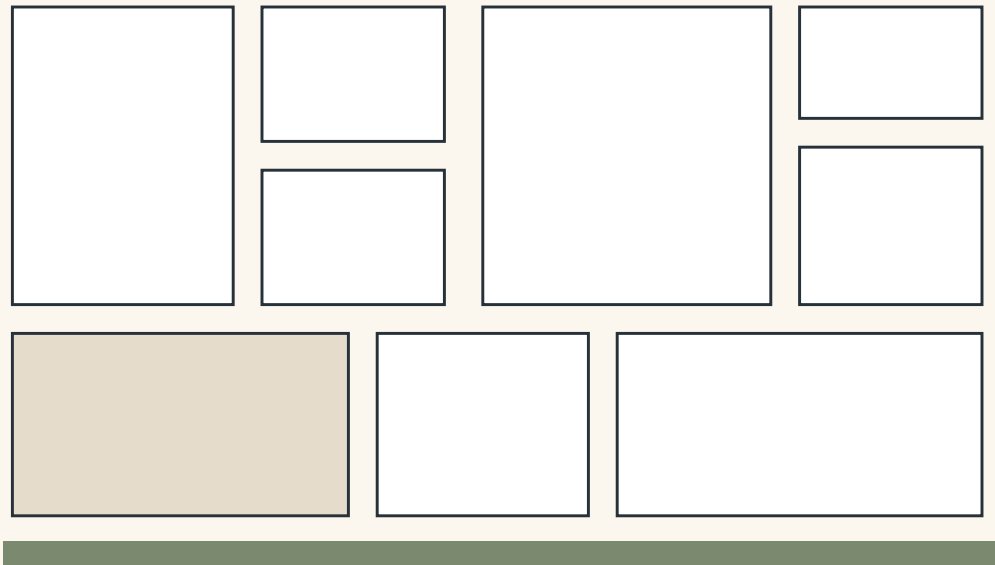


FREE PRINTABLE

Gallery Wall Planner

Six layouts · a spacing ruler · scale frames you cut out



PRINT AT 100% · ACTUAL SIZE · US LETTER

Do not select “fit to page” — the ruler and scale grid depend on true scale.

BOREDOMWIZARD.COM

The Three Numbers

GET THESE RIGHT AND NOTHING ELSE MATTERS

Almost every gallery wall that looks wrong went wrong in one of three places, and none of them have anything to do with taste. Fix these and almost any collection of frames looks deliberate.

1

2 to 3 inches between every frame

The same gap everywhere, with no exceptions. Consistency matters far more than the exact figure. Two inches throughout looks deliberate; so does three. Two in one place and four in another reads instantly as a mistake. Cut the ruler on page 12 and use it for every single gap.

2

Two-thirds the width of the furniture below

Measured edge to edge across the whole group, including the gaps. An 84 inch sofa wants about 56 inches of arrangement. This is the rule people break most often, always by going too small. When you are between two sizes, take the larger.

3

57 to 60 inches from the floor to the centre

Measure to the centre of the entire arrangement treated as one object — not the top frame, not each individual piece. Above a sofa, also leave 6 to 10 inches between the sofa back and the bottom of the lowest frame.

The one that catches everyone

People hang pictures too high. If you have ever looked at a wall and felt something was off but could not say what, it was almost certainly this. Twenty inches above a sofa back is too much — six to ten is right.

How Big Should It Be?

TWO-THIRDS THE FURNITURE, EVERY TIME

Find your furniture, read across. Arrangement width is measured edge to edge across the whole group including the gaps between frames.

