

The Two-Minute Art Tip segment opens with several small videos on the screen from past shows, plus the text "I like shiny". The title of the segment also appears which is "Dust Covers - The Why and the How."

Hello and welcome to Cheap Joe's Art Stuff, my name is Julie and I'm here to impart some knowledge to you today via a two-minute art tip. And today we are going to be just discussing dust covers. I know, it's spine tingling and you may never be the same, but a while back we did a two-minute art tip about how to put on framing hardware and we've got a lot of positive responses from that and also requests to see the other different kinds of tasks that go along with framing. So today I'm going to do a brief walk through about dust covers. Now dust covers were a thing that was created in the framing process in order to keep excess dust, dirt, and moisture, maybe even little creepy crawlies,

out of your your artwork and your frames. So it was a barrier (Julie lifts up a framed piece and taps the back) on the back to seal up your frames. Now, not completely as necessary as it used to be but it's kind of the pretty little touch on the back that kind of finishes everything off very nicely.

So yes, this is already made (she's referring to the ready-made frame piece sitting in front of her) and typically you don't put a dust cover on ready-made, but I do and I'm going to show you how to do that. Now one of the considerations that we're going to have today is that this already has hanging hardware on it, (Julie turns the piece over to reveal the hardware) so we're just going to work around that and I'm going to show you how easy this is to do. Okay, so we have a piece of black dust cover paper (Julie brings a piece of black dust cover paper on screen) and then I have a roll of

ATG. (Julie shows a role of ATG tape.) Okay, what is ATG? It's adhesive transfer gum and basically it's like a double-sided tape without the tape, it's just the sticky. Okay, so what we're going to do is - generally if you do this often, you would have a gun, (an overhead camera shot shows Julie simulating how to add the tape on the frame if you indeed had a tape gun) an ATG gun, you'd press the trigger - but what we're going to do is we're going to lay down right here, we've got, let me find where the sticky starts. (Julie has the tape in hand and she's looking to where the sticky starts) Yum, there it is. And I'm going to just put the ATG (Julie applies the ATG tape to the back of the frame edges) on the edges here like this. Now granted you're going, what a hack buy a gun blah blah blah, but really around my studio and for as few jobs as I do, I don't find that I use my gun that much. (Julie continues to apply the tape to the edges rotating

the frame and working around the hanging hardware.) Granted, if I'm getting ready for a show, that's pretty handy, but most times I just do it this way. And you can see, I'm working around this extra piece of hanging hardware. Now, you can always take that off if you want to with a screwdriver, but we're just gonna cut around it. So we're going to put on our ATG tape, in like so, and yeh we're going to get some on our fingers, it's not that big of a deal. It's kind of like (Julie rubs her fingers) easy to wipe off. So we're going to press that down (Julie presses the newly installed tape down to the frame) in place and then we're gonna tear it off (Julie removes the tape revealing the glue that's left behind) and you're going to see, see this shiny stuff? That's the glue. Let me hold it up so you can, (Julie tilts the frame to the left so the glue can catch the light and be seen by viewers) the light can catch it so you can see right there. Now as you

can see, this frame used to have an easel back on it (the screw holes are visible where the easel back used to be) but I took a screwdriver and just popped that off because we don't need that. Now you can always put another piece of backer board in there like a piece of foam core instead. (Julie removes the tape revealing the glue that's left behind) I don't really, this is mine, so I'm not really all that worried about it. Now professionally speaking. if this was something that you're going to sell, you would probably want to do that, put a different backer on it. (Julie's looking at the back of the frame piece.) Now we've got an even distribution of ATG and if it goes over the edges a little bit don't worry, don't have a thing over it, it's not a big deal, we're going to work it out. So, what I'm going to do is I'm gonna lay this down (Julie has the large black sheet in hand and aligning it over the back of the frame piece) and I'm going to take my

fingers underneath here and I'm gonna pull and push my fingers up against the edge so we get a nice tight (Julie's smoothing out the paper with her hands) lay down over that, and then (Julie rotates the frame) we're going to do the same thing. We're gonna press it over here. (Julie's bending the dust cover paper over the frame's edge) I'm gonna bend this. Now is this absolutely necessary, this part? No, and the reason I do it is because it helps me to see what I'm shooting for. Okay, so we've bent this edge (Julie's showing the frame edge) and we're seeing where the the back edge of this frame is.

