



6 Tips for decorating your walls with art

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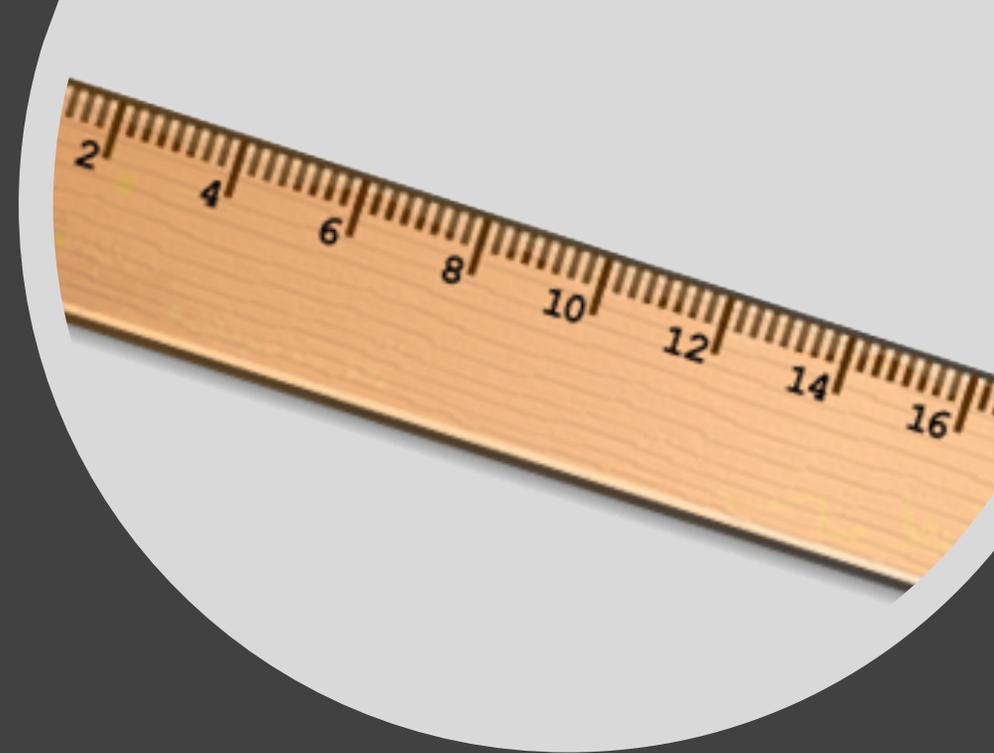
Why you NEED Art on your walls

- It provides an instant color palette
- Art creates a focal point in the room
- The room appears more finished
- Art is known to calm the human mind and relieve stress
- It sparks conversation
- It can be an investment
- It allows you to personalize your home
- It sparks creativity and keeps the brain active
- It makes a house a home.



