DIY Hacks for Wall Decor with CBTV Live

Chapter 1 - Chapter 1
Picture Hangers
^(upbeat music) - Hey everybody, welcome to Creativebug. We're coming at you live, like we always do on Tuesdays and Thursdays. You've seen me twice this week. I love it when you write in and ask questions, so please don't be afraid to do so. If you're new to Creativebug, welcome. We have a code for one free month of Creativebug, plus a 30 percent off coupon at JOANN, and that code is JOANN1 to get both those things, and Alli's gonna post the link. If you have questions, write in the comments, because Alli will let me know, and then I can answer the questions as we go. I wanted to share a quick and easy DIY hot tip. I was at my favorite local little hardware art supply shop, and I saw this cool little poster hanging kit. And this is what comes in the kit. It's half of a dowel, with a bit of string, and another half of a dowel. And this little kit is for hanging maps or posters. It has removable adhesive on the back, so this is tape. Having used it, let me tell you that it's probably not removable for very long. And this little kit costs 15 dollars. I'm gonna show you how to make it for just a couple of bucks, because it's actually really simple to do, and I have a couple of variations. If you wanna do something just as simple as this, what you're gonna do is start with what's called half round. And I've got some lengths of it cut. Half round is half of a dowel, and you can get this at your local hardware store. It usually comes in six or eight foot lengths. It's about a dollar a foot. So, for just three or four dollars, you can get what needs to be the top and the bottom of your poster hanger. It's already flat on one side, and rounded, so I don't know if you can see that, but it's half of a circle. I cut mine down, but you can also have it cut down at your local hardware store. And you'll wanna sand the edges, so I thought I'd show you that, just because it's super easy. You can use any kind of medium to fine grit sandpaper, or I like to use a sanding block. And it's super quick to do this. If you've cut it yourself, you might especially wanna sand the edges. And once you do that, you can leave it raw, if you want something that's kind of neutral, un-contemporary looking, you can do that, but you can also paint your half inch round. This I painted with Martha Stewart craft paint. I did two coats. If you wanna do more of a stain look, you can dilute a little bit of acrylic paint with water, and brush it on using a foam brush. You get like a nice stain finish, and this a more solid, vibrant pink color, which I really love. Now for the most basic version, you can do exactly what this kit has, and instead of using removable tape that may or may not work with your piece, you can actually just use Washi tape. So, if you take your poster, and just tape on with Washi tape, that's the easiest way, but I was gonna show you two other ways that are a little bit longer lasting. And two of my favorite ways. So let me show you, because I think they're pretty awesome. The first way is kind of double duty. We're gonna add the string that hangs your poster, or whatever you're ... It could be a map, it could be a drawing. It could be kid's artwork. This is a great thing for the set. I use this kind of thing on the set all the time. This is good for home decor, that you don't wanna invest in a frame, if you have a really unusual shaped piece of art or drawing, this is the perfect solution, because you can customize the size of your half inch, your half round. I cut mine down to 20 inches to fit the piece of kind of standard gift wrap that I wanna have hanging, and I'll show you that in a little bit. So the first thing we're gonna do, is use string for the hanger, and you can use something like this really pretty twill tape, or you can use something like twine. So I'm gonna show you this with twine. I'm gonna take off about a yard. And again, this is the part that's customizable, so this is the advantage to making it yourself, instead of purchasing the 15

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dollar kit. I'm making a knot on each end. And then these are just regular thumbtacks from the hardware store. They are nickel plated steel. I checked the package. But they're your standard, two dollars for like 100 of them. And we're just gonna come in half an inch from the edge. And you can press it in. If it's not perfectly in, because you've got the knot underneath, you can take a hammer, and just smash it down. Get out all of the things that have been bothering you this week by just hammering these little thumbnails. So push down with your finger. Then do a few whacks. And then I actually like to leave those tails, and then trim them close to the thumbtack, once I've hammered everything down. Okay, so this is the top. You can do the same thing for the bottom. If you have a piece of paper that has been rolled for a long time, this is a nice way to retrain the paper, so it'll hang flat. You don't have to have a bottom dowel, on the bottom of your poster hanger. That's up to you, for the functionality, if your poster might