

Photo Contest 101: Getting it Right

You've spent countless hours scouting for that perfect photo - Now what? Below are a few tips for properly mounting your picture for the AGJA Contest. This year's winner in each age division will receive a new digital camera courtesy of Hewlett-Packard in Ft. Collins, Colorado!



Supplies:

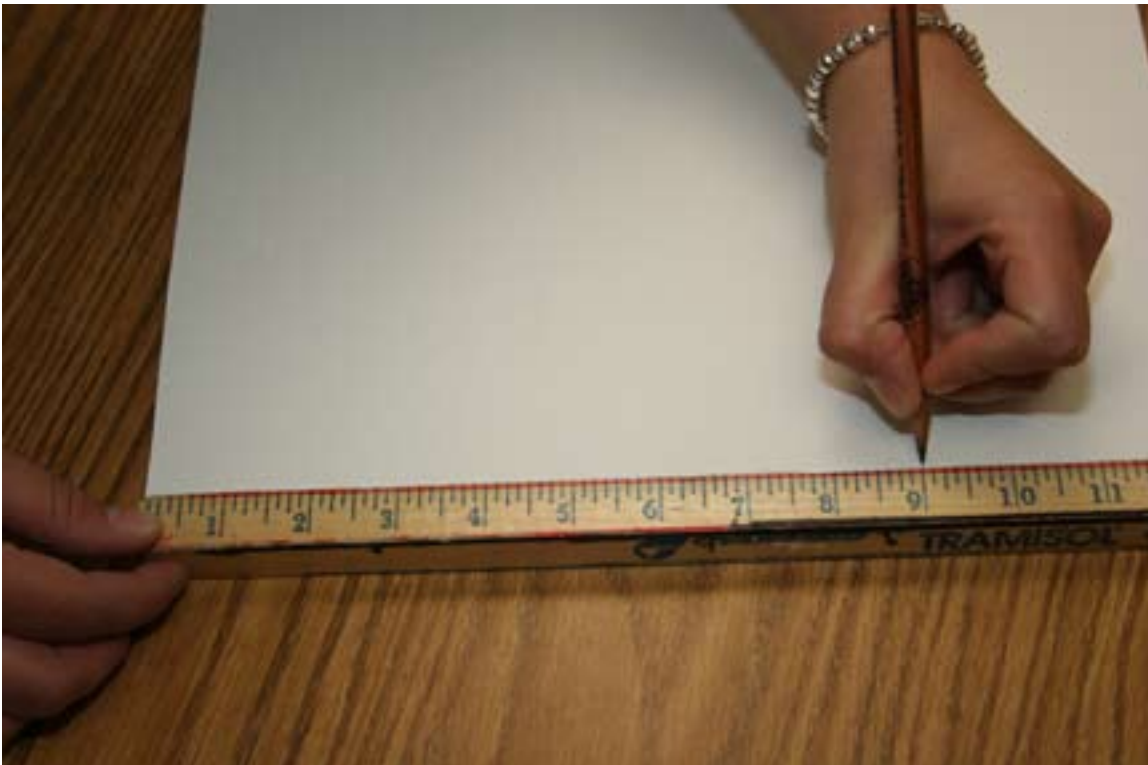
- Matte board or Foam core board
- Ruler
- Glue (Rubber Cement or Adhesive)
- Exacto Knife
- Pencil

Here's how to get started:

First, go to a local craft store such as Hobby Lobby, Michael's, etc. or a frame shop. Buy a piece of matte board in either white or black. Ask an associate if they can cut the board to 7 in X 9 in or follow the directions below to cut the matte yourself. You may also use foam board available at many retail and office stores.

