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Finao Matted Album Design Guide

Your guide to creating classic NextONE™ matted albums in overlay or pagemount styles.

Create luxury matted albums with standard or customized layouts.

If you have basic Photoshop skills and follow these guidelines, it is as easy as creating flush mount spreads.

- Keep this guide handy for reference while you work.
- Download the NextONE™ templates [from our website](#), and open the right size in Photoshop.
- Add images to your layout, and we will do the rest.



Mat Styles

Pagemount Style



Pagemount is the original, classic style of matted album and has an elegant, layered look.

We hand trim each photograph to fit inside the mat opening exposing the page lining beneath. This creates a border around each photo. Images should be 1/8th inch **smaller** on each side than desired mat openings.

Tailor the effect of this border by choosing contrasting or monochromatic combinations of mat and lining colors (above, white mat with black lining).

Overlay Style



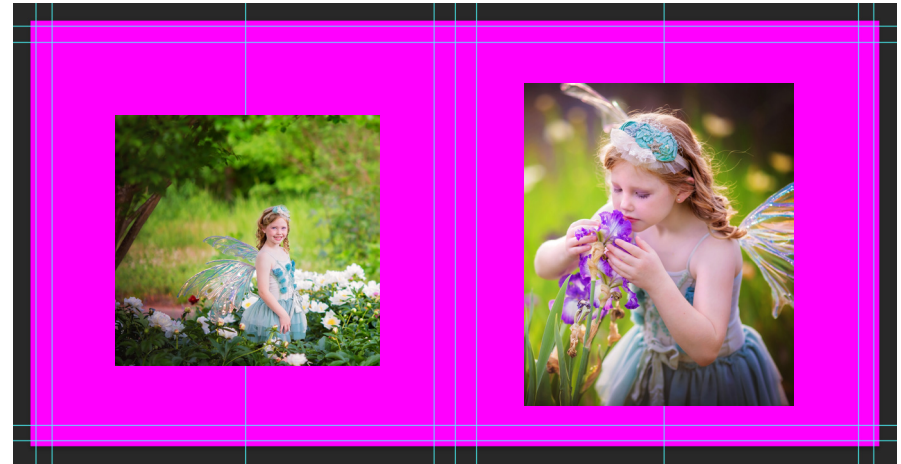
Overlay is a more modern style of matted album and has a minimalistic look.

We cover a spread of photographs with a spread of mats that conceals the edges of the prints. Images should be 1/8th inch **larger** on each side than your desired mat openings.

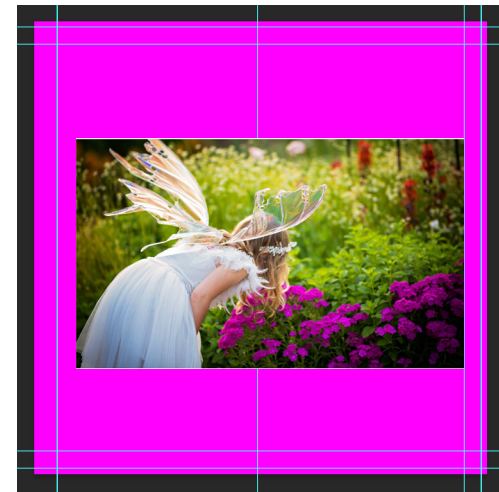
You have the option to add a fine line mat embossing around individual or groups of images (above with embossing).

The Basic Steps

- [Download](#) and open the template set for your album size.
- Our templates have a magenta background to indicate matted areas (RGB 255, 0, 255).
- For a left-hand start album, use the wide (full spread, bottom right) template for each spread.
- For a right-hand start album, use the half-size, single-page template for the first and last pages (top right) and the wide template for the remaining spreads.
- Choose your mat style. This will guide how you crop and size images (see page 10 for details).
- In Photoshop, Place or Drag-and-Drop your images onto the templates.



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© Fairyography

General Guidelines

Both Pagemount & Overlay

You may combine flush mount and matted images in the same spread.

If a flush image crosses the center of the page, it will be creased.



