

PRESENTING ARTWORK FOR EXHIBIT

There is no “one size fits all” for artwork displayed on a wall, especially for installations and other artwork where hanging is integral to viewing the work. In more emblematic photography, paintings, and drawings, **if the frame isn’t part of the artwork**, artists can think “neutral” or “less is more.” When submitting juried work for hanging, consider one of the following format options. Keep in mind, these are suggestions and galleries are typically open to your ideas!

Always provide a means to hang your work on the wall that will stay up for at least three months, for example, wire, French cleat, magnets, etc. If you have something specific in mind, let the gallery know how you would prefer your work hung. It’s okay, and sometimes preferred, to leave them with specific instructions. Prior to drop-off you can always email the gallery too and ask about their suggestions for hanging or what they have available for pedestals, magnets, etc.

OIL OR ACRYLIC ON CANVAS

1. **No framing necessary:** Oil or acrylic paintings on a canvas stretched over wood stretcher bars do not need to be framed. If a painting is unframed, the viewer sees its side, which is typically gesso white, painted, or the color of the canvas or support. Wood panels on stretcher bars also do not need framing for the same reasons. **Please don’t spend any money or time framing; it is unnecessary.** Spend your time and money making more artwork.
2. **Floating frame:** Oil or acrylic paintings on a canvas stretched over wood stretcher bars can be framed with a slim stained wood “floater” frame, which has a gap between the painting’s edge and the inside edge of the frame.
3. **Grommets:** Unstretched canvas can be punched with metal grommets and hung from nails.
4. **Heavy-duty bull clips:** Unstretched canvas can also be hung using heavy-duty bull clips. Test the bull clips to ensure they hold the work for at least 24 hours.

WORKS ON PAPER

1. **Framing:** Works on paper or photography are most protected when framed. If the frame isn’t part of the artwork, neutral is great.
 - Use a plain black, white, or otherwise neutral frame. Other frame colors or patterns can distract viewers from the artwork or date it.
 - Select one acid-free white mat or no mat at all. Two or three mats in multiple colors can distract from the artwork.
 - Cover with UV-protected glass or plexiglass, or opt not to cover at all.
 - Provide “D” hooks and a wire on the back for hanging.
2. **Magnets:** If the work is not framed, we will hang it with magnets. To hang artwork using magnets, we drill a screw flush into the wall and then use a powerful magnet to hold the work between the screw and the magnet. This ensures no holes in your artwork and is a safe method of installation. When hung with magnets, there is no glass to protect the artwork, but on the other hand, viewers see the artwork without distractions or reflections from the glass. **Tape does not work for three months. Do not provide tape.**

WORKS ON CANVAS BOARD OR RIGID PAPER

1. **“L” Hooks:** Works on canvas board, matboard, rigid paper, or cardstock can also be framed or mounted to the wall with four “L” hooks where the work rests on the hook, which also holds it against the wall. There is no glass to protect the artwork.