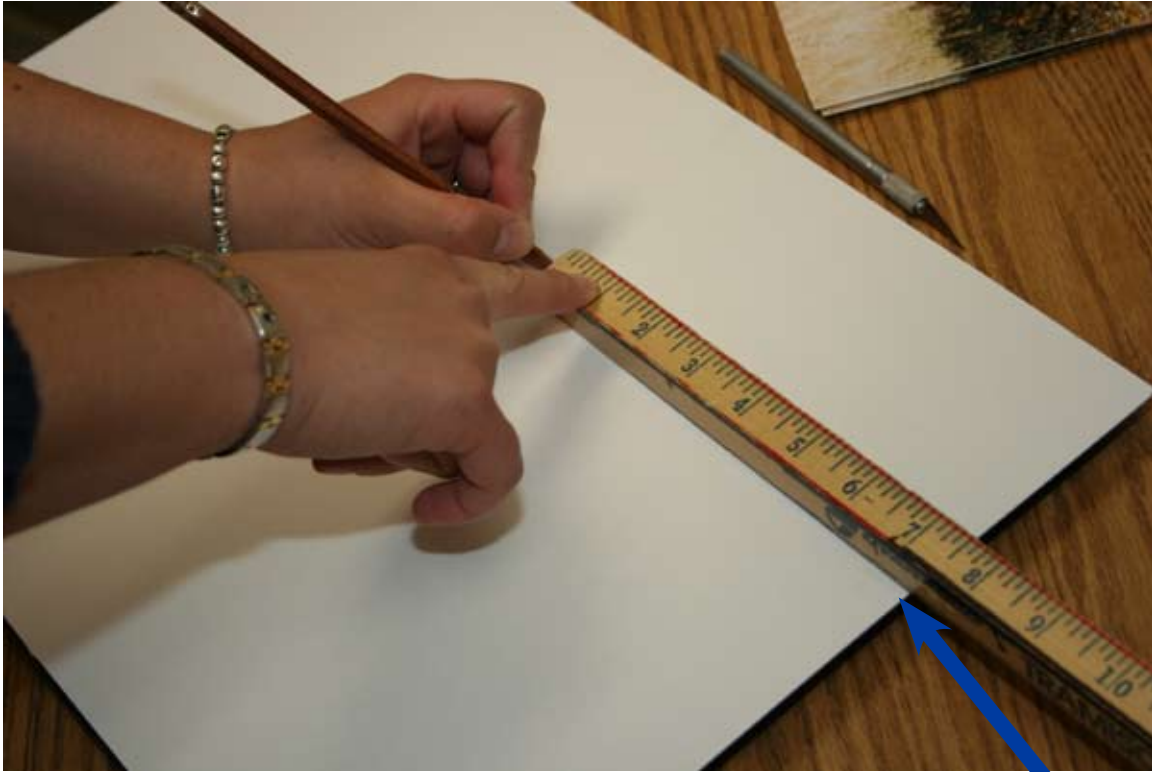
Step 1:

First, starting from a corner on the back side of the matte, measure 9 inches. Make a small mark to indicate the measurement.



Step 2:

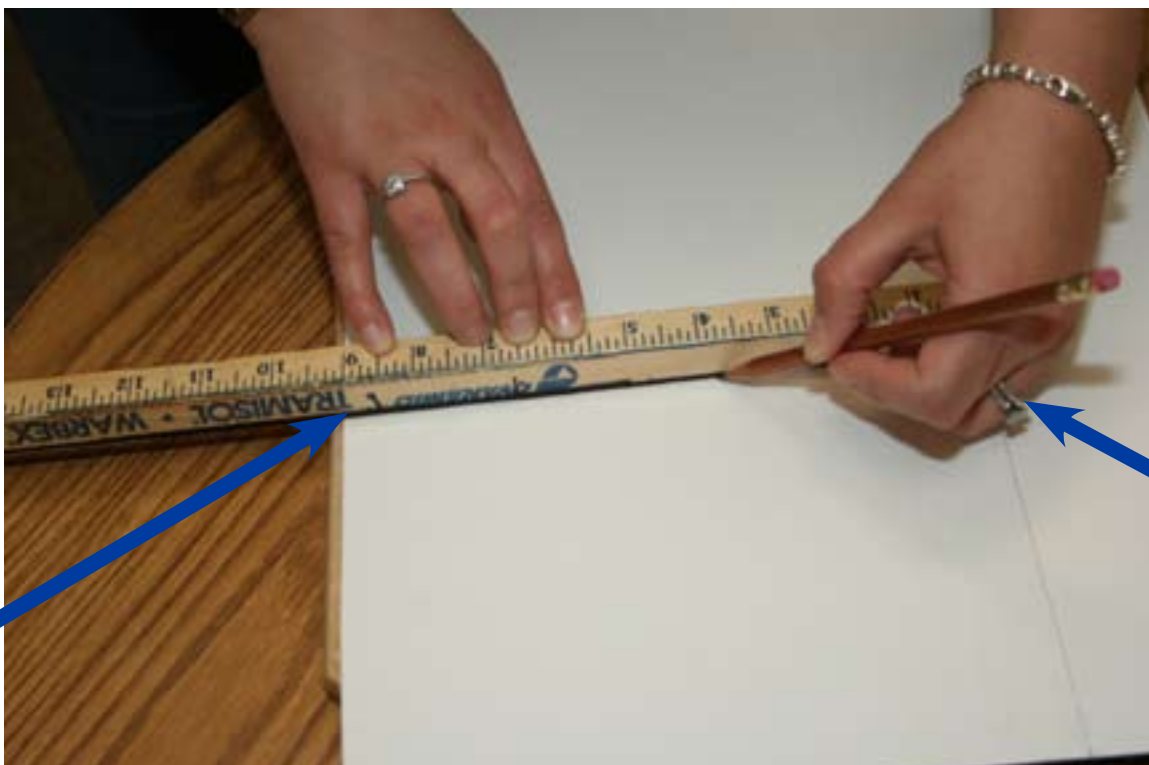
Next, measure 7 inches in the opposite direction from the 9 inch mark. Make another small mark to indicate the measurement. Now draw a line connecting the two points.



