

AMET Conference Theme Art Contest

Tips for taking the best pictures of your artwork

Photograph with your phone in natural light.

You can either hang your artwork on a wall outside, preferably not in the glare of direct sunlight to avoid any reflection and **hold your phone level and shoot or lay your artwork on the floor inside**, next to an open door, this will be your light source. Camera filters should not be used.

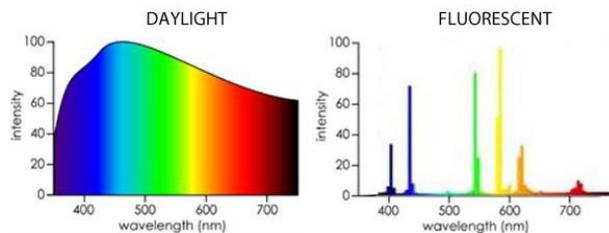
Turn off all the other lights in the room and position your artwork roughly 60 cm or 2 feet away from the bottom of the door frame, stand directly over it to take your shot. Be sure to look for any unexpected shadows. If you encounter any, you will need to move your artwork to an area where there are no shadows that will distort the photo of your artwork.

Why natural light?

Color is created on a surface by specific wavelengths being absorbed and others being reflected.

If the light that is shining on the surface doesn't contain **all** the visible colors (full spectrum) they can't be reflected, so your camera won't be able to record them.

Daylight is called full spectrum lighting because it contains all the different colored wavelengths; some artificial lights have missing colors and 'spikes' in the spectrum. Photographing your artwork under low color rendering household bulbs indoors, will prevent the camera from capturing all the different colors in your picture.



Color is caused by the absorption of certain wavelengths of light by a surface, and the reflection of others. For this to work properly, the light shining on the surface in the first place needs to consist of all the visible wavelengths.

Pro tip: Remember the small sensor in your smartphone camera? Natural light is so much brighter in illuminance than your household bulbs it enables the camera to use a fast shutter speed automatically. This means you can handhold your phone without using a tripod, and there won't be any camera shake or blur. Camera filters should not be used.

Information sourced from the Will Kemp Art School.

<https://willkempartschool.com/how-to-photograph-your-artworks-with-your-iphone/>