

Spring Clean Your Picture Frames

In order for your collection of picture frames to look their best and remain in good condition for many years, they do require occasional care and cleaning.

The Gilt Frame How-To

Gilt frames are covered in gold, and they are usually very ornate and exceptionally beautiful. Even with the utmost care, the gold sometimes becomes worn. Improper cleaning can wear away the gilt finish very quickly. To properly clean a gilt picture frame simply go over it with a cotton ball and a little rubbing alcohol. Remove dirt and grime from nooks and crannies with cotton swabs. With occasional careful cleaning, you can keep the gilt looking as good as new.

Wood Frame Know-How

Orange oil comes from the glands of orange rinds and is great for routinely polishing wood picture frames.

Glass Needs Know-How

To clean the glass in a picture frame use a good quality glass cleaner and spray into a clean, dry cloth. Wipe with the cloth to clean and avoid streaks.

Mat Cleaning

Freshening the mat or replacing damaged or faded mats can breathe new life into and update the artwork.

A custom picture framer should be consulted concerning the repairs and internal cleaning of your picture framing package. Any buckling of the artwork can be addressed when it is inspected by a professional picture framer. The corners or joints may need re-gluing if they have been stressed by hanging or the hanger and wire mechanism may need replacement. For a minimal cost, a good quality picture frame can be inspected and repaired to lengthen the life of it for further enjoyment of the artwork.

Submitted by Pat Schnurr

Picture It Framed is located at 3071 Dundas St. West (1/2 block west of High Park Ave.). 416-762-1221. www.pictureitframed.ca

