

# 5 ways to protect your art

You may have just made your first art purchase, or added another valuable piece to your art collection. Either way, you can mitigate losses to your artwork by understanding the proper way to transport, store, and display your valuable pieces.

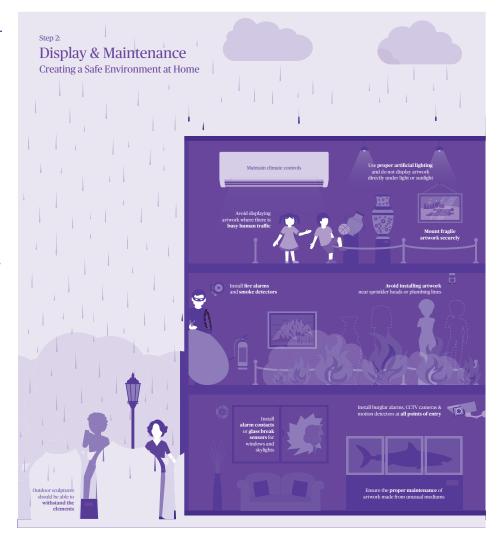


#### 1. Prepare your artwork for travel

- Make sure the truck has climate control, air-ride suspension, alarm system, GPS tracking and two drivers so the truck is never left unattended.
- Request a condition report for each piece prior to packing, then again when they are unpacked.
- Use only professional art shippers and handlers. And make sure they don't use third party vendors or temporary storage locations, unless they are experienced with artwork as well.

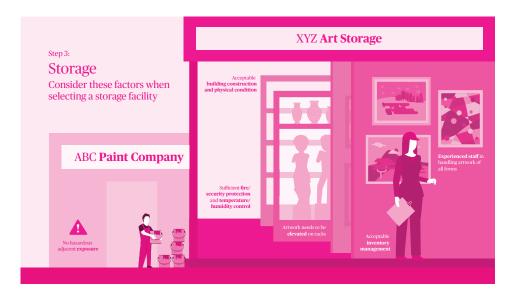
#### 2. Create a safe environment for display

- Maintain stable temperature and humidity levels for your collection.
- Use museum quality artificial lighting and avoid direct sunlight. Frame items using UV-protective glazing or install UV film on windows.
- Hire a professional art handler to install artwork
- Avoid displaying artwork in direct traffic patterns.
- Install centrally monitored smoke detectors in all display areas. Install a central station burglar alarm to protect all perimeter and interior access points. Avoid installing artwork near sprinkler heads and plumbing lines, and install water leak detection systems.



#### 3. Select an appropriate art storage facility

- Make sure the facility doesn't have any adjacent hazardous exposures, such as a paint store or gas station.
- Check that the building is in good condition and has appropriate fire and security components in place.
- Ensure that humidity and temperature levels are correct.
- Make sure your artwork is stored on elevated racks or shelves in case of flooding.
- Speak with staff to ensure that they are experienced in handling artwork, and have appropriate inventory management systems in place.





## 4. Update the value of your collection

- Hire an appraiser with the appropriate expertise to value your collection
- Ensure that the value of your collection is updated regularly.
- This will ensure that you have the appropriate insurance coverage in the event of a claim.

#### 5. Keep your inventory up-to-date

- Create and regularly update a database of your collection.
- Include a full description of each piece, including artist, title, medium, dimensions, year of creation, source, date of purchase, current location, and a high resolution photo of the artwork.
- Store a duplicate of your inventory, appraisals, invoices, and authenticity certificates in a secure off-site location.



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