



The Art of Illusion





No furniture so charming as books

Revd. Sydney Smith 1771-1845

Secret passageways, priest holes, hidden doors, false panels and faux books are all part of our architectural heritage. Based in Gloucestershire, England, our skilled craftsmen help to preserve the art of illusion and keep the secrets created by faux books.



Faux Books in Important Places.

We have carried out projects for some of the most prestigious hotels, restaurants, stately homes, film and TV companies in the world. The British Museum recently opened the Kings Library, where our Faux Books were interspersed with real books.

Limited only by Imagination



Cabinets and Covers

One of the most ingenious uses for Faux books after the time honoured secret door is for cabinets, to hide objects like: televisions, computers, Hi-fi, radiators and even space-saving devices such as folding beds. Modern hi-tech can be shut away in a Faux Book cabinet to create a relaxing atmosphere.



Library Walls

For pure effect and impact, Faux books are used, often on a large scale, to create the library look. This effect is used extensively in hotels, restaurants, board rooms as well as in domestic schemes. Using Faux books in this way can instantly change the mood of a room and add a calming influence throughout.



Cupboards

From small electricity cupboards to large inbuilt cupboards, Faux Books enables the ultimate in volume concealment. Videos, magazines, clothes, even un-wanted gifts can be hidden behind Faux Book cupboard doors. Book cupboards are often used by retailers for concealing non-display stock.



Doors

Without doubt, secret doors have earned their place in History. At the British Library in London for example, the circular reading room is crowned by doors filled with False books, which date back to the libraries origins in the 1850's. Shugborough Hall in Stafford has three doorways filled with books created when its library was extended in 1750.



Filling Bookcases

Faux Books are a fraction of the price of antique books, and for this reason they are frequently used to fill bookcases along side the genuine article. Even libraries have used Faux books to enhance their collections. Faux Books have been used in many films and TV sets.



Book Boxes

As well as books being used to cover things, lets not forget the fictional tales of hollow books hiding objects such as Agatha Christie - style murderers who hid revolvers in false books. We make boxes and files to slide in-between real books to hold all sorts of things: videos, CD's, magazines and even telephone directories.



Column Covers

From column or pipework covers (internal width 340mm x depth 370mm), to entire door surrounds, "U" sections can be supplied as a pair of hollow books or in sufficient quantity to make a tower or archway. These products are made to order.

True or Faux



The most striking quality of Faux Books is that they look so convincing- you can quickly and easily achieve breath-taking effects to create antique libraries or swell the ranks of original collections. You can hide any number of un-sightly articles by using Faux Books on the front of cupboard and cabinet doors. We have found that favourite objects to hide away are TV, Hi-fi and computers, all of which can be hidden behind Faux Books.

Fitting could not be easier

Helpful hints to ensure an expert result.



Paint Matt Black

If you can provide the overall dimensions (in mms or inches) of the area you would like covered in faux books, we will send a quotation to you. (A plan or sketch is very helpful). We need to know if the shelves are already fixed and if so, the height between them.

The following points should be considered when supplying information to us.

A wider variety of footruns can be used if the height of the space between the shelves varies. What 'look' do you want - formal or informal? We have some specialist titles e.g. legal, assorted wines, some country sports, some French authors. The majority of the titles are classic English novels and Journals. Any restrictions on colour?

Does the door open towards you or away from you? If it opens towards you allowance must be made for the thickness of the book panels ($\pm 25\text{mm}$ 1in.)

The background should be painted matt black to give the impression of being in shadow.

We can supply single spines and deckled edges to fill any spaces between the top of a footrun and the shelf above. (Deckled edge is the name given to the page edges of a book with the appearance of being in gold leaf).

We also supply part panels of footruns to fill a complete shelf width, whatever the dimensions. If we are preparing a quotation for you, we will need to know the width of the beading used for the false shelves so that we provide an accurate layout of footruns. A standard size would be 25mm (1 inch).

To make it simple for you or your joiner, we will prepare the footruns to your specification.

They will be packed 'shelf by shelf' with a plan and full instructions showing how the footruns should be arranged:

For permanent fixing, use a panel adhesive similar to Gripfill. If sticking directly to a vertical surface, additional application of hotmelt glue from a glue gun will give instant adhesion whilst the permanent adhesive is setting.

Are the footruns to be free standing on open shelves?



Mark out shelves and glue onto panel



Stick Faux Books onto panel



We can supply L brackets with industrial velcro to hold the panels upright.

If possible, the footrun should fill the whole height of the shelf to give a realistic look.

Before and after results...



Faux Books used to conceal a Heating System

Experts can't tell the difference

Faux Books are valued by Curators, Librarians, Interior Designers and other experts for their remarkably authentic appearance, which lets them sit along side the genuine article completely undetected.



Our Faux Books are authentic reproductions taken from genuine antique leather books which are borrowed from libraries, private collections or bought at specialist auctions. Our hand made process means we can reproduce every detail in the original book without causing any damage.



G0216 Punch
H 267mm (10.5in) L 268mm (10.5in)



G0203 Royal Academy (10)
H 270mm (10.75in) L 315mm (12.5in)



G0217 Paris Moderne
H 290mm (11.5in) L 285mm (11.5in)



G0202 Royal Academy (12)
H 296mm (12in) L 301mm (12in)



G0204 Art Journal
H 320mm (12.5in) L 290mm (11.5in)



G0214 Library of Sketches
H 325mm (12.75in) L 305mm (12in)



G0310 Badminton (vellum)
H 225mm (9in) L 330mm (13.25in)



G0212 Ambrose
H 353mm (14in) L 305mm (12in)



G0200 History of Rome
H 390mm (15.25in) L 310mm (12.25in)



G0205 History of English Speaking People
H 405mm (16.25in) L 305mm (12in)



G0201 English Art
H 430mm (17in) L 315mm (12.5in)



G0120 Spectator
H 163mm (6.5in) L 295mm (11.5in)



G0116 Beaconsfield
H 170mm (6.75in) L 290mm (11.5in)



G0129 Shakespeares Works
H 175mm (7in) L 302mm (12in)



G0111 Steven Lawrence
H 180mm (7.25in) L 309mm (12.25in)



G0101 Charles Dickens
H 185mm (7.25in) L 260mm (10.25in)



G0132 Voltaire
H 200mm (7.75in) L 316mm (12.5in)



G0124 Compact Encyclopaedia
H 202mm (8.25in) L 310mm (12.25in)



G0107 Temple Bar
H 205mm (8.25in) L 285mm (11.25in)



G0109 Who's Who
H 210mm (8.25in) L 340mm (13.5in)



G0115 Salmon Fishing
H 210mm (8.5in) L 292mm (11.5in)



G0140 Byron
H 214mm (8.5in) L 303mm (12in)



G0114 Cornhill
H 215mm (8.5in) L 312mm (12.25in)



G0126 Assorted Wines
H 215mm (8.75in) L 438mm (17.5in)



G0105 Bingham's Reports
H 225mm (9in) L 273mm (10.75in)



G0110 Badminton
H 225mm (9in) L 335mm (13.25in)



G0128 Dictionnaire Historique
H 243mm (9.75in) L 293mm (11.5in)



G0102 Chambers Journal
H 245mm (9.75in) L 345mm (13.5in)



G0127 Gil Bas
H 246mm (9.75in) L 295mm (11.5in)



G0130 Memoirs Secrets
H 246mm (9.75in) L 313mm (12.5in)



G0123 Woods Natural History
H 260mm (10.25in) L 290mm (11.5in)



G0139 Heroes
H 189mm (7.5in) L 305mm (12in)



G0103 Alexandre Dumas
H 190mm (7.5in) L 325mm (12.75in)



G0118 Memoirs of a Physician
H 200mm (8in) L 305mm (12in)



G0119 Argosy
H 200mm (8in) L 275mm (10.75in)



G0117 George Eliot
H 210mm (8.5in) L 292mm (11.5in)



G0133 Oeuvres de Corneille
H 210mm (8.25in) L 308mm (12.25in)



G0131 Lonsdale Library
H 212mm (8.25in) L 279mm (11.25in)



G0138 Alexander Pope's Works
H 212mm (8.25in) L 262mm (10.5in)



G0106 Fishers Reports
H 235mm (9.25in) L 272mm (10.75in)



G0112 The Quiver
H 235mm (9.25in) L 320mm (12.5in)



G0104 Law Reports
H 240mm (9.5in) L 290mm (11.5in)



G0125 Strand
H 240mm (9.5in) L 380mm (15.25in)



G0121 Imperial Dictionary
H 265mm (10.5in) L 193mm (7.5in)



G0410 extra long / thin
H 385mm (15.25in) L 15mm (0.75in)

G0402 Small (side)
H 30mm (1.25in) L 180mm (7.25in)

G0401 Small (end)
H 30mm (1.25in) L 130mm (5in)



G0600 'L' Bracket with Velcro



G0404 Double End
H 85mm (3.5in) L 330mm (13in)

G0405 Extra Large
H 105mm (4.25in) L 375mm (14.75in)



G0500 Leather Edging - Burgundy



Plain Wood Shelving (Special Order Only)

The range of Faux books shown is only a selection from our extensive range. *All sizes are approximate* and as each book is hand painted and finished, there can be substantial variation in colour. e&oe

Please call us to discuss your Faux Book project. We would be very pleased to give you our suggestions on design, and to offer a quotation by return, including cost and delivery.



To find out about Original Casting for producing bespoke moulded items and business gifts, to see the full range of The Original Book Works products, or the new Limited Additions range of Interior Design Accessories moulded from antiques, contact us at the address below or see our website.



www.originalbooks.net

The Original Book Works Limited, 1 Wilkinson Road, Cirencester, Gloucestershire GL7 1YT England
Tel: +44(0)1285 641664 Fax: +44(0)1285 641705 Email: sales@originalbooks.net



The Original Book Works, Harbor Hill, 5 Division Street, East Greenwich, Rhode Island, 02818 USA
Tel: (401) 885-0177 Fax: (401) 885-2087 Email: HURLEYOBW@aol.com