

*Made By Me.*  
**FLOATING SHELF KIT**  
INSPIRATION GUIDE

**National**  
Hardware®





# READY TO SHOWCASE YOUR STYLE ON FULL DISPLAY

**Made By Me™ kits are designed to empower you to complete a project with ease and confidence.**

To help you become the DIYer you are, we've equipped you with all the materials you need to hang your floating shelves. We will guide you through each step with inspirational imagery and videos to make installing your floating shelves, a project you'll proudly complete.

Get ready to tell your family and friends, this project was,

*Made By Me™*

# BEFORE WE GET STARTED, HERE ARE A FEW THINGS TO CONSIDER:

- **Finding the Perfect Place for a Shelf**

Floating shelves should be installed in at least a set of two for best functionality. Great places to add floating shelves include home offices, kitchens, bathrooms, laundry rooms, mudrooms and bedrooms.

- **The Perfect Shelf**

A shelf should not be larger than 11-1/4" in depth. This is a common size found at many home improvement stores or lumber yards. Choose a material that works with the style of your home as it is, or paint or stain the wood for added pop. An alternative is upcycling or recycling an existing shelf that needs a new lease on life. Just ensure that it has enough strength to support the items you want to put on display.

- **How Low Do you Go?**

Floating shelves should start approximately 4' – 5' from the floor. If you are placing them above furniture, they should measure at least 10"- 12" above at eye level or approximately 4 to 5 feet above the ground for over head clearance. It is more visually appealing to space the shelves around the same distance from each other. Always measure your highest item and ensure that you have 2-3" of additional clearance so that your items don't look cramped on the shelf.

- **Weigh it Carefully**

Each shelf (hardware for two brackets) allows up to 100 lbs. safe weight load, if installed properly.

*For tips and tricks on how to style your shelves, check out our style guide for inspiration.*



## GUIDE TO STYLING YOUR SHELVES LIKE A PRO

Before you are ready to show off your new shelves, we consulted our favorite designers to give you the insider tips on how to style floating shelves.

Follow these simple steps to create your own unique shelf displays:

### 1 Create Structure

Structural pieces act as anchor points on each shelf. Stacked books or other large objects add dimension and provide a highlight for the shelf.

### 2 Add Height

Framed pieces, tall vases or candles in different heights are a great way to add dimension.

### 3 Add in Organic Elements

Try trays made of wood, plants, or candles with marble bases.

### 4 Add Interest

Here is where you come in. These shelves need to reflect your own story. Add special mementos from travels, favorite small objects you treasure or family keepsakes to layer and showcase those things that are important to you.

### 5 Step Back & Review Your Work

This is the time to review and edit. Ensure each shelf has something interesting for the eye, but that the shelves work together and aren't too cluttered.

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#### Other tips & tricks:

- **Seasonal Fun:** Update your shelves with a couple of seasonal items to bring a festive atmosphere to your space.
- **Update & Amend:** Move items around every couple of months to highlight something new or bring a fresh perspective to the look.
- **Use Color To Make the Shelves Pop:** Pick one color to incorporate across your shelves to make the space coordinate with the rest of your home or for the daring, create an ombre color scheme to move from light to dark or dark to light on progressive shelves.

# LET'S START BUILDING™

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