

Framing Focus

SO MUCH MORE THAN A BORDER

According to The American Heritage Dictionary, a picture “mat” is defined as “a decorative border of cardboard, or similar material, placed around a picture to serve as a frame or act as a contrast between the picture and the frame.” While that’s an accurate description of the function of a matboard, it’s also so much more!

Today, matboards are being made in colors and textures that not only follow home décor trends, but also come in textures (real or faux), such as suede, silk, or velvet that will add impact. We can mat your art with the latest color hues that will be right at home on your walls. And when adding texture, we can use a dark purple velvet mat border around that dramatic print to add depth and richness. There are also, for example, matboards made of rice paper that do much to enhance the final “feeling” of a calming Asian-inspired piece.



The deckled edges of the outer matting, along with the corrugated texture of matting adjacent to it, adds depth and interest to this print.



The arched openings in this mat design, and the decorative emblem at the top, help to enhance this pair of palm trees.



The textured look of this matboard, as well as the eye-catching corner cuts, makes for an interesting frame design.

Textures can make quite a statement when used to line the back of a shadow box project as well. When you see your treasured items positioned against the backdrop of a rich green suede mat, for example, you’ll know they’ve found their rightful home.

And that’s not all. Yes, sometimes a simple square- or rectangle-shaped mat is just the perfect design for a piece of artwork. But often your artwork will have even more impact when set in a “fancy” mat cutting design. Seen here are just a few examples of the type of things we can do. There’s many shapes and techniques we can apply to the matting of your art, and you’ll be sure to appreciate the difference once you see them. So bring in your artwork and items and ask about our specialty mat textures and design cuts. We’ll be happy to work with you to find a look that you’ll love. ■