

**National**  
Hardware™



*Made By Me*™

**GALLERY WALL  
HARDWARE KIT**

INSPIRATIONAL GUIDE





## Made By Me™

Your Made by Me™ Gallery Kit is the opportunity to create a work of art in your home, a place to see smiling spaces, a conference call background showing your favorite art or a reflection of past vacations as you walk up your stairs.

*A gallery wall should tell your story  
and each story will be different.*

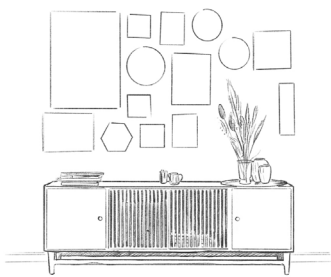




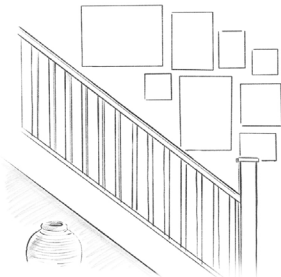
# FINDING YOUR SPACE

Your first step is to define the location you would like to have your gallery wall. There are no rules as to where they can and can't exist, so expand your thoughts here beyond the front entry, the hall or the stairwells. If you would like to incorporate live plants, make sure you have a good light source. If you are incorporating pictures that are light sensitive, a stairwell or interior hall might work best.

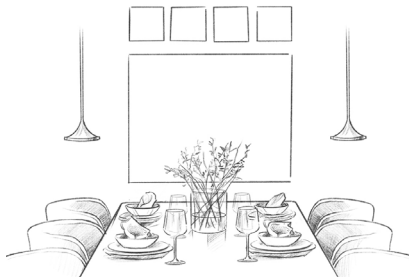
Don't be afraid to go floor to ceiling on a gallery wall -you can evolve these over time. Hang what you have today and continue adding to it later.



ENTRYWAY



STAIRWELL



DINING ROOM



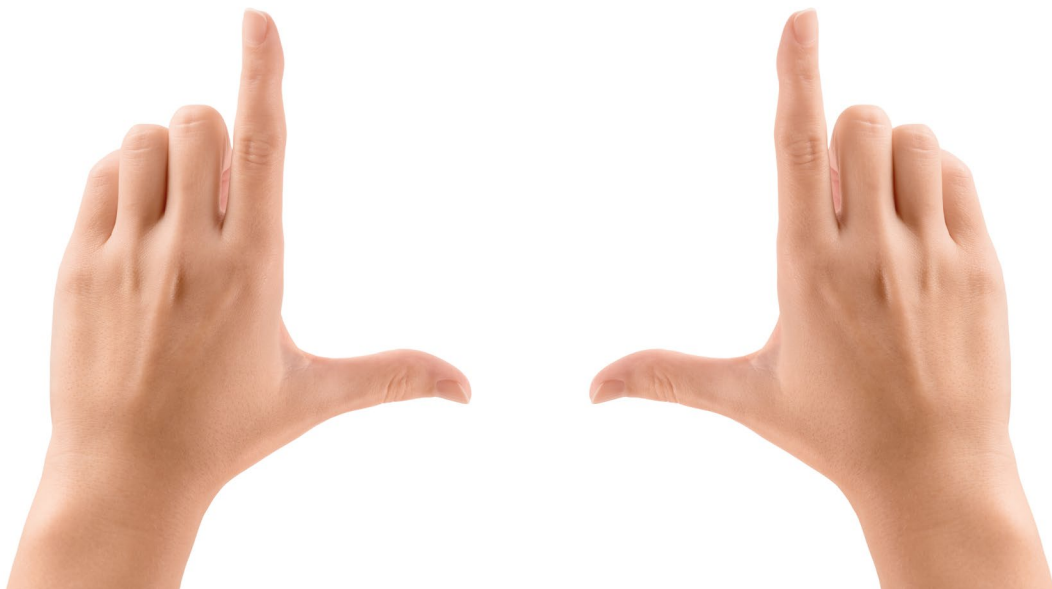
OFFICE



LIVING ROOM



BEDROOM





# SPACE PLANNING

## GATHERING YOUR ITEMS

The most successful gallery walls use a theme to unify the items together. This could be color, design style or even a topic.

