

# Italian



**T**he use of an ornamental border to surround a picture dates well into antiquity. Examples may be found in such forms as early Greek Stelae, Roman frescoes and mosaics, Egyptian grave portraits of the Fayum period and later in illuminated medieval manuscripts.

The age of the Gothic, as it developed in Italy, saw the change of the concept of painting as strictly a wall decoration to that of the painting as an object in itself — a shrine, an altar piece or a personal icon. This was, in effect, the beginning of the picture frame as we know it today. Framemaking became an art form in itself.

The later advent of the more secular, easel painting brought on the gradual specializations of the painter and the framemaker, although into the 15th and 16th centuries, and later, painters would still be making their own frames or working closely with the frame craftsman.

Tabernacle  
Italian  
15th Century

A.P.F. Master Framemakers





## Tabernacle Frames

Early frame forms were often architectonic in nature. Derived from architectural styles, they exhibit in their designs the classical gothic elements so familiar to artisans of 15th Century Italy.

The primary use for picture frames during the late Gothic period and Early Renaissance was as an enclosure for icons and altar pieces, hence the term "tabernacle." The generally gilded structures functioned visually in much the same as a window or door frame, separating the painting somewhat from its surroundings, while serving as a unifying transition from the architectural context to the artwork.

**Tabernacle**  
Italian  
15th Century





**IT-4-HFRG**

4" high front with optional  
raised gesso corners and centers.

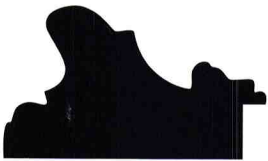




IT-6  
Open Carved Leaf and Vine Motif  
6" Titian (w/extended corners - optional)  
18th Century







**IT-434-L**  
4¾" Carlo Maratta  
18th Century



**IT-35-CM**  
3½" Carlo  
Maratta



**IT-258-L**  
2⅝" Carlo Maratta



**IT-178-CM**  
1⅞" Carlo Maratta





IT-4  
16th Century 4" Bellini  
(with polychrome panel optional)





**IT-C-4**  
4" Venetian  
18th Century

**IT-C-3**  
3" Venetian  
18th Century

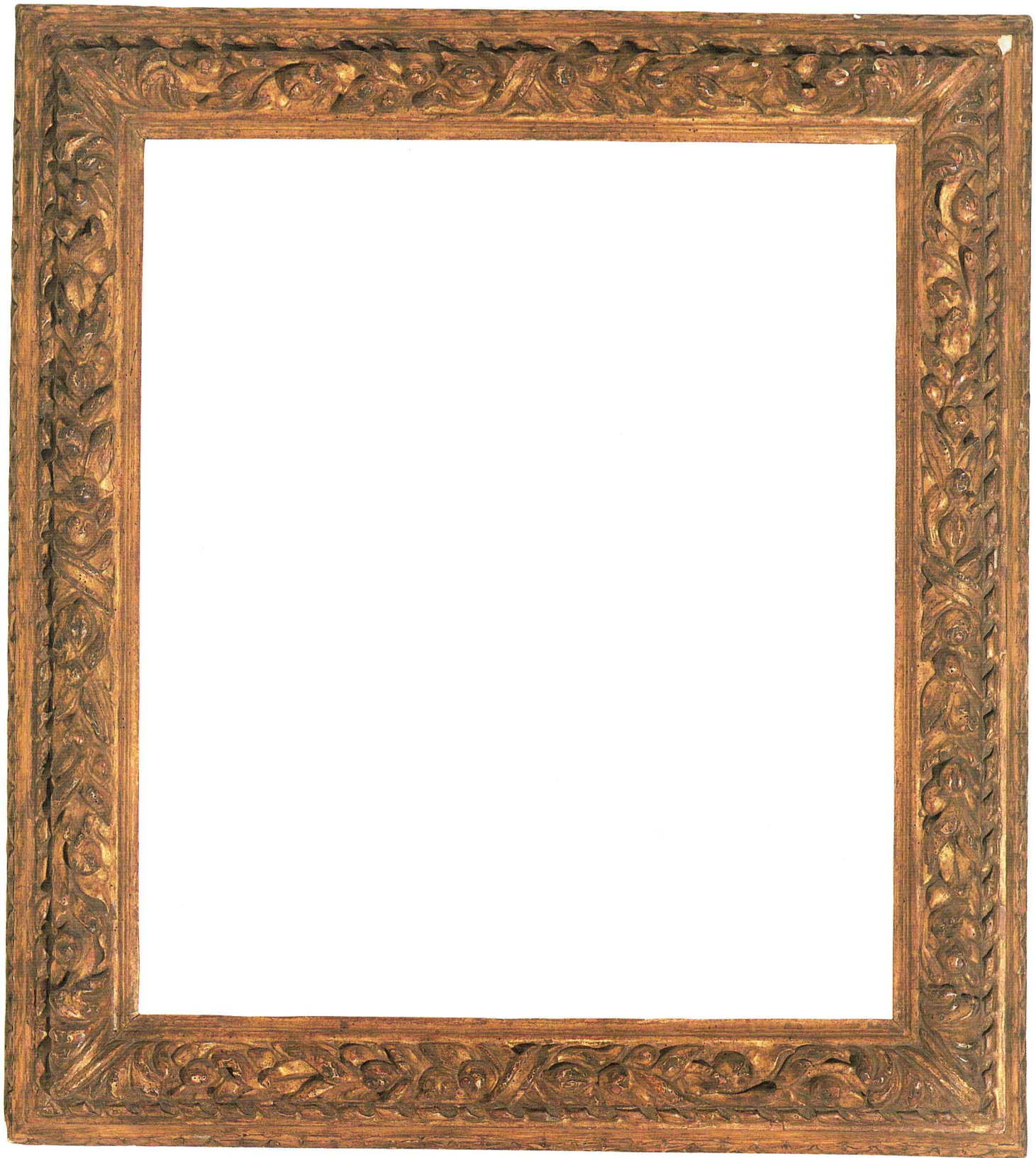
**IT-178**  
17/8" 18th Century Venetian



