



The Pastel Society of Victoria, Australia Inc.

How to Care for your Pastel Painting

Transporting Your Painting

Anytime you move the pastel painting - avoid knocking, vibrating, and tipping or turning its 'face down, because doing so can dislodge pastel particles. It is best to lay the painting flat with its face up or leaning backwards.

About Pastel

Pastel is powdered pigment mixed together with a binder. It is the most permanent of media as it does not yellow, crack or darken as it ages. It is however, a powdered pigment with a delicate surface. If not handled and framed correctly, the pigment can be smeared or knocked off the surface. Some artists use a fixative but many Pastel artists rarely do, as the vibrancy of the colour can be effected.

General Care

No fine art painting should not be hung in direct light as this may cause fading over time. High humidity areas such as bathrooms should also be avoided. Do not store in dark, musty places.

Re-Framing

If you chose to re-frame the painting or upgrade the glass, be sure that your framer is experienced with framing pastels and uses only acid-free materials. Acid can cause the painting to deteriorate over time.

We thank Caroline Lewallen for providing us with this information