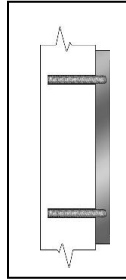


Blind Stud Mount

Installation Instructions

Metal Plaques Interior Drywall

Tools/Supplies Recommended: Mounting Pattern, level, drill, drill bits, tape measure, tape, adhesive, compressed air, optional drywall anchors.



Note: While a through hole mount, using toggle bolts, is ideal for a drywall plaque installation, at times this is may not be possible, and a **BLIND STUD** mount is required. Do not attempt to install heavier plaques direct into drywall, without additional reinforcements – or solid ties into wall studs. Many variables control what may work for your specific install. Below are some general guidelines, as each install condition may be unique.

Plan A

Reinforce (replace) drywall where plaque will mount with plywood, repaint. Mount plaque into plywood, using proper install template. Through holes with screws is still preferred, but blind stud with a construction grade adhesive should work in most cases. Follow install process guidelines.

Plan B

Install heavy threaded drywall anchors (as shown above), into drywall, using proper install template. Follow install process guidelines.

Plan C

Install plaque direct into drywall. You may be able to align plaque to hit a wall stud, or two, with your mounting studs. This may provide enough structural support to carry the load of your plaque – based on the final weight. Another option is to wind some copper wire around each stud, once screwed into plaque (see image above). After 5-6 winds, cut off and leave a tail. This wire will help act as an anchor – along with the adhesive. Follow install process guidelines.

Install Process Guidelines

1. Position and secure your install drilling template flat onto wall. If your intent is to hit a couple wall studs, align accordingly. If you are using drywall anchors, align to not hit wall studs.
2. Drill pilot holes through pattern and into drywall – hole size to accommodate anchor or plaque stud being used. Caution: use care to not drill holes too large. Remove pattern and complete drilling through drywall.
3. Blow dust out of holes and install anchors (if using). Cleaning out holes allows ample adhesive to bead on inside of drywall.
4. Tighten studs into plaque. Some installers use a Loctite type product to fully secure studs into tapped holes.
5. Dry fit (align plaque with studs secured, over anchors or holes to confirm that holes are properly aligned/drilled). Manually align plaque over holes – do not press into holes yet.
6. If aligned properly, prepare plaque for adhesive (see tips on P.2).
7. If using drywall anchors, enlarge anchor holes with a drill bit that is slightly smaller than your blind stud diameter.

8. Once prepared, fill anchors, or drilled holes, with a construction adhesive or epoxy (lighter plaques can be secured with silicone adhesive). It is always best to use an adhesive that will set-up quickly. Amply coat each threaded stud, after they are screwed into the plaque, using the same adhesive – be generous. **(cont.)**
 9. Apply adhesive to stud bosses and back of plaque, if possible (see tips again on page 2). Keep adhesive away from edges and sides of the plaque.
 10. Press assembled threaded studs and plaque into holes – tight to wall.
 11. Secure - tape plaque to wall, with long strips of tape, to hold plaque in place until the adhesive sets. Use care to not use a tape that may damage the plaque clear coating after removal. Painters tape typically works well on drywall.
- Leave plaque taped until adhesive sets, or plaque does not pull away from wall when the tape is removed.

INSTALL TIPS:

Solid plaques – if plaque is solid (not cored out), coat studs and back of plaque with construction grade adhesive or epoxy to help strengthen the bond to mounting surface.



Hollow plaques – if plaque has a cored out back (recessed), adhere substrate (wood or rigid urethane foam) strips or blocks to plaque before you install – to help strengthen bond to mounting surface. Match substrate thickness to depth of plaque. Coat studs, stud bosses, and substrate strips with construction grade adhesive or epoxy during install.



Wire Anchors

In situations where anchors are not used, some installers also wrap thin copper wire 5-6 times around each stud, then cut off, leaving a tail. Press the tail away from the stud end (see photo).

Once inserted into wall, with adhesive, the wire will bind up (act as an anchor), should the plaque pull away from wall or be pulled by others (such as vandals).