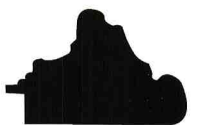
**A.P.F. Master Framemakers**

All above available with both corner and center carvings.





IT-334-D  
3 3/4" Della Robia  
17th Century

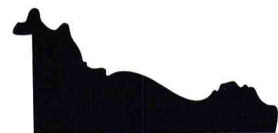




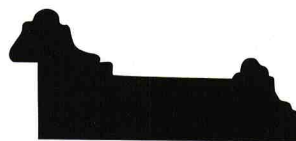


**IT-35-S0**

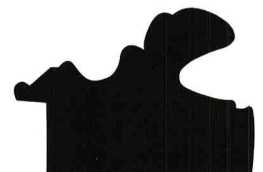
3½" High front, gadroon carved front, ribbon carved back.  
(raised gesso and punch designs in panel - optional)







**IT-35HFRG**  
 3½" High front,  
 Raised gesso corners and centers  
 w/optional punch design  
 16th Century



**IT-35-F**  
 3½" Open Carved Franco Italian  
 17th Century





**IT-314**  
3¼" 16th Century Florentine,  
sgraffito corners (optional)



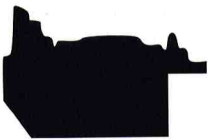




**IT-334-F**  
3¾" Thanhauser High Front,  
leaf carved front





