



# Hang-Ups

Technical advice for  
technical problems

**Q:** *It seems that UV glazing in a framing package does not offer enough protection for some light-sensitive materials. Is there anything else we can do to protect these items?*

**A:** In addition to UV glazing you have to educate customers about the harm caused by temperature, relative humidity and light. Customers have to maintain a stable environment and a low light level. Heat, often a product of light, acts as a catalyst; it speeds up the breakdown of cellulose and hastens other chemical reactions within paper.

An effective way to display materials while protecting them, according to the Upper Midwest Conservation Association, is to display a copy instead of the original. This works especially well for photographs, documents and newspapers. New technologies make it possible to produce very good copies; high-quality copiers and digital imaging produce excellent copies. A copy can be made on paper similar to that of the original. Digital scanning technology allows the image to be manipulated so that imperfections and physical damage can be removed. Of course, you will have to obtain permission to make a copy of anything that is currently under copyright.

Customers may think framing a copy is not the same as framing the original, but if done properly, a copy can appear nearly identical. The original can then be stored in a preservation quality box or folder. ♦

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“Hang-Ups” is compiled by PPFA Technical Coordinator **Diane Day**, CPF, from HelpLine questions. If you have a technical hang-up or source question, send an e-mail message to [helpline@ppfa.com](mailto:helpline@ppfa.com), or call the PPFA HelpLine at (888) 542-4844. Please have your PPFA member number ready when you call.