

“Keeping a 1/2 – 3/4-inch space around the edges of your work”

Before you begin your painting, you need to plan your paper space. This is an important step and one that is sometimes forgotten in the excitement to begin your colored pencil artwork! Of course, you have to consider the composition of how your subject will be “laid out” within the paper space.....BUT as you are going through this composition process, you must remember to maintain the space around the edges of your paper. To prevent your composition getting too close to the edges of your paper becomes an important consideration. If your composition goes to the edges, then there is no room for a Matte and Frame to be added. Sometimes even a small 1/4-inch space around the edges is not enough to add the Matte for framing.

Some people will choose a larger paper size for their composition. Then measure a “border” around the edges so that as they work, the composition will remain within the space, thus leaving the appropriate area for the Mat and Frame.

Planning before you begin the artwork is a process that all artists follow. They plan how they want their Composition to appear to the Viewer. They plan which Colors they will choose to create their art for an emotional response. They plan the Title of their art work to draw the viewer to “see” their artwork. All Artists plan --- even if the work is a modern color, shape, composition.....they started with an idea and planned it out.

Remember to be aware of the space along the edges when you begin creating your artwork, especially if you intend to add a Matte and Frame! This will allow your composition to be represented fully within the paper!