

# ARTWORK FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

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Richmond Fellowship Queensland (RFQ) delivers the Recovered Futures Art Exhibition through the Art Exhibition Team (during work hours only). To help answer some common questions about artwork, we have put together Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs). Contact 07 3363 2555 or [artexhibition@rfq.com.au](mailto:artexhibition@rfq.com.au) with any further queries.

## **WHAT MATERIALS SHOULD I USE TO CREATE MY ARTWORK?**

When creating your artwork, it can help to know your project before you buy materials. Before you start, picture the end result so you can consider the finer details. Think about the finish of your work and your vision. This will help to determine the type of materials you will need to purchase.

Purchasing high-quality art materials can be expensive and may not be a feasible investment for you. Try speaking with your local art store or supplier about your project and your budget. They may be able to provide helpful advice. Remember, using the cheapest products can affect the quality of your presentation and finishing. Consider mid-to-high range items where possible.

## **SHOULD I USE ACRYLIC OR OIL PAINT?**

Acrylic paint can be a good option when you already know what you're painting and like to create quickly. If you are a slower, more deliberate painter, oils might be a better choice.

## **DOES MY ARTWORK NEED TO BE SEALED?**

Not all paintings need to be sealed. Choosing to seal your painting can help to protect your work from dust and fading. Consider speaking to your local art shop or supplier for advice specific to the medium you are working with.

## **SHOULD I SIGN AND DATE MY ARTWORK?**

When considering signing or dating your work, think about what's right for you as an artist.

Some artists choose to sign the front of their work, others conceal the signature on the back or instead, provide a certificate of authenticity. If you opt to sign your art, consider signing in the same medium used to create the piece, unless it is a print or graphic, which are generally signed in pencil. If you want your work to be more recognisable, consider signing all your art consistently – size, style, coloration, location.

Some artists choose to date their artwork to minimise any guesswork as to when it was completed. If you want to date your artwork but don't want to detract from the composition of your piece, you can consider placing a date inconspicuously on the back.

## HOW DO I PREPARE MY ARTWORK FOR HANGING?

Remember, for your artwork to be an eligible entry into the Recovered Futures Art Exhibition, it needs to be fitted with D ring hangers 100mm from the top of the work and wire or picture hanging cord (polyester). Fasteners or hanging hooks of any other kind are not permitted (e.g. velcro, wool, sticky tape, ribbon, staples, standard photo frame hangers, eye-ring hooks).

When fitting your artwork with D ring hangers, ensure you consider its size and weight, and choose an appropriate strength.

If fitting your artwork with wire, ensure you use artist hanging wire of appropriate strength. If using picture hanging cord, ensure this is fitted securely. If unsure, seek professional advice before preparing your artwork for hanging.

For more information about fitting D ring hangers, wire and picture hanging cord, these YouTube videos may be helpful.

- [Fitting D ring hangers and wire](#)
- [Fitting hangers with picture hanging cord](#)

## WHERE CAN I BUY D RING HANGERS?

You can purchase D ring hangers from places such as art suppliers, online or at hardware stores – to name a few. When selecting D ring hangers, ensure you consider the size and weight of your artwork. For example, D ring hangers can have one screw hole or two. One hole is typically suitable for lighter works. As the weight increases, you may need to use a D ring hanger with two screws for greater security.

## HOW DO I FRAME MY ARTWORK?

Remember, for your artwork to be an eligible entry into the Exhibition, it needs to be framed or stretched onto canvas. For advice about framing your work, consider speaking to a framer. You need to ensure you can fix D ring hangers to your artwork and wire or picture hanging cord (polyester). Not all frames are suitable for the application of D ring hangers. For example, frames that are not hardwood may be prone to splitting when applying D ring hangers.

If submitting digital artwork, consider the paper weight stock. When lower paper weight stock is used (80 -180gsm), both the image and the print lose their vibrancy, immediacy and quality. Look for an affordable printer who prints on acid free high quality paper stock.

Lastly, if it is a framed photograph, digital artwork or print, it must be finished with backing tape (to avoid moisture and curling).

## WHAT IS AN ARTIST DISPLAY NAME AND HOW DO I CHOOSE ONE?

An artist display name is shown next to your artwork with your artist and artwork statements. While some artists like people to know their name, others prefer to use something entirely different – it's up to you. If you want your work to be more recognisable, consider using a consistent display name.

## HOW SHOULD I PRICE MY ARTWORK?

If you are looking for advice to help price your artwork you can speak to other artists, attend an art business workshop (e.g. [Flying Arts Alliance](#)), access specialist artist resources (e.g. [NAVA](#)) or visit regional art galleries. You can even visit the [Recovered Futures Art Exhibition Shop](#) to view pricing of artwork from the 2021 exhibition, including which pieces sold.

## HOW SHOULD I TITLE MY ARTWORK?

Giving your artwork a title is a deeply personal decision. It may reflect the subject matter of your work, the story behind its creation or something else. Consider what's right for you as an artist.

## HOW DO I WRITE AN ARTIST STATEMENT?

An artist statement provides background information about your life and experience as an artist and a person. Often, sharing something about yourself can help buyers connect with your work on a deeper level, and even contribute to the sale of your artwork.

If you need help writing your artist statement for your application to exhibit in the 2022 Recovered Futures Art Exhibition, contact our team.

## HOW DO I WRITE AN ARTWORK STATEMENT?

An artwork statement can explain your process as artist or motivation behind creating the artwork. It can also highlight what you want potential buyers to see or feel when viewing the artwork.

If you need help writing your artwork statement for your application to exhibit in the 2022 Recovered Futures Art Exhibition, contact our team.

## I HAVE COMPLETED MY APPLICATION FOR THE EXHIBITION. WHAT DO I NEED TO DO BEFORE DROPPING OFF MY ARTWORK?

Remember, you have until your artwork drop-off appointment to ensure your artwork is finished. For your artwork to be an eligible entry into the exhibition, it needs to:

- not exceed 120cm in either length or width inclusive of frame and weigh less than 5kg.
- hang safely/securely and be fitted with D ring hangers 100mm from the top of the work and wire or picture hanging cord (polyester).
- have a reasonable sale price and not be listed as 'not for sale' or 'by negotiation'.
- be clean, undamaged, finished, presented to a high standard, either framed or stretched onto canvas and not have been exhibited before at a Recovered Futures Art Exhibition.
- be original and not considered offensive or inappropriate, aligning with the values of the exhibition.

Artworks will be selected based on eligibility criteria and curatorial considerations including but not limited to concept, workmanship, originality and exhibition fit.

In addition, all artwork must be clearly labelled with the Artist display name, title, medium and price. If it is a framed photograph, digital artwork or print, it must be finished with backing tape (to prevent moisture and curling).

Lastly, ensure artwork is packaged safely for transport, including not using gloss brown packing tape which can damage artwork. RFQ is not responsible for retaining or supplying any packaging materials.

## Contact

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