Furniture below	Width of piece	Arrangement width	Frames (guide)
Twin bed	39 in.	26 – 30 in.	3 – 5
Console / sideboard	60 in.	40 – 45 in.	4 – 6
Queen bed	60 in.	40 – 45 in.	5 – 7
Loveseat	58 in.	38 – 44 in.	4 – 6
Standard sofa	84 in.	54 – 58 in.	6 – 9
King bed	76 in.	50 – 56 in.	6 – 9
Large sectional	100 in.+	64 – 72 in.	9 – 12
Open wall / hallway	—	Size to the wall	varies

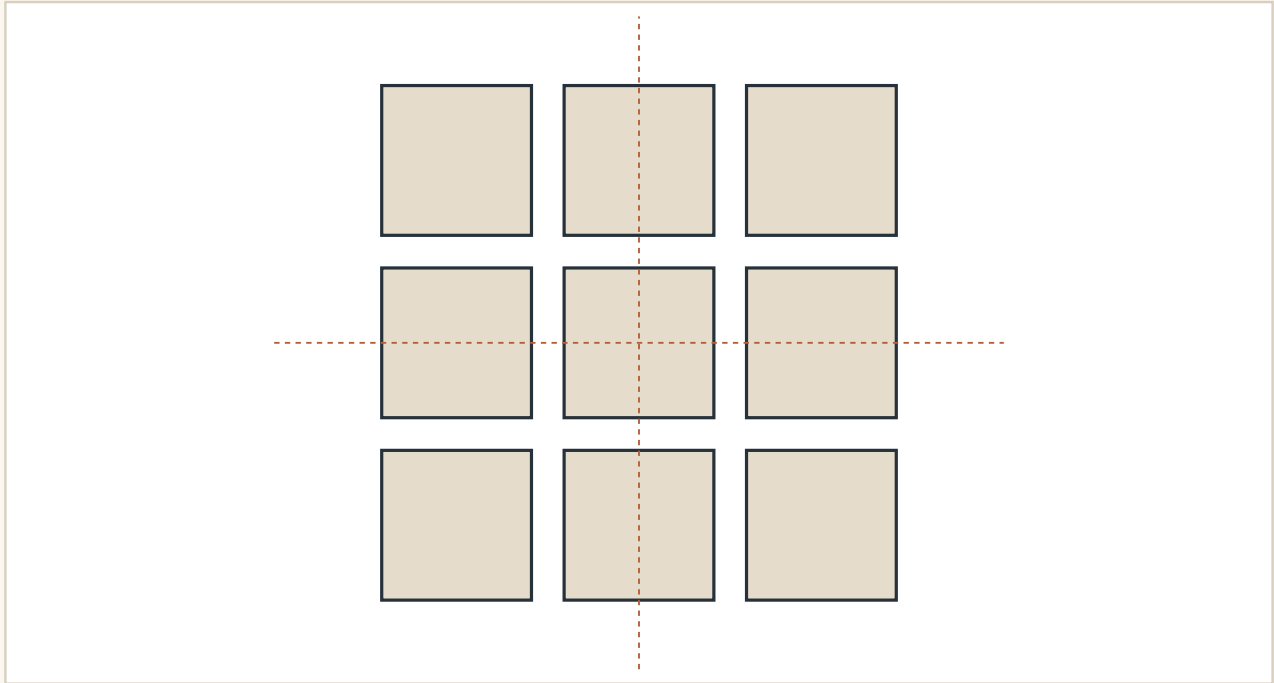
Working it out yourself

Measure the furniture width in inches. Multiply by 0.67. That is your target arrangement width. Divide by the number of frames across, subtract 2.5 inches per gap, and you have the rough width each frame can be.

- Example: an 84 in. sofa $\times$ 0.67 = 56 in. of arrangement.
- Three frames across with two 2.5 in. gaps = $56 - 5 = 51$ in. of frame, so 17 in. wide each.
- That points you at 16 $\times$ 20 frames — a standard size you can actually buy.

