

FRAMING FOR PASTELS:

For framing, make sure everything is archival (acid free); there is space between the glass (preferably UV blocking) and art, either with a mat, or spacers; they don't drymount the art or use glue or regular tape (linen tape is best); they don't use fixative on the art; and they install a dust cover on the back. A good frame shop should use these techniques, but it is a good idea to ask if not sure. Or if you frame it yourself, follow these tips for best results, but you can just buy a pre-matted frame, and replace the standard glass with UV blocking from any glass shop.

FRAMING FOR OILS:

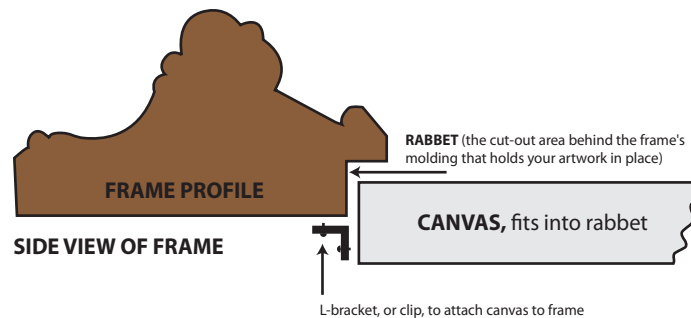
Frames are used to protect, aid in hanging or displaying, and provide a finished appearance to a piece of artwork. Frames should be used to enhance the artwork, not overwhelm it. I don't suggest using glass, as oils need to breath.

I recommend getting a custom frame, because it will showcase the art better, and they have many more options, but if you want to get an off-the-shelf frame, keep the following in mind:

TECHNICAL TIPS:

Try To Get: Open Back Frames are meant to be hung on the wall and are sold as just the frame face. They don't have backing material, glazing material, or hanging hardware. Open back frames are commonly used for traditional profile stretched canvases, and are deeper to fit.

Frame Depth: The depth of a frame refers to the depth of the frame's rabbet (the cut-out area behind the frame's molding that holds the artwork in place). To find a frame that will accommodate your artwork, try to get a frame with a depth that is, at a minimum, the same as that measured depth.



So, for example, the area on the sketch above has a $3/8$ " is the area the canvas fits into. Most canvas is $3/4$ " deep, but sometimes pre-made frames aren't that deep, and that's usually OK, unless you view it from the side. Viewed from the front, you don't see the extra canvas.

Attach the canvas to the frame. You can use hardware, like an L-bracket, or clips.

Then, you can get many different hanging kits; I usually use screw eyes, and wire. Sawtooth hangers are easy, as well.

STYLE TIPS: (Which are subjective, and you can find many more on the web, but here are a few to start.)

You probably want it to fit your decor, so go from there, whether casual, formal, rustic, or contemporary, etc. Bring the painting with you, pictures of the location to be hung, and try many options.

- Formal and Traditional Frames are usually ornate and are a good choice for making a statement. These frames help to draw the eye to the artwork, but, if not carefully selected, they can overwhelm and take the focus away from the art.
- The larger the art, the wider the frame.
- Color should be fairly neutral, but compliment the colors in the painting. For example, a dark brown wood frame if the pet's eyes are that color, could work well.