

INGENIOUS IDEAS

DEPARTMENT

Protect Your Favorite Memories With A Cedar-Lined Chest

(NAPSA)—Many of us have treasured family keepsakes from weddings or christenings made of delicate fibers such as angora, lace or silk.

It can be difficult to find room in your house to store such precious items, especially when closets never seem to be big enough to hold everything we need.

Looking beyond our packed closets, the price tag can be daunting for a new chest of drawers (\$500 to \$1,500) or a completed cedar chest (\$350 to \$500). But it's easy to turn an unfinished chest or toy box into a cedar-lined memory chest. The box is small enough to fit into tight spaces. And the Aromatic Eastern Redcedar liner naturally protects your special items from moth larvae that eat wool, leather and silk, as well as silverfish that like to eat cotton, linen, rayon and book bindings. It even protects naturally against dirty roaches.

"Cedar closet liners can change an ordinary toy box or unfinished wooden chest into a beautiful cedar memory chest for special, delicate keepsakes," says HGTV and CedarSafe Home Improvement Expert Pat Simpson.

You can purchase a simple child's toy box online from children's specialty retailers for about \$175. An unfinished wooden chest will cost about \$150 at an unfinished furniture store. Then you'll need about two or three boxes of cedar planks, available at most major



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home improvement stores. Cost: about \$28 a box. Simply line the inside of the chest with the planks using subfloor adhesive or nails. The planks fit together with tongue-and-groove joints, so this project will take a short amount of time.

"Depending on the size of the box, the lid may become a bit heavy," says Simpson. "You may want to consider hydraulic closers [about \$9] to prevent the lid from slamming shut."

Then, place your treasured items into the chest. The cedar scent will keep them smelling fresh for a long time. Every year or so, be sure to pull items out of the chest and lightly sand the cedar liners. That'll restore the cedar scent and that keeps the bugs away, so your keepsakes are protected.

For more information, visit cedarsafeclosets.com.