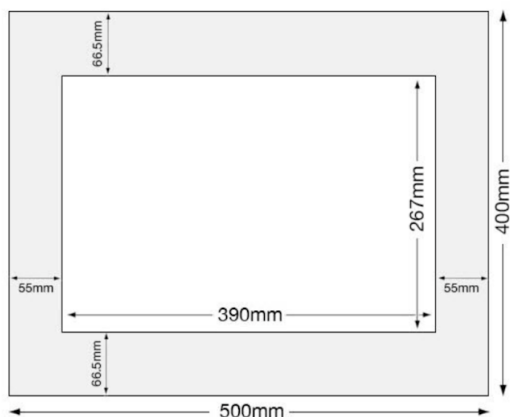


# Print Preparation Mount

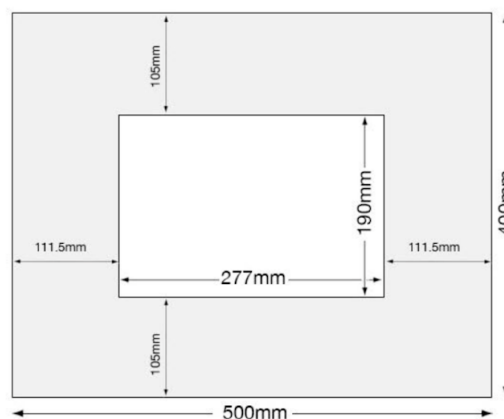
## Before you start

You can buy mount and backing boards, from specialists (for example “Marrutt”), with pre-cut apertures in standard sizes.

**A3 Economy Camera Club Competition Card Mount Measurements:**



**A4 Economy Camera Club Competition Card Mount Measurements:**



## Do-it-Yourself

### Equipment

1. Mount Board. You can buy 500mm x 400mm pre-cut mount board online via specialist suppliers (e.g. Marrutt). Alternatively, you can buy A1 mount boards from retailers like “Seawhite”, “The Range” and “Hobbycraft”. These can be cut in half to produce two 500mm by 400mm boards.
2. Craft (or Stanley) knife and bevel cutter are needed (the latter to get a 45° bevel to the aperture). Always work with a sharp blade to obtain a clean, smooth cut.
3. A long metal ruler or “Logan” Mount Cutter. **Note:** The Club owns one, which can be borrowed by Camera Club members..
4. Acid free conservation tape (available from most stationers) for fixing the picture and back board.

**Note:** YouTube offers many guides on mounting photographs/pictures.

### Printing - for those without a printer

DNA Printing (North side of Worthing Station) offers WCC members a 10% discount. You need to tell Duncan you are a member of Worthing Camera Club.

**Note:** The prices drop dramatically if you order 7-18 prints.

For example: 10 x 8 size 1-6 prints are £3.30 each      7 - 18 £1.68 each  
12 x 8 size 1-6 prints are £3.54 each      7 - 18 £1.92 each

Online print shops.

Photobox - 10 x 8 £1.67 per print (there are often discounts for your first order).

Loxley Print - 10 x 8 £2.70 per print (there are 4 options for finishes).

And many more: Snapfish, Tesco, etc.

Prices from 14 September 2023. Please check before ordering.

# Calculating the aperture

Starting with a 500mm x 400mm mount board.

