



HOW TO MOUNT AND MAT AN 8X10 PHOTO FOR AN ARS SHOW

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SPRAY OF 'DREAMWEAVER' MOUNTED AND MATTED FOR ARS SHOW



WHY MOUNT AND MAT PHOTOGRAPHS?

1. The purpose of mounting and matting of any image is to separate it from its surroundings and give it more visual weight.
2. The mount and mat form part of the visual expression of a displayed photo.
3. To this rosarian, an unmatted photograph in a rose show is like an ungroomed rose in a rose show.

THE MYTH OF EXPENSE OF MOUNTING AND MATTING

- ▶ A myth persists in many parts of the rose world that the mounting and matting of photographs for display in rose shows is so expensive that many would-be exhibitors cannot afford to participate in this rapidly growing area. It is just that – a myth.

WHAT YOU WILL NEED

- ▶ 1. Backing board and mat sized 11x14 inches on outside dimensions, with an opening for an 8x10 inch photograph
- ▶ 2. Artist tape
- ▶ 3. An 8x10 inch photograph

BACKING BOARD AND MAT

- ▶ 1. Available at many craft and art stores in town as well as online.
- ▶ 2. The most economical I have found have been at Amazon, [Sax Premium Mats and Backer Boards](#).
- ▶ 3. On July 4, 2017, a pack of 10 is \$15.38, with Prime shipping.

