

Printing for the Powell Gallery

The Powell Gallery primarily uses **16 × 20-inch frames** with mats for **11 × 14-inch**, **12 × 16-inch (3:4)** and **10 × 15-inch (2:3)** prints.

A limited number of **20 × 28-inch frames** are available for larger **16 × 20-inch (4:5)** prints.

Print sizes and mat openings

Mat Size	Image size	Image & border	Window opening
16 x 20 inches	11 × 14 inches	13 x 19 inches	10½ × 13½ inches
16 x 20 inches	12 × 16 inches	13 x 19 inches	11½ × 15½ inches
16 x 20 inches	10½ x 15½ inches	13 x 19 inches	10 x 15 inches
20 x 28 inches	16 x 20 inches	18 x 22 inches	15¼ x 19¼ inches

The mat overlaps the edges of the image slightly. Keep signatures and important image details clear of these edges.

For images with other formats, such as **panoramas**, photographers must provide their own custom-cut mats and mount their prints before submission. The finished mat must have outside dimensions of **16 × 20 inches** or **20 × 28 inches** to fit the Gallery's frames.

Paper and mounting

If you print your own work, use 13 × 19-inch paper. It accommodates both standard image sizes and provides the border needed for easy mounting in our 16 × 20-inch frames.

If you use a professional print service, specify your image dimensions and request an unprinted border of at least 1 inch, ideally with an overall paper size of 13 × 19 inches. Avoid trimming the paper to the exact image dimensions—for example, 11 × 14 inches—as this makes mounting difficult.

The Gallery will mount unmatted prints in its own mats using **photo corners rather than tape**, avoiding adhesive contact with the artwork.

Exhibition-quality prints

Except for work produced using alternative printing processes, exhibitors are expected to provide **exhibition-quality photographic prints** suitable for public display. Prints should show careful attention to detail, colour, tonal balance, paper choice, and durability.

Key characteristics include:

- **Archival materials:** Use high-quality, acid-free papers and pigment-based inks chosen for their resistance to fading.
- **Sharp detail:** Prepare files at a resolution appropriate for the intended print size, with no visible pixelation or unintended loss of detail.
- **Accurate colour and tone:** Use a colour-managed workflow to achieve the intended colours, smooth tonal transitions, and detail in highlights and shadows.
- **Appropriate paper:** Choose premium paper that complements the image, such as cotton rag, lustre photographic paper, or baryta paper. **Avoid glossy paper.**

Specialty papers, such as metallic finishes, may be considered. Exhibitors using these papers should mount and frame their own prints in a way that complements the work. A special exhibition featuring alternative printing methods is planned for mid-season.

For further reading, see <https://www.printed.com/blog/fine-art-exhibition-print/>

Preparing your images

Members who are new to printing are encouraged to watch tutorials on preparing images for print, particularly on adjusting colour balance, brightness, and contrast.

Before ordering, ask whether your print service reviews files and offers image adjustments or proofs. Do not assume these services are included. A test print can help you assess colour, brightness, and detail before committing to the final size.

Exhibitors are responsible for ensuring that their final prints meet the Gallery's exhibition standards. If you have any questions, please contact:

PowellGallery@torontocameraclub.com