

# Traditional Wood Mantel Shelf Installation Instructions

Follow these 3 easy steps and you will be ready to enjoy your new shelf. You will need the following tools and materials to build your mantel shelf:

- Hammer
- Tape Measure
- $\frac{3}{4}$ " x 2" Mounting Board (1x Included)
- Drill
- Pencil
- #8 Penny Finish Nails

## Step 1

Place the shelf on the wall above your fireplace or on the wall at the desired height. Level the shelf and draw a line on the wall at the top of the shelf. Remove the shelf and measure down 2-3/4" from the line and draw a second line on the wall parallel to the first line. See Mantel Plan Fig. 1.

Height of shelf varies. Normal height range from 50 to 55 inches above the floor.

**Note:** Some shelf designs require the use of a square mounting board as opposed to angled. In this case, measure down from "wall mark"  $\frac{3}{4}$ " to draw a second line. If you have a Commodore or Harford shelf, you should measure down from the wall line 3.5" as opposed to 2.75" to make your second wall line mark.

## Step 2

The shelf mounting bracket is a long, narrow wood strip with the top lengthwise edge angled down and away from the outside edge. **For some shelves such as the Bedford, Concorde, Monroe and Vail, the mounting bracket is square, not angled.** See Mantel Plan Fig. 2. Line up the bottom of the mounting bracket with the line and attach the mounting bracket to the wall in this position. Make sure mounting bracket is level. If you are mounting the bracket on a standard drywall over stud construction, make sure you screw the mounting bracket into the wood studs (2x4's) for strength. When attaching the shelf to a brick surface you must use a masonry lag bolt. Drill three holes in the mortar joints of the brick in the desired position. Insert lag and attach mounting bracket with a bolt. Make sure the mounting bracket is secure to the wall as shown in FIG. 2.

Make sure pointed edge of bracket is away from the wall.

Line up bottom of mounting bracket with bottom line on wall. Make sure bracket is level then screw to wall.

## Step 3

Install shelf over mounting bracket and slide down until shelf is tight against the wall. For shelves with a square mounting bracket, push the shelf tight against the wall, with the square mounting bracket on the inside of the shelf cavity, then push down firmly on the shelf to insure that the bottom of your shelf is resting on top of the mounting bracket. When the shelf is in position, nail down through the top of the shelf into the mounting bracket, using #8 penny

Fig. 1  
Step #1, Locate mounting bracket

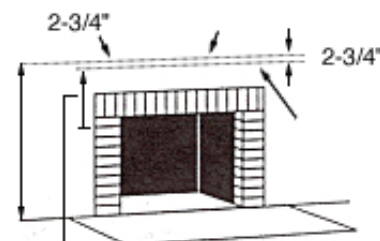
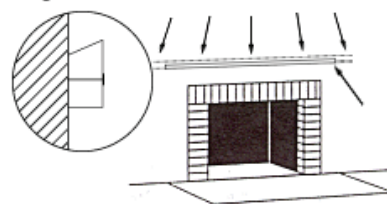


Fig. 2  
Step #2, Install mounting bracket



Step #3, Install shelf on mounting bracket

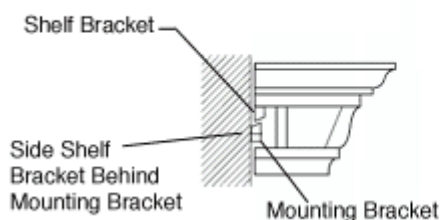
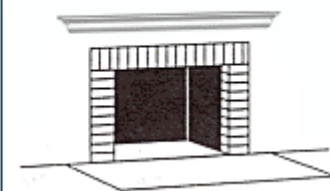


Fig. 4 (FRONT VIEW)



finish nails. You may wish to pre-drill pilot holes before nailing. You may also wish to toenail through the top of the shelf into the wall to insure a tight fit. Make sure the shelf is level before nailing. See Mantel Plans Fig. 3 and FIG. 4.

**Note:** Due to limited height inside the Bedford, Concode, Monroe and Vail shelves, some mounting brackets are straight edged, with no beveled bracket attached inside the shelf. There are no beveled edges to line up on these shelves.

**Note:** The edge of the shelf against the wall may not be tight against the wall across the whole length of the shelf. The wall may not be uniform and flat. If not, use caulk to fill gap before painting.