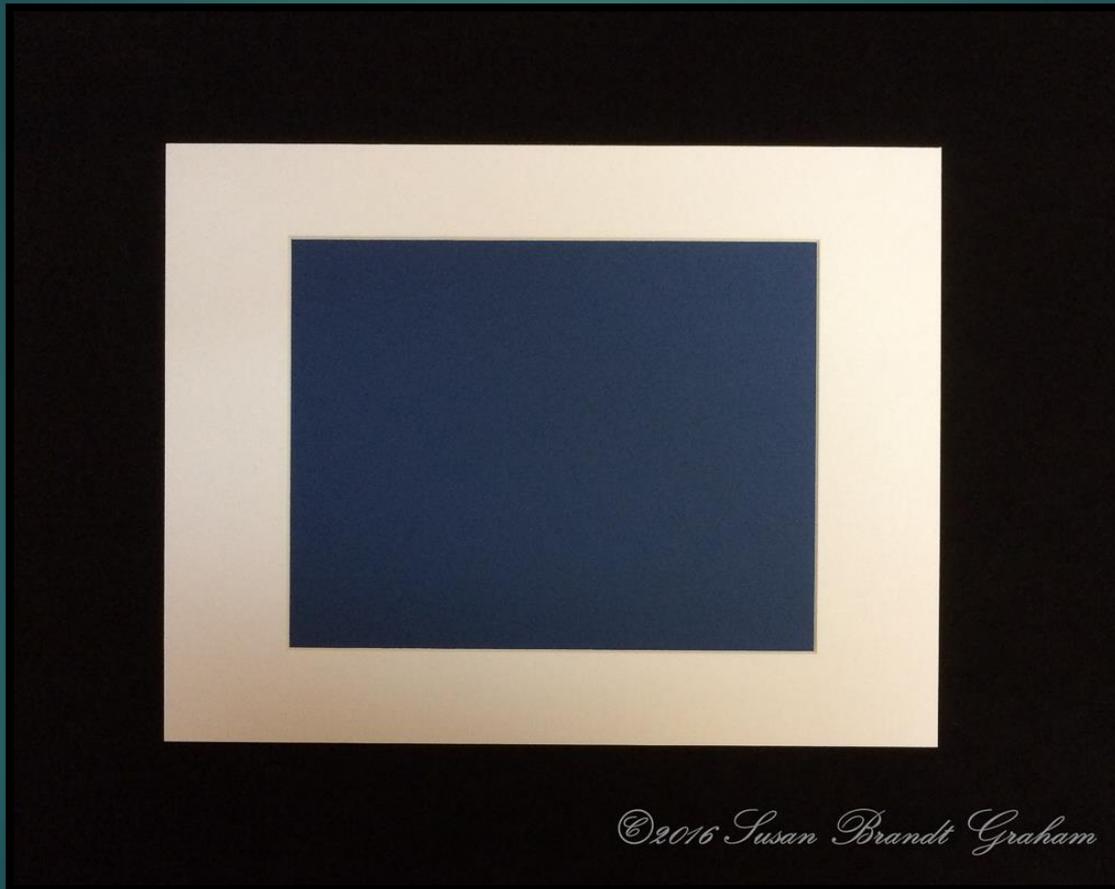
ARTIST TAPE

- ▶ This looks like masking tape, but the two are a little different. Artist tape has less tack than masking tape. It can be removed from paper without tearing the paper and without leaving a stain. It is more expensive than masking tape, but worth it to me, in that it does not damage the photograph.
- ▶ A roll of artists tape lasts a very long time unless someone is entering a lot of shows, or using it for many other projects as well.
- ▶ You can find it at Amazon, Michael's, Hobby Lobby, craft stores, and art stores. This is an item for which a store coupon can sometimes come in handy.

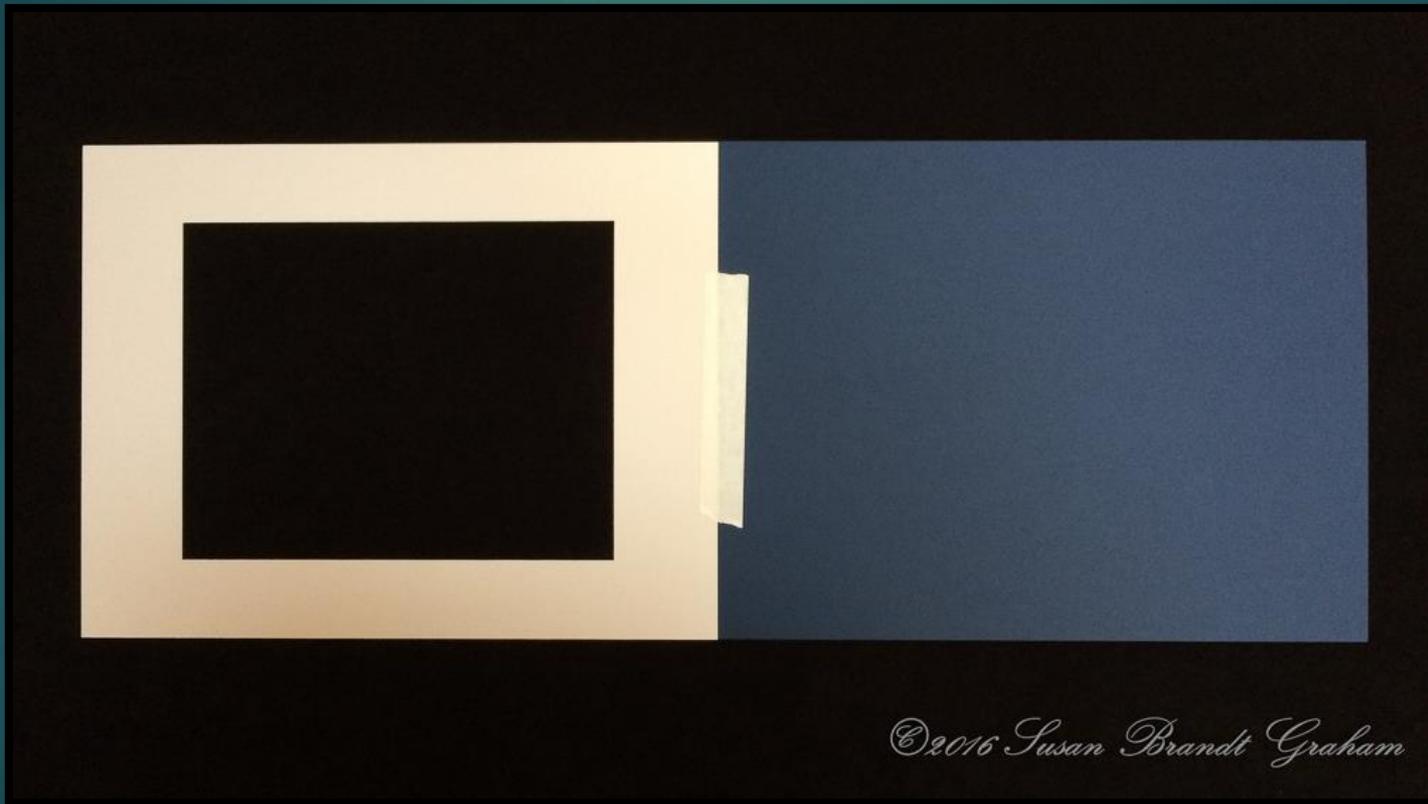
THE PHOTOGRAPH

- ▶ The main item, of course, is the 8x10 inch photograph. I print my own images here at home, and the cost including paper and ink in July 2017 is around \$1.50. If you do not print your own images, the cost will be a bit more.
- ▶ I have found that Costco does a very good job of economical printing, should you choose not to do your own. The cost for an 8x10 on July 6, 2017 is \$1.79.
- ▶ A check of Walgreen's charge on the same day is \$3.99. Walgreen's often offers discount coupons.
- ▶ Check around in your area for good prices on printing.