Starting at the 9 inch mark made in step 1, measure 7 inches in the opposite direction.

Step 3:

Finally, make one more measurement from the new line to the edge of the mat. This line should be 7 inches when measured correctly. Connect the measurements with a straight line.

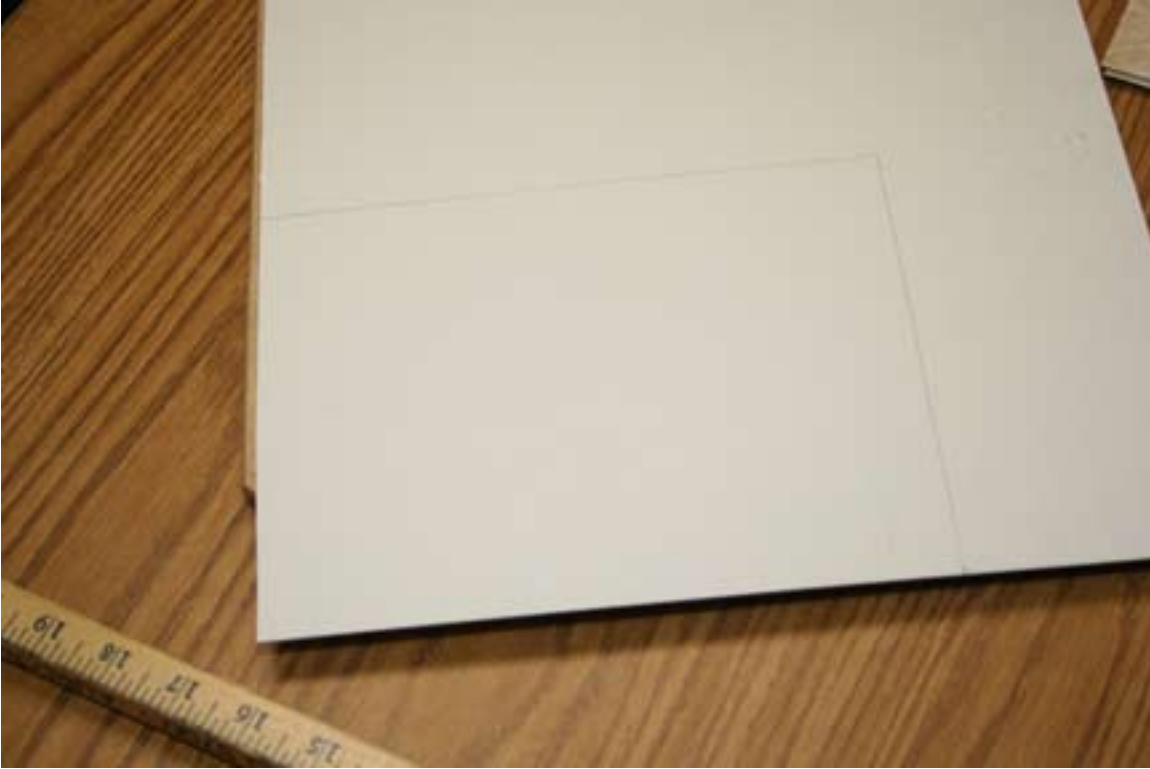


9 inch mark

7 inch mark

Step 4:

Your final measurements should look similar to the example below.

