



Recommended care for visual art (painting and drawing)

Paintings and drawings are fragile creations that require special care to ensure their continued preservation and their transmission to future generations.

The 10 factors in assessing the risk of deterioration of an artwork:

1. **PHYSICAL FORCE** (***avoid pressure***, de ex. e.g., do not place other objects directly on top of artworks; ***avoid falling objects***, e.g., avoid mounting heavy items above a painting or drawing hung on the wall; ***avoid strong vibrations***, e.g., avoid loud, vibrating music;)
2. **FIRE, HEAT** (***avoid overheating***, e.g., do not place artworks on radiators and do not keep heat sources near them; ***reduce fire risks***, e.g., ensure that fire-extinguishing systems are easily accessible)
3. **WATER** (***avoid condensation***, e.g. from windows or bathrooms; do not place artworks near kitchen appliances such as coffee makers, etc.; ***avoid leaks***, e.g., do not place them near areas with water pipes and do not place them near air-conditioning units)
4. **PESTS** (***avoid flies, rodents***)
5. **POLLUTANTS** (***avoid dust***: e.g., do not place artworks near an open window; ***avoid smoke***, including cigarette smoke, e.g., do not place them near a stove that produces smoke or ash, do not smoke in the room where artworks are kept or nearby; do not store artworks in rooms located close to a parking area; ***avoid sources of acids***, e.g., do not mount artworks on cardboard that is not acid-free))
6. **LIGHT and UV** (***use only bulb light, avoid UV radiation***: never expose artworks to direct sunlight, use UV filters on windows; never use fluorescent tube lights, use standard bulbs; ***rotate light exposure***: occasionally change the location of artworks in the collection to other areas, rooms, or walls – the principle of collection rotation – to prevent a work from being exposed for prolonged periods to the same light source)
7. **TEMPERATURE** (***keep at 15-20°C***: temperatures below or above this range damage artworks; ***avoid temperature fluctuations***: do not allow large temperature swings, e.g., between day and night; maintain a constant temperature.)
8. **HUMIDITY** (***keep at 40-60% rel. hum.***: attention, above 65% humidity, fungi may develop; above 75% humidity, mould can appear.)
9. **CRIMINALITY** (***reduce theft and vandalism risks***: ensure security systems and regulated access)
10. **DISOCIATION** (***use labels and make the inventory***: lack of information about a work in the collection—its role, description, cultural context, author, year of creation, etc.—reduces its appeal and decreases interest in its conservation)

Lightning

Indirect and low lighting is recommended, using standard, classic, or non-fluorescent LED bulbs, preferably through recessed spotlights or ceiling spotlights.