulas for finishing will also be found suitable

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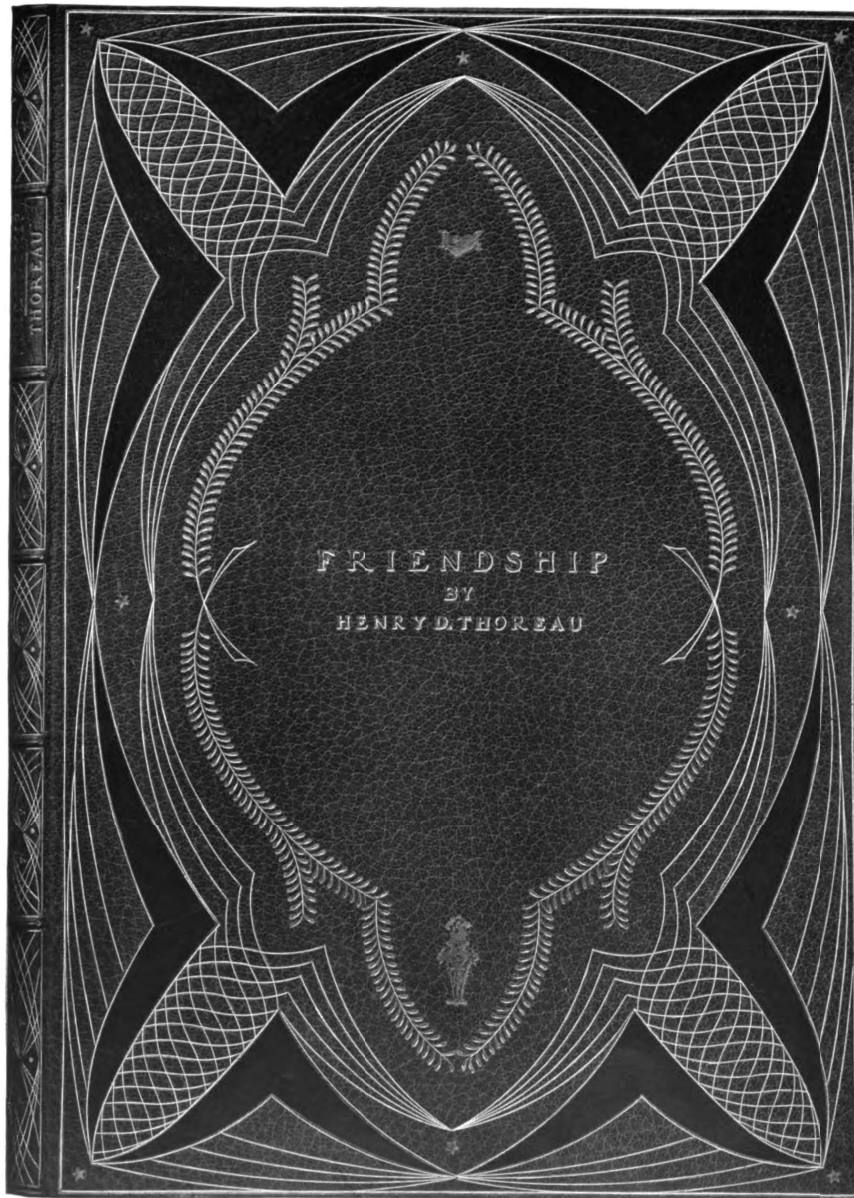
## FORMULAS FOR BOOKBINDERS

**T**RADE secrets of any considerable value are seldom published, on account of selfish motives and because the remuneration is always insignificant as compared with the amount of work involved. To find a combination of chemicals and to discover, by extensive experiments, the proper way of mixing them; to ascertain the right proportion of the various ingredients, and to produce a compound which will meet all requirements under the different conditions, demands more work than the average individual imagines. It requires the toil and experience of years. A formula should never be published before its practicability and fitness has been ascertained. Most of the formulas herewith presented I have successfully employed for more than twenty years, which proves their reliability. You must not lose confidence when your first attempts in applying my formulas should not be rewarded with the desired results. The application of any new process requires time, patience and experience. The particular branches in which I have attained exceptional success, are finishing, marbling and gilding; particularly the first named.