**Step 5:**

Now you're ready to start cutting. Be very careful during this process. Ask for help from an adult. Carefully cut along the measurement lines created in steps 1-4. Make sure to stay on the line and cut slowly. Place a cutting board behind the mat to prevent damaging the under surface.



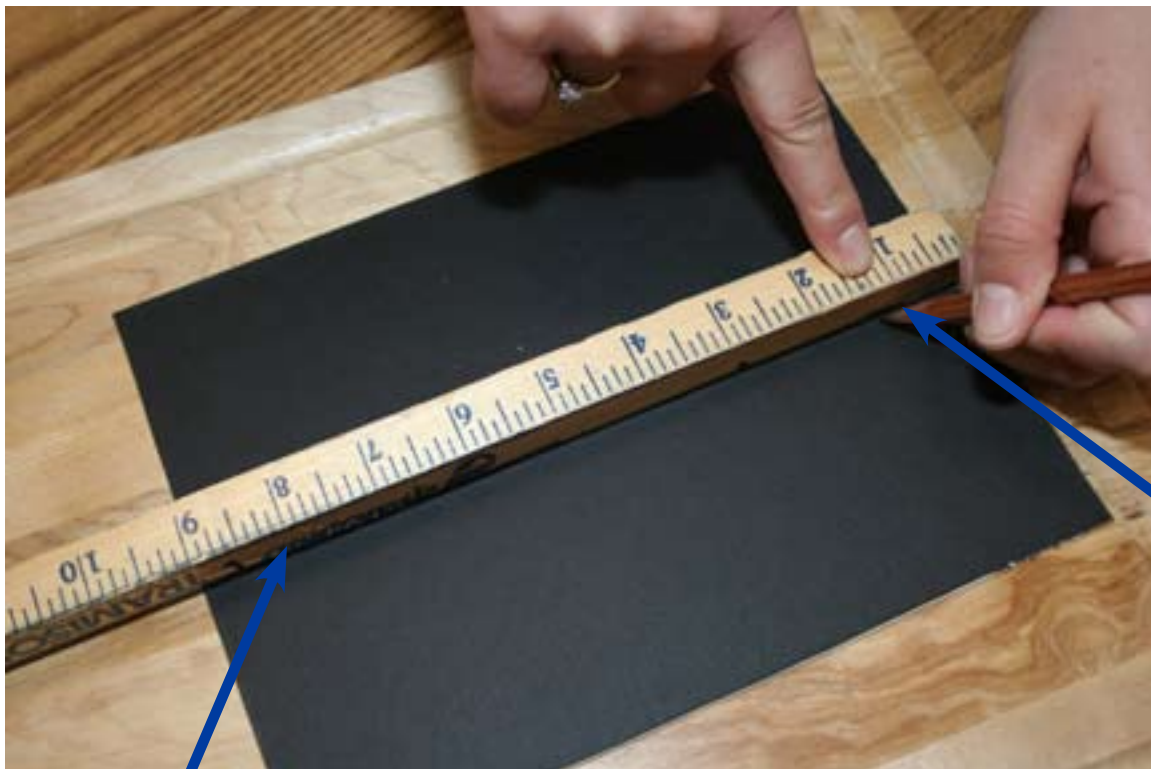
Step 6:

When you're finished, turn your mounting board over, and get ready to glue photo.



Step 7:

Lay the ruler across the long side of the mat. Make a small pencil mark exactly one inch from each end of the ruler.