roll up, or if you just like the aesthetic look of it. So you would repeat that on the bottom for this particular technique. So let me just show you. This time without a string, right? We're just doing this as the bottom. - [Alli] We have our first question. - [Courtney] Yeah. - [Alli] Brienne is wondering, do you think the string needs to be a certain length to ensure it hangs properly? - [Courtney] Yeah. Hi Brienne. Welcome, nice to have you back. Brienne is asking, does this string have to be a certain length? And I would say no, that's an aesthetic choice. So, think about where you're hanging something. People often hang things too high on their walls. Alli is nodding yes, she knows. She knows this. So, people often hang things really too high. Kind of the middle of your piece should be at eye level or slightly below that. Depends on kind of what's happening with your furniture and your other decor. So, if you are kind of the person that often hangs things too high, you might actually wanna just reduce this. Maybe you do a yard instead of, I probably did about a yard and a half. But what's great about this is if you don't like it, you can pull this out and readjust your knot. Especially if I had brought up the hammer that had the little claws. I didn't bring that one, so I can't take this out. But, you can easily do that. Pop this off and readjust this. This is another reason to customize your own poster hanger. Great question Brienne. Okay, now this is the g-tist thing you guys, it's so exciting. So, let me show you, hopefully all of this will fit on the table. I have this little blind contour. You know I love my blind contours. This is one my friend Alphonso did of me, and it's not something I wanna invest in a 200 dollar frame, because it's really large. Instead, this three dollar poster hanger is gonna be perfect. And what's awesome ... Oh, this guy is too skinny. Let me show you the other one that I had, it's especially for this. I can move my thumbtacks in too. Okay, this one is the one I made it for. This is a rifle paper. This is really beautiful. I use these on the set all the time. So this goes right to the edge. And so that I'm not damaging my poster, I'm actually just gonna use a Mighty Magnet. You can get this at your local craft store. I think JOANN has them, probably online as well. You can get it at your local hardware store, and it's a super sturdy magnet. And it's this kind of a magnet you want. So if you're customizing this ... - [Alli] Go lower on C cam. - [Courtney] Thank you. If you're customizing this, you wanna make sure that your thumbtacks are going to land where your poster is coming to an edge here. And that Mighty Magnet is actually strong enough, and these thumbtacks are magnetic, so we are not putting any holes in our poster. We're not attaching any tape, removable or otherwise. We're just using our Mighty Magnets to hold this up. So you can see. Can you see? - [Alli] So pretty. - And you're not damaging your piece. So if you have some old, really delicate paper map that you've been saving. Some kind of family heirloom or something, this is the perfect way. You can also get a sense of where you wanna hang it on your wall. So the same thing for the bottom piece. If you did wanna include a bottom, I just added the thumbtacks. And I would do the same thing. Use my Mighty Magnets. And this gives you so much flexibility for changing out your art with regularity.

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So let me hang that up one more time. Now you can see it with the bottom. And hopefully I have it there straight, so you can see it. Alright, so that is one way. And when I first started thinking about how I would make this, I have another way too, that requires a little bit more power tools, which if you're a person that loves to use power tools, then this can be a really fun thing. I'm gonna take back one of these dowels. And show you a different way. So, you'll see it here. Let me make sure you guys can see this on the camera. I actually used the Mighty Magnets, and sunk them into one of the dowels. Now, you don't need to do it on top and bottom. You can combine these techniques, depending on what you wanna do. And I would still hang my thread using our thumbtacks. So, decide where you want your thumbtacks to be, and where you wanna put your magnets. And I'm just gonna show you how to add the magnets. The cool thing about the Mighty Magnets, they come in lots of different shapes. This is the original kind, and they are exactly a quarter inch wide. So, if you're at the store, you just wanna look for the original Mighty Magnet. They come in flat, and really large, and square, so just look for the original. And I've got a quarter inch bit in my drill. Now you do have to be careful, because the side that's down on your half round is the wobbly side, so just hold it steadily, and you're gonna drill a little bit of a hole into this. Go slow. You don't wanna poke through. So I'm checking that hole. It's not quite deep enough to accommodate my magnet. I think that's gonna be good. - [Alli] Alright, our next question comes from Leanna. - [Courtney] Hi