

Suppliers for frames, canvases, art supplies, etc.

- *Curry's in Barrie or Kitchener
- *The Colour Jar in Durham
- *CanadaOnCanvas.com
- *Michael's (ALWAYS ask to use their daily coupon, even if you don't have a coupon on you)
- *Second hand shops- discard the art and recycle the frames. Look for items that can be repurposed/painted
- *Deals in Owen Sound
- *Dollar stores - check to make sure the canvas isn't warped. Good place to find wood panels too, and sometime picture frames.
- *Homesense for picture frames
- *The Framery in Owen Sound
- *DeSerres.ca for paint/art supplies

Tips for Pricing your work

Pricing your work is always hard - there is no one way to do it.

Research what others are charging for similar work.

You can come up with your own formula for pricing, but if you're stuck, here is one way to price:

How much money did you invest into your piece? You need to at least double that.

Next think about how much time you spent making it. What do you want to be paid hourly?

Consider how long you've been practicing your craft and factor that into your hourly wage.

People are paying for your expertise as well as time spent.

Next remember that we will be taking 30% commission, so be sure to add enough to cover that.

Don't be afraid to mark your work up a little higher than what you would expect to pay.

Business Cards

If your work is being shown, you should have business cards to bring in with your art. You can use a template and get them done through Vistaprint. You can also get them printed at Staples. However, you don't need to have them done professionally. Cut cardstock down to business card size and just write on your name, what you do (jewellery, watercolour painting, pencil sketches, etc) and contact info like an email address. That's it! You can decorate them or leave them plain- totally up to you.

You could also hand-carve or have a custom stamp made with your details to save time.

How to Present Your Work

Work that is framed and ready to hang will always be more attractive to potential buyers. Your frames should all match and compliment the work. You can use dollar store frames, or buy them second hand and paint them all black.

Often inexpensive frames will have already cut mat boards, which will make them look more professional.

If you are going to cut your own mat board (which will require some practice and a mat cutter), be sure to use archival quality, which can be purchased at framing stores or Michael's.

If you are painting on canvases, either make sure your painting extends to the sides of the canvas, or paint the sides black or a colour that matches the painting. Leaving the edges white makes the piece look unfinished.

Use screw eyes and picture framing wire for the back, which can be purchased at hardware stores or at dollar stores.

If you have artwork on paper, you can mount it to a canvas or wood panel.

Take the picture, place it front down - paint both the back of the picture fully and the front of the wood or canvas you're mounting to with Modge Podge. Flip the paper face up and place the picture on the wood (glue side down) - (make sure it's centered proper!!) and then use your hands to smooth out the paper - make sure there are NO bubbles. Place a bunch of heavy books on top to make sure the paper doesn't curl. Wait 24 hours for it to dry. Then clear coat the front with a spray polyurethane to seal it.

Sign your work. Put the date and a title on the back.

Keep in mind that the work needs to display as professional and gallery ready.