

# **Do-it-Yourself Picture Framing**

**May, 2019**

# **Three Steps**

- 1. Making the frame**
- 2. Making the “package”**
- 3. Doing the assembly**

## **Why do it?**

- Because we can**
- Save money**
- Lots of options you cannot buy**

# **Tools**

## **Need**

- **Mat cutter (32x40)**

## **Nice to have – saves time**

- **Point driver**
- **ATG**
- **Framing vise**

## **Things you probably already have**

- **Glass cutter**
- **Razor blades**
- **Clamping system if not using framing vise**

# **Frames**

**Design size from artwork out.**

**Make your own or buy profiles**

**Most typical : 3/8" x 3/8" rabbet**

**Finish before or after assembly**

Date: 4/19

# Picture Framing Layout Worksheet

Project / Name Sailing ship

1 1/2				
4 3/4				
1 1/2				
	1 1/2	6 3/4	1 1/2	H= 9 3/4
V= 7 3/4				

Orientation: Portrait ☐ Landscape ☒

Layout	Vertical	Horizontal
Mat size & glass size	7 3/4	9 3/4
2 * frame back width 1 1/8	2 1/4	2 1/4
+1/8"	1/8	1/8
Frame cut length	10 1/8	11 1/8

	Color #	Border size	Reminders
Mat 1 (top)	3873	1 1/2	Smallest border goes here
Mat 2 (under)			1" smaller than Mat 1 At least 1/4" reveal
Mat 3 (under)			Don't make equal reveals

## **Making the Frame**

### **Miter the corners**

- **Consistent more than accurate**
- **Grain flow around corners**

### **Attachment**

- **Nails**
- **Spline**
- **Key**
- **Glue – Quick & Thick Titebond**
- **Half lap miter**

### **Options**

- **Framer's vise**
- **Miter vise**
- **Blocks**
- **Web clamps**
- **Tape**

## **The “Package”**

**Cut mat to length and width  
Magic 1/8”**

**Cut backer – mat or foamcore**

**Mark and cut “fallout”**

**Repeat if doing double or triple**

**Attach artwork with tape hinge**

**Cut glass to length and width  
Magic 1/8”**

**Or take frame to glass shop**

**“Single Strength” glass 2.5 mm**

**Plexiglas, Lexan, etc.**

# **Assembly**

**Clean and check glass**

**Insert package and secure with**

- **framing points**
- **brads**
- **glazier's points**

**Attach and trim dust cover**

**Attach hanger(s)**

- **Sawtooth**
- **D-rings and braided wire**



## **Sources of Supplies**

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**United Manufacturer's Supply**

**<https://www.unitedmfrs.com/>**

**Dick Blick – Columbus store or**

**<https://www.dickblick.com>**

**Plaza Artist Materials – several  
Cincinnati locations**

**Suder's Art Store – OTR, carries  
regular & oversize mat board**

**Hobby Lobby, Michaels, etc.**

**Generally not frame shops,  
wholesalers**

