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Framing Artwork Professionally – Why Good Matboard Matters

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There are many different things that go into creating a professionally framed piece of artwork, and a good matboard can make or break the frame job. Here's a look at why matboard is so important when it comes to framing artwork.

Matboard, also sometimes called mount board or matting, is the thick cardboard-like material used to frame artwork. It both provides a backing for the artwork while helping to also keep it in place. Mat board also provides a border around the artwork, which can be helpful in both protecting it and making it look more finished overall.

Matboard & Framing Your Art

There are a few different reasons why matboard is so important when it comes to framing artwork. Let's break down each and every one and why that adds to the overall professional appearance of your pictures and/or art.

First, good matting helps to protect the artwork from damage. Although relatively thin, the matboard still acts as a barrier between the artwork and anything that could damage it from the outside world. This includes rough handling, accidental drops, or other things which can help to keep it from getting scratched or damaged in any other way.

Second, matboard can help to enhance the overall look of the artwork. A well-chosen frame mat can really make a piece of art pop, and it can also help to tie the whole frame together. This is why matboards come in so many colors: light, dark, and everything in between. The color can compliment and/or emphasize the colors of the artwork.

Finally, matboard can also help to preserve the artwork over time. The mat board will protect the artwork from UV light and other environmental factors that can cause it to fade or deteriorate given enough exposure over enough time.

How Thick Is Good Mat board?

As a general rule of thumb, the thicker the matboard, the better. This is because thicker matboard provides more protection for the artwork. It also tends to look more substantial and therefore more professional.

A good rule of thumb is to choose a matboard that is at least 4-ply thick (about 4mm or 1/8?).

Anything thinner than that and you run the risk of damaging your artwork, especially if it's a delicate or thin piece.

8-ply matboard is also a good choice for many pieces of artwork. However, it's important to note that when it comes to matboard a "ply" is not a standard measurement so 4-ply and 8-ply can differ in thickness from one brand to another.

Where To Get Good Matboard

If you're looking for good quality matboard, your best bet is to find a local frame shop. They will usually have a variety of matboards to choose from in different colors, thicknesses, and price ranges. Many online frame shops also offer matboard, and you may even be able to find it at some craft stores.

Just be sure to check the thickness and quality before you buy to make sure you're getting a good product.

In Conclusion

Overall, matboard is an important part of any professional framing job. It helps to protect the artwork, enhance its overall appearance, and preserve it for years to come. If you're looking to get your artwork framed professionally, make sure to choose a good quality matboard that gives the look, feel, and protection that you are looking for.

There are many options out there when it comes to finding the perfect matboard. Don't settle for something that doesn't get the job done and provide that perfect look that you want your artwork to have.

Keep in mind everything you want from your matting, look at all your options, and you'll end up with artwork that looks like it was framed by a professional.

Photo by Katie Rainbow ?????????? on Unsplash

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