

'Framed with Care' by Kate Bridger

"Kate has turned mediocre objects of art into pictures that I will forever treasure....the framing has enhanced the pictures such an enormous amount that they have a totally different presence than the originals."

JULIA, Castlegar

Picture framing is all about **PROTECTION, FINISHING &**

ENHANCING a treasured piece of work. The piece itself may be a rare painting by a famous artist, your child's first official 'fridge art, a print or greeting card that caught your eye, or a family heirloom of great nostalgic worth. The value of the piece is its value to you, regardless of cost or provenance.

Watercolour paintings, photographs and embroidery all need to be **protected** and sealed behind glass. Complementary matting or a discreet spacer is added to keep the glass off the surface of the artwork.

Oil and acrylic paintings rarely need glass when framed. More often than not, a frame is chosen to help **finish** the overall presentation of the piece. You wouldn't leave a cake unfrosted or a room untrimmed any more than you should leave a piece of art unframed (unless it was specifically intended to be that way).

The ultimate choices you make are intended to **enhance** the art work—not compete with it or overwhelm it. Also, you will want the art you have chosen to contribute to—and enhance—the space it will occupy. However, your primary loyalty when choosing framing materials is to the work itself. The colours of the walls or the broadloom it may share a room with are secondary—these represent criteria that may change at any time, or multiple times. One day your favourite painting may hang above the mantelpiece in your living room—some time later it may find its way to another room altogether.

The selection of matting and framing materials can be quite challenging—there are so many choices and combinations of colours and materials. An experienced framer will listen to your preferences and guide you towards the best materials and colours for the job while working carefully within your allotted budget. Well chosen framing can make an ordinary print, or painting into a magnificent, well finished, 'legitimate' piece of art.

Sometimes we think we dislike a piece of art when, in fact, it may be its matting and framing that's putting us off. Once you free a painting from its ugly confines you may be able to offer it a whole new lease on life once it is re-presented in fresh matting and a more attractive frame. A word of caution, however—if you are not sure how the original framing was assembled, it is best to bring it to your framer and have her/him dismantle it for you.

I have over 15 years of professional framing experience, ten of which were spent in retail environments consulting directly with clients. I am also a working fine artist who completely understands the need for a professional finish to a piece of work that represents many hours of personal blood, sweat, tears and, finally, triumph.

Whether you are preparing a piece for a gallery exhibit, the marketplace, or your personal collection, the final step of the journey is making sure you are presenting it at its very best. As a framer I make every effort to respect the art and the artist as well as the aesthetic sensibilities of the current or future owners.

Consultations and cost estimates are **FREE of charge and obligation.**

I use only **acid-free products** in my framing work. My turn around time is **usually less than ten days.**

FREE delivery is available within Nelson.

Go root around in the attic, or take that musty mildewed needlepoint out of the closet and **make your appointment today!**

"Kate's work is top notch. I appreciate her knowledge and flair when picking colours for mat and frames and attention to details in the creation of a final product."

JOANNA, Nelson

"Kate has framed many pictures for me. I have always been pleased with her work. She is creative, helpful and professional and her prices are reasonable. She even delivers to your house when necessary!"

VERONICA, Castlegar