

**Gualala Art Center**  
**Guide for Hanging Art on walls and panels**  
**By the Art Hanging Committee**

When you visit the Museum of Modern Art, Asian Art Museum, Legion of Honor in San Francisco or a major art gallery you will see that nearly all the hung art is centered on a point close to 60 inches from the floor. By using the Art Center's laser transit and/or our 60 inch pre-cut measuring poles you can hang an art show with the same professional quality. Here's how:

1. Lay out the artwork on the floor, leaning against the wall, grouped to give the best advantage to each piece.
2. At the same time, using a tape measure or ruler, establish the desired horizontal distance between the art piece which can be equal or varied to better group pieces of different sizes.
3. Set up the laser transit to beam a line on the wall you want to hang the art and use its leveling screws to hold the entire line at 60 inches. The beam is also accurate when projecting through corners. Important Warning: Do not look at the laser beam as eye damage could occur! Warn others who might be in the area.
4. Locating the hanger on the wall:  
Horizontal Measure: The distance from the wall (or previous art piece) plus half the width of the art piece.  
Vertical Measure: The distance above the laser line will be half the height of the art piece minus the distance of the tensioned hanging wire to the top of the art piece.  
Where these two measures intersect, locate the hook part of the hanger.
5. Vertical Hanging Groups: If different in size, the smaller is usually hung at the top and descending to the larger. The laser line should be in the horizontal center of the grouping. Using the measuring guide above, the larger art piece will be the key to the horizontal measure and for the vertical measure, take care to account for the spacing between the pieces vertically to allow for title cards.
6. Title cards should be placed below the lower right hand corner of art piece in line with right side of frame.
7. When removing the art pieces, be careful not to damage walls by careless removal of hangers. Here's a way to do it:
  - Place a clean putty knife flat above the hanger wall
  - Grip the nail head with the blade of "painted pliers"
  - With the tip of the pliers on the putty knife, lift straight upwards and the nail will come out in the same angle as it was driven in, limiting wall damage