



# Wall Shelf Installation Guide

A secure installation. A beautifully clean finish.



Cat's Atelier wall shelves are designed with discreet mounting systems that allow the finished piece to sit cleanly against the wall, without visible brackets interrupting its sculptural form.

**Correct installation is essential for safety and stability.** Read this guide fully before beginning and always refer to the manufacturer's instructions supplied with your individual product.

## IMPORTANT - YOUR SHELF MAY FEEL FLEXIBLE BEFORE INSTALLATION

Some Cat's Atelier shelves are intentionally flexible before they are mounted. This is not a defect. For shelves with a metal base, this flexibility allows the curve to be adjusted slightly during installation. Once correctly secured to the wall and all fixings have been tightened, the shelf becomes completely rigid and stable. **Do not attempt to reshape wooden-base shelves or any model not designed to be adjusted.**

## 1. Before installation

Choose the position of your shelf and establish the construction of the wall before drilling.

**For suitable masonry such as brick, concrete or hollow brick/block, Cat's Atelier specifies:**

- Electric drill with hammer/percussion function
- **10mm masonry drill bit**
- Hammer
- **13mm wrench** or suitable hand tool
- Spirit level and pencil
- Vacuum cleaner
- Supplied wall plugs and screws

For installation into a **timber structure**, suitable wood screws and an appropriately sized wood drill bit are required instead.

### Check before you drill

Before drilling any fixing point, make sure there are no concealed **electrical cables, water pipes, gas pipes or other building services**. If you are unsure what is behind the wall, use a suitable electronic detector.

You can mark the required drilling depth on the drill bit with masking tape to help avoid drilling unnecessarily deeply or through a thinner wall.

Manufacturer source: Cat's Atelier Quick & Easy Installation Guide and Important Information sheet.

## 2. Installing on masonry

The following sequence follows Cat's Atelier's manufacturer installation method for typical masonry walls.

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### Step 1 - Mark the first fixing

Position the shelf at the desired height and mark the first mounting point. If your shelf has **three fixing points**, Cat's Atelier recommends beginning with the **centre fixing**. Drill the first hole using the 10mm masonry bit.

Remove dust and debris from the drilled hole with a vacuum cleaner before inserting the wall plug.

### Step 2 - Attach the shelf loosely

Insert the supplied wall plug fully into the hole. The collar of the plug must **not protrude beyond the wall surface**; otherwise the shelf's metal mounting elements may not sit correctly against the wall.

Insert the first screw and attach the shelf loosely. At this stage the shelf should still be able to rotate around the first fixing.

### Step 3 - Position and level

Move the shelf into its intended position and use a spirit level to establish the desired alignment. Mark the second fixing point. For shelves with three mounting points, the third point is marked and secured in the same way.

### Step 4 - Adjust the profile where applicable

For **metal-base shelves**, the profile can be adjusted slightly before the remaining fixing positions are secured. You may gently deepen or flatten the curve to achieve the desired profile. Once all mounting points are secured, the shelf becomes rigid and stable.

#### METAL-BASE SHELVES ONLY

Profile adjustment applies only to shelves designed with a flexible metal base. Do not attempt to reshape wooden-base products.

### Step 5 - Drill the remaining holes

Drill the remaining marked fixing points, remove drilling dust and insert the supplied wall plugs completely. Again, make sure the plug collars do not protrude beyond the wall surface. Return the shelf to position and insert the remaining screws.

### Step 6 - Secure the shelf

Tighten all fixings carefully until the shelf sits securely against the wall. **Do not use a powered drill or impact driver for final tightening.** Cat's Atelier recommends tightening the screws gently by hand using a wrench, as excessive torque can damage the screw or fixing.

Take care not to overtighten and damage the thread within the wall plug. When correctly installed, the shelf should be **completely rigid and stable**.

### 3. Installing on plasterboard / drywall

#### STRUCTURAL SUPPORT IS ESSENTIAL

Cat's Atelier specifies that shelves installed on lightweight plasterboard or drywall must be secured directly into the **structural timber studs, beams or frame behind the plasterboard**. **Do not mount the shelf into unsupported plasterboard between the structural supports.**

For installation into the timber structure:

- Locate suitable structural timber fixing points.
- Use suitable **wood screws** rather than the masonry wall plugs supplied with the shelf.
- Drill an appropriate pilot hole before inserting the wood screw to reduce the risk of splitting the timber.
- Ensure every required mounting point is securely fixed into appropriate structural support.

Because wall construction varies considerably, seek advice from a suitably qualified installer if you are uncertain about the construction of your wall or the appropriate fixing method.

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### 4. Fit the mattress

Once the shelf has been securely installed and checked for stability, position the mattress on the shelf. The mattress attaches using the integrated **Velcro fastening**, helping it remain securely positioned during everyday use while allowing it to be removed when required.

Make sure the mattress follows the shelf profile correctly and is securely attached before allowing your cat to use the shelf.

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### 5. Final safety check

Before allowing your cat to use their new shelf:

- Check that every fixing is secure.
- Confirm that the mounting elements sit correctly against the wall.
- Make sure the shelf is completely rigid and does not wobble or move.
- Check that the mattress is correctly attached.
- Confirm that the fixing method is appropriate for your wall construction.
- Check that your cat has safe and comfortable access to and from the shelf.

**Periodically inspect the shelf, wall and fixings after installation.** If you notice movement, loosening, damage to the wall or deterioration of any fixing, discontinue use until the installation has been checked and made secure.

## Watch the installation

**Prefer to see how it's done?** Cat's Atelier has produced a video demonstrating the shelf installation process.

Scan the QR code or use the clickable link below to open the manufacturer's video.



**WATCH CAT'S ATELIER INSTALLATION VIDEO**

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## Planning a Cat's Atelier wall

A Cat's Atelier shelf can create a beautiful elevated retreat on its own, or form part of a larger climbing arrangement. Before installation, consider the complete route your cat will take rather than positioning each element in isolation.

Think about:

- where your cat will begin their climb
- comfortable intermediate access points
- secure places to pause and turn
- sufficient room to sit or lie naturally on each shelf
- safe access back down
- your cat's individual size, age and mobility

The **Cat's Atelier Flat Cat Wall Step - Birch Plywood** can be used between shelves to create intermediate access points and help establish a natural route through different heights.

Always prioritise **secure footing and comfortable movement** over creating the greatest possible distance between individual elements.

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## Important installation information

Wall materials and construction methods vary considerably between properties. The fixings supplied by Cat's Atelier are intended for the wall types specified by the manufacturer and **may not be appropriate for every installation**.

Alternative or specialist fixings may be necessary depending on the construction and condition of your wall. If you are uncertain about the wall, concealed services, structural supports, suitable fixings or your ability to install the shelf securely, please seek advice from a suitably qualified installer before proceeding.

### ELEVATED LIVING. BEAUTIFULLY CONSIDERED.

Discover sculptural wall shelves, window perches and climbing furniture handmade by Cat's Atelier in Poland.

**DISCOVER CAT'S ATELIER AT DIVINE PETS**

## About this guide

This guide has been prepared by Divine Pets with reference to Cat's Atelier's official Quick & Easy Installation Guide and Important Information guidance. It is intended to provide UK customers with a clear overview of the installation process and **does not replace the manufacturer's instructions supplied with your individual product**. Always follow the instructions, specifications and safety information supplied with your particular Cat's Atelier product.