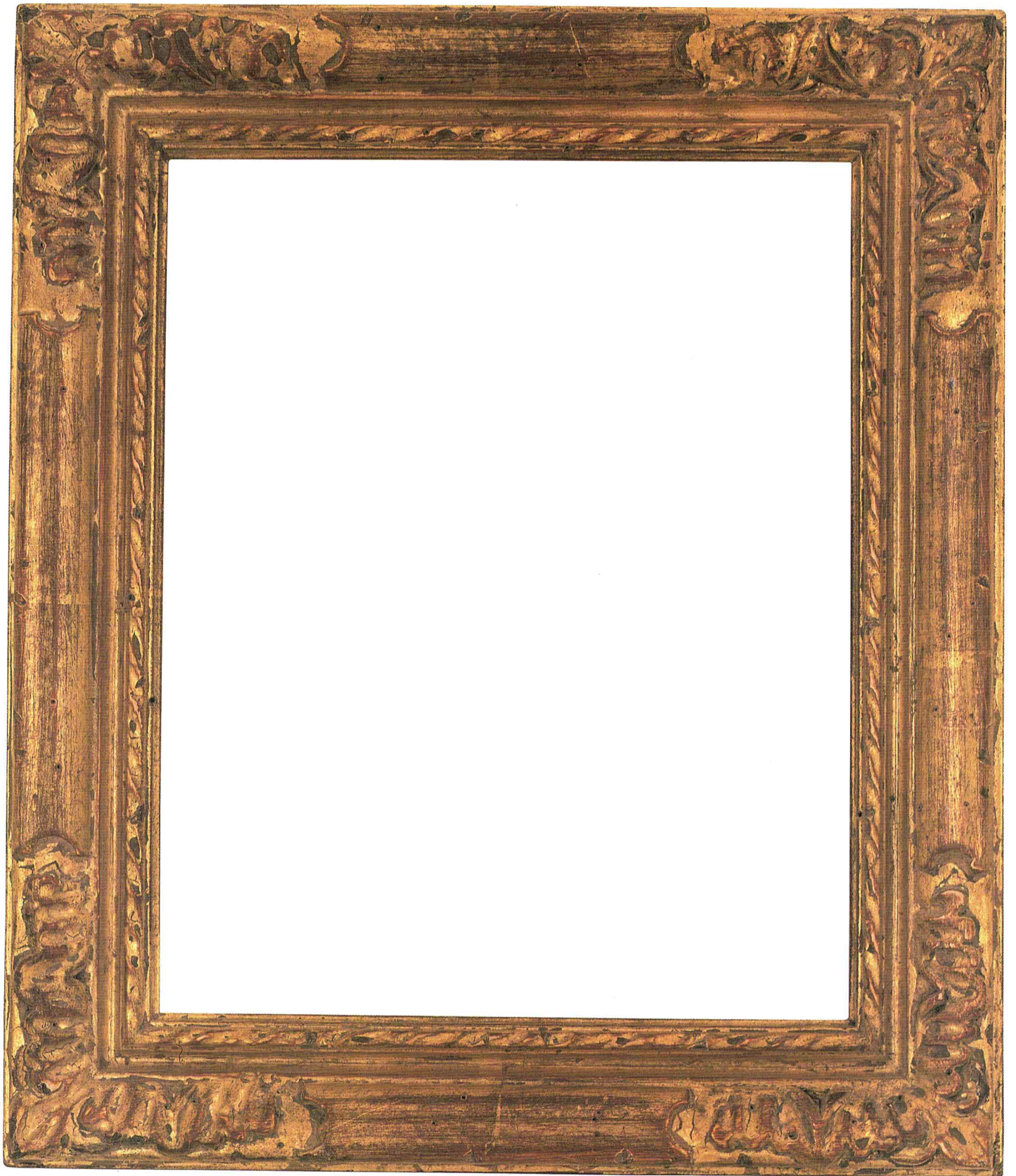


**IT-2P3**  
2" Coin panel



**IT-15HF**  
1½" High front,  
(Raised gesso panel optional)  
16th Century.





**IT-114-C**

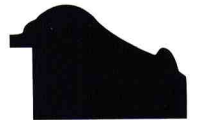
1 1/4" Panini carved corners,  
ribbon carved front.  
Larger sizes include center carvings (not shown).







IT-3-B  
3" Bolognese





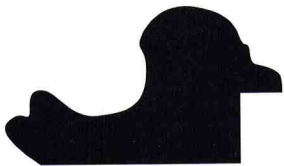


**IT-278-SG**  
2 7/8" with optional carved corner

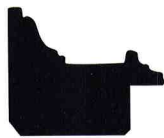
**IT-234-C 17th Century**  
2 3/4" Rope, with carved corners and centers.  
(Shown in Antique Gold #26,  
Black over Red tops)







**IT-3-F**  
3" high front



**IT-134-L**  
1¾" Franco Italian



**IT-15-HF**  
1½" high front



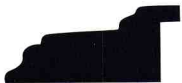


IT-25-D  
2 1/2"



IT-25-HF  
2 1/2"





