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Suggestions for Bulletin Boards: Extension Circular 11-105-2

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Suggestions For Bulletin Boards

There are a number of different ways of making a bulletin board. The choice will depend on the time, the materials at hand, and the skill of the person making it.

The essential part for all bulletin boards is a piece of 1/2 inch insulating board or cork of an appropriate size for the place where it will be used. Suggested size for over a bed is 26" x 48"; for over a desk 18" x 24", or 20" x 36".

Bulletin Boards without Frames

A. Tape Border for Edge
   Colored decorators or mystik tape may be used to edge the sides. Since screw eyes do not hold in the insulation board, holes may be drilled and wooden dowels or beads may be used to attach the cord for hanging.

B. Fabric Covered Board
   Fabric covering will hide tack holes, discolored wallboard and add a colorful note to your room. Suggested materials are monk's cloth, flannel or burlap.

An easy way of hanging the bulletin board without a frame is to drill two holes in the board about three inches from the top and sides. Bolts just long enough to go through the board and to take a nut, are inserted in the holes. They should be countersunk. The picture wire is fastened between the nuts and board. If the bolts are put on before the cloth, the heads will be covered.

Cut the fabric about 6 inches wider and longer than the board, and tack it at the back with #4 carpet tacks about 2 inches apart. It helps to dampen the fabric, for as it dries it shrinks, thus eliminating creases in the fabric.

Locate the tacks in the center of each side first and then work toward the corners in order to keep the grain of the fabric straight. Do not drive the tacks all the way in until they are all correctly located.
You can miter the corners very easily if the margins are exactly the same width on all four sides.

Fold the corner (BDE) of the fabric over the corner of the board. If the fabric is very heavy cut along line A-C.

With point A held firmly or tacked to board, bring D up to position. Do the same for the other corner.

The lengthwise and crosswise grain of the material should follow the edges of the board. Turn raw edges under and tack in place. The seam could be just overlapped at the corner so one or two tacks would hold it in place.

**Bulletin Boards With Frame**

These can be hung with screw eyes and picture wire. They may be fastened to the wall by screwing right angle hooks into the wall, two above and two below.

Old picture frames can be used if simple and large enough to make a useful bulletin board. A coat of paint or a finish to blend with the other colors in the room will freshen an old frame.

**Frame from Molding** A new frame can be built from simple molding which can be bought at a lumber yard. The corners should be mitered, glued and nailed before the glue sets. This is quite a difficult task.

**Hanging Bulletin Boards**

When the board is hung it should be flat against the wall and not tilt out. The screw eyes or the wires should not be seen from the front.