The Grid

IDENTICAL FRAMES, EQUAL GAPS, ZERO RISK



BEST FOR

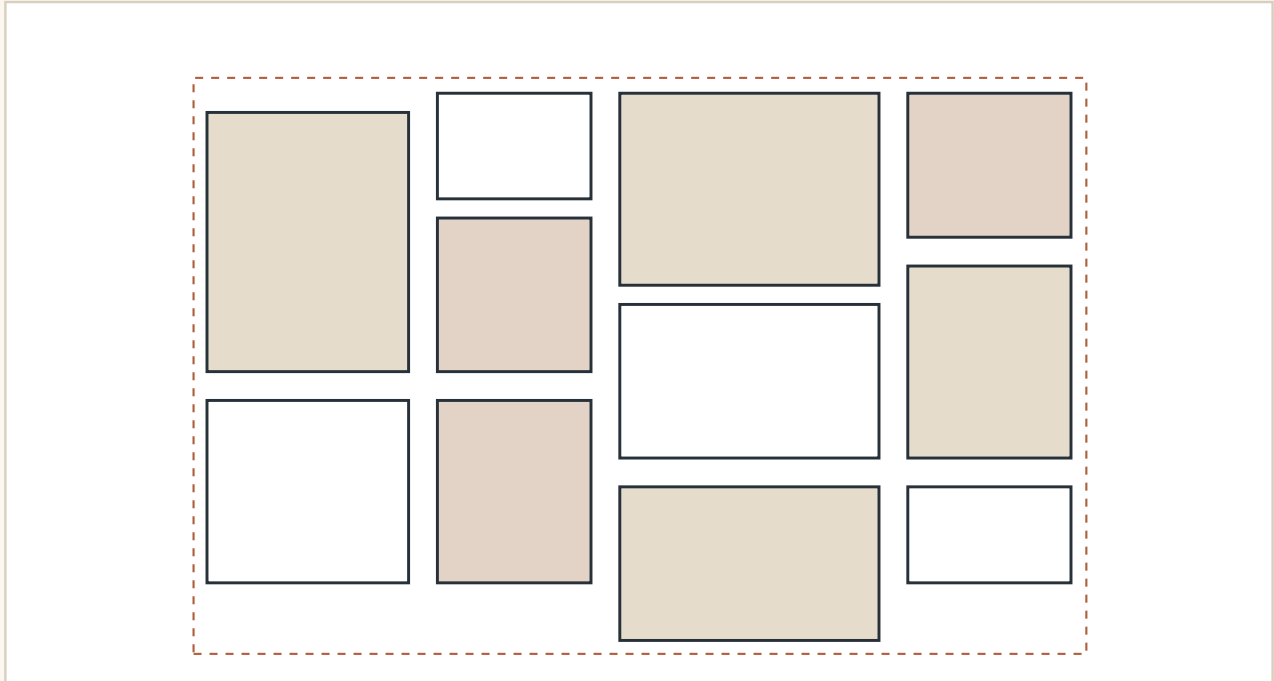
Modern rooms, offices, a set of prints bought together, and anyone hanging a gallery wall for the first time.

HOW TO GET IT RIGHT

- Use identical frames, identical mats and identical artwork orientation.
- Every gap the same. A grid with one uneven gap looks broken rather than relaxed.
- Works best with 6, 9 or 12 pieces. Odd numbers fight the shape.
- The most forgiving layout for mediocre artwork — the repetition becomes the design.