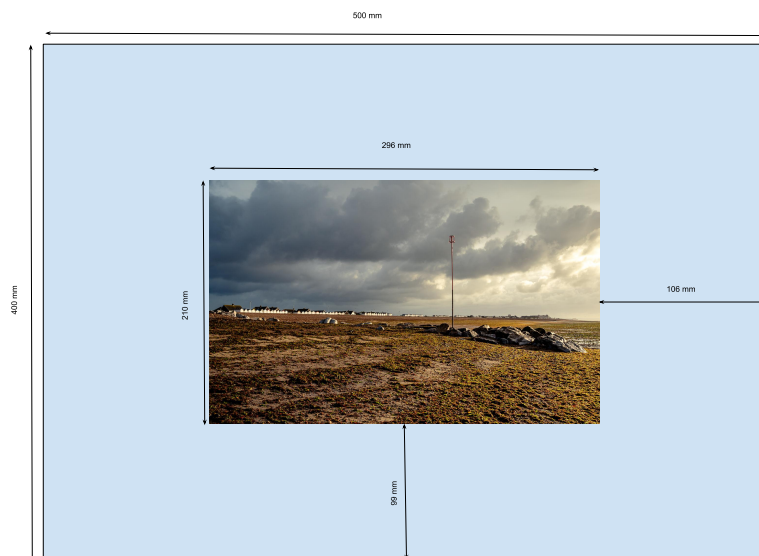
1. Accurately measure the width and height of the photograph to be framed.
2. Now for some Maths.
  - a. To calculate the borders of the mount, subtract the width of the picture from the width of the mount. For the top and bottom borders subtract the height of the picture from the height of the mount.
  - b. Halve the results to obtain the sizes of equal side borders and equal top and bottom borders. **Note:** Some prefer to have a slightly larger bottom border relative to the top border. If you want to do this, subtract a few mm from the top border and add the same to the bottom border.
  - c. Finally, increase each border by 4 mm. This is to avoid unsightly gaps between the picture and the mount.

**Example:** To mount an A4 print (in landscape) on a 500 x 400mm board. A4 dimensions (296mm x 210mm).

Mount Width less Picture Width =  $500 - 296 \text{ mm} = 204$ .  $204 \text{ mm} / 2 = 102 \text{ mm}$ .

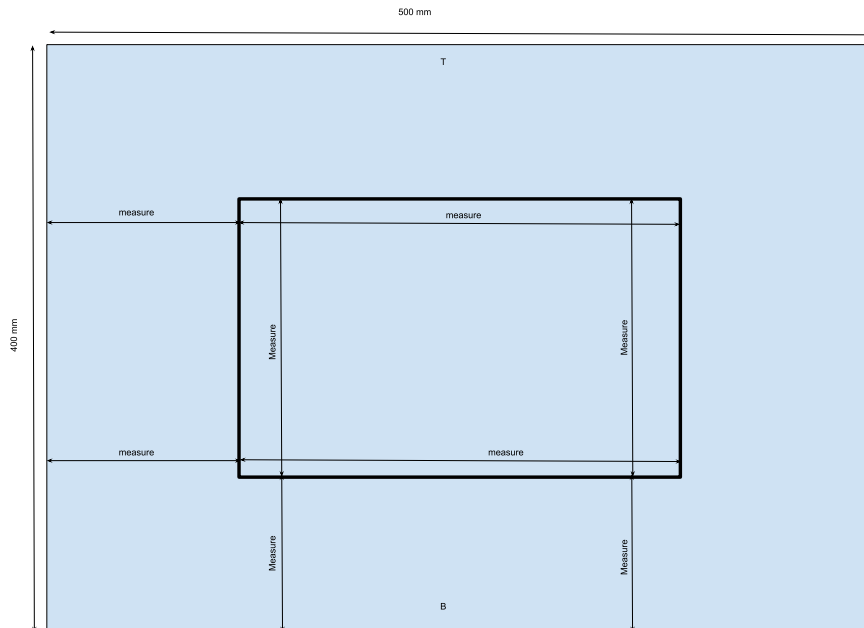
Mount Height less Picture Height =  $400 - 210 \text{ mm} = 190 \text{ mm} / 2 = 95 \text{ mm}$ .

Add 4 mm to each border (to cover the edge of the photo), making the final border sizes: Side border - 106 mm each; and 99 mm at the top and bottom.



