

## HANGING ITEMS ON YOUR WALLS

The two most important considerations before hanging something on you wall are its placement and the choice of an appropriate fastener. First, be absolutely certain where you want the object to hang before proceeding; repairing misplaced holes can be tedious and time-consuming. With the item positioned, lightly mark in pencil each spot where fasteners will be installed. Ideally, this is a two-person task, with one person holding the object against the wall while the other directs its placement.

If you plan to hang a group of items on the wall, we recommend arranging them on the floor first. This way, you can get a good sense of how your arrangement will look before you make any holes in your wall.

### WOODWORK OR SOLID WOOD PANELING

Wood is the ideal surface for hanging almost anything. Hanging hardware is most often a supply of wood screws. With their pointed ends and sharp grooves, these screws are easy to install with just a screwdriver.

### PLASTER AND SHEETROCK WALLS

For surfaces other than wood, an ordinary nail or screw is usually inadequate. Most walls are actually hollow, with relatively soft plaster or sheetrock covering their sturdy lumber framework. The boards or studs behind such a wall provide adequate support for any object hung on the wall, but they can be difficult to locate and may not be spaced where you want them. The wall anchors below, specially designed for hollow walls, readily solve the problem of surfaces too weak to hold a nail or screw. Most hardware stores stock them in various sizes.

#### *PLASTER AND SHEETROCK WALLS*

*Recommended for smaller plaques and average-sized picture frames on plaster or sheetrock walls.*



The configuration of a picture hanger's angled nail and metal hook will provide adequate support for most framed pictures. For larger frames, it is often advisable to use a pair of hangers. (If nailing the hanger into plaster, place a strip of cellophane tape over the spot before nailing. This will prevent the plaster from crumbling if the picture hanger is later removed.)



Available from Ballard Designs, the Power Hook is easy to install and will support weights of over 100 pounds. When the Power Hook is in your wall, it actually gets its support behind the sheetrock. To add a set of twelve Power Hooks to you next order, simply request item #WB022.

## WALL ANCHORS

*Recommended for drapery rod brackets and other lightweight brackets on plaster or sheetrock.*



Made of plastic or nylon, wall anchors function as sleeves into which a screw can be tightened. To install, drill a hole into the wall, then use a hammer to tap the anchor all the way into it. Insert the screw through the bracket it will support. The screw expands and the anchor, causing it to grip the sides of the hole.

## TOGGLE BOLTS

*Recommended for mirrors, shelf units, brackets and other heavy objects on plaster or sheetrock.*



As with wall anchors, installation begins with drilling a hole (of a diameter similar to the bolt's diameter) into the wall and then lightly tapping the toggle bolt into position. Toggle bolts have spring-activated "wings" that fold out once the inside a hollow wall. As you tighten the bolt with a screwdriver, the wings are drawn against the wall. Please note: brackets or other fixtures must be installed simultaneously with the toggle bolt because the bolt's wings are designed to detach and fall behind the wall when the bolt is removed from the hole.

## EXPANSION BOLTS

*Recommended for mirrors, shelf units, brackets and other heavy objects on sheetrock walls.*



If you will not be working with a drill, look for an expansion bolt (sometimes called a "molly bolt") that can be hammered into the wall. Once the sheathed bolt is in the wall, turn it clockwise with a flat-head screwdriver. When it will turn no further, turn it counter-clockwise to secure its collar against the inside of the wall. If necessary, the bolt can then be removed to put it through the object or bracket you're hanging. When attaching a two-holed bracket to the wall, use an expansion bolt for the top hole; a wood screw will suffice in the lower hole.

## MASONRY AND BRICK WALLS

For concrete brick or block walls, use lead wall plugs similar to the anchors shown above. You'll need a power drill with a carbide-tipped bit to create a hole for the plug, then you can tap the plug into place and insert the screw. Hardware dealers can recommend the correct screw and bit sizes.

*We hope these tips are helpful to you. Thank you for choosing Ballard Designs.*