© Hoffer Photography

Both Mat Styles

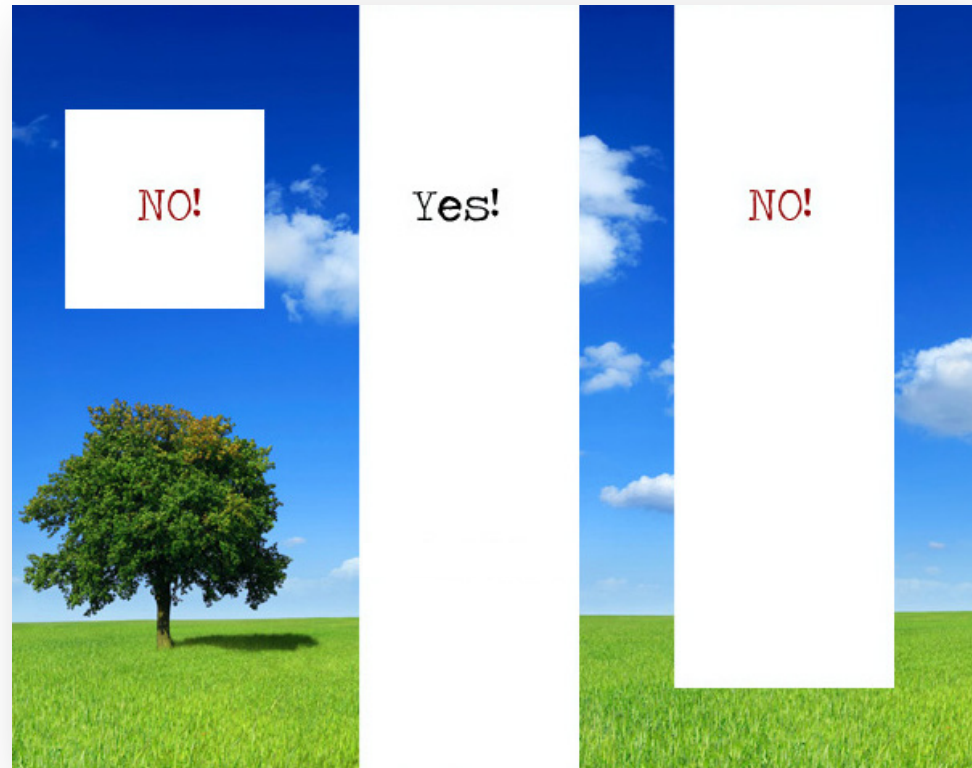
Mat openings must have four sides. They can be **rectangular** or **square** - no diamonds, hearts, rotations, or other shapes.

The center image that has matting on both sides but not top or bottom is sometimes referred to as a letterbox.



Both Mat Styles

Mats must touch at least two outside edges of the spreads - no islands or peninsulas. You cannot include "floating" pieces of mat board.



Both Mat Styles

Images may be flush in a corner. The reverse of this, a full spread with mats floating in the center is not allowed (see Page 7, left).

This placement is sometimes referred to as a Square Letterbox.

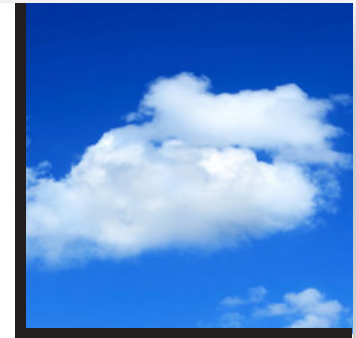


Image Size & Spacing

Both Mat Styles

For album stability, we strongly recommend that mats touching the edge of the spread are a minimum of 1 inch wide.

To accommodate multiple images, perimeter mats have a **hard minimum of 1/2 inch.**