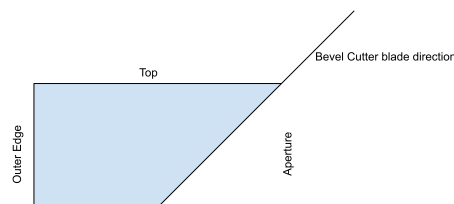
# Marking out the Window to Remove

1. **TURN THE MOUNT BOARD OVER AND WORK ON THE BACK OF THE BOARD FOR ALL THAT FOLLOWS.**
2. Start with the bottom border, and mark that border to indicate it's the bottom one. Put a "B" near the edge and also a "T" on the top border (it will save a lot of confusion later).
3. Mark out the borders in pencil. Ensuring they are parallel and square with each other. Before cutting, place your picture on the mount board to ensure that all measurements and marks are correct. Always mark out on the back of the board and take all measurements from the same side.



## Cutting the Mount

1. Before using a bevel cutter, place a spare (waste) piece of mount board beneath the mount board you are going to cut. This will preserve the blade and ensure your cut is accurate.
2. Ensure the blade of the bevel cutter is facing the outside of the mount.

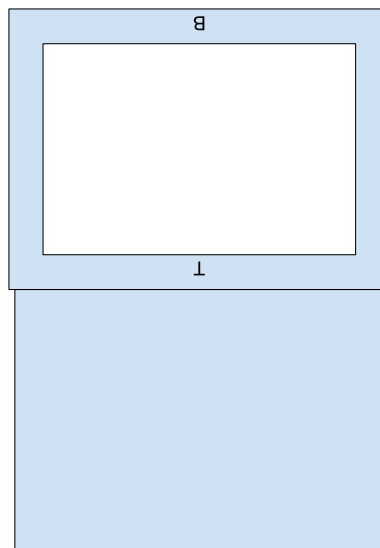


3. Use your free (non cutting) hand to apply some pressure on the bevel cutter to prevent it moving forward as you prepare to start the cut.
4. Then press down firmly on the bevel cutter pad while at the same time preventing it from moving forward with pressure from your other hand. You should feel the blade cutting through the mount to start the cut, but the cutter's central mark should still be aligned with the starting point of your cut.
5. Start the cut and keep a firm downward pressure as you move it along the cutting guide bar. As you near the end of the cut marked by the intersecting pencil line, you may want to use your free hand to help control the cutter so that its central guide mark stops precisely 1 – 2 mm beyond the crossing pencil line. Always remember to maintain downward thumb pressure on the cutter to ensure a complete cut. **Note:** starting and stopping your cut just beyond the crossing pencil lines will ensure your cut-out drops out and leaves perfect corners

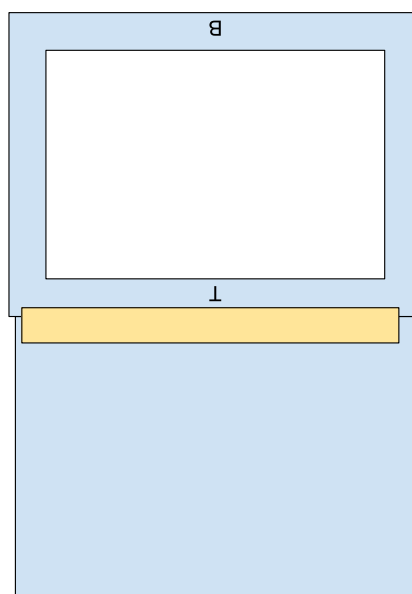
6. Then repeat 2 – 5 above for each of the other borders, moving the sliding bar as necessary so you cut the correct size border each time.
7. If you find that one (or more) of your cuts is not exactly on the relevant pencil line, all is not lost! Ensure that you start and stop your next cut from a previous cut line rather than a pencil line. The important thing to get good corners is that each cut starts and ends precisely at another cut line.
8. Remove the central part of the mount board. Occasionally you may need to very carefully use a sharp blade at 45 degrees, parallel to the bevel, to free a corner or two from the central cutout.
9. The border should now fit snugly over the picture with no gaps.