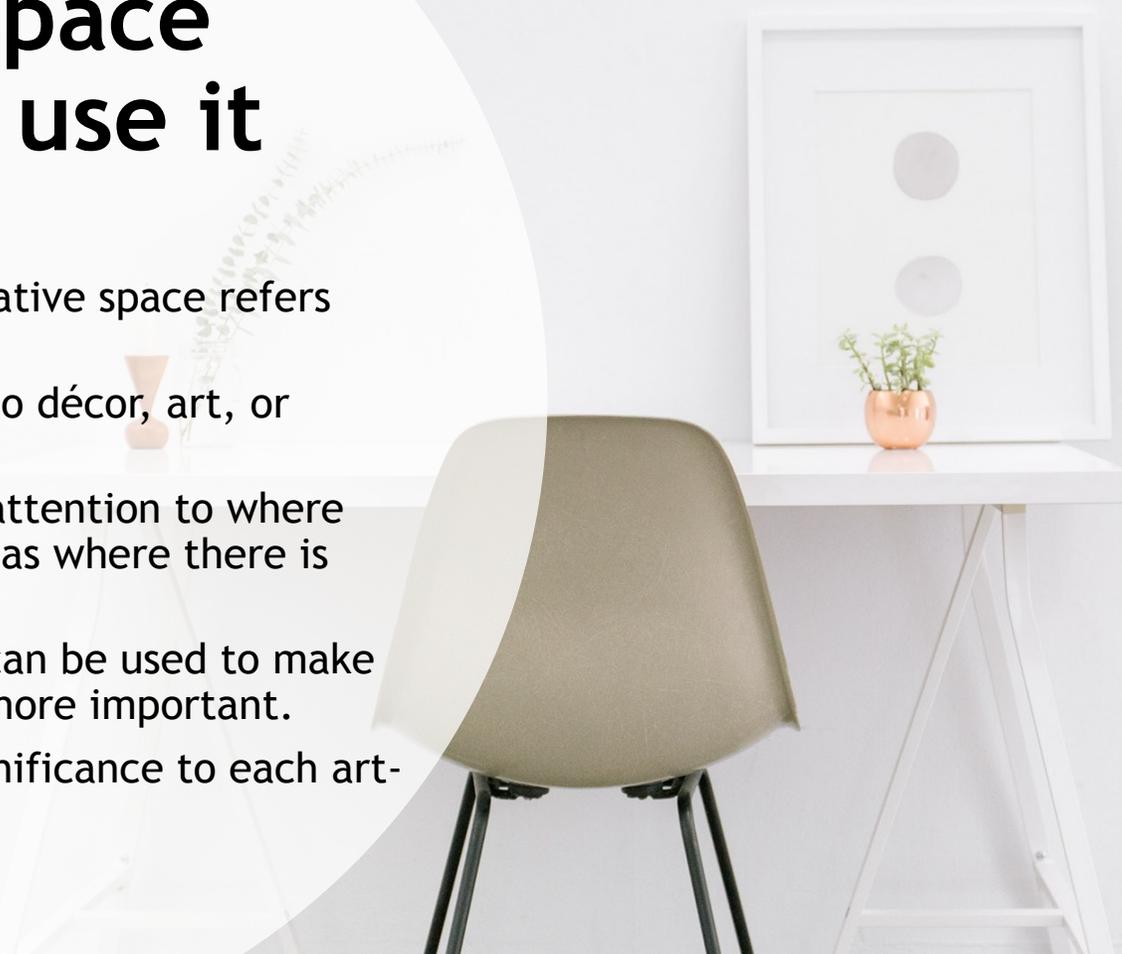
Size and scale

1. Bigger is better, many make the mistake of choosing art too small for their wall size.
2. For example, art above a sofa should always be about $\frac{2}{3}$ the width of it.
3. The $\frac{2}{3}$ rule applies for all furniture, like above a bed or table.
4. You can use gallery walls too, which are several small pieces that work together to form a large piece (picture on right).
5. If a painting is too small, framing is a great way to increase its size.
6. Having a large mat with your frame is the way to go.



Negative space and how to use it

1. Just like what it sounds, negative space refers to the blank areas.
2. It includes blank walls with no décor, art, or furniture nearby.
3. It's just as important to pay attention to where there is nothing in your room as where there is something.
4. Surrounding negative space can be used to make art stand out or portray it as more important.
5. Less negative space = less significance to each art-piece.



Buy what you love



- Never impulse buy art
- Give it a few days or even weeks to make sure you really love it
- Good art will allow you to connect rather quickly
- Make sure that years down the road, you are still attracted to the piece
- Whether it's expensive or cheap, pick carefully
- Remember, if you love a particular piece, but it's too expensive, there will likely be [prints](#) available of the same piece

Colors Matter



Look at the general color of your walls and room



Pick a piece of art and look for the color it most contains



Decide if you want that color to contrast or match with your room



Contrasting is acceptable and brings more visual interest



Complementing looks more subdued and neater



Black and white art is great for a neutral room.



Use motifs

- A motif is a pattern of style or similarity
- You can select art to form a motif in a particular room or area of your home
- This creates a specific theme of art in your collection on the walls, instead of having random pieces all over the place.
- It also gives personality to your room or home
- For example, in a kitchen you might choose a food or still life motif, by putting something like [this lemonade painting](#) near your dining table.
- In your family room, you might want a nature motif, so you'd put paintings of [seascapes](#) or maybe some [serene landscapes](#).

What you need to know about framing

- Framing art is a great way to add character and importance
- Large frames tend to give more importance to the painting
- Thin frames are more sophisticated.
- Large mattes are a great way to increase size of a small painting
- Floating frames are an elegant feature to add to thick gallery-wrap paintings
- Stick with neutral colored woods and metals for frames
- Only go with loud, ornate frames if the room allows for it





9 Art Display mistakes everyone makes at least once, that you can prevent

1. Hanging art too high
2. Using the wrong scale (wrong size for the setting)
3. Your art is too matchy-matchy and same
4. Misjudging/forgetting to think the wall collage through
5. Lack of variety
6. Overfilling the walls
7. Not connecting the art to the rest of the décor
8. Not being informed on hanging things securely or properly
9. Sticking to certain walls only and not being creative

Takeaway

- You need art on your walls, no house is home without art
- Be aware of sizing, remember the 2/3 rule
- Really love what you buy- really think through the piece
- Don't repeat the 9 most common display mistakes
- Use frames for your advantage
- Utilize spacing and scale to create different looks
- Pick colors the right way and study your room and wall to determine the right style of art for you
- Choose motifs or themes for art throughout your rooms.