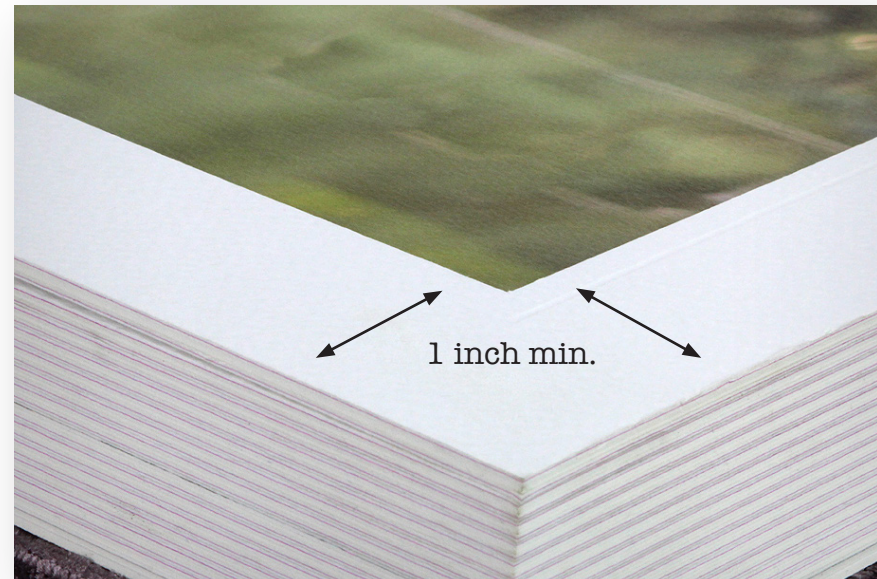


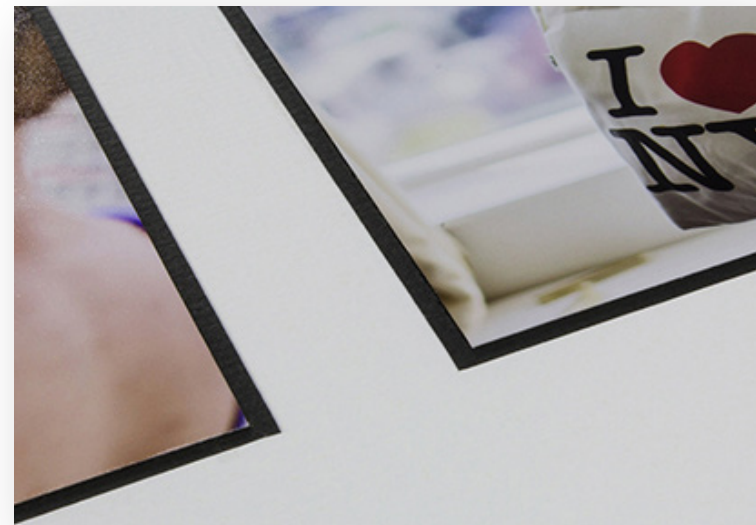
Image Trim: We do not regularly resize or trim your prints. We create mats to fit the images you provide.

Overlay Style: Mats in an overlay style album (top right) will overlap and cover your images by 1/8 inch on all sides. Submit images that are larger than your desired mat opening. Remember to keep anything vital away from the edges of the mats.

Pagemount Style: Your images will print at exactly the size you provide (bottom right). A mat opening will be larger than the photo and will not overlap your images. There will be an approximately 1/8-inch liner border on each side.



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Both Mat Styles

For album stability, we strongly recommend a minimum space between two mat openings of 1/2 inch.



Both Mat Styles

- For album stability, we strongly recommend:
- a minimum distance between a mat opening and a flush mount page space of 1/2 inch.



Embossing

Both Mat Styles



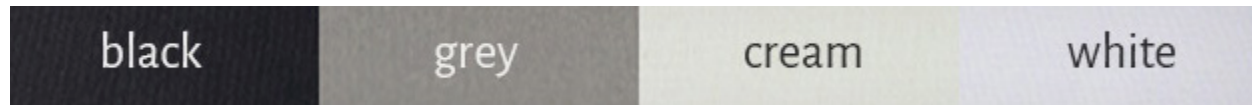
Embossing is the addition of an optional indented line detail surrounding your images (no color is applied). Embossing is placed $\frac{3}{8}$ inch from the image edge (above.)



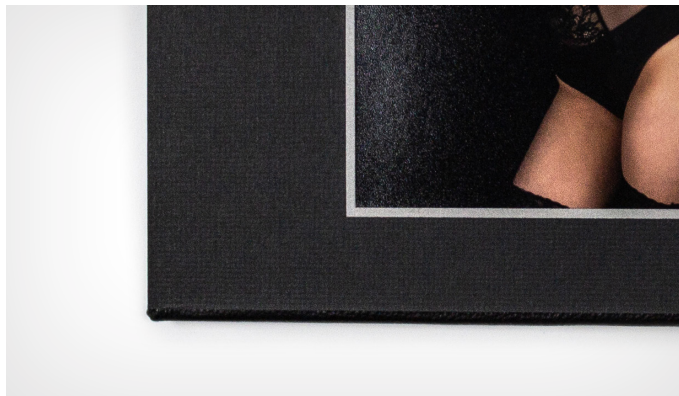
Images must be a minimum of a $\frac{1}{2}$ inch apart to emboss individually; otherwise, they will emboss as a group (above).

Mat and Lining Options

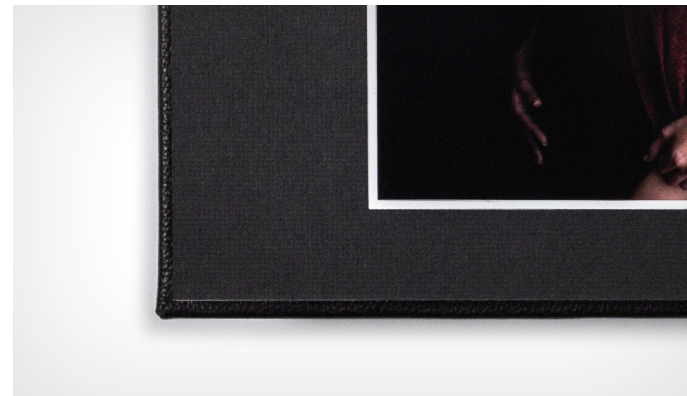
Mat and lining color choices:



