Shelf Installation

The following are general shelf installation instructions.

Mark the locations of the wall studs

If you have drywall, locate the studs by sliding an electronic sensor along the wall until you hear a beep or see a red line, indicating the stud's edge. Mark this point in pencil.

Slide the stud finder in from the opposite direction to find the stud's other edge.

Move over the spacing of the shelf wall mounts and repeat for the second standard.

If you have wood-lath plaster walls, use a stud sensor with a metal setting to pinpoint where the lath is nailed to the stud. If you have metal-lath plaster, or don't have a stud sensor, punch tiny holes with a finish nail along the wall (near baseboard is easy to hide) until you hit a stud.

Drill pilot holes

Hold one of the standards on the wall between the marks for the stud edges. Lightly mark where the top screw hole falls on the stud. Bore a 1/8-inch-diameter screw pilot hole at the pencil mark.

Install mounting screws

Using either the hardware that came with the shelf or your own hardware, insert screws into the previously drilled pilot holes leaving enough of the screw exposed for the shelf mounting brackets can engage.   If mounting into drywall (without a stud), use drywall anchors.

Be sure the screw is snug, but don't overtighten it

Tip: Rub candle wax onto the screws and they'll go in faster and easier.

Hang Shelf

Once screws are secured, hang shelf.