



MOUNTING YOUR GEL PRINTS TO PANEL BOARD

YOU WILL NEED

ITEM	COMMENTS / SUBSTITUTE
<input type="checkbox"/> Panel/Board	I like to use Birch panel boards made specifically for painting and mounting mixed media work. There many different brands and types of panels/boards available from art stores across a range of budgets.
<input type="checkbox"/> Your print	Ideally, work with a print a little larger than the board itself. It is easier to get a clean edge on your board by trimming off the excess paper overhanging the board edge after you have mounted the paper to the board.
<input type="checkbox"/> Print template	This is the piece of plain white paper with a hole in it cut to the size of your board. I use this to help me crop my image, working out where to cut the print out of its larger sheet.
<input type="checkbox"/> Adhesive	I use Derivan Matisse Medium 28 - Polymer Satin Varnish Mid Viscosity Binder Medium . I use the medium for many different applications, so I buy it in bulk. There are other binder mediums to use across a range of brands and budgets. If you have a different brand or product on hand, try that and see how it works for you. If you want to sell your work, make sure the adhesive/medium is archival and acid free. If you are mounting work this way for the first time, I advise doing a test to make sure you are happy with the products, process and end result.
<input type="checkbox"/> Brush	This is used to apply the adhesive to the board and the paper. I like to use a hake brush with its nice soft bristles. I use different size Hake brushes, depending on the size board and paper I am working with.
<input type="checkbox"/> Clean cover sheet	This is a clean sheet of paper, larger than the board size, placed over the print after it has been mounted to the board. It works to protect the print while you squeeze out excess adhesive/medium from between the board and paper.
<input type="checkbox"/> Brayer	I use a brayer or credit card to squeeze out the excess medium, rolling/scraping over the surface of the clean cover sheet to push any excess medium out.
<input type="checkbox"/> Craft knife	To trim the excess paper from the side of the board. Make sure you are working with a sharp blade. The paper will be damp from the adhesive and may drag and tear as opposed to cut if the blade is not sharp.
<input type="checkbox"/> Cutting matt	When using a craft knife to trim paper, always cut with a cutting matt on your work surface.

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<input type="checkbox"/> Baking paper	Place your mounted print, print-side-down, on the baking paper as you leave it overnight.
<input type="checkbox"/> Book weights	Larger than the board if possible, and heavy enough to apply some weight to the board overnight.
<input type="checkbox"/> Varnish	I use Micador for Artists Picture Varnish . I use the matt or gloss spray varnish, depending on what I am varnishing. I prefer the matt finish, but if a print has any metallic or pearlescent paint I will use a gloss.
<input type="checkbox"/> D-rings, hanging wire	This will finish off your piece so it can be hung on the wall.

STEPS OVERVIEW

Please use these instructions while also referencing the video lesson in the Bonus Module.

- Step 1 Prepare your print for mounting - trim the print so that it is a few millimeters larger on each side of the board. This will allow for the print to overhang a little when you mount it to the board. You will later trim the excess paper away from the board, giving the board edge a nice, clean finish.
- Step 2 Mount your print to the board - I apply a layer of medium to the board, making sure to cover the entire surface with medium. I then repeat the same on the back of the print itself.
- Step 3 Place the print onto the board surface and wiggle into place, feeling that there is some print/paper overhang on each side of the board. Gently smooth over the surface of the print.
- Step 4 Please a clean sheet of paper over the print mounted to the board, then, with your brayer or a credit card, roll/scrape across the clean sheet of paper to squeeze out any excess medium between the paper and board.
- Step 5 Place the mounted board print-side-down on your cutting matt and trim, slowly and carefully, the excess paper overhanging each edge. As you trim each edge, wipe away any excess medium that has oozed out. Make sure you are working with a sharp blade. The paper will be damp from the adhesive and may drag and tear as opposed to cut if the blade is not sharp.
- Step 6 Check that the edges are flush and clean and that the surface of the print on the board is smooth and clean. Then place the board, print-side-down, on a sheet of baking paper.
- Step 7 Place several heavy books on the board and leave overnight. This works to weight the board down to ensure a good solid contact between the board and the paper, with no wrinkles.
- Step 8 The next morning, remove the weights to see how your board is looking. It should feel smooth with no crinkles or wrinkles. Now it is ready to varnish.
- Step 9 I use a spray varnish, and apply 2-3 coats. For each coat, I spray the entire surface left-to-right then top-to-bottom. And I make sure to spray the sides of the board, so the exposed paper edges are also sealed. I leave it to dry for an hour between coats.
- I spray outside in a well ventilated space. Once finished, the spray varnish smell may linger for a few days. I like to leave my boards to cure for a few days before giving them to people or hanging them for sale.
- Step 10 Attached your D-rings and hanging wire to complete the job.
- Your work is now ready to hang on the wall.