

# how to fill a BLANK WALL

The opportunities are endless and a little daunting.

We've got you (and your walls) covered with creative solutions for low-cost, large-scale art.



**Q** "I never know what to put on a blank wall. Where do I start with picking and arranging art?"

KATE POWERS,  
Atlanta

## **a** Basket collection

Grouping similar objects creates one large art statement. Hang them in a pattern or in an organic shape, as blogger Dabito did with these African binga baskets. Find sets of seven or eight similar items for about \$250 at [etsy.com](https://www.etsy.com).



PHOTO: PAUL COSTELLO; STYLING: LIZ STRONG



**[FABRIC CARE]**

Hang quilts and textiles out of direct sunlight to avoid fading.

**a | Quilt or textile**

Hanging a quilt, small rug, throw, or scarf is also a clever way to fill a wall. Textiles have another advantage, says Alexandra Gray Bennett, CEO of the modern textile company Louise Gray: "Being able to touch your art adds a warmth that no other art can achieve." Avoid warping textiles by hanging them with a wooden hanger that gently clamps the top edge to evenly distribute weight.



Quilts sized as throws or for cribs and toddler beds are an appropriate scale for most walls. (Linström Throw Quilt, \$295; [louisegray.com](http://louisegray.com))

**a | Gallery shelf**

Even a small number of pieces have major impact when layered on a gallery shelf. Plus, updating the display is as simple as rearranging or swapping pieces. For a shelf above a sofa, gallery owner Liz Lidgett keeps one about three-quarters the length of the other (so a 60- or 107-inch-long shelf above an 80-inch sofa). Hang the shelf at least 12 inches above the sofa so no one bangs their head. *Similar to shelf shown:* Holman Ledge, \$149 (60"); [potterybarn.com](http://potterybarn.com)

**WALLET-FRIENDLY BIG ART**

Try these sources for affordable large artwork.

■ **THIRTY9** This shop offers a curated selection of art photography in a wide range of styles. Get a 40×60-inch giclee print for \$204. [thirty9.com](http://thirty9.com)

■ **JUNIPER PRINT SHOP** All prints come in sizes that fit the IKEA Björksta frames. A 55×79-inch print is \$160. [juniperprintshop.com](http://juniperprintshop.com)

■ **MINTED** Shop limited-edition prints by up-and-coming artists. A 30×40-inch framed canvas print is about \$300. [minted.com](http://minted.com)



## **a** Your photos, jumbo-size

Engineer prints are one of the least expensive options for large-scale art. Have a favorite photo printed on 3×4-foot lightweight paper normally used for architectural plans. The slightly grainy look is part of the charm. Prints are \$60 with magnetic poster rails for hanging (or \$30 without the rails). [parabo.press](http://parabo.press) ■



### **[HEIGHT GUIDE]**

A standard height for hanging art is with the center 60" above the floor. Over a table or sofa, the bottom of art should be about 12" above the furniture.



### **DIY YOUR OWN ART**

Get creative! Simply hover your smartphone camera over this code for DIY art ideas that'll help you save more.