



Light exposure safety checklist for artworks

Use this checklist to assess whether an artwork is being displayed in a way that minimises the risk of light damage.

Location & Display ☐ Artwork is not exposed to direct sunlight. ☐ Artwork is positioned away from large windows, skylights or glass doors where possible. ☐ The movement of sunlight throughout the day has been considered. ☐ Seasonal changes in sunlight exposure have been considered. ☐ Artwork is located away from heat sources such as radiators, fireplaces and heaters. ☐ Artwork is not displayed in areas subject to excessive humidity or temperature fluctuations.	Artwork Sensitivity Assessment ☐ The artwork's materials and light sensitivity have been assessed. ☐ Particular attention has been given to: • Watercolours • Works on paper • Photographs • Textiles • Dyed materials ☐ Any known light-sensitive pigments or colours have been identified.
Daylight Control ☐ Curtains, blinds or shutters are available and used during periods of strong sunlight. ☐ Window coverings are regularly closed when the room is not in use. ☐ UV-filtering window film has been considered or installed where appropriate. ☐ Daylight levels are regularly reviewed, particularly after room layout changes.	Rotation & Exposure Management ☐ Light-sensitive artworks are not displayed continuously. ☐ A display rotation schedule is in place for highly sensitive works. ☐ Previous display periods have been recorded where practical. ☐ Exposure is minimised when artworks are not being viewed.
Framing & Glazing ☐ Artwork has suitable glazing where appropriate. ☐ UV-filtering glazing has been considered for sensitive artworks. ☐ Framing materials are appropriate for the artwork type. ☐ A conservator has been consulted regarding glazing options for valuable or significant artworks.	Storage ☐ Stored artworks are protected from light. ☐ Storage areas are clean, dry and environmentally stable. ☐ Artworks are protected from pests and physical damage. ☐ Packaging and storage materials are suitable for long-term preservation.
Artificial Lighting ☐ Lighting levels are appropriate for the artwork's sensitivity. ☐ Spotlights are not positioned too close to the artwork. ☐ Lighting does not create unnecessary heat build-up. ☐ LED lighting with low or negligible UV output is used where possible. ☐ Display lighting is switched off when the room is unoccupied.	Professional Advice ☐ A conservator has been consulted for valuable, fragile or highly light-sensitive artworks. ☐ Display, framing and lighting recommendations have been documented and implemented.
	Quick Pass/Fail Assessment Immediate action required if any of the following apply: ☐ Artwork receives direct sunlight. ☐ Strong spotlighting is used at close range. ☐ No daylight control measures are in place. ☐ Highly light-sensitive artworks are displayed permanently. ☐ Artwork is displayed near significant heat sources. ☐ No UV protection has been considered for sensitive works.



Sydney Head Office
53 Victoria Avenue
Chatswood NSW 2067

Canberra
7 Grevillea Close
Murrumbateman NSW 2582

Melbourne
5 Harker Street
Burwood VIC 3125

Brisbane
18 / 88 Bellevue Ave
Gaythorne QLD 4051

Perth
3/7 Hector Street West
Osborne Park WA 6017

Ph 1300 503 715

www.icsconservation.com.au

ABN 64 052 402 981

https://icssydney-my.sharepoint.com/personal/g_thorpe_icsconservation_com/Documents/Light and Fade checklist word doc - GT.docx