## MEASURING & LAYOUT

Measure the space on your wall that you will be using. In our experience, we highly recommend that before you put any holes in the walls, you mark out the same sized space on the floor. This will be used as your “canvas” for moving around the items you want to hang.

## DESIGNER TIP

It is helpful to be able to include more items than you probably will end up hanging as you decide on your final design. Bring items from around your house and consider them as you are making your final edit.



## CREATE PAPER TEMPLATES



## APPLY YOUR FINISHED PICTURES



# DESIGNER TIPS AND TRICKS

## RULE OF 3

Although we always recommend mixing it up as you consider your gallery wall, one that really looks pulled together and stylish will only include no more than 3 frame types, 3 frame colors, 3 color schemes or 3 matte types. When items don't look like they go together or you are mixing a lot of different styles, it makes sense to use your mattes, frames and colors to unify the items once again.

## COMBINE DIFFERENT FRAMES AND MATTE TYPES

If you have a diverse group of images, we recommend no more than 3 different types of frames (see above the Rule of 3). Using similar mattes can pull images together easily. White or neutral mattes can tone down a look that is bold and make it appear more modern. Oversized mattes can add drama and interest to small images.

## COLOR

Color can be used to both unify and add contrast to a grouping. If your grouping is monochromatic, add a pop of color with a picture, plant, basket, or some personal memento. For unifying in color, remember your rule of 3 to ensure that you have balance in your approach.

## START WITH YOUR LARGEST PIECE

Always start by anchoring your largest piece within your desired space. If you use this as your baseline, all your other items can easily fall into place. If you start with this last, you might not have enough space to work with.

## MIX HORIZONTAL AND VERTICAL PICTURES

Use a mix of both vertical and horizontal images to keep the eye moving.



# TEMPLATES AND GUIDES

We've equipped you with 8 different gallery wall options to help you find one that works best for your space.





# THE LINE DANCE

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# THE TANGO

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## CREATING THE LOOK

### WORKS BEST WITH

A variety of art and a variety of sized frames, mismatched art & non-art items are welcome.

### BEST LOCATIONS

Bedroom, living room, over the sofa, or the entryway.

### EXECUTION

The magic of this grouping is to simply create a thin line of wall and maintain it across the entire space. The best part about this grouping is that it can evolve over time. After you hang it, as long as you keep the line, you can dance above or below!

### STEPS TO COMPLETE THE LOOK

1. Organize all your art and objects in size order.
2. Place your largest piece first in either of the top corners of your space.
3. Now take the next largest item and put that diagonally opposite it.
4. Continue until you have used all items you want to use or you run out of room.

**COMPLEXITY**  
Low - Medium



## CREATING THE LOOK

### WORKS BEST WITH

A variety of frames in either square or rectangular shapes.

### BEST LOCATIONS

Offices, halls, entryways, or dining rooms.

### EXECUTION

This shape is deceptively more difficult to execute than it appears, but it looks so good that it is worth the time to make a big statement.

### STEPS TO COMPLETE THE LOOK

1. Place your largest item in either the lower left or upper right of your space.
2. Use your 2nd largest item and place that diagonally opposite from your first item.
3. Fill in a small frame or item in the middle of these two to create room and complete the diagonal.
4. Fill in with frames boxing out the entire surface and create a symmetrical rectangle or square depending on the shape of your pieces.

**COMPLEXITY**  
Medium - High





# TAP DANCE

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## CREATING THE LOOK

### WORKS BEST WITH

A variety of frames and with integrated personal style. Grow this over time, just keep adding a step.

### BEST LOCATIONS

Awkward spaces, wide spaces, spaces with less height, or the stairs.

### EXECUTION

This arrangement should reflect stair steps. It also makes this a unique and very flexible arrangement if you have a large item on a desk or if you have an awkward space that isn't symmetrical like a stairwell.

### STEPS TO COMPLETE THE LOOK

1. Place your largest item to take up an entire step -this will create a step progression you can use. All other items will need to be smaller in scale.
2. Find the edge of your grouping and place your second largest frame/artwork there.
3. Work with smaller pieces to fill in the top and bottom to create a symmetrical space. The top can either reflect a similar stairstep or you can fill it in and make it level.
4. The steps to go down should be at the same rate to your last image.

**COMPLEXITY**  
Low - Medium



# SQUARE DANCE

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## CREATING THE LOOK

### WORKS BEST WITH

A consistent frame type and size to create the symmetry of the design.

