

**Inexpensive Framing**

**Acrylic Not Glass**

**Use Archival *Everything***

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## FRAME TO MAT TO IMAGE:

1. **Start with the frame size**
2. **Choose your mat**
3. **Your image size is within the mat**



# INEXPENSIVE FRAMING:

**Look for frames:**

- **In-stock sizes**
- **Sales**
- **Thrift store finds**
- **Garage sale finds**
- **Re-used**

# Choose Frame + Choose Mat + Create Your Image

**A backward method perhaps.....**

**Your image size will be within the interior of the mat size**



**The following slides  
present options and  
ideas for stock frames.**

**Frame sizes are listed  
with the height first  
and then the width.  
Height x width.**

**Mats look best when  
cut professionally with  
the top and sides  
being the same size &  
larger weighted  
bottom.**

**You image size is  
within the interior mat.**

**CREATE!**



**FRAME SIZE: 6 X 6"**

**3 x 3" image size ~ mat of 1-1/2" on all sides**

**2 x 2" image size ~ mat of 2" on all sides**

**FRAME SIZE: 8 x 10" ~ horizontal format**

**3-1/2 x 6" image size ~ mat is 2" top and sides with weighted bottom of 2-1/2"**

**FRAME SIZE: 10 x 8" ~ vertical format**

**5-1/2 x 4" image size ~ mat is 2" top and sides with weighted bottom of 2-1/2"**

**FRAME SIZE: 9 x 12" ~ horizontal format**

**4-1/2 x 8" image size ~ mat is 2" top and sides with weighted bottom of 2-1/2"**

**FRAME SIZE: 12 X 9" ~ vertical format**

**7-1/2 x 5" image size ~ mat is 2" top and sides with weighted bottom of 2-1/2"**

**FRAME SIZE: 10 x 10"**

**6 x 6" image size ~ mat of 2" on all sides**

**5 x 5" image size ~ mat of 2-1/2 on all sides**

**FRAME SIZE: 11 x 14" ~ horizontal format**

**5-1/2 x 9" image size ~ mat is 2-1/2" top and sides with weighted bottom of 3"**

**FRAME SIZE: 14 x 11" ~ vertical format**

**8-1/2 x 6" image size ~ mat is 2-1/2" top and sides with weighted bottom of 3"**

**FRAME SIZE: 12 x 12"**

**6 x 6" image size ~ mat of 3" on all sides**

**7 x 7" image size ~ mat of 2-1/2" on all sides**

**FRAME SIZE: 12 x 16" ~ horizontal format**

**6-1/2 x 11" image size ~ mat is 2-1/2" top and sides with weighted bottom of 3"**

**FRAME SIZE: 16 x 12" ~ vertical format**

**10-1/2 x 7" image size ~ mat is 2-1/2" top and sides with weighted bottom of 3"**

**FRAME SIZE: 14 x 18" ~ horizontal format**

**8-1/2 x 13" image size ~ mat is 2-1/2" top and sides with weighted bottom of 3"**

**FRAME SIZE: 18 x 14" ~ vertical format**

**12-1/2 x 9" image size ~ mat is 2-1/2" top and sides with weighted bottom of 3"**

**FRAME SIZE: 16 x 20" ~ horizontal format**

**9-1/2 x 14" image size ~ mat is 3" top and sides with weighted bottom of 3-1/2"**

**FRAME SIZE: 20 x 16" ~ vertical format**

**13-1/2 x 10" image size ~ mat is 3" top and sides with weighted bottom of 3-1/2"**

**FRAME SIZE: 18 x 24" ~ horizontal format**

**11-1/2 x 18" image size ~ mat is 3" top and sides with weighted bottom of 3-1/2"**

**FRAME SIZE: 24 x 18" ~ vertical format**

**17-1/2 x 12" image size ~ mat is 3" top and sides with weighted bottom of 3-1/2"**

**FRAME SIZE: 20 x 24" ~ horizontal format**

**13-1/2 x 18" image size ~ mat is 3" top and sides with weighted bottom of 3-1/2"**

**FRAME SIZE: 24 x 20" ~ vertical format**

**17-1/2 x 14" image size ~ mat is 3" top and sides with weighted bottom of 3-1/2"**

**FRAME SIZE: 24 x 30" ~ horizontal format**

**17-1/2 x 24" image size ~ mat is 3" top and sides with weighted bottom of 3-1/2"**

**FRAME SIZE: 30 x 24" ~ vertical format**

**23-1/2 x 18" image size ~ mat is 3" top and sides with weighted bottom of 3-1/2"**

**FRAME SIZE: 24 x 36" ~ horizontal format**

**17-1/2 x 30" image size ~ mat is 3" top and sides with weighted bottom of 3-1/2"**

**FRAME SIZE: 36 x 24" ~ vertical format**

**29-1/2 x 18" image size ~ mat is 3" top and sides with weighted bottom of 3-1/2"**

**FRAME SIZE: 26 x 34" ~ horizontal format**

**19-1/2 x 28" image size ~ mat is 3" top and sides with weighted bottom of 3-1/2"**

**FRAME SIZE: 34 x 26" ~ vertical format**

**27-1/2 x 20" image size ~ mat is 3" top and sides with weighted bottom of 3-1/2"**

**FRAME SIZE: 30 x 40" ~ horizontal format**

**22-1/2 x 33" image size ~ mat is 3-1/2" top and sides with weighted bottom of 4"**

**FRAME SIZE: 40 x 30" ~ vertical format**

**32-1/2 x 23" image size ~ mat is 3-1/2" top and sides with weighted bottom of 4"**

# Acrylic Not Glass

**The word “Acrylic” is the generic chemical name and term for the material itself, polymethylmethacrylate.