

## Terminology

**Auxiliary Support:** the framework over which the painting canvas is stretched, usually refers to stretchers and strainers.

**Strainers:** rigid frames with fixed and non-expandable corners.

**Stretchers:** rigid frames with flexible and expandable corners, which allows adjustment of tension.

**Flexible Support:** fabric canvas that stretched on auxiliary support.

**Size:** a material applied to a flexible support to effectively seal the surface and serve a barrier layer between the flexible support and the ground layer.

**Sizing:** the act of applying a size to a flexible support. Sizing precedes the application of the ground.

**Rabbit Skin Glue:** a tradition size material. Animal glues respond rapidly to changes in relative humidity, shrinking as the humidity drops and swelling and softening as it rises.

**Ground:** a priming layer applied to the flexible support on top of the size. Its main purpose is to seal and prepare the surface to accept subsequent layers of oil paint, allowing for proper adhesion.

**Priming:** the act of applying a ground to a flexible support.