

## Framing Guidelines

### Securing the painting into the frame.

Use offset clips and screws, not framers' points or nails. Have a variety of sizes of clips handy as it depends on the rabbet of the frame and the depth of the painting as to what size you'll use. Place one near each corner of the frame, as this is the spot where the painting is most likely to bow. Then place clips 5-6 inches apart. These are available from WalMart.

[https://www.walmart.com/ip/Offset-Canvas-Clips-For-Picture-Framing-Starters-Package-Includes-100-of-each-1-8-1-4-3-8-1-2-3-4-1-Inclu/135347525?wmlspartner=wmllabs&adid=2222222222056439953&wmlspartner=wmlabs&wI0=e&wI1=o&wI2=c&wI3=10371559154&wI4=pla-1105713205624&wI12=135347525\\_10000001721&wI14=offset%20clips%20for%20framing&veh=sem](https://www.walmart.com/ip/Offset-Canvas-Clips-For-Picture-Framing-Starters-Package-Includes-100-of-each-1-8-1-4-3-8-1-2-3-4-1-Inclu/135347525?wmlspartner=wmllabs&adid=2222222222056439953&wmlspartner=wmlabs&wI0=e&wI1=o&wI2=c&wI3=10371559154&wI4=pla-1105713205624&wI12=135347525_10000001721&wI14=offset%20clips%20for%20framing&veh=sem)

### Wiring the frame:

Use 25lb weight plastic coated wire, not braided wire. The "standard" is to attach the wire precisely one-third down from the top of the frame. Measure it with a ruler.

An exception to this is if the painting is a narrow vertical, in which case the wire would go one-quarter of the distance from the top.

Do not tie a knot in the wire, nor crimp the wire at the 'tail' which makes it difficult to adjust if needed. Loop the wire twice through the hardware. The wire should have a gentle arch...not tight, as it needs to hang over two picture hooks for safety.

The wire 'wrap' should be about 3" long before wrapping and after wrapping it will be about 1.5 – 2" long. Don't wrap the wire's tail with tape, it gets sticky and gummy after a couple of months. Wiring is most secure when the proper weight of wire and bracket are used for the weight of the painting. When wrapping the tail, the first wraps next to the hardware are the most important to keep tight and close together. The wrap at the end of the tail (do leave a tail) should be free enough to easily unwind if needed.

Do not use saw-tooth hangers or framers' points.

### Bumpers

Affix bumpers on bottom corners of frame to protect the gallery and the collector's wall.

## Shipping Guidelines

The best shipping box to use is a StrongBox by AirFloat Systems or a similar brand like Masterpak or Uline. Some exhibitions are now waiving the uncrating/crating fee for artists using these boxes. FedEx Art boxes are not adequate.

Another choice is to use a box that opens at the top with two flaps. Cut insulation available at Home Depot and size so that all the gallery has to do is open the top of the box to lift out the painting. Boxes that open at one narrow end are a nightmare to repack.

When attaching the label to the box, it is ideal to adhere it to the side of the box, not the top. When these boxes are put on the trucks, the driver must be able to see the label, so if it's on the top, the painting is liable to have other boxes piled on top of it. However, if the label is on the side, then the driver must stand up the box in order to see the destination. Less damage will occur to the painting if it is standing up. See picture below:

