

# A simple method to t-hinge mount artwork into a mat



Example:

## **Mounting artwork into a pre-cut mat**

Supplies needed:

Pre-cut mat with opening cut for artwork to be mounted

Framers acid-free mounting tape

### **Step 1.**

Create a clean work area. Remove any dirt and dust from the area and its recommended to wear light cotton gloves when handling the artwork so as not smudge or smear anything from your fingers.

### **Step 2.**

Insure that the opening cut on the mat lines up properly with the artwork. Do that by laying the artwork flat on your work table and placing the mat over it to see that the borders are cut to size properly.

### **Step 3.**

Cut off four pieces of framers acid free mounting tape at roughly 1 1/2" in length each but do not remove the backing.

### **Step 4.**

Place art work face down on your work table. At the top of the art work on the back side, apply two tape strips adhesive side down along the top edge of the artwork as shown.

### **Fig. 1**

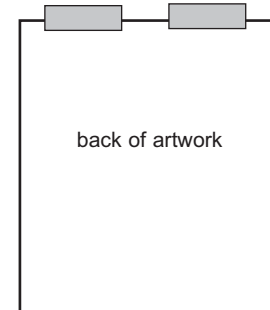


Fig. 1

### **Step 5.**

Apply the other two tape strips adhesive side down crossing the first two pieces as shown into the shape of upside down T's.

### **Fig. 2**

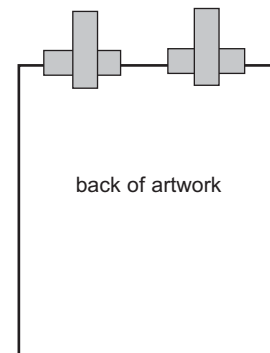


Fig. 2

### **Step 6.**

Gently flip the artwork over being careful of the exposed adhesive tape. Looking straight down onto the artwork, slowly lower the pre-cut mat down aligned with the opening and allow the tape to gently attach to the back of the pre-cut mat. Allowing only gentle contact with the tape at first allows you to sperate and reposition the mat if necessary.

### **Step 7.**

Once the mat has been properly aligned onto the artwork, gently flip the mat over and with your fingers, press and smooth out the tape pieces so they can properly adhere. Any excess tape hanging over the top edge of the mat can be trimmed away with a hobby knife. Your artwork is now properly t-hinge mounted and ready for framing.

### **Fig. 3**

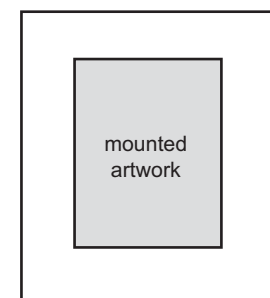


Fig. 3

### **TIP-**

Only apply tape to the top edge of the artwork so that it "hinges" into the opening of the mat. This allows the artwork to expand and contract or "breathe" as necessary with various temperatures and prevent wrinkling in the frame. Use only a quality acid-free framers tape that will not dry out and release out nor burn the artwork over time.