

## T-Hinge Mounting Artwork onto Matboard

### Supplies needed:

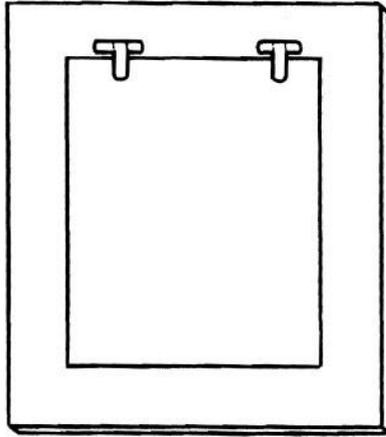
- Pre-cut mat with opening cut for artwork to be mounted
- Artist Tape or Framers acid-free mounting tape

### Steps to create the T-hinge mount:

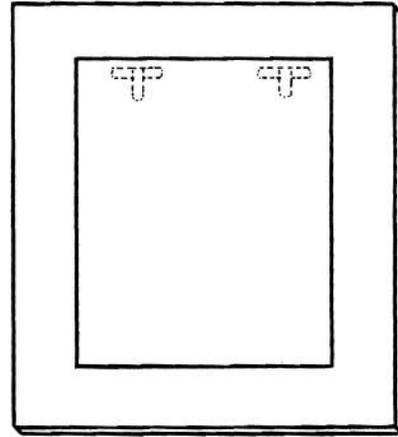
1. Create a clean work area. Remove any dirt and dust from the area.
2. Insure that the opening cut on the mat lines up properly with the artwork. Do that by laying the artwork flat on your work table and placing the mat over it to see that the borders are cut to size properly.
3. Cut off four pieces of framers acid free mounting tape at roughly 1 1/2" in length.
4. Place art work face down on your work table. At the top of the art work on the back side, apply two tape strips adhesive side down along the top edge of the artwork.
5. Apply the other two tape strips adhesive side down crossing the first two pieces into the shape of upside down T's.
6. Gently flip the artwork over being careful of the exposed adhesive tape. Looking straight down onto the artwork, slowly lower the pre-cut mat down aligned with the opening and allow the tape to gently attach to the back of the pre-cut mat. Allowing only gentle contact with the tape at first allows you to separate and reposition the mat if necessary.
7. Once the mat has been properly aligned onto the artwork, gently flip the mat over and with your fingers, press and smooth out the tape pieces so they can properly adhere. Any excess tape hanging over the top edge of the mat can be trimmed away with a hobby knife. Your artwork is now properly t-hinge mounted and ready for framing.
8. See the diagrams below for examples of correct and incorrect ways to mount your images.

**TIP:** Only apply tape to the top edge of the artwork so that it "hinges" into the opening of the mat. This allows the artwork to expand and contract or "breathe" as necessary with various temperatures and prevent wrinkling in the frame. Use only a quality acidfree framers tape that will not dry out and release out nor burn the artwork over time.

*Correct Method of Attaching Artwork to a Mat or Backing*



A. ARTWORK ATTACHED TO THE BACK OF A MAT



B. ARTWORK ATTACHED TO BACKING WITH HIDDEN HINGES

*Wrong Method of Attaching Artwork to the Back of a Mat*

