

Product Review: Hang & Level

by Jan Jones



Don't you think that if you are born with an artistic gene, then you should also be born with a picture-hanging gene? Unfortunately, in my case, that did not occur.

I intensely dislike hanging my paintings, your paintings, or anyone else's paintings! Invariably they end up crooked and groupings are irregularly spaced. Every time I pass them by, (and we're talking years because I won't re-hang them) I am reminded of this defect I was born with.

After having some walls painted in my home it's now necessary to do what I dread -- re-hang lots of paintings and photos. I went to YouTube, my video source expert for many of the household problems I encounter. I located several possibilities, but the solution that appealed to me most employs a gadget named Hang & Level. It's one of those As Seen on TV items that don't always work as promised, but I thought it was worth spending the \$16.00 that it cost on Amazon to give it a try.

The manufacturer describes it as:

- Plastic
- Marks exactly where the nail goes
- Works with all types of hanging hardware; Picture wire, Sawtooth hook, D-Ring and Keyhole
- Has built-in levels to ensure pictures are straight
- Ideal for hanging pictures, clocks, mirrors and canvas
- Can be used on all wall materials

The reviews were informative:

- "Once I figured it out, I flew through all the stuff I had to hang. No joke, I am guessing what would have normally taken me 6 hours to hang took a little over an hour."
- "I have quite a few "collections" of pieces - things that go in a row of 3, a column of 4 or a 2 x 2 square, etc. Those things are an incredible pain to hang with equal spacing in between - levels, pencils, tape measures, marks on the wall, extra holes, patch/paint, and a math headache on top of it! But this little inexpensive plastic tool got rid of all that."
- "Picture hanging used to be a time-consuming and complicated job, but this tool makes it quick and easy!"
- Using the "two button" system let's you use two nails to hang a larger piece instead of one, which has the added benefit of keeping the picture straighter for longer. "
- "Don't get me wrong, I'm a real Amazon shopper, but I got this at Home Depot last night for \$11.99."

Although I didn't make out quite as well as some of these folks, I did manage to hang a four-painting

grouping in about ½ hour with no curse words. Two of the heavier paintings are hung with two hooks and the smaller paintings have one hook. I go by them every day and not one of them is hanging crooked. The paintings are evenly spaced apart from each other, but, for me, that took another product which I will review for you next month. Until then, if you have paintings to hang, try the Hang & Level and let me know how you like it.