

Installing an exhibition:

1. Setting the artwork;

- Before you begin hanging the art it is important to set the show in order to get a feel of what the final installation will look like. This can save a lot of time.
- Set the show by placing the artwork on the floors around the walls where you plan to hang it. Remember to place something like bubble wrap or foam underneath it in order to protect the work.
- Varying the distance between the artwork and placing it in groupings can create visual interest and give the eye a place to rest. This will also encourage the viewer to stop and take a longer look at the art.

2. Hanging the artwork;

- American museums standard for hanging artwork is 58 inches on center. This means that the center of each piece or grouping is 58 inches from the floor.
- Using a standard height when hanging artwork creates continuity through out an exhibition. It will give the gallery a professional look and help the viewer go seamlessly from one piece to the next.
- To hang work at 58 inches on center first measure the height of the piece, then divide that number in half. Add 58. Next subtract the drop. The drop is the distance from the top of the artwork to the hooks or wire from which it will hang. Wire needs to be pulled tight when measuring as it would be when hanging on the wall. For large works two nails may be necessary.
- The formula for hanging artwork is:

$$\mathbf{\frac{1}{2} h + 58 - d = \text{Nail height}}$$

h = height of the piece to be hung

d = drop (distance between the top of the artwork and the wire or hook from which it will be hung.)

- Once you have the nail height, use a tape measure and mark with a pencil where the nail(s) should be placed. If you are using two nails make sure they are level.