### BEST LOCATIONS

Entryways, bedrooms, dining rooms, kitchens or living rooms.

### EXECUTION

This arrangement can be the first gallery wall you complete where friends come over to ask if a designer came and helped you.

### STEPS TO COMPLETE THE LOOK

1. Start with a large piece of art. This piece should be large enough to group all the other frames you want over it with some space between them.
2. Space the other items above it creating a unified gap between each item. Make sure the sides of your large picture and the frames above line up.
3. To find spacing of your remaining items, hang the right and left items first and then use a simple formula: space remaining between image-size of frames remaining to hang/number of gaps.

**COMPLEXITY**  
Low





# THE HIP HOP

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## CREATING THE LOOK

### WORKS BEST WITH

Everything you have.  
This is one of those places you can go wild.

### BEST LOCATIONS

Anyway and everywhere.

### EXECUTION

This is for those folks who love to embrace an eclectic style in your home. This one needs to be done on the floor before transferring to your wall without fail. Putting holes in the wall before you plan can mean a lot of patching.

### STEPS TO COMPLETE THE LOOK

1. Organize all your art and objects in size order.
2. Place your largest piece first in either of the top corners of your space.
3. Take the next largest item and put that diagonally opposite it.
4. Continue until you have used all items you want to use or you run out of room.

**COMPLEXITY**  
Low



# THE WALTZ

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## CREATING THE LOOK

### WORKS BEST WITH

Frames and matting that are identical or very similar in shape and size.

### BEST LOCATIONS

Symmetrical spaces where you have enough room to keep everything in neat lines.

### EXECUTION

Full disclosure, this one is so easy to look at and a perfect way to elevate smaller images with big mats, etc., but it is hard to get these perfectly straight. Do not put a nail in the wall until you mark everything. This is one of the top reasons for investing in a level as it will save you long term.

### STEPS TO COMPLETE THE LOOK

1. Organize your art on the floor by your desired wall.
2. Measure the overall size of the grouping and make sure it fits with comfort on the wall in front of you.
3. Measure the distance between pictures. Keep the gaps between the top and bottom of the picture and the right to left of a picture to be the same.
4. Start with the middle center image. Measure and put that item up.
5. You will follow by adding the gap + the size of the frame to hang the item above it.
6. Work from side to side from the center to fill in the remaining pieces until you have a completed grid.

**COMPLEXITY**  
High





# THE BALLET

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# THE SALSA

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## CREATING THE LOOK

### WORKS BEST WITH

A number of different frame types. Keep the 2 largest pieces roughly the same size to make this work effectively. It helps to have a unified frame size for the middle images so that you can make them fit easily.

### BEST LOCATIONS

This is a flexible style that allows you to work in multiple rooms and in awkward places.

### EXECUTION

This is one of those options for showing off art, don't block it with items on the table.

### STEPS TO COMPLETE THE LOOK

1. Organize and layout your pieces together. Make sure you have the right spacing between the larger pieces.
2. Hang your two, large pieces, ensuring the right spacing between them.
3. Hang the remaining items, evenly through the middle of the pieces.

**COMPLEXITY**  
Low - Medium



## CREATING THE LOOK

### WORKS BEST WITH

A monochromatic or very colorful variations.

### BEST LOCATIONS

Anyplace and everywhere. This does allow you to embrace scale, so you can use it for a larger wall or you can use this to spread throughout a hall.

### EXECUTION

This is a more free-form look which can handle a variety of frames, mats and personal objects.

### STEPS TO COMPLETE THE LOOK

1. Organize all your art and objects in size order.
2. Take your largest piece and place it in the middle.
3. Add the next two largest pieces to the right and left diagonally from that piece and continue to build adding a piece on each side to create balance. Adding pieces that are both horizontal and vertically oriented to fill in spaces are better and create more interest.
4. Continue until you have used all your items or until you run out of room. This arrangement does look more modern when you use an odd number and a range of different frame sizes.

**COMPLEXITY**  
Low









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## SHOW US YOUR WORK OF ART

Share your finished project on social media using #MadeXMe for a chance to be featured or win another Made by Me™ box.

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For more information, visit us at:  
[www.national-hardware.com/madexme](http://www.national-hardware.com/madexme)