Leanna. - [Alli] And Leanna is wondering ... (drilling) If you're hanging a poster that's been rolled up, will the weight of this bottom keep the poster straight ... (drilling) - [Courtney] Leanna is asking, if you have a poster that's been rolled up for a long time, will the weight of this hold everything down? The answer is yes, it will. Now if you're working with something that's really stiff, like maybe something that's been mounted on cardstock, or something that's really heavy and really large, you can add extra weight. You could add more thumbtacks to the bottom, to kind of increase the weight. You could add several magnets instead of just doing two on the ends. You could use a little bit of Washi tape, to tape down in the center, and then use the magnets on the side. So you can kind of combine the techniques, without piercing your poster or your artwork, and kind of give a little bit of weight. The Mighty Magnets are really strong, so they're gonna hold a lot of weight. Good question. I just wanna make sure everything's deep enough here. And notice that I'm not poking through to the other side. It's important, and it's great that this half round comes in eight foot lengths, in case you make any mistakes. You don't wanna poke through your round here. So, I've got a pretty, I don't know, I'm probably down an eighth to a quarter of an inch with my drill bit as well. And I'm gonna use a little bit of Gorilla Glue. Now this stuff does puff up over time, so we'll set this aside, and see if it'll do it while we're live. I'm gonna put just a little bit into each hole. Ah! That's a lot. That's what baby wipes are for. So have your baby wipes on hand. This is one of my most favorite craft tools ever. And actually, as this is foaming up, and when you sink in your magnets, what I'm gonna show you in a second, you just use a baby wipe to wipe away any of the foamy extra glue. So if I were to just place the magnet into these holes, they would fit perfectly, but over lots of wear and tear, I think having the glue as an extra security measure is a good idea. Especially if you're working with something really heavy. So I'm just putting the tiniest little bit. I'm not filling the hole. Maybe Garrett can see that. Can you see that? So a tiny little bead. Alright, and now this is the really fun part. So we're gonna sink these magnets right into that hole. And a quarter inch is perfect. It's so satisfying, I can't even tell you. So they fit in there perfectly. And you're just gonna let them dry for 24 hours. You don't wanna actually use your poster holder until this is totally set. Like I said, you'll come back in a half hour, and it might be, they maybe have raised a little bit, and it might look a little foamy around your magnet, and that's fine. You can just wipe away any extra Gorilla Glue as it starts to

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puff up, because it does do that as it sets. Let me show you one that's totally finished. - [Alli] We have a question. - [Courtney] Yeah. - [Alli] Both Lynn and Carrie wanna know, what are Mighty Magnets? - Hi Lynn and Carrie, welcome. The question, and this is good, thank you for asking this, is what are Mighty Magnets? Mighty Magnets are super, super strong magnets, and they're actually the only magnet I ever craft with or use. They'll hold a stack of paper to your fridge. If you get a lot of that DIY magnet stuff that you buy at the craft store that's like a strip of magnets, magnets you can put your photo on, that magnet, the strength of it, is so weak that it's not gonna hold anything, so you do need a strong magnet for this project. The Mighty Magnets are perfect. They probably run about 12 or 15 dollars for a pack of about a dozen, so they're about a dollar a magnet, but they are like gold. They're worth they're weight in gold, it's amazing how strong they are. They're also similar to rare earth magnets, which are really, really strong, and you can also use those if you don't have the Mighty Magnets. But what I love about the Mighty Magnets is they're really small. So for this original size, it's a quarter inch and it fits perfectly into this project. And if you get a look at this, this is one that I did, where I wiped away any excess Gorilla Glue. And this has been sitting for a couple of days, and so it's ready to use. And so you'd put it together in exactly the same way. We would add our ... Well actually I want to show you one other type of hanger. If you want to pair the magnets instead of using the thumbtacks, you can also just use hot glue, and I would recommend that if you're working with anything that would create a really big knot, when you tie it, to add to your ends. So this, because it's this kind of heavier twill tape, it leaves a chunkier knot. So instead of knotting it, we're just gonna hot glue it. So I'll show you that. Maybe, because Brienne was saying, how do we hang it, maybe we'll hang this one a little bit shorter than the last one I did. I've got my industrial hot glue going. Put a little bead. Now we're not gluing the wood to anything. We're just attaching this twill tape, and you wanna make sure it doesn't twist. Otherwise