MAT AND BACKING BOARD



With a Piece of Artist Tape, Attach the
Back Side of the Mat to the Front Side of
the Back Board:



Get the Image You Plan to Use



Place the Image
Approximately Where You
Think It Should Go



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Close the Hinged Mat and Check for Placement



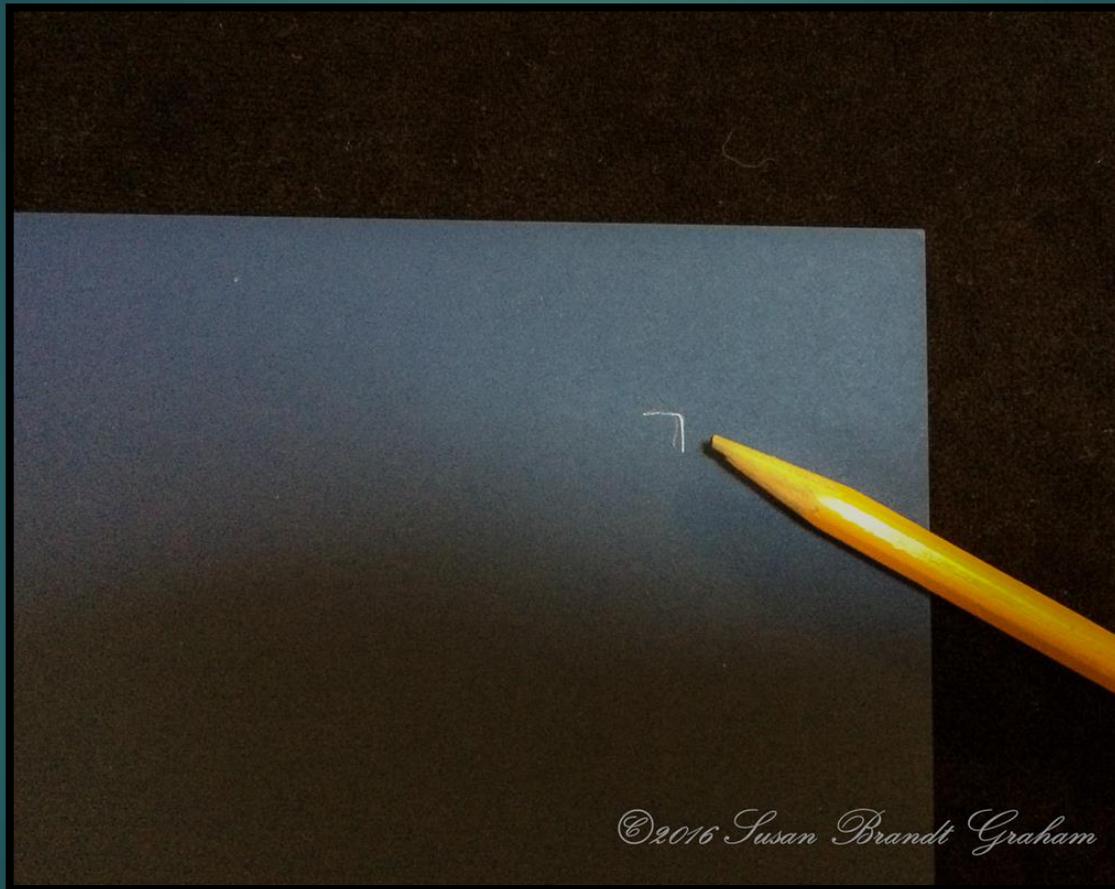
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Open the Mat, and With a Pencil
Mark the Edge of the Placement

