EAA FRAMING AND HANGING TIPS

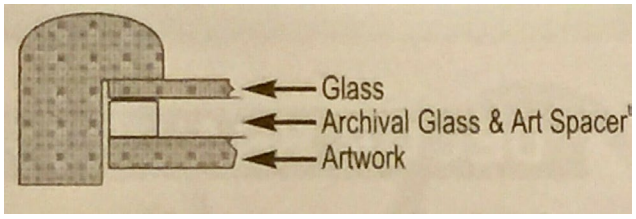
Keep in mind that you are preparing your work for a gallery and that it will be for sale. Buyers will pass by work with poor framing.

Choose a frame that complements the artwork. It should be clean and in good repair.
It doesn't need to be expensive.

To ensure the longevity of your work, archival (i.e. acid-free) materials are best.

Most work on paper looks best with an acid-free mat at least 2in wide.
Note that matboard with a brown or tan core is not acid free and will degrade the artwork.
Mats with foxing detract from the artwork and aren't acceptable.

If work is floated, use a plastic spacer to keep the glass/acrylic from contact with the artwork

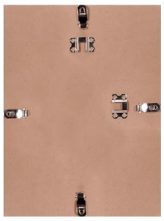


Acid free foamcore strips secured with an adhesive also work well.

Work on paper must be protected with glass or acrylic, clean and free of scratches.
Thin styrene is inexpensive but it may warp and yellow. Ultraviolet resistant glazing is available but at a higher cost.

Work on paper adhered to a wood panel must be protected with varnish, polyurethane, wax or other archival coating.

No clip frames (clips fall out), saw toothed hangers (unstable), Command strips or taped in work.



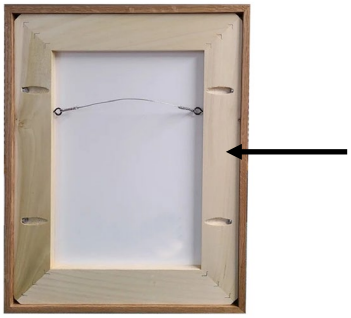
Work should be secured in the frame with glazier points, framers points or brads.

A dust cover glued to the back of the frame keeps the work free of dust and insects. Frame sealing tape is another alternative.

The back of a framed artwork should be neat and tidy. It helps to present the artwork package as professional.

Hanging hardware should be screw eyes, D rings or similar with screws, of a size suitable for the weight of the work

Hardware should be screwed to the frame 1/4 to 1/3 from the top of the frame or screwed to the strainer for large, heavy work



Strainer

Wire must have some slack to avoid stress on the frame which may fail over time.

Hanging wire should be braided or plastic coated and wrapped back on itself, i.e. no dangling wire.

If you would like hands on help with framing please contact Ellen Gaube 860-377-7750.
She would be happy assist you in her home and for a small donation to EAA.