
COMMISSIONING YOUR CUSTOM VELVET PAINTING, AN OVERVIEW

Hello,

This is my all-new form-letter to give prospective custom velvet painting creators a ballpark idea of the usual prices for commissioning a Tijuana Black Velvet Painting from one of my professional Mexican velvet Elvis artists. So if I fail to refer to your specific painting or question in this email, just write me again after having read this email (which'll show me you haven't been scared off) and we can take it from there. Ok then, here is what the usual custom velvet painting job's pricing details are...

A standard commissioned velvet painting measuring 18"x24" and hand-painted in full-color by one of my Tijuana-based professional Mexican velvet Elvis artists who works from a source image provided by the client that has approx. the same level of complexity as a standard head-and-shoulders-style portrait of a single person would cost that client \$250 + \$15s/h.

If that client wanted to add a frame to the finished painting then the s/h/framing charge would increase by \$15 to a total of \$30s/h/framing. Frame prices vary according to style of frame but range between \$25 for the carved Mexican wooden frame to \$50 for the ornate golden frame.

Time-frame for completing a job of this type varies according to artist and the vagaries of specific schedules, but standardly the finished painting will be in that hypothetical client's hands 3-6 weeks after the client first emailed me the source image. The completion of most custom paintings though, falls closer to the 3 week mark than the 6.

If a painting is needed sooner than 3 weeks, it can be done (I recently orchestrated the commission and completion and delivery of 2 custom velvet portraits painted by 2 different Tijuana artists in 5 days!), but anything less than 3 weeks turn-around would be considered a 'rush-job' and the prices would rise by about \$100 depending on the artist.

Payment is done in 2 parts. The first 1/2 of the base total (ie not calculating frame price or s/h/framing fees) is due at the start of the commission as a deposit and is not refundable. The 2nd 1/2 of that total plus all the s/h/framing fees and price-of-frame-addition is due upon painting's completion when I email the client a photo of the completed painting.

...And so there you have it. For source images more complex than a standard head-and-shoulders, the overall cost would of course be a bit more than the \$250 quoted above... and the specifics of that price increase will depend on which specific artist we go with... however, we can get into all of that if you haven't been scared out of the ballpark altogether already.

And if and when you write to me again to let me know that all these pricing facts haven't dulled your enthusiasm the slightest bit, we can talk specific artist painting styles and the present availability of each artist... and I can even show you various sample images of previously commissioned custom velvet paintings from the recent past.

I hope you have not lost any enthusiasm for your project, because I would love to help you usher your specific crazy idea onto velvet and into reality.

Thanks for writing and perhaps talk to you soon,

Bill Robison