

Clearing Up the Choices

Once you decide to have something framed, you begin to think of how you'd like the finished piece to look. What type of matboard and frame will look best? Where will you hang it? Should it match the rest of that room? But, for most pieces you get framed another important consideration is the glazing.

Glazing, which can be either glass or acrylic, provides protection of the framed piece. Prolonged exposure to sunlight can cause fading and other damage over time. Dust, spills, and splatters also pose a threat to treasured objects.

There are several types of glass:

Regular: This does not offer protection from light damage, but does keep out dust, fingerprints, and other hazards.

Ultraviolet (UV) Filtering: A coating of UV filtering protec-

tion is added to the surface of the glass. It protects the art from the sun just as sunglasses protect your eyes.

Non-Glare: Etched on one or both sides and scatters reflections; it both lowers reflections and light transmission.

Anti-Reflective: Either coated or non-coated and absorbs light to reduce reflection; it lowers reflections and increases transmission for higher clarity.

Acrylic is another option. Often, this is a good choice if you are concerned with safety, since it is shatter-resistant. Also, acrylic is more lightweight than glass.

The various options range in cost. Your choice depends on the needs of the specific piece. Come in, talk to us. Together we can decide which glazing choice is best for your project. ■

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