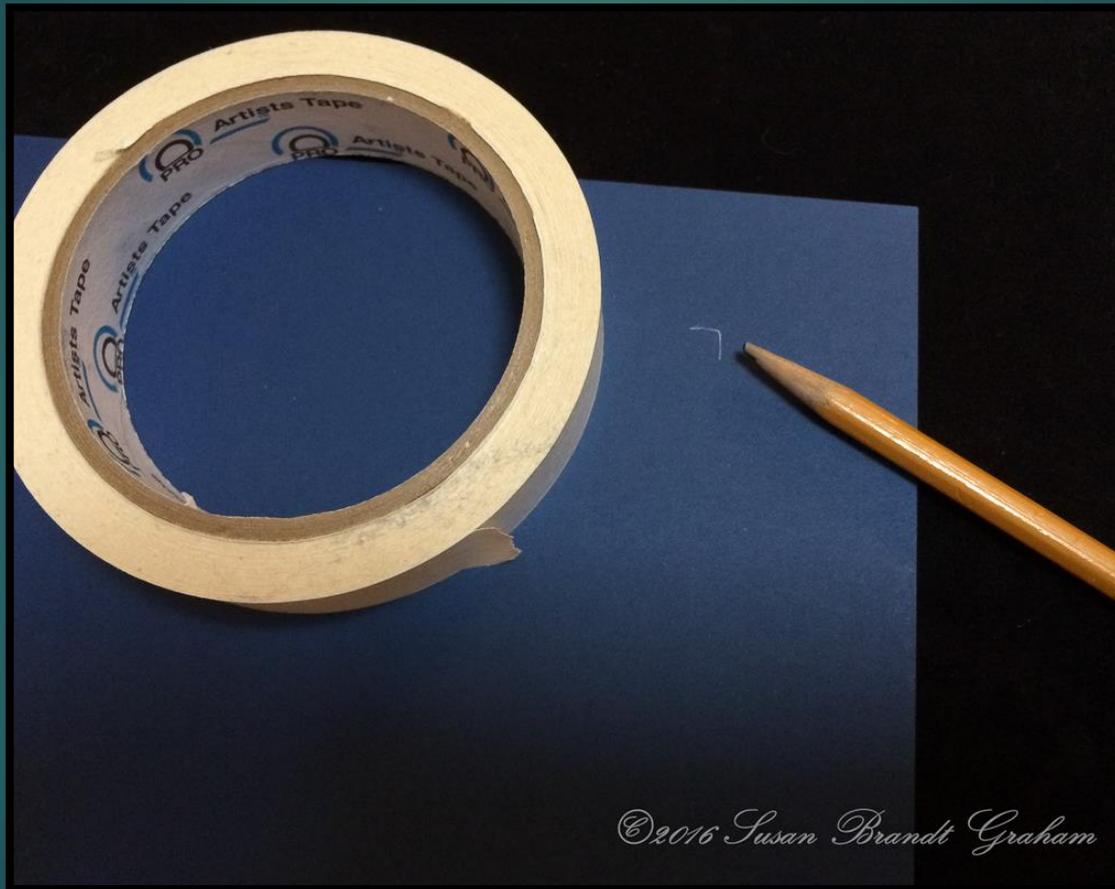


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Marked Backing Board



Time for the Artist Tape



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On the BACK Side of the Image,
LOOSELY Place a Strip of Artist Tape



Place the Image on the Backing Board, Using the Pencil Marking as a Guide



Close the Hinge and Test Placement



If Correct, Open the Mat and Place Another Strip of Artist Tape Over the First Strip of Tape, But Not on the Photograph



Your Image Is Now Mounted and Matted, Ready to Exhibit



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USE ONE ATTACHMENT POINT ONLY

- ▶ One attachment point for the photograph is important. You will see images attached at 2, sometimes 3, or even 4 points. Not only are these extra attachments unnecessary, they are actually detrimental to the appearance of the image in a show. Temperature and humidity changes in a show venue cause expansion and contraction of the photograph, leading to warping. If you look around at a show, you will see images that contain a lot of “waves.” You will not see that type of unsightliness on an image attached at only one place.

The High Cost of Mounting and Matting a Photograph for Rose Shows is a Myth

- ▶ Mats and backing boards can be used multiple times. The initial outlay is less than \$4.00 per image prepared this way (July 2017). The cost goes down even more when the mat and backing board are used again and again.
- ▶ A beautiful presentation is not expensive.
- ▶ A beautiful presentation is not difficult.
- ▶ A beautiful presentation enhances your photograph.
- ▶ A series of beautiful presentations enhances our rose shows.
- ▶ Give it a try!
- ▶ Wishing you good light and beautiful roses!