

Hanging your surface weaving

Your surface weaving has two sleeves sewn to its back (top and bottom) for hanging flat against the wall. The sleeves are intentionally a bit loose, to accommodate slats without distorting the front of the artwork. A slat goes into each sleeve. The slats are then attached to the wall using **either nails or Command strips**. Please use clean hands or gloves to protect the artwork.

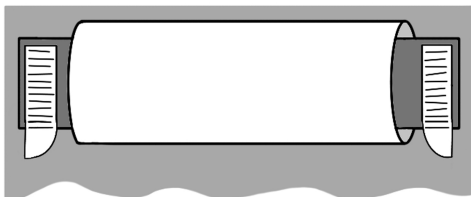
Before hanging, it can be useful to mark the top and side positions on the wall with masking tape, so you can simply square the weaving inside the marks as you sort out where to position the nails or Command strips. *Hold the weaving by the edges of the top slat* (and not by the weaving itself) when positioning, otherwise it may become slightly crooked when hung.

Tips for hanging with Command strips:

Use "Command Picture Hanging Strips," medium (up to 3 lbs.) size, available at hardware stores. Normally you will need 8 strips, or 12 if the artwork is over 30 inches wide. The strips work as two parts: one that sticks to the wall, and the other that sticks to the slat. These two parts lock like velcro when you press them together. If you're not familiar with Command strips, you may wish to review instructions for use (including removal) at: www.command.com. Please follow these steps in order:



Before attaching any Command strips, insert a slat into each sleeve (if you attached the strips first, the slats would not fit through the sleeves).



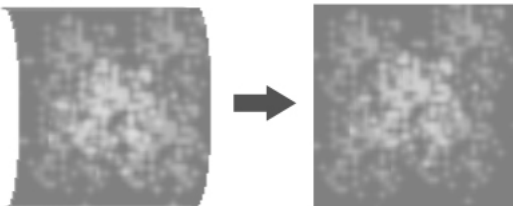
Clean both wall and slat surfaces with rubbing alcohol to improve adherence. Press 2 strips together to lock. Peel the backing from only *one* side of the locked pair, and stick it to the edge of a slat (and for large pieces, the centre), *tab down*. Repeat with the remaining strips and slats.



Peel off the remaining strip backings, position the artwork, and press it firmly against the wall to adhere.

About the bottom slat:

Attaching the bottom slat is optional but it can help the weaving sit flat against the wall.



Occasionally a piece will relax a bit with gravity over the first year or so of hanging. If the piece bows slightly away from the wall, gently detach the bottom slat only, at the velcro (not at the wall adhesive). Then reposition the weaving to lie flat, and re-lock the strips with gentle pressure.

Caring for your surface weaving

Surface weavings compare to other textile artworks, such as tapestries, in durability and can last for generations. However, as with any fine art, it's important to protect weavings from damage due to improper handling, hazards, cleaning and so forth.

Handling

Understandably, people are drawn to touch textiles with interesting textures. However, natural oils, sweat and dirt on (even washed) hands can damage textile artwork over time. Please handle your artwork only when necessary, and discourage friends and family from "petting" the surface of the weaving.

Hazards

Avoid exposure to direct sunlight, UV light, heat, smoke, humidity, dirt, cooking fumes or chemicals. Keep wool- and silk-eating insects out of the environment, but don't treat the piece with repellents or insecticides as these might damage the materials.

Cleaning

When necessary, you can vacuum dust off the artwork. Use only a low suction setting, and cover the nozzle of the vacuum with a screen or piece of stocking/pantyhose (or, you can cover the piece itself with a large piece of screening, available at hardware stores). Framing (with or without glass) can help protect the artwork from dust accumulation. The artwork should not be laundered or dry-cleaned.

Framing

Textile artworks, including surface weavings, are commonly hung unframed. Surface weavings also look nice framed -- especially in "floating" frames.

A note on glass: As with paintings, UV-blocking glazed glass can protect a piece from fading from sunlight over time. However, if the glass causes a lack of air circulation or surface pressure, it will gradually damage the fibres. Some people also feel that glass interferes with visual impact and enjoyment of the weaving texture.

If you will frame your surface weaving, please work with a professional framer who has experience working with textiles.

Questions? Please ask!

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