
FRAMING FAQ'S

Answers to some of the most commonly asked framing questions:



Can you explain the different types of Glass?

“Glazing” is the framing material that lays over the art and is commonly a form of glass, but it can also be acrylic. This layer can be utilized as an important barrier for protecting your art, including harmful UV rays.

Custom framed art can complete the statement of a decorated room.

Basic Glass - This type of picture frame glazing is the most common in ready made frames that you find in retail stores or online. Basic glass protects your art from dust and scratches only. It does NOT protect your artwork from harmful UV rays or contain anti-reflective properties.

Conservation Glass - offers the highest level of UV protection available in the industry. Over time, exposure to indoor and outdoor UV light rays can contribute to fading and deterioration of art, photographs and other artwork. Conservation glass blocks up to 99% of UV rays to protect against fading and help keep framed pieces brighter, longer.

Museum Glass - Anti Reflection picture framing glass with Conservation Grade UV protection is the best glazing option for art, photographs and other keepsakes. Along with a nearly invisible finish, it effectively blocks up to 99% of harmful UV light.

Acrylic (plexiglass) - Acrylic is ideal for large pieces due to it's weight compared to glass. Picture frame grade acrylic is about 1/8" thick, and will not yellow over time. While extremely durable and suitable for items to be shipped or moved frequently, acrylic is more fragile than glass in that it scratches easily and should be cleaned only with a soft cloth. Acrylic can be purchased with UV protection, anti-glare and reduced static, but it should be noted that acrylic for framing is more expensive than glass.



Our art collections are “valuable” to all of us - both emotionally and financially.

What is Acid Free matboard, and do I need it?

“Picture framers are not conservators, however, we have a responsibility to our customers to preserve their work in the best possible environment.”

- VIVIAN KISTLER, CPF

The problem with acid is that it migrates. Once it seeps out of an acid bearing material it can contaminate anything it comes in contact with, especially the art contained within the frame. Matboard should act as a barrier and hindrance to acid migration. Most all matboard in production today has been through an acid neutralization process and is safe for a variety of framing needs. For museum grade protection, we recommend a conservation archival grade quality mat made of 100% acid free, lignin free, cotton or alpha cellulose fibers. These boards will never become acidic over time.

What is a Gallery Wrapped canvas?

A gallery wrapped canvas is stretched onto strainer bars that have a larger depth (1.5"-2") on the sides where the canvas wraps around to the back of the stretcher bar frame. Typically, gallery wrapped canvases are meant to hang without a frame, and most times the image is painted or printed on the edges to be seen as part of the design. Staples will be on the back of the art so that the sides are clean and undamaged. A canvas that is already on deep gallery style bars can be framed; however, the depth of the frame is a consideration. The canvas can be centered on the wooden flange of a "float" frame or, alternatively, a "cap" frame can be used to wrap around and cover the sides of the canvas.



How do you handle framing stitchery?

Whether you are framing cross stitch, needlepoint, or other fine craftwork, we treat it with the utmost care. As with any fabric, we will use pins or AttachEZ to smooth the fabric and attach to backing board. This process is fully reversible and will leave no adhesive residue. We also use the lacing technique as required. Stitchery can be framed with or without mats or glass. All cotton batting can be added underneath stitchery to create more dimension as preferred. We do ask that you wash and iron any pieces that are brought in for framing.