

Framing Focus

Shadowbox Framing: Display Your Treasures in a Special Frame

Souvenirs from a fun vacation. Momentos of a special celebration. A collection of favorite objects. All these things—and any other combinations your imagination can think of—can be displayed in a shadowbox custom made for you.

Shadowbox frames are different from other frames in that they are deep enough to house not just flat items—like a photograph or print—but three-dimensional objects as well. These

objects can be adhered with glue or special hangers, or even placed on a ledge or shelf built inside the frame.

There are many ways to choose the items for a shadowbox. You can combine photographs from a vacation with souvenirs you bought

while you were away. Special pieces in a coin collection can be shown together. A display to commemorate a party or celebration can include a photograph, an invitation, and a party favor or other item from the occasion.

Displaying treasured possessions like these in a shadowbox frame means you can keep them safe from dirt and dust. It also gives you the chance to proudly display them in your home or office, instead of let-

ting them languish in a closet or attic. What better way to give your treasures the treatment they deserve?

Many different combinations can be made into beautiful displays with the help of a custom framer. The expertise of a professional will insure that

your momentos are shown to their best advantage.

Not all shadowboxes don't have to feature a combination of objects, of course. So of the most elegant and eye-catching shadowbox designs are built around just a single item. When a unique item is placed in a frame custom-made to show the object at its best, it can easily become the focal point of a room.

Shadowboxes, in fact, offer a singular idea in home decor. Not only is the display custom made just for you, but the contents are uniquely yours as well. What better way to decorate your home, but with the treasures you love?



Objects can be attached and displayed in any number of ways.



Individual objects can make a bold display in the right shadowbox frame.



Even "ordinary" items take on a special importance when displayed in a frame.



Shadowboxes can be filled with a wide variety of different objects, tied together in a design created by a skilled framer.

A Closer Look at Framing: Why Is a Mat Important?

The mat is one of the most important parts of a frame design—it not only unifies the design between artwork and frame but also protects the artwork from a number of hazards.

We know the first job of a frame is to present the artwork it holds at its best. We also know that sometimes a print, photograph, or similar type of paper-borne artwork can look “lost” in a frame without a mat. That’s because it’s not easy for the eye to move from the delicate paper-borne art to the solid, sturdy frame. A mat provides a transition between these two worlds.

That’s also why matboard color and shape are an important part of the frame design. Everything from how light or dark the mat-



board color is, or if there is a double mat, or a mat with a specially-cut opening, affects how you and other see and react to the art inside it.

The other functions a mat can perform are much more practical. Paper-borne artwork, like many other objects, reacts to changes in the environment. Changes in temperature and humidity can cause paper to expand and contract, buckle or cockle, making it seem “wavy.” A mat can help a piece of art from becoming deformed because of such changes. When paper expands it may also come in contact with the glass or acrylic in the front of the frame. This can sometimes cause severe, non-reversible, damage to the artwork. A mat helps to distance the artwork away from the glass or acrylic, preventing such a possibility.

Mailing Address Here

Your promotional or other information here