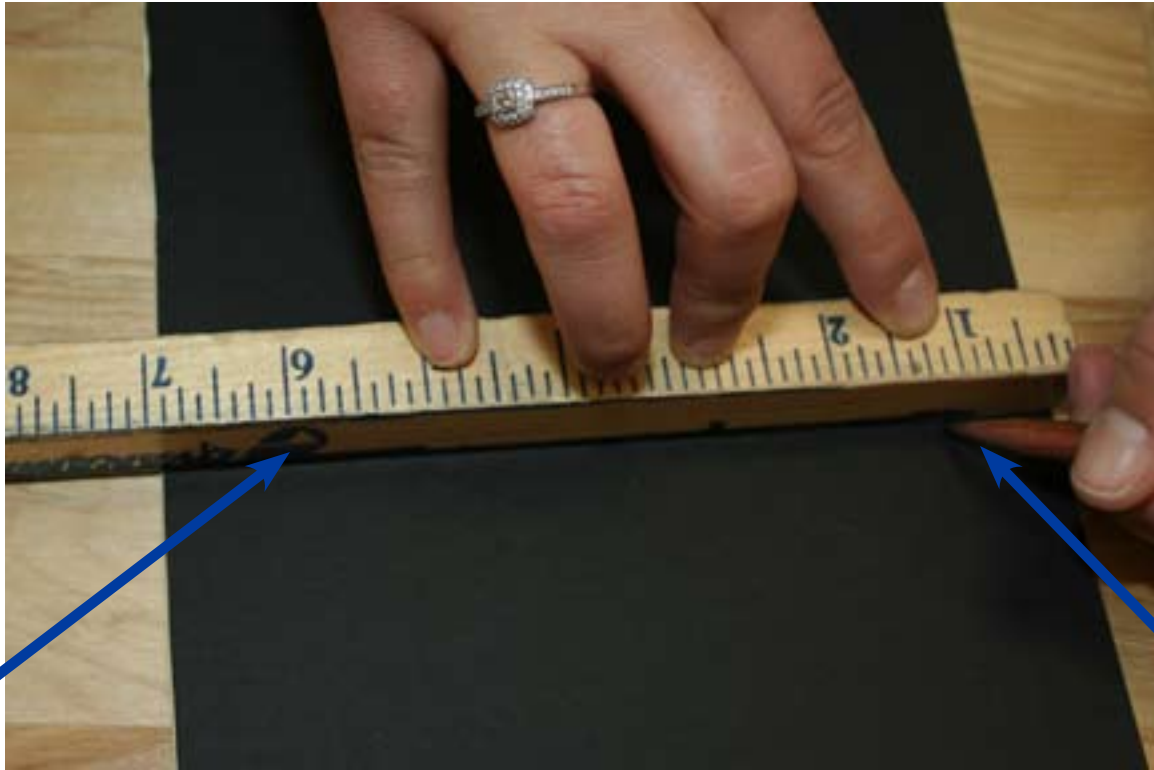


Mark 1 inch from the ruler's edge

Mark 1 inch from the ruler's edge

Step 8:

Now lay the ruler across the short side of the mat. Mark exactly one inch from each end of the ruler.



**Mark 1 inch
from the
ruler's edge**

**Mark 1
inch from
the ruler's
edge**

Step 9:

Place the picture on the mat so that the edges are within the guide marks made in steps 7 & 8. Make sure that there is an even border along all edges of the photo.



Step 10:

Turn the picture over. To prevent getting glue on your working surface, lay a piece of paper under the photo. Then, carefully apply glue to the back of the photo, making sure to cover all edges. You can use rubber cement glue for better control or an adhesive spray for quicker coverage.



Note: If using rubber cement, apply glue to photo mat as well. This will create a stronger bond.