The Salon

MIXED SIZES, ONE OUTER SHAPE



BEST FOR

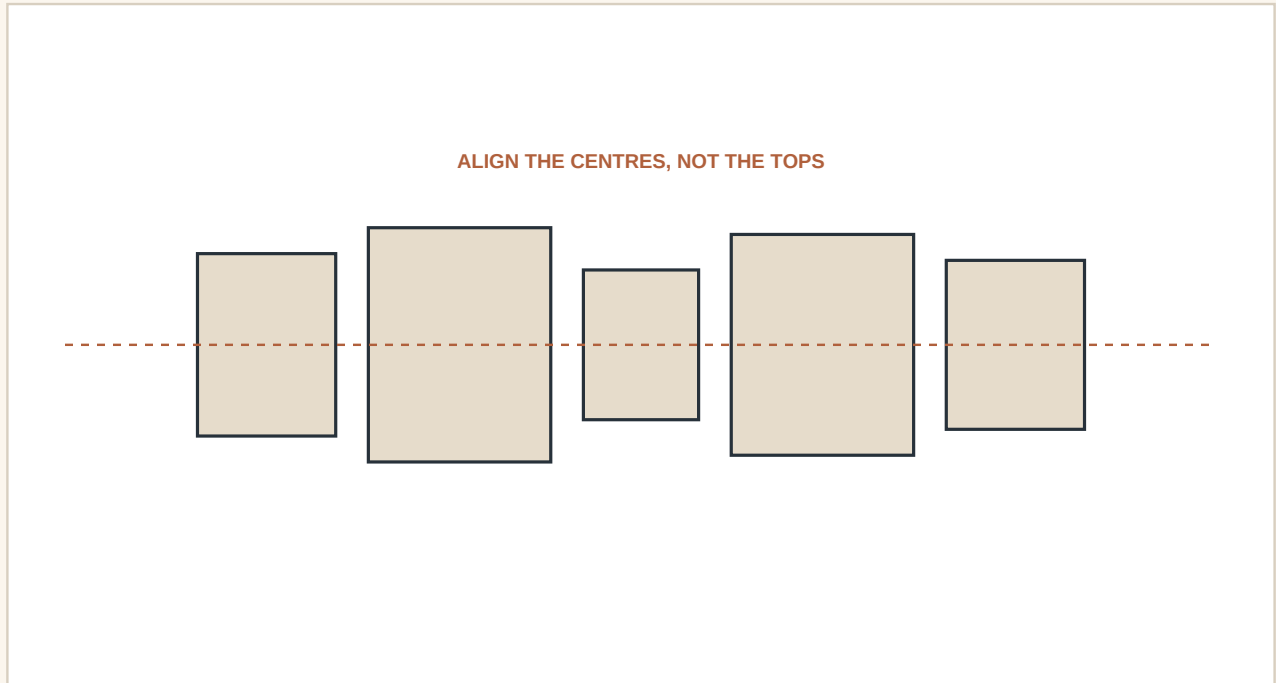
Collected art gathered over years, mismatched frames, and walls where you want depth rather than order.

HOW TO GET IT RIGHT

- Nothing inside is aligned, but the outer edge of the whole group forms a clean rectangle.
- Keep gaps tight and identical — that is what keeps the chaos looking deliberate.
- Start with the largest piece slightly off-centre and build outward from it.
- Repeat each frame finish at least twice so it reads as a choice, not an accident.

The Linear Row

ONE CENTRE LINE, NEVER THE TOPS



BEST FOR

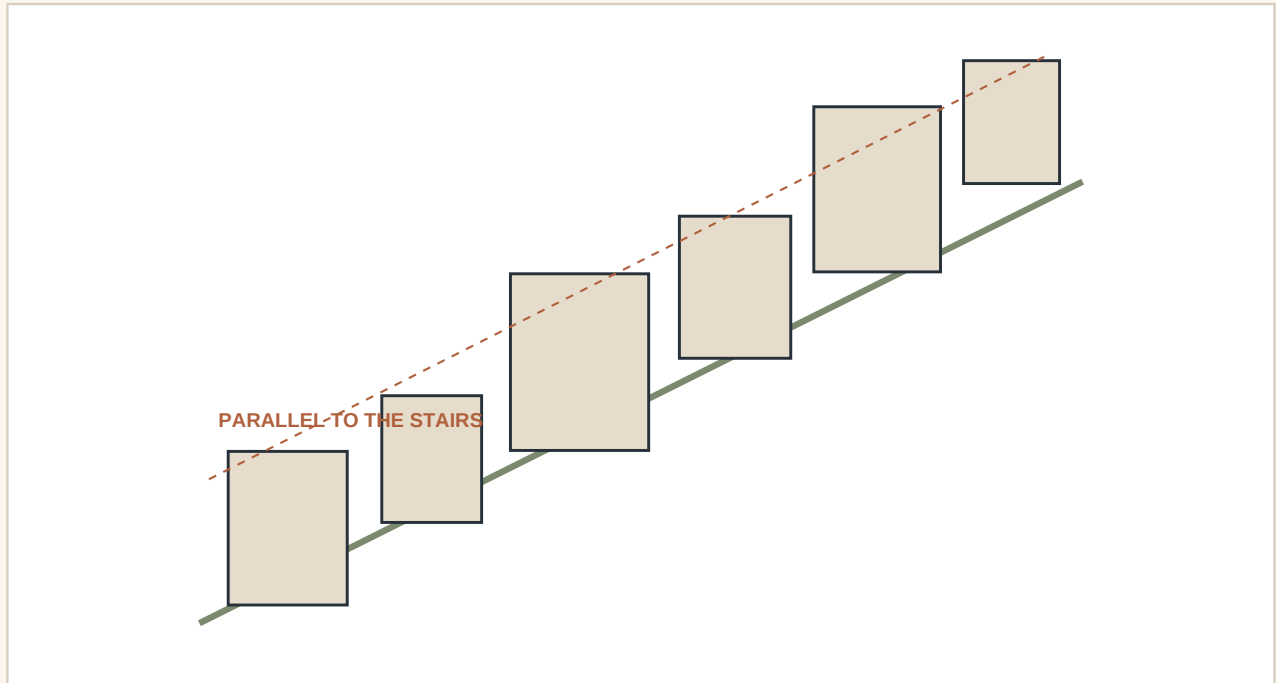
Long sofas, sideboards, hallways, and narrow horizontal walls above a bed.