I have extensively studied the art of fixing gold leaf to leather. The results have been really marvelous, and, strange to say, the whole process has narrowed down to one simple prepara-

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Being a brief outline of the text.





Designed and executed by L. H. KINDER.

## FOREWORD

*A few words of appreciation and some expressions of joy which the writer always finds in his work:*

Encouraged by the receipt of many testimonials volunteered by grateful subscribers of *THE WHISPER*, and assurances of liberal support from many of my brother binders all over the world, I now make public, without reserve, all of the formulas that I have worked out and tested in my quarter of a century in the laboratory and at the bench.

Honor and a high sense of appreciation impel me to put forth my very best efforts and to make this the work of my life. The question as to how well I have succeeded in my endeavor, can best be announced by a fair test of the formulas. No test can be too severe, the results, I am confident, will only verify all that I claim for them, and perhaps more.

The formulas contained in this book comprise the twelve recipes published in *THE WHISPER*, and in addition thereto a great many others of far greater value. The fact that the twelve recipes alluded to brought forth such universal praise and appreciation, cannot fail to establish in the mind of any intelligent reader ample confidence as well as an assurance fully warranted, of the very material aid which these additional formulas, suitable for a wide range of work, will furnish.

### A FEW WORDS OF GRATITUDE

Words cannot express the feeling of gratitude I owe Mr. Elbert Hubbard for his encouragement and coöperation which rendered this work not only possible, but very delightful and pleasant to me.

I am also directly indebted to him for many recent achievements and discoveries which it has been my good fortune to accomplish, for it was in his beautiful institution, The Roycroft Shop, where I enjoyed many and various opportunities and privileges necessary for study and development.

I likewise feel grateful towards the Roycroft printers for the patience, masterly skill and artistic taste displayed in the printing of the book.

BY THE AUTHOR.

East Aurora, N. Y., U. S. A., January 10, 1905.

# FORMULAS FOR BOOKBINDERS

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By LOUIS H. KINDER

AUTHOR OF "THE WHISPER," AND HEAD BINDER AT THE ROYCROFT SHOP

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Being a Collection of  
Trade Formulas, the  
Results of Twenty-  
five Years' Study and  
Practice in the Arts  
of Tooling in Gold,  
Edge Gilding, Mar-  
bling, Stamping, and  
various other Depart-  
ments of Bookbinding

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EAST AURORA, N. Y., U. S. A.  
THE ROYCROFTERS

LONDON  
G. P. PUTNAM'S SONS

PRINTED BY THE ROYCROFTERS AT THEIR SHOP  
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## CONTENTS

	Page
Foreword	
Author's Note	i-vii
PART ONE	
Finishing and Stamping	1-56
PART TWO	
Edge Gilding and Metal Edges	57-84
PART THREE	
Book-Edge-Marbling and Colored Edges	85-102
PART FOUR	
Miscellaneous Formulas	103-112
Index of Formulas, numerically arranged	113-114
Index of Formulas, alphabetically arranged	114-115

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## ILLUSTRATIONS

<i>Friendship</i> , by Thoreau, Levant binding by the author	<i>Frontispiece</i>
<i>The Man of Sorrows</i> , by Elbert Hubbard, Levant binding by the author	40

Of this edition of "*Formulas For Bookbinders*," by Louis H. Kinder,  
there were printed four hundred and ninety copies on Imperial Japan  
Vellum. This copy is No. 251

Louis H. Kinder

To my sincere friend, Fletcher W. Battershall, whose love for and un-  
ceasing labors in the study of artistic bookbinding I have ever deeply ad-  
mired, these Formulas are dedicated.

L. H. K.