

STEVE SAYS HOW TO...

PLUGGING WALLS

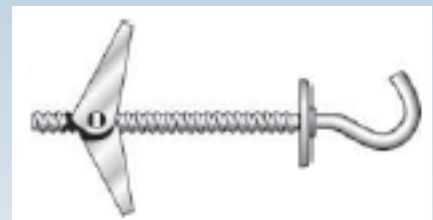
Picture rails are out of fashion in most modern homes and walls have to be plugged with a variety of devices to allow pictures or other objects to be hung.

In masonry walls, use an expansive wall anchor of the Dynabolt type, drilling to the exact size specified with a masonry bit. Insert the bolt to its full depth and tighten the expansive core. Slip the picture wire over the head or increase the head area with a flat washer if needed.



A fibre or plastic plug can be used if you prefer. In this case, the hole is drilled to allow a smooth driving fit, and a screw is then driven into the plug. These are convenient devices for hanging shelves or cupboards, but the holes must be drilled to exact positions and diameters.

On cavity walls, hangers must be of a type that will grip the board. For light objects, expansive plastic plugs are available. Those are ideal for hanging pictures on plaster board. For heavier fastening, bolts of the toggle-bolt pattern, which grips the wall with a scissors action toggle at the back, are best.



To hang light objects so that they can be removed without damaging the wall, double sided adhesive tape can be used. For each 250g of weight allow 5 cm of tape. To remove the object simply run a knife between the object and the wall and then scrape off the remaining materials with your thumbnail.