

# HINTS FOR HOMEOWNERS

## Tips For Hanging Pictures And Shelves

(NAPSA)—Whether you consider yourself handy or less than mechanically inclined, one key tool could make a number of household projects more secure.

A simple stud finder can eliminate the guesswork involved when hanging pictures and shelves or securing heavy bookcases or furniture to the wall. Just slide the device across the surface of the wall, and when it detects a change in wall density it signals that it has located a stud.

If your stud finder is what's known as an "edge finder," it will pinpoint the edges of a stud. You then simply determine the center and drill or nail. If you have a "center finder," the center of the stud will be automatically identified for you.

### Choosing Tools

Not every stud finder is the same, so it's important to do a little homework before buying. You might check out a company called Zircon Corporation that offers center-finding stud finders that are also capable of scanning for metal and electrical, in addition to the edge-finding line consisting of the entry-level StudSensor™ EDGE, e30, e40 and e50.

This line features an ergonomic design meant to make them comfortable and easy to use. Their concave grips help homeowners keep the tool flush against the wall as they sweep for studs, and intuitive user interfaces can help users quickly calibrate the tool.



**A stud finder can make hanging pictures, shelves and other items easier.**

The relatively inexpensive e30 offers a "WireWarning" detection feature, which warns users of live unshielded wires. The e40, a more powerful version of the e30, is capable of scanning walls up to 1½ inches deep. The e50 adds a user-friendly LCD screen.

### Hanging Hints

After you've located a wall's studs, hanging items can be simple. Try these tips:

- If you're hanging shelves, consider tracing a template on cardboard and taping it on the wall. Then use the template to gauge bracket placement.
- If you're hanging a picture, place small, adhesive-backed rubber feet on its back corners. The feet will grip the wall and help keep the picture level.

For more information and tips, visit [www.zircon.com](http://www.zircon.com).