HOW TO GET IT RIGHT

- Align the centres of the frames, not their tops. This is the rule people break.
- Works with mixed frame heights — the shared centre line does the balancing.
- Keep gaps equal and resist adding a second row; the whole effect is the single line.
- Ideal above long furniture and in hallways where people walk past rather than sit.

The Staircase

FOLLOW THE SLOPE, NOT THE FLOOR



BEST FOR

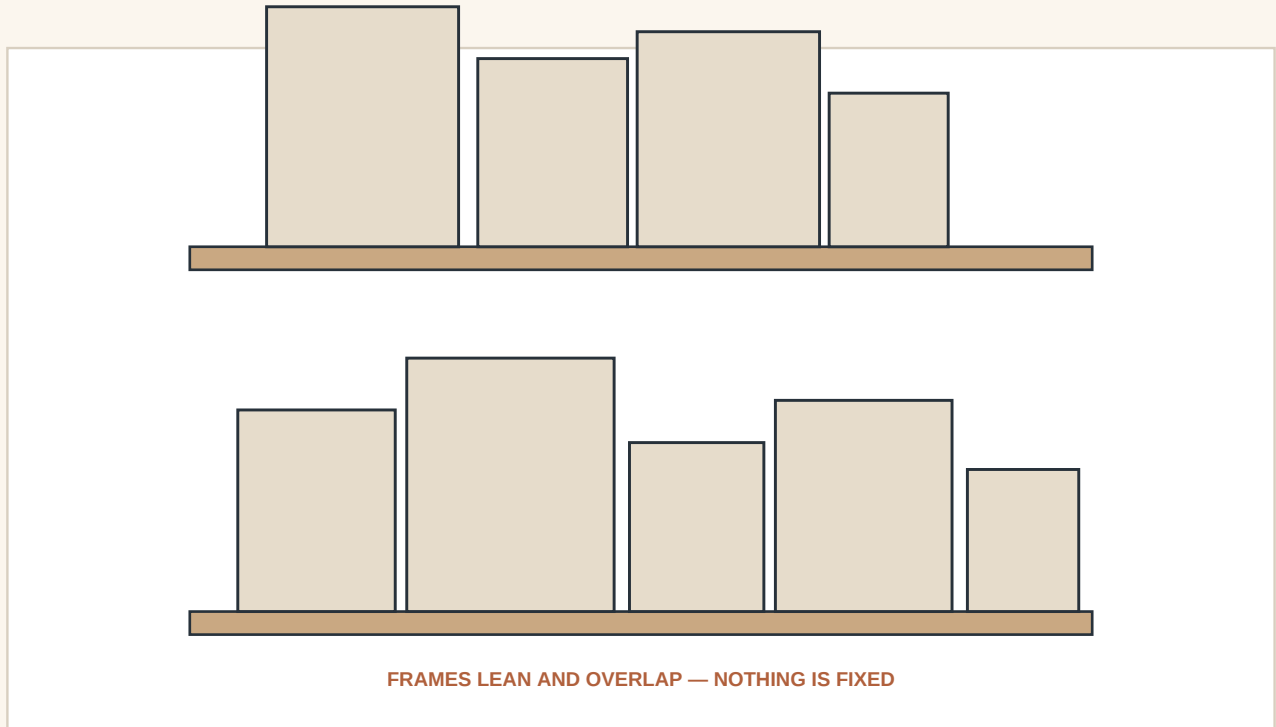
Stairwells and any wall where the floor or ceiling line is not level.

