



**Utrecht Learning Center Article 070611
Studio Craft: Canvas Covered Panels**



List of materials:

Canvas covered panels offer durability, dimensional stability and portability with the texture of fabric supports. Ready-made panels are available in a variety of sizes and surfaces, but canvas boards can also be easily prepared by the artist. Making canvas panels in studio allows the full range of fabrics and primings to be applied to panels of any custom dimensions.

- Hardboard (3/16" thickness)
- Utrecht Gloss Acrylic Gel painting medium
- Cotton Duck, Linen or other canvas of choice
- Utrecht Acrylic Gesso or priming and sizing of choice
- Sandpaper
- File
- Staple gun
- Wooden Stretchers or Handmade Frame
- Scissors
- Mat Knife
- Metal Straightedge



1) Cut a core panel of hardboard.



2) Use a file to slightly bevel edges.



3) Sand lightly.



4) Clean with denatured alcohol.



5) Cut a piece of canvas about three inches in each dimension larger than the panel.



6) Stretch canvas on a frame or wooden board for uniform shrinkage.



7) Take care to maintain a straight weave pattern.



8) Apply a uniform, even coat of gel medium; allow to dry. Preparing canvas in this manner reduces stress on the panel during subsequent mounting and enhances adhesion.



9) Apply a coat of Acrylic Canvas Sizing or diluted acrylic gel medium to both sides and the edges of the panel.



Coating the panel and fabric prior to mounting enhances adhesion and reduces panel distortion.



10) Remove canvas from stretching frame.



11) Apply acrylic gel medium to panel in an even, generous coat.



12) Place canvas coated side down onto the panel.
Take care to align panel edges with fabric weave.
Smooth out any wrinkles.



13) Carefully turn panel and canvas over.



14) Cut edges cleanly using a straight edge and
mat knife.



Edges should be cut cleanly and in square with the
panel.



15) Cut excess canvas at corners diagonally to ensure clean folds.



16) Apply gel medium to canvas flaps; fold over and press in place.



17) Pressing firmly, smooth edges and corners. Allow to dry.



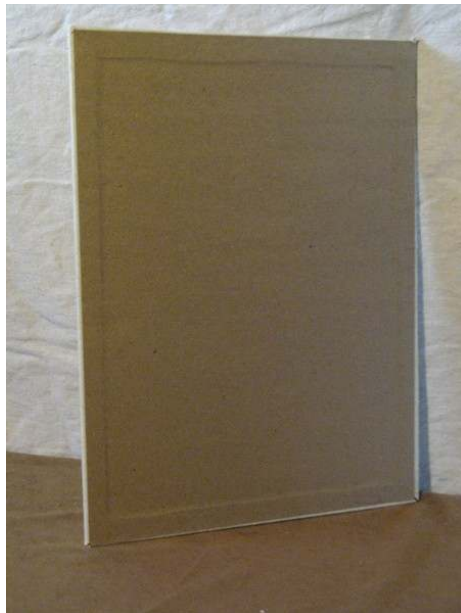
18) Cut a sheet of acid-free paper slightly smaller than panel dimensions.



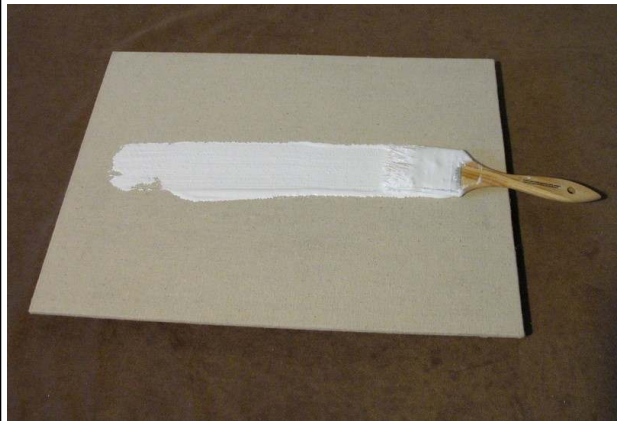
19) Coat the back of the panel with gel medium.



20) Press paper in place. Allow to dry.



21) If necessary, use a low iron to smooth blisters.



22) Prime as desired.

Questions? [Ask the Expert](#)

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