Packaging your marquetry picture for shipment

There are several approaches that have been successfully used by others for shipping marquetry pictures.

Recommendations for Shipping Container: Cardboard or Wooden boxes are recommended. Cardboard boxes (an inner plus an outer box) are probably as good as wooden boxes because cardboard boxes are not abused as much as a wooden box while they are being handled during transit. Cardboard boxes are reusable unless a corner is crushed and then it should no longer be used. Wrapping material — Bubble wrap and plastic foam pellets are both popular. First wrap your marquetry in a soft cloth (both bubble wrap and foam pellets are somewhat abrasive and can rub a dull spot in the finish) and then wrap with bubble wrap (there are small bubbles and big bubbles so start with the small bubbles and move up to large if you need extra fill). Fill any remaining space in the inside box with pellets. There should be a minimum 2" gap between the artwork and the box. The same 2" gap should be maintained between the two boxes. Fill the bottom of the outside box with 2 inches worth of pellets. Put in the inside box and fill around it with more pellets. Shake the box to see how much the pellets settle. Add extra pellets if necessary. Include a shipping label on the inside box as well as the outside box.

Or, you can make your own special box using the method below.

