*Secure Art Installation*

Installation of artwork is the responsibility of the agency recipient. Ideal installation would include the artwork placed at eye level with the corresponding plaque installed at the bottom right of the artwork. Securing artwork with safety hangers is not required by The Art Connection, but it is encouraged, especially for installation in/near entry ways and in locations where extra safety would be helpful so that the work remains secure. The following pages outline some resources for obtaining secure hanging hardware. It is very affordable ($4-$6 per artwork) and worthwhile to ensure the safety of your new artwork. Feel free to follow the links below for more information. You may also be in touch with our office with additional questions.

While there are many methods for securing art to walls, the “T-Lock” or method is one that we recommend, and one that several of our art recipients have used with success and relative ease. The “T-Lock” method is so named because of the T-screw used for securing the frame to the wall.

**T-Lock System**
- most common security method used
- can add additional T-hooks for greater security or for larger pieces
- works for both wood and metal frames
- uses special wrench for final locking into place
- built in flexibility to accommodate leveling adjustments, etc.

There are three different types of T-Locks. We recommend Frame-Lock Hangers. (There are links and a description for the other two methods at the end of this document.)

**Frame-Lock Hangers** ([http://www.govart.com/hardware_security_C.html](http://www.govart.com/hardware_security_C.html)) use a long metal bracket at the top rail of the frame. This feature adds strength and stability to the security installation and also speeds up the hanging process.

Security hardware can be installed on just about any type of wood frame, with the exception of very narrow (less than 5/8" wide) frames. It can also be used on most metal frames made during the last twenty-five years.

Installing security hangers takes more patience than skill and can be mastered by just about anyone. Drywall (sheetrock) walls are ideal for security picture hanger installations. Hard or solid wall surfaces will require a bit more time and care.
Notes

• Any reasonably handy person will have no trouble hanging pictures with Frame-Lock Hangers. The first picture you tackle may take a little time, but once the installation sequence is understood, hanging speed will increase.

• A basic instruction sheet is included with each shipment of Frame-Lock Hangers. Or, if you prefer, refer to the complete step-by-step Frame-Lock Hanger installation instructions below.

• Don't be put off by the number of steps outlined in the Frame-Lock Hanger instructions. The installation process is much more straightforward and intuitive than it might appear from the written description.

Condensed Specifications: Frame-Lock Security Hanger

The Frame-Lock security hanging system uses a low-profile aluminum bracket to attach pictures to the wall at the top rail of the picture frame. After this bracket is in place, a locking T-Head screw is connected to the bottom rail to secure the frame.

The Frame-Lock bracket makes it very easy to create a level hanging point at the top of the picture—no need to carefully space apart and level two separate smaller brackets or hangers as with other security hanging systems. Multiple picture installations take significantly less time to complete.

Frame-Lock Hangers are supplied in three bracket lengths: 6” long for pictures up to 20” wide, 12” long for pictures 20” to 30” wide, 18” long for pictures over 30” wide.

Wood vs. Metal Frames

To use Frame-Lock Security Hangers on a wood picture frame, a second matching bracket (included in wood frame sets) must be attached to the back side of the frame’s top rail. Metal sectional frames do not need any hardware to be placed on the frame itself—the “universal” channel on the back side of the metal frame accepts the bracket flange and T-Head screw.

A basic instruction sheet is included with orders for each type. For a complete step-by-step installation sequence, see the instructions online or in the attached documents (different for wood frames and metal frames).

It takes about fifteen minutes to security-install a framed picture. Except for the recommended Security Wrench, no special or unusual tools are required.

Note: Security wrench is purchased separately from the locks. Only one wrench is needed for any number of installations.

In addition to theft-prevention, security picture hangers provide the benefit of keeping framed pictures hanging permanently straight and level on the wall. This is a particularly valuable feature in situations where vibration (heavy foot traffic, machinery, earthquakes) is an issue.
Each size is available in a version for wood frames and a version for metal sectional (Nielsen type) frames. Please refer to the parts lists for the specific hardware components contained in each set.

Brackets are made of extruded aluminum and are 1 1/8" wide by 1/16" thick. There is no difference in the bracket profile supplied for wood and metal frames--they can be interchanged if necessary.

**Some images of how the Frame-Lock System works:** (for wooden frame) There are more images [here](#), along with a complete set of specifications for both wood and metal frames.

![Bracket on wall](image1) ![2nd bracket on wood frame](image2) ![Brackets joined](image3)

![Mounting plate & screws](image4) ![Mounting plate on frame](image5) ![T-lock in mounting plate](image6)

**Ordering Frame-Lock Security Hangers:**
For information on sizing and Frame-Lock Security Hangers go [here](#). When ordering, be sure to match the right size Hangers to your artwork.

**Optional T-Lock Systems:**
- **Hook-Ups Hangers** are the easiest to install, especially for the novice, since they allow for more adjustment after the wall holes have been drilled. This system creates two locking points at the top rail of the frame only.
- **Lock-In Hangers** place either one or two additional locking points at the bottom rail of the frame. This system requires more precision during the installation process since only limited adjustment is possible after the wall holes have been drilled.

*Information in this document is from: [http://www.govart.com/hardware_security.html](http://www.govart.com/hardware_security.html)*