

## *Care Instructions*

### *How should I display my new painting?*

Always keep the painting in a frame and backed. If you need to change frames because you have changed decor, get a good quality frame. Although we recommend you have it framed professionally, you should be able to do a respectable job at home. Hobby Lobby carries a good selection of frames at reasonable prices. (If you watch, they go on half price sale about every other week.)

Always support the frame. Never hang from the picture stretcher bars. We prefer wires and hook eyes for best support, but that is up to you and your framer. Cross tie wire pulls the frame sides together cradling the painting.

Never put an oil painting under glass. The oil never completely dries. It could get stuck to the glass and get ruined beyond repair.

If you live in a damp area, or the area where you have the painting hung is very humid, you may need to paste a small desiccant pack on the back of the picture backing.

### *Are there any long term care items I need to know?*

The painting was delivered to you with a base coat of retouch varnish. This allows repairs to be made easily until the paint takes a set. At the end of the first year you need to get a coat of Dammar or top varnish on the painting. Don't use an acrylic unless it is rated for oil paintings. Check with your framer or a local art supply. Of course you can contact me and I can take care of this for you.

Does my painting require special care?

Keep exposure to direct sun light to a minimum. Although your picture is a fine oil painting, the sun and ultraviolet light will cause fading. Certainly not to the extent of a photograph or water color but over time it could fade. Avoid high heat areas such as above a furnace vent or fireplace. If there is a mantle in between, it should be OK. At least 3 foot from any direct heat source is a good rule of thumb.

### *How should I clean my painting?*

Periodically dust your painting using only a dry, lint free cloth. Microfiber works well. If it gets stained with nicotine, food or drink it should be taken to a professional to get it cleaned and resealed.

An oil painting is an investment. Properly maintained, an oil painting will last several generations. It is wise to list art on your household contents for insurance purposes. My works are one off. If it is destroyed, it can't easily be replaced.