**

**The work “Plexiglass” is the trade or brand name of the same material as “Acrylic”.**

**Both are lightweight, shatter-resistant, and have high clarity.**

**Plexiglass may vary slightly in quality and UV resistance depending on the manufacturer.**

**Both are suitable for similar applications but based on thickness and finish for specific projects... one may be better than the other.**

**Plexiglass can be more expensive based on brand name and quality assurance. All Acrylic prices vary as to the thickness, and size.**

**The Acrylic material began in 1902 and registered in 1933 as the brand name Plexiglas.**

**Acrylic cutting is best done professionally so that edges are aligned and buffed.**

**Cleaning is easily done with a lint-free cloth and the use of Brillianize or Novus, which are non-abrasive solutions. Ammonia based product and abrasive material may damage the surface. Gentle wiping in a circular motion will remove fingerprints and smudges. With proper care, acrylic can be maintained for decades.**

**If acrylic scratches, an acrylic polish and soft cloth can be used to buff and polish.**

**Environmentally, it can be recycled and reprocessed to produce new products.**

**It is resistant to sun fading, discoloration, and impact.**

**It is light weight for transport.**



**USE ARCHIVAL EVERYTHING**

## **USE ARCHIVAL ACID-FREE EVERYTHING BACKING, MAT BOARD, FRAMING TAPE & MOUNTING ADHESIVE**

**The most important part of framing your artwork is using the correct archival quality, acid-free materials for back board, mat board, tape, and mounting adhesive. Archival is essential for clean, lasting, and professional finished framing.**

**Archival tapes and mounting adhesives prevent yellowing, adhesive breakdown, and damage to the artwork. They keep artwork secure within the frame, prevent the image from shifting, and protect it from long-term damage.**

**Avoid non-archival boards and mats. Avoid scotch tape, painter's tape, and other double-sided tapes because the acid in these products will eventually eat away at the artwork.**

## **TO CONSIDER:**

- **Type of artwork**
- **Material of artwork: paper, board, fiber, canvas, etc.**
- **Weight of the artwork to be taped or bonded**
- **Choose appropriate strength and mounting method for type of material and weight**
- **Choose archival, acid-free materials**
- **Choose materials for your particular area:  
think about temperature, humidity, and exposure.  
Some tapes do not work well in extreme conditions.**
- **Mount the artwork to the archival backing board  
before adding the mat board will keep the art  
secure and well aligned**
- **The archival mat placed over the mounted artwork on  
board will add protection and visual space**
- **Double mats may be necessary for large artworks**



## **Suggestions for archival and acid-free tapes and adhesives:**

Supplies can be purchased at local shops, hardware stores and websites:

[jerrysartarama.com](http://jerrysartarama.com)  
[lineco.com](http://lineco.com)  
[dickblick.com](http://dickblick.com)  
[amazon.com](http://amazon.com)  
[michaels.com](http://michaels.com)  
[hobbylobby.com](http://hobbylobby.com)  
[metroframe.com](http://metroframe.com)  
[americanframe.com](http://americanframe.com)  
[journeyartstuff.com](http://journeyartstuff.com)

**Archival Framer's Tape is strong, thin, and doesn't harm artwork on paper or mat boards. It prevents the artwork from shifting and keeps it cleaner.**

**Archival Mounting or Artist's Tape is thicker, stronger, and can secure heavier papers, fiber material, and canvas to the back board. It is available in varied widths and lengths.**

**Archival Hinging Tape attaches artwork at the very top edge, which allows for natural movement and less stress in the paper.**

**Archival Double-sided Tape secures the artwork flatly against an archival back board and will be more permanent.**

**Archival Foam Framer's Tape is thicker with cushioning and support. It works well when a float mount is needed on lightweight artwork.**

**Archival Spray Adhesive or Poster Spray is acid-free and used for mounting very delicate and fine paper art to a board to give it structure and safety. This aerosol spray provides a clean, permanent bond between two surfaces. Non-archival adhesives damage the artwork.**

**Acid-Free Starch Adhesive or Nori Paste is used in hinging artwork to a mounting board. It has a slowly drying time which allows for corrections during the dry time.**



**Thank you.  
I hope you enjoyed this presentation.  
Priscilla Humay**