## Finishing the Mount

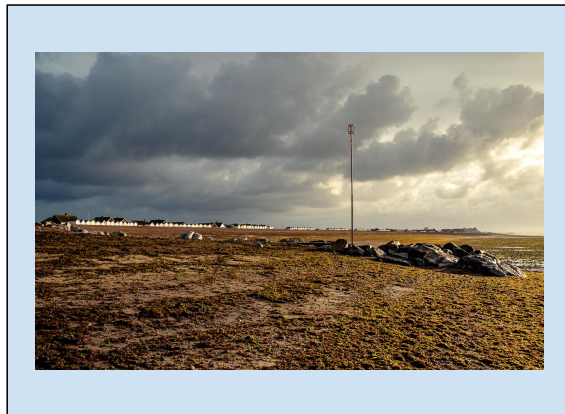
1. The next stage is to attach the picture to a backing board and then fit the mount border over this.
2. Cut the backing board a little smaller than the mount (10 – 20 mm) smaller all round than the mount border, but larger than the picture (approx. 480mm x 380mm).
3. Turn the mount border over so that the back is uppermost and place its top up against the top of backing board so that it overlaps it equally along both sides. Your earlier marks of T and B on the top and bottom borders help here!



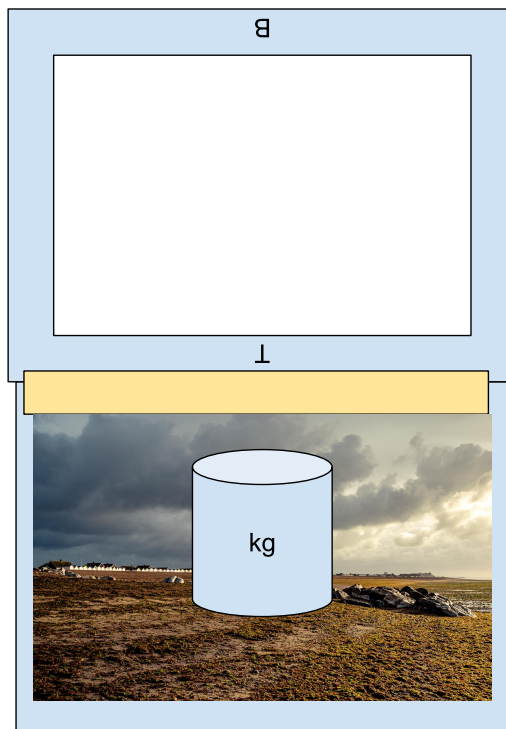
4. Tape the mount and backing board together using a good quality sticky framing tape.



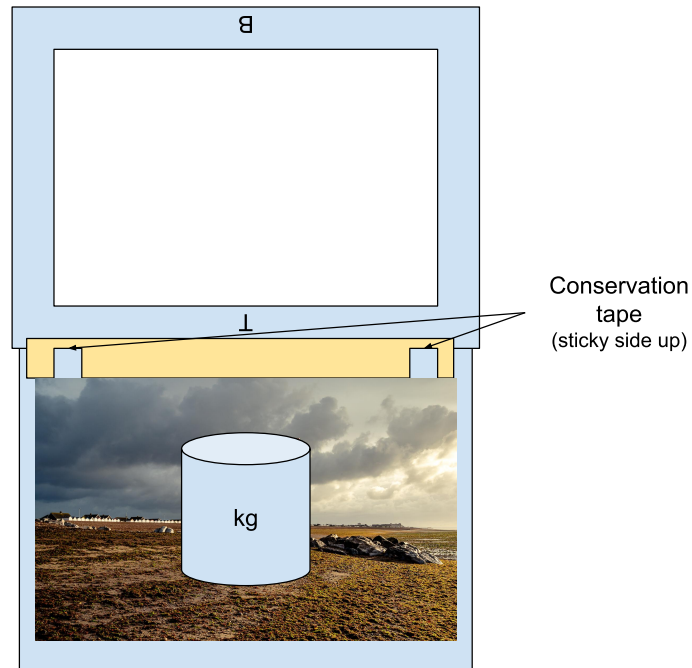
5. Place the picture on the backing board. Then fold the border back over the backing board and picture. Move the picture as necessary until it sits perfectly within the mount border.



