

Seacoast Artists Association
130 Water St., Exeter New Hampshire 03833

Gallery Framing and Artwork Presentation Standards, 2026

Frames:

- Framing should present an overall professional, clean appearance.
- Without visible blemishes, cracks, scars, chips or missing / damaged finish.
- Glass / Plexiglas : Should be clean and free of surface chips and scratches, Without visible internal or external dust or debris.
- Frame / Mat choice: Consider a simple, uniform gallery style, Recommended frames include Black, Brown, Gold, or Silver, and neutral / white tone mats.
- Wired for hanging, per Gallery standards (See Below)

Canvases:

- No wet / unfinished paintings
- Sides are to be clean and undamaged
- Gallery wrapped canvasses should have painted / finished edges and sides
- No exposed, unpainted or uncovered staples

Hardware and Wiring:

- NO "Saw Tooth" hangers : All artwork must be wired for hanging
- Use braided framing wire only : no string, mono-filament, or solid-core wire
- Wire and D-ring hardware should be of appropriate size for artwork weight
- Attach D-rings to frame with drilled holes, level and at approximately 1/4 to 1/3 distance from top edge
- Do Not glue D-rings or wire to frame, Do Not use rusty / frayed wire, Do Not use string or twine
- Length of wire = midpoint approximately at bottom of top frame rail, allowing room for gallery hangers
- Knot wire thru the D-rings with simple overhand loops
- Braid wire end, up the hanging wire, use sufficient excess length to allow for future hanging adjustment

Statues, Solid Works, and etc.:

- Work should be constructed such that it is firmly self supported, or is supplied with a dedicated support
- Dedicated display cases should be provided for fragile works

Small Works:

- Artworks smaller than 5x7 , without room for wiring, may use saw-tooth hangers
- Very small artworks should have a "Mini-Easel" stand included

Special Show Requirements:

- All artwork should be clearly labeled, with title, artist's name, and price, etc.
- Many shows have specific requirements, such as size limitations, special/ seasonal themes, etc.

- Please be mindful and adhere to the published requests for any gallery event.

Resources:

Many framing supply sources on the internet have detailed, visual framing instructions available, as well as major art associations, museums , and galleries, which provide excellent material for study and review.

[What Do I Need to Frame a Photo?](https://www.framedestination.com/blog/diy/what-do-i-need-to-frame-a-photo) (FrameDestination.com)

<https://www.framedestination.com/blog/diy/what-do-i-need-to-frame-a-photo>

[Help and Tutorial Videos | ArtToFrames](https://www.arttoframe.com/help.php)

<https://www.arttoframe.com/help.php>

[Help Pages and Guides - Matboard and More](https://www.matboardandmore.com/help)

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