HOW TO GET IT RIGHT

- Set every frame centre the same perpendicular distance from the stair line.
- Hold a long level or a length of string along the handrail angle to find that line.
- Stepping frames horizontally is the classic mistake — it fights the architecture.
- Vary the sizes. Identical frames on a staircase look like signage.

The Ledge

NOTHING COMMITTED, EVERYTHING MOVEABLE



BEST FOR

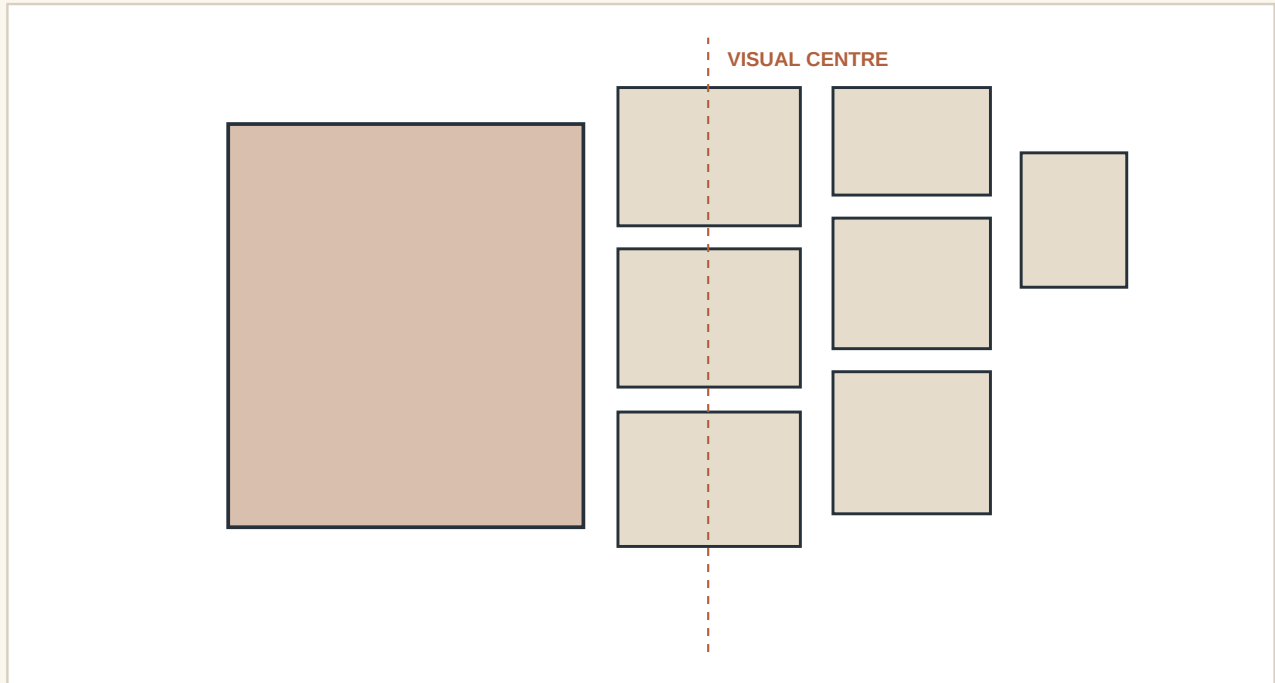
Renters, indecisive people, growing collections, and anyone who restyles seasonally.