**IT-218-p-43**  
2 1/8" 16th Century

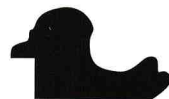
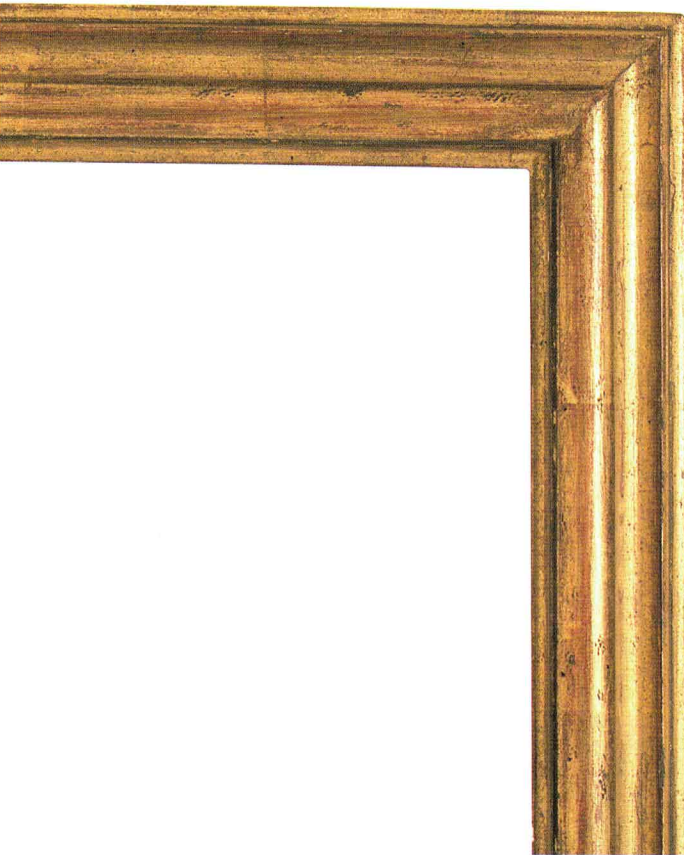
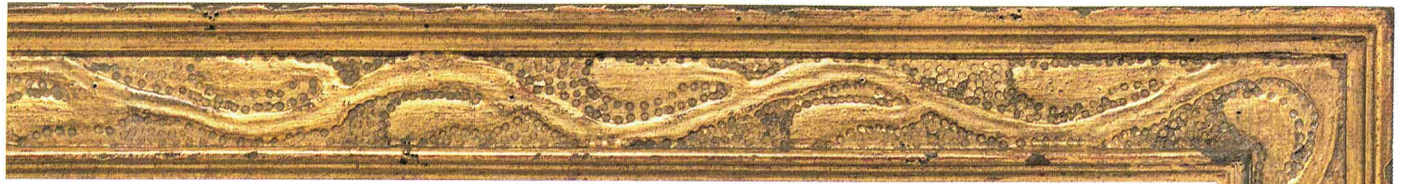


**IT-218**  
2 1/8" 16th Century

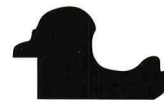


**IT-218-L**  
2 1/8" 16th Century





**IT-2-F-U/C**  
2" High front



**IT-2F**  
2" High front carved



**IT-2-RG**  
2" 18th Century  
Raised Gesso and punch  
(optional)





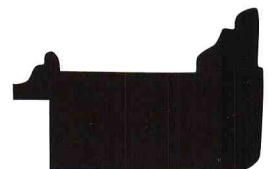
IT-2-CC  
2" Chrissy  
overall carved







IT-2  
2" Florentine (with Sgraffito Designs  
corners and centers - optional)  
Shown in black and gold







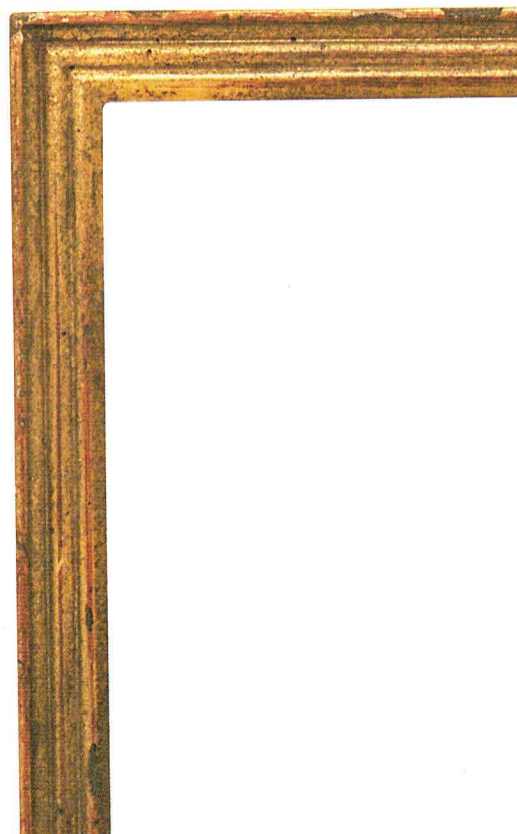
IT-118-LH  
1 1/8"



IT-34  
3/4"



IT-218  
2 1/8"



IT-05  
1/2"

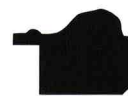




**IT-114-HF**  
1 1/4" 18th Century



**IT-114-HB**  
1 1/4" 18th Century



**IT-114-L**  
1 1/4"



**IT-10-L**  
1"