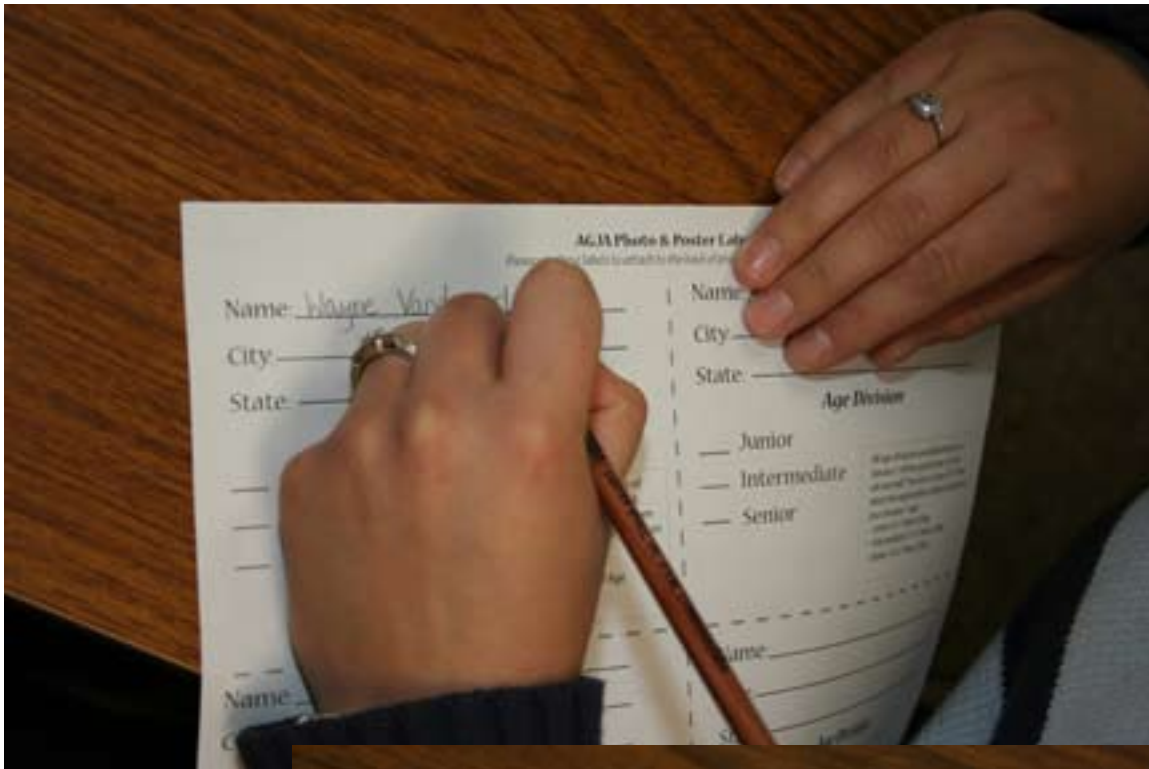
Step 11:

Carefully place the photo on the mat, within the guidelines. Once the photo is placed, you can lay a piece of paper on top of the photo to smooth the edges. This helps in preventing the glue from edges from coming in contact with the front of the photo. Also, an advantage to rubber cement is that after it dries, it can be easily rubbed away from those spots where it "leaked" around the photo.



Step 12:

Allow the photo to dry. While you wait, fill out the AGJA photo label. Be sure to fill in your name, city, state, and age division. Click here for the AGJA photo/poster label form.



AGJA Photo & Poster Labels
Please use these labels to attach to the back of photo and poster entries.

Name: Wayne Vanderwert | Name: _____
City: Westminster | City: _____
State: Colorado | State: _____

Age Division | **Age Division**

Junior | Junior
 Intermediate | Intermediate
 Senior | Senior

All age divisions are determined as of January 1 of the current year. So first, ask yourself, "How old was I on January 1?" Then select the appropriate category based on your January 1 age:
• Junior: 8-11 Years of Age
• Intermediate: 12-15 Years of Age
• Senior: 16-21 Years of Age

Name: _____ | Name: _____
City: _____ | City: _____

Step 13:

When the photo has finished dry, apply the label on the lower corner on the back of the photo.



Name: Wayne Vandover
City: Westminster
State: Colorado

Age Division

Junior
 Intermediate
 Senior

All age divisions are determined as of January 1 of the current year. So first, ask yourself, "How old am I on 1/1?" Then, select the appropriate category based on your January 1 age:

- Junior: 8-11 Years of Age
- Intermediate: 12-15 Years of Age
- Senior: 16-21 Years of Age

Make sure to bond all edges of the label to the photo mount - don't let your label get lost on the way to junior classic.

Congratulations! You've successfully mounted your photo for the AGJA Photo Contest!



AMERICAN
GELB
RO
MO

FIRST
PLACE