

## Getting Canvas and Framed Works Gallery Ready

We understand that for emerging artists, preparing artworks for an exhibition can be a daunting and confusing process. Even for seasoned artists, different exhibition venues may have varying requirements. As such, MAC hopes that this easy-to-follow guide will provide a clear and concise guidelines outlining our specific exhibition requirements.

### Quick reference checklist for getting artwork Gallery ready for Submission

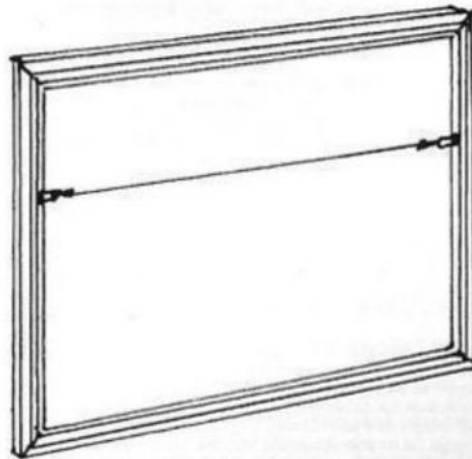
To ensure your artwork is gallery ready for submission, here is a quick reference checklist:

- Make sure the artwork is clean and free of any dust or debris.
- Unframed canvas should be painted on the sides to ensure a finished and professional appearance.
- Check the framing to ensure it appears professional, sturdy and secure.
- Use appropriate hanging hardware and make sure it is level.
- Ensure your name and title are on the back of your artwork

### Basic Hardware

D-rings: These are safe and effective and can be purchased at Hardware stores, Art Supply stores, as well as Online. The larger the canvas, the larger your D-hooks need to be to support the weight on the gallery wall.

Picture Wire: Measure your wire to be the width of the canvas plus 6-8 inches to ensure you have enough wire to wrap and twist. Ends must be taped no matter what type of wire used to protect staff and volunteers handling the work. The best type of wire to use is plastic coated picture wire, as injuries can result from handling non coated wire. *Not acceptable:* String, Fishing line, jewellery wire, to ensure the safety of artwork and those in the gallery.



## How to Attach Hanging wire

### 1. Measure Placement

- Find points about  $\frac{1}{3}$  of the way down from the top of the frame or stretcher bars.
  - Example: if your canvas is 24" tall, place the D-rings about 8" down.
- This height balances stability and hanging angle.

### 2. Install D-Rings

- Screw one D-ring into each side of the frame at those marks.
- Make sure they're **aligned** and **facing inward** (toward each other).



### 3. Cut and Attach the Wire

- Cut a wire that's **6–8 inches longer** than the distance between the D-rings. Thread the wire through one D-ring, wrap the picture wire around the d-hook and tie a slip knot a cow hitch, or other flat locking knot, at each end before wrapping the wire around itself.
- Pull the wire across to the other side, leaving a **slight arc** (not taut, not too loose).
- Thread through the other D-ring and secure the same way.

### 4. Check the Tension

When you pull up on the center of the wire, it should peak **about 2–3 inches below** the top of the frame. This is to prevent the wire, and our hanging system from showing when hung.

It is important to dedicate as much attention to the presentation of your work as you did to its initial conception. By putting great care into the presentation of your work, you not only gain a valuable skill, but also adds value to your work in the long run. It is important to keep in mind that our volunteers, who serve as curators and the hanging crew, have many pieces to place and arrange when designing and hanging a new show.

If you have any questions or would like assistance in how to attach hanging wire please feel free to contact any of our gallery volunteers for some hands on assistance