

# Correct care & storage of your original Acrylic Painting

Your new acrylic painting is an original work of fine art. Only the very best archival, museum quality materials and highest quality professional artist's acrylics available today were used for its creation. Although acrylic paints have not been around as long as pastels and oils, the evidence presented suggests that if properly taken care of, your painting will last for many lifetimes. Acrylic is in many ways, one of the most durable of mediums since it is more flexible and less prone to cracking than oils yet not able to be smudged like pastels.

The canvas I use on which to create my acrylic paintings are professional grade and made from heavy weight 100% acid free cotton. Sustainable wood makes up the frame which is built to high professional standards using heavy wood for more strength, durability and stability which is particularly important for larger sizes.

### **Framing**

Framing your acrylic canvas is completely optional. Your canvas will be either a stretched canvas or a box/deep edge canvas depending on which painting you purchased. Box/deep edged canvases are designed to not be framed at all where as stretched canvas is made with a shallower profile enabling you to comfortably frame your piece should you choose.

Because of the nature of acrylic paint you do not need to frame it behind glass such as would be the case with something like a pastel painting. You can however frame behind glass if you so wish and it all boils down to personal preference and the final location of the painting. Glass may well prevent sticky fingers touching it if it is displayed somewhere such as a place where the general public go or there is a fairly high volume of human traffic. If you do choose to frame behind glass then standard plate glass is usually the best option in most cases.

Unlike a pastel painting where an additional border is present to allow for framing, a canvas does not have this quality so do be prepared that if you choose to frame your painting you will loose sight of roughly 1/4" around all sides.

Ultimately, If you do decide to frame your acrylic painting please choose your framer carefully. Discount framers may charge less, but they often save money and cut corners by using non-archival, non-acid-free framing materials. These materials may harm your painting long term. It's worth choosing the best quality framing materials so that you and your family can enjoy your painting for many years to come.

#### Choosing your framer...

You want acid-free, archival framing materials. Cheap brown cardboard backings or non archival framing tapes etc may stain and yellow your painting within a few years.

Your acrylic painting will have already been treated with a varnish so this will not need to be done again. When choosing a framer, choose someone who is experienced in working with fine art and has an eye for detail. A good framer is invaluable and in the long run can save you a lot of money and headaches so look after them and they will look after you.

#### Hanging your acrylic painting

Choose a dry place indoors out of direct sunlight. Sunlight (even filtered through a window) has a negative effect on the preservation of all fine artwork. It degrades paper and canvas and may fade even the most durable pigments. Dampness may damage paper and even allow mould to grow on paintings. Outside walls, cellar walls and stone or concrete walls may transmit dampness, so avoid hanging art on them where possible. An interior wall without nearby windows is ideal. Bedrooms, sitting rooms and hallways are often the best places for fine artworks. Bathrooms and kitchens may have very damp air, so please avoid hanging your fine artworks near showers, baths and stoves.

Thank you so much for taking an interest in my work. I really appreciate it! If you need any help, have any questions or would like to purchase any of my art or book for a private commission please email me:

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