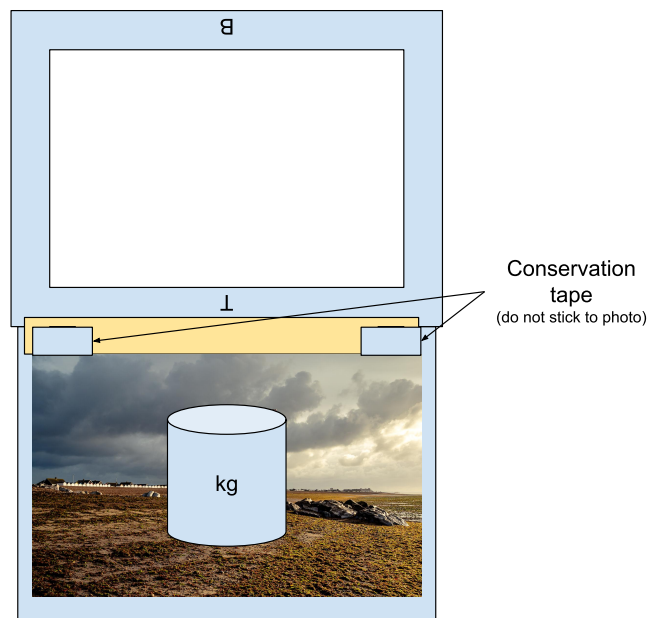
6. Place a heavy non-scratchy object on the picture so that it cannot move relative to the backing board and then again fold the mount border away from the picture.



7. Cut two pieces of conservation quality sticky tape to a length of 4 - 5 cm and slide these, sticky side up, on the top of the backing board and beneath the picture a few cm in from the side edges. Leave about half the length sticking out from the picture. Make sure you don't move the picture relative to the backing board, and gently push the picture onto the sticky side of the tape.

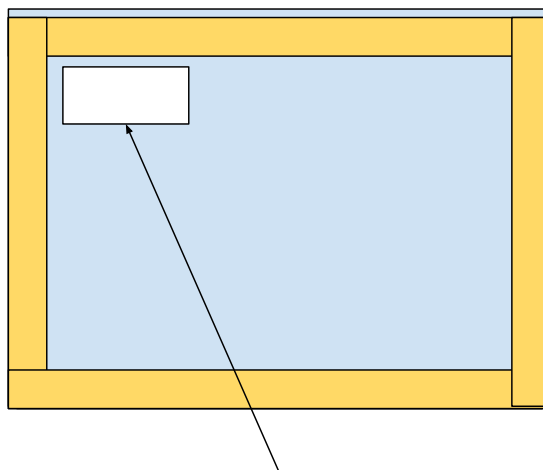


8. Now cut two more 3 - 4 cm pieces of conservation sticky tape. Stick them down over the protruding sticky tape at right angles to the latter, ensuring no sticky bits are left uncovered, that no part of the picture is covered by sticky tape and that they are well stuck to the backing board so the picture is firmly held in place. By just sticking the top of the picture to the mount board you will prevent the crinkling of the picture often caused by temperature and/or humidity changes.



9. Remove the heavy object from the picture and fold the mount border back over the picture, which should now be sitting perfectly within the border. If it doesn't, you may have to repeat steps 5 to 8 till you get it right.

10. Finally, on the back of the mount, use sticky framing tape all the way round to cover the join of the back of the mount with the backing board. This gives a tidy finish and prevents dust entering. Complete by adding a label to the top left corner.



Label with Competition name (e.g. Print Merit #1),  
Class ("Beginner", "Intermediate" or "Advanced"),  
Image title, Your name,