Now what I've got here is a Logan Dust Cover Trimmer. (Julie shows the trimmer on camera.) This one's really really, this is big and what I'm used to using a dust cover trimmer is generally more like an X-Acto Knife, and yes you could use an X-Acto Knife and a ruler for this. Now in my experience with framing really small

ones like this, not a problem. Zip bang, you're done and the X-Acto works fine. However bigger frames, you're looking to make yourself frustrated because invariably one of those times the ruler is going to move and it's going to be all uneven you're going to get mad and you're going to have to do this whole thing back over again and so it's worth a couple of bucks of investment if you're gonna do your own framing and have this stuff to go ahead and invest in these tools, because it does make your life a whole lot easier. So we're looking for the corner here (the corner of the frame is on screen) and what this has is a bevel on it so (Julie shows the parts on camera) this part you line up with the edge of the frame. The blade is out so you can see where it says "blade", we can just adjust it to close it back up for safety reasons when it's not in use. But we've got the blade out and what we're going to do is line this up with the edge of

the frame and that bevel gives you a nice clean line (Julie lines up the paper and frame and starts to cut) like so.

I'm scooting all over. Normally in a frame shop you'd have a mat under there or carpet. So what we're going to do is (Julie manually tears the paper off the excess ATG) cut it cleanly but it's sticking to the excess ATG so we'll just peel that part off. I'll show you how. (Julie trims the excess off.) There we go. It took me a little extra. Now (Julie removes another piece of the trim paper) we're gonna take that part off, redo the same thing on all four sides. (Julie prepares another side for cutting by bending the paper to create a crease against the frame.) We're going to bend this over, now this is a really really heavy piece of dust cover paper. This would generally what you would use on a larger frame. (Julie prepares to trim this side.) So again, matching it up

with the edge, run this along, pull down, and then... (Julie removes the trim paper.)

All right, now you're thinking "okay yeah, but how do we deal with this around the hanging hardware?" Well I'll show you. (Julie reaches over for scissors and rotates the frame to make a release cut.) I'm going to make a release cut because the hardware's right there (Julie cuts around the hanging hardware with her scissors) and I can trim this up with an X-Acto when I get all the rest of this done. (Julie rotates the frame to trim the other side) And if you're leaving excess hardware depending on how somebody would want to hang something, that's totally fine, whatever. And this is an easy way to do that. (Julie trims another side and she removes the cut paper. Julie trims the side just like the others and the cut paper makes a ripping sound as she removes it.) Alright, last piece, and we have the hanging

hardware up here (Julie folds the side down and gets ready to trim.) Take this and... (Julie takes her scissors and makes a preliminary wide cut on that last side.) We're gonna clean these distractions off. (Julie removes all the scrap excess paper off the desk.) Alright, again we're going to make a release cut. (Julie cuts around the mounting hardware on the back of the frame.) Now if this wasn't a ready made and didn't already have hardware on it, you would put the backer on, the dust cover on first and then mount your hardware on top of that, so just like we've done in the other video, measuring, finding the thickest part of your profile, going ahead and making your holes, and putting your hardware on all those steps are the same (Julie cuts the last side and removes the excess paper) take that off (Julie trims on the other side of the mounting hardware and removes that paper. Julie rotates the frame). What we're going to do is make a

bigger release cut (Julie uses scissors to make the larger release cut around the framing hardware. Julie lifts up the paper and trims around the hardware.) We're going to clean that up right there because we just got a little extra, and these are just because we're working on a ready-made (Julie trims the paper around the mounting hardware on the other side of the frame.) And there, this will lay down nice and neat and clean around that hardware.

So then what you're going to do (Julie rotates the canvas to remove the extra ATG) is just a little bit of extra ATG over here that was on there so we're gonna rub that off. Now one of the things that works really good for this is our um masking fluid pickup thing because it takes up all this extra sticky like really quick, so we can clean that off. Okay so now we've got (Julie holds the frame to show the dust cover on the back and she brushes it

off) our dust cover on the back and we still got a little extra ATG to take off. Then our last step is to take some bumpons. We've talked about bumpons before. (Julie brings the bumpons on camera.) These are just like little silicone rubber pads and this keeps the artwork from bumping up against the wall and scraping it up, (Julie starts putting the bump ons on the dust cover paper) and also keeps it flush against the wall with the hardware, because normally the hardware will stick out a little bit (Julie illustrates what she's talking about with her hands) so it causes the front to tilt and then the bottom is kind of tilted back against the wall. This kind of evens it up and keeps it from scratching your paint and stuff. (Julie installs the rest of the bump ons.) And so we're going to put two of those on down there on the bottom, and also if you have a little bit of branding for your artwork that would go right down here. (Julie points to the bottom of

the dust cover sheet.) If you have an artist bio or anything that you, or a statement that you like to attach to the back, then you would use a little bit of ATG with that, (Julie shows the ATG again on camera) put it on the back. But otherwise you are ready to go.

So dust cover on (Julie shows the completed piece) and ready to show. So nice, neat, clean, and fast and easy. So hope this was helpful and hope that you enjoy.

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