it'll twist when you have it hung. And I would, instead of kind of orienting it parallel to the dowel or the half round, I would actually have it going up, because that's how it's gonna hang. And you do wanna just hold onto it, or press it down until it sets. Good. And we're just gently gonna make sure it's not twisted. We'll add a little bit more hot glue here. Just a tiny little bead. We're using the industrial hot glue, which really sets up nicely, and you don't need to have a ton of it. Part of the reason I didn't wanna use anything thicker like a pushpin, or anything that had a lot of depth, is because when you go to hang this, it'll poke away from the wall, and it'll kind of look funky. Especially depending on how you hang your nail, or your hook, or whatever you're gonna hang this poster from, if it's flush against the wall and then you have something behind this half round that's thick, then it's gonna create this weird angle. So, we're just thinking about keeping everything really clean and slim. - [Alli] Our next question comes from Brienne. - [Courtney] Hey Brienne. - [Alli] And she wants to know, how do you know if hot glue is industrial? - Good question. Brienne's asking about the industrial hot glue gun. So if you've watched any of the live shoots, I pretty much always use the same type of hot glue gun, which is a high temp hot glue gun. You used to only really be able to get these at the hardware store, but now you can find them at your local craft store. Some hot glue guns will be dual temp, so both low and high heat, and that works really well. You wanna make sure that you're working with the high heat setting. If you have one of those little mini guys that are for kids, that's not high temp. And I said this before, but I used to not like hot glue at all. I thought it did not work. Once it dries you could peel it off and it was worthless. But with the high temp it's really sturdy. Do be careful of your fingers though, because it is very hot. Okay. So now, we've got our top. We've got our bottom which is gonna weight down our poster, which Leanna was asking about earlier. And, so I was thinking about the slimness, and keeping everything really finite, and not having it poke away from

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the wall in any weird way. And I was thinking, what am I gonna put against these magnets? You cannot put other Mighty Magnets on top. Because of the way magnets are when they touch each other, they'll kind of skew and repel one another, so you won't get a nice contact. Instead, you can use a five cent washer. So, you might remember my consugi plate from Tuesday. It's holding my washers. These are just washers from the hardware store, and they work with our Mighty Magnets. Can you hear that? It's like stuck right to it. So we're gonna use this to put our drawing, or our poster, let's see. We'll use that same rifle paper one. Oop. So again, this is the one that I chose. So I cut this right down to this 20 inch paper. Ah. And you can see that the washers are just sticking right onto the back. Trying to get everything on here so you can see it. And again here. It's that nice snap. And there you've got your poster. Can you see it? That rifle paper is so pretty. It's perfect for a quick change. I think this is an awesome project for really inexpensive decor. It's great for a dorm room. Like I said, I use it for the set all the time, but it's a really fun way to just get a new, fresh look in your space. So for a couple of dollars, you can put together something like this. It's really long lasting. It's easy to change out. You could put up your favorite gift wrap. You could blow up a picture of a friend for a birthday gag. You could do a family tree. There are all kinds of things you can do, and working with the half round allows you to customize your size. You could do this much larger. You may want to actually do a few of the Mighty Magnets. Let's say you could hang a flag this way, or an heirloom quilt maybe, if you did a lot of Mighty Magnets because that would be heavy. And just think about things that you want to present in a way that doesn't have to use a glass frame and is not as expensive. Do you have any other questions? We're all set. I dropped some of my drawings. - [Alli] This would also be good for earthquake prone areas, above the bed. - Oh, Alli had an excellent suggestion. We are in California, and we are all terrified of the next earthquake, so this would be a great way to hang something above the bed, so that if it did fall down, it's not going to kill you in your sleep. Thank you so much for joining us, and you can tune in every Tuesday and Thursday for our wacky and silly live shoots, and asking us questions. Thank you for all your questions and comments. Don't forget about that code JOANN1. If you're new to Creativebug, you can watch all of our amazing classes online, plus get 30 percent off to buy your Mighty Magnets, and your Gorilla Glue, and all the other things you need for crafting, and Alli will post a link for that. We'll see you guys on Tuesday. (upbeat music)

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