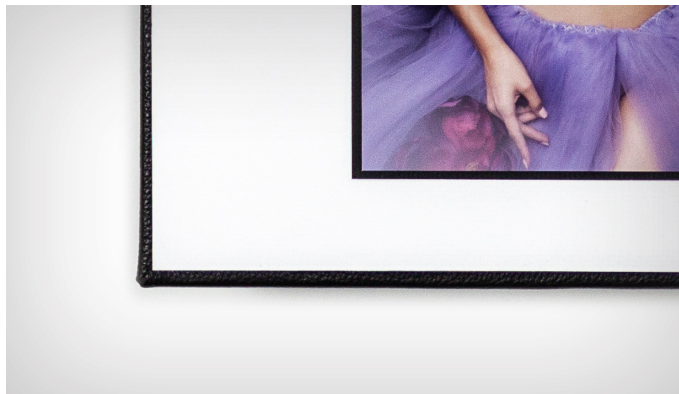
Example combinations:



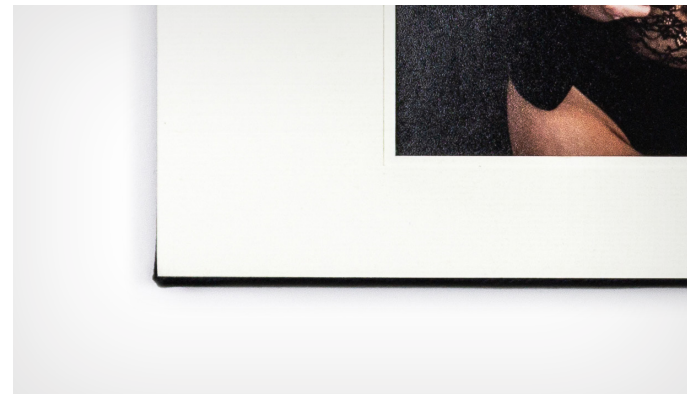
Black mat with grey lining



Black mat with white lining



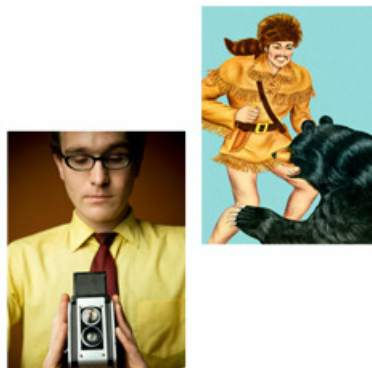
White mat with black lining



White mat with white lining

Overlay Style

Groups of images must form a rectangle or square to emboss. Fill all four corners.



This grouping will not emboss.

If images in group are more than a 1/2 inch apart, they will emboss separately.



Page Centers

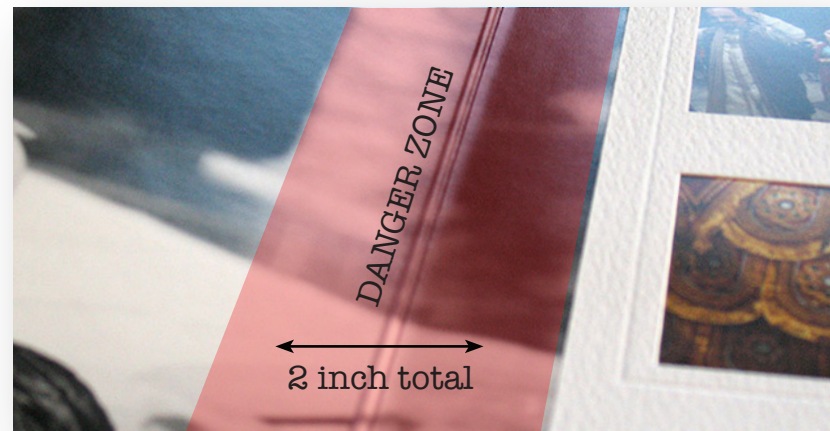
Overlay Style

Designs have a 2-inch total danger zone around the center of a spread (1 inch on each side of the center crease, indicated in red).

- You may choose creased or cut centers in an Overlay style album.
- The edge of a mat or flush mount can be right on the center crease. Anything else must fall outside the danger zone (2 inches total). For example, a mat and its image can cross over the crease as long as it extends at least one inch past the crease line.



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Pagemount Style

- Pagemount style mats are limited to cut page centers. These designs have a 1-inch total danger zone around the center of a spread (1/2 inch on each side of the center).
- You cannot place a matted image in the center of a Pagemount spread because the mat and image would be split by the cut center.
- Flushmount panels that cross the spread center (e.g., 3/4 panel) will be creased. These must extend at least 1 inch on each side of the center.

YES:



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NO:



© Silver Thumb Photography

Album Spread Centers

Examples of creased and cut print spreads



Key Terminology