HOW TO GET IT RIGHT

- Two fixings per ledge and no holes behind any individual frame.
- Lean and overlap the frames — a ledge styled in a neat row defeats the point.
- Mix in a small plant, a stack of two books, one ceramic object for depth.
- Space two ledges 14 to 18 inches apart vertically so taller frames still fit.

The Anchor

ONE BIG PIECE, EVERYTHING ELSE ORBITS



BEST FOR

Rooms with one piece you love, asymmetric walls, and arrangements that should feel unplanned.

HOW TO GET IT RIGHT

- Place the large piece off-centre, then balance it with several smaller frames.
- The visual centre of the whole group should sit in the middle — the big frame should not.
- Squint at it. Blurring the detail shows you the balance immediately.
- This is the hardest of the six. Lay it out on the floor before you go near the wall.

Scale Planning Grid

1 SQUARE = 2 INCHES OF REAL WALL

Sketch your arrangement here before you touch the wall. Cut out the scale frames on page 11 and move them around on this grid until it looks right, then transfer the measurements up to full size.

EACH SQUARE = 2 IN. · HEAVY LINE = 12 IN. · FULL GRID = 56 × 48 IN.



Scale Frame Cut-Outs

SMALL AND MEDIUM FRAMES — 1:8 SCALE

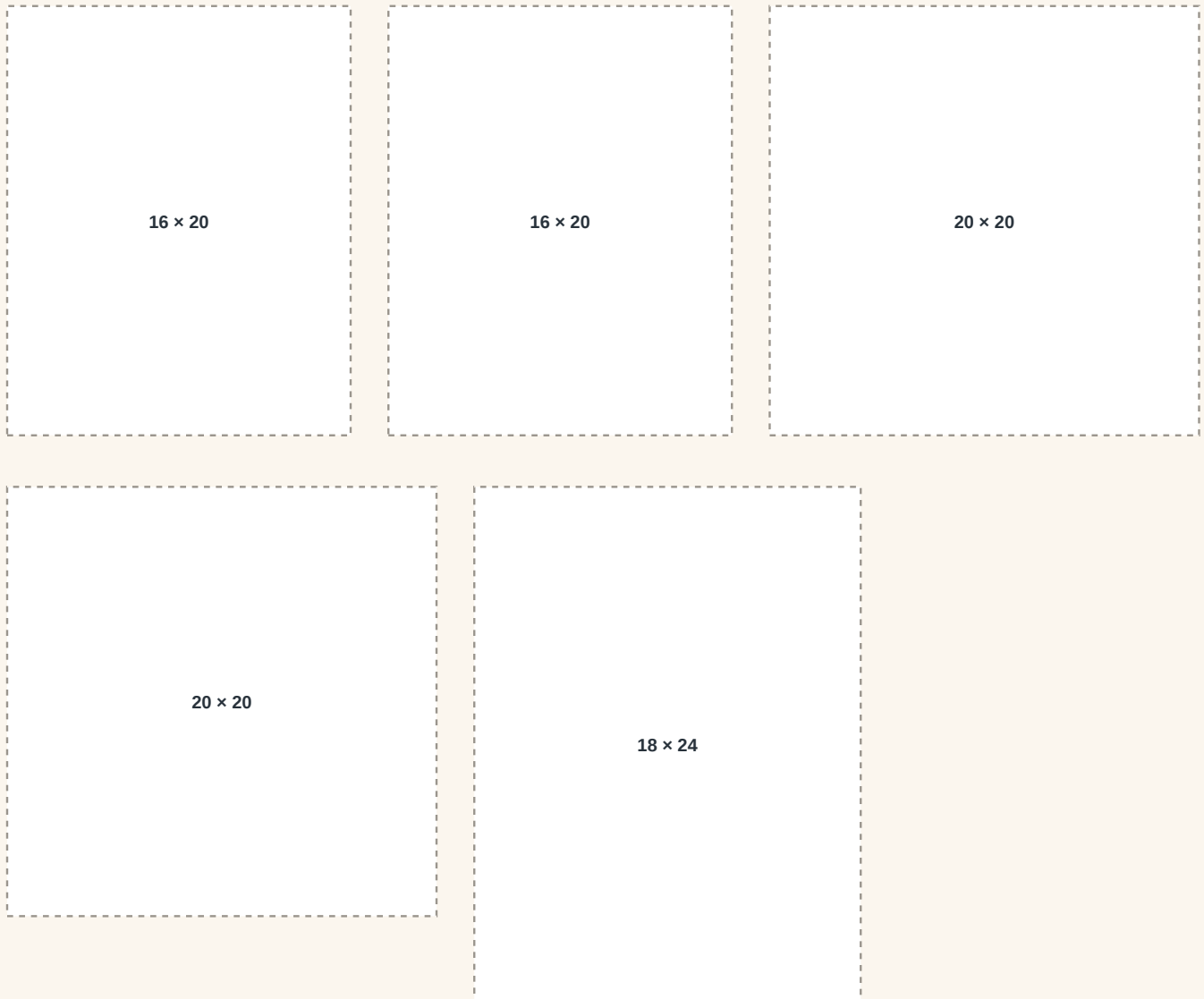
Every rectangle here is drawn at the same 1:8 scale as the planning grid on page 10. Cut them out, move them around on the grid, and when the arrangement works read the real measurements straight off the grid.



