

Exhibition ready: What does framed and ready to hang mean?

Students are encouraged to begin using professional standards as early in their careers as possible. This is a great opportunity to start!

The professional standard for all works of art on paper is: matted or mounted on white, off-white or cream mat board (to match the tone of the paper) with a sturdy backing (mat board or foam board). Museums and galleries don't use color mats on contemporary art. Works on paper should not touch the glass.

Use linen tape if possible- no sticky tape like scotch or masking tape. Polyester or Mylar photo corners are also a good choice.

Use regular Single Strength glass or 1/8" Plexiglas.

Frames should be very simple for contemporary work. Any of the following are acceptable:

Plain wood (light, dark or painted black; no extra carving or details) with d-rings and wire on the back for hanging- *no saw tooth hangers*.

Metal section frames (silver, black or other neutral) with hangers and wire on the back. For an 18x24 frame, buy one pkg. of 18" rails, one of 24" rails and one pkg. of corner hardware. These are easily assembled with a screwdriver.

Uni-frames are sleek clear plastic corners that sandwich the backing, mount, mat and glass together with a sturdy nylon cord for hanging.

Paintings can be strip framed with inexpensive 1/4" thick wood strips of 1 x 2 clear pine lumber. These can be left raw or painted a neutral color. They must have D-rings and wire on the back.- No saw tooth hangers.

Measuring Frames - If you buy a ready-made frame such as 18 X 20 that is the size of the inside of the frame. Your mat, mount glass and backing should be cut to 18 x 20.

What does installation ready mean?

Any 3-D art that is intended to be hung in the wall must have a sturdy and easy to understand hanging mechanism—*no sawtooth hangers*. Art that is intended to be placed on a pedestal or on the floor should be labeled as such. While Purdue has pedestals, don't expect other galleries will provide them.