Scale Frame Cut-Outs

LARGE FRAMES — 1:8 SCALE

Every rectangle here is drawn at the same 1:8 scale as the planning grid on page 10. Cut them out, move them around on the grid, and when the arrangement works read the real measurements straight off the grid.



The Spacing Ruler

CUT IT OUT — USE IT FOR EVERY SINGLE GAP

Print this page at 100% and cut along the outer line. Hold the tab between two frames as you position them. Pick one width and use it for the entire arrangement — consistency is what separates a gallery wall that looks designed from one that looks accidental.



Check your print scale before you cut

The bar below is exactly 6 inches. Measure it with a ruler. If it is not 6 inches, your printer scaled the page — reprint with scaling set to 100% or “actual size”.

THIS BAR IS EXACTLY 6 INCHES



Hanging Day

FLOOR FIRST, PAPER SECOND, DRILL LAST

- ☐ **Measure the wall and the furniture below it**
Multiply the furniture width by 0.67. That is your target arrangement width, edge to edge.
- ☐ **Lay the whole arrangement out on the floor**
Mark the available wall footprint on the floor with tape first so you are working to real dimensions.
- ☐ **Start with the largest frame slightly off-centre**
Build outward. Balance visual weight rather than frame count — one large dark frame needs two or three small ones opposite.
- ☐ **Use the spacing ruler for every gap**
Not your eye, not a tape measure re-read each time. One physical spacer, used everywhere.
- ☐ **Photograph the floor layout before you move anything**
A phone photo makes uneven spacing obvious in a way your eye misses at floor level.
- ☐ **Trace each frame onto kraft paper and cut it out**
Hang the frame on your finger, let it settle, and mark where the wire or hook sits. That mark is what you drill to.
- ☐ **Tape the paper templates to the wall and leave them a day**
Look at them in morning light and in evening light. Move them. This is the step almost nobody does.
- ☐ **Check the height: 57 to 60 inches to the centre of the group**
And 6 to 10 inches above a sofa back. Measure to the centre of the whole arrangement, not to any one frame.
- ☐ **Drill straight through the paper, then tear it away**
The frame lands exactly where the template was. Use two fixings for anything over about 20 lb.
- ☐ **Step back to the far side of the room before you hang the next one**
Every arrangement looks different from six feet away than from arm's length.

What goes in the frames

The Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Rijksmuseum and the Biodiversity Heritage Library all offer high-resolution public domain artwork free to download and print. Botanical plates, antique maps and Old Master studies all frame beautifully.