



Creative Walls: How to display and enjoy your treasured collections

Geraldine James

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Creative Walls will inspire you to organize and arrange your collections on any surface in your home to create character, charm, and elegance.

Any wall is perfect for display, whatever its size, shape or style. In this inspirational guide, Geraldine James, veteran collector of all things beautiful, shows you ways to organize and display your treasured collections to celebrate their uniqueness and your creativity. Collections of quirky items can illuminate a little corner, whereas a teenager's bedroom will transform instantly when hoarded sports memorabilia makes the leap from the floor to the wall in a bold, clever arrangement. Look for unusual spaces and items: line up a series of themed prints above a picture rail, set heaps of floral china plates in grand style above the fireplace or simply add a mirror into a display to instantly create another in its image. Chapter by chapter, discover how to arrange virtually anything from scratch, rearrange the collections you treasure to best effect and begin a journey into colour, texture and themes to create elegant displays that give a home character and charm. From a memory wall of sepia family photographs to witty collections of kitsch art, this clever guide shows how to create a look that will bring any space to life.

Creative Walls: How to display and enjoy your treasured collections Details

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From Reader Review Creative Walls: How to display and enjoy your treasured collections for online ebook

Michelle says

I wanted to like it. I tried. Failed.

Kelly says

It did have some good tips however the angles that the example pictures were taken at were very odd and sometimes confusing.

Pam says

I lament all the empty wall space in America while I fill mine up with artwork, old family photographs and other collections. I don't want a bigger house just more walls. So when I saw the title of this book, I got excited that here were people like me! But this book of photographs was ruined by the style and font used for the author's descriptions. The printing, which varied in size within a paragraph and often used a style imitating wooden block printing with smears and block edges, was distracting to the photographs and created a chaotic look that was a mess. Instead of being impressed with these homeowners creativity and collections, I just wanted to turn the page...

Carolien says

Absolutely love it. Very inspiring.

Relyn says

I enjoy Geraldine James' books very much. I love the lay out, the playful design, the extra thick pages, and all the wonderful eye candy. This book is chock-full of terrific ideas and inspiration. After you read this, you'll never look at your walls in the same way again.

Ricki Treleaven says

I enjoyed Creative Walls. {Mostly.} I do not know why I tortured myself reading this book because we have very little wall space in our home. I would love to incorporate some of the creative ideas so beautifully photographed in this book on our {few} walls. One of my favorite chapters in the book is Children's and Students' Spaces: It was loaded with truly creative and affordable ideas. Shanley will be living in an

apartment next year at college, and I think she will find inspiration in this chapter.

Ideas I Love in Creative Walls

1. Life-size GAP poster from the 1980's filling the wall opposite a doorway
2. Memory board covered in concert tickets
3. Pretty vintage bottles from the collectibles chapter
4. Postcards and greeting cards displayed behind a vintage vanity
5. Gorgeous art collections

What I did not care for: the overabundance of dead animals and dead animal parts on walls throughout the book. I did a quick count, and I counted at least 43 pages out of 224 that have dead animal parts, mostly antlers. But there are also skulls, horns, skeletons, stuffed animals, and other specimens. One bar area had antlers and horns in graduated sizes with a menacing-looking stuffed swan standing guard over the bottles. I do not have anything dead in my house, including dried flowers. This is my only criticism, though. But please do not let this stop you from checking out Creative Walls. I think you will find it inspiring overall.

Brie Peters says

inspiring gallery walls

Katey says

Maybe because I was expecting more of a how-to or DIY type of book, that would show me how to build interesting shelving or displays, but I was a tad disappointed in this book overall. It was good for browsing through, garnering some ideas, but actual tips or sources or even how to make some of the cooler ideas would have been nice. Not everyone can afford to drop a bunch of cash on a collection of high demand vintage signs or art, or have a collection of them all ready to redecorate. Again, I think that was my expectations of the book and not the book's fault, but I think it might have a specific, wealthier audience in mind. Plus I think a lot of things would look good as a gallery display, or for the purposes of a photo shoot, but something about the eclectic asepticism didn't quite make them feel like places where people actually lived, almost as if they were designed for the purpose of the book.

Karol M says

For inspiration and originality, this book is great. I am enjoying getting ideas for what to do in my own home.

Rebecca says

Wanted to like this more than I did. It's a lovely format, with a sturdy library-bound cover, thick matte pages,

and great printed colors. But the heart of it is about making and displaying collections, and collections = clutter. The pictures made me feel a little claustrophobic. I thought they were great ideas for store displays (which is the author's background), but not for living with every day. IMHO, artwork needs breathing space in a home, and should only be hung salon-style in a gallery or museum. If I had collections, though, I might feel differently, and wish the book had talked more about the how-to of different hanging techniques instead of just showing examples. I also have a pet peeve about changing font styles and sizes, and the text's random breaks into all caps (caps is shouting, man) and a hard-to-read letterpress font had me skipping the words altogether.

Still and all, there were some ideas I liked:

- p. 46 - framed jewelry - Line an old frame w/felt and pin your jewelry pieces to it
- Chapter 2: It's Magic - using mirrors, light, and reflection to create the illusion of space and bringing the outdoors in
- p. 124 - memory wall of colorful photos covering a chimney; round silver mosaic mirror over top
- p. 134 - postcards/greeting cards affixed to the wall as an art piece/memory board
- p. 158 - inspiration wall of images (blue tones moving gradually to neutral tones - VERY cool - also included 3D objects, not just photos)
- p. 175 - portrait wall along a staircase - unframed oil paintings collected from antique shops
- p. 190 - decoupage plates - wonder how they got so thick and shiny

Things I don't care for:

monochromatic color schemes
black & white color schemes
animal bones or taxidermy as decor

Carolyn says

I dithered about 3 or 4 stars, going for the higher in the end because spending the afternoon with this book has been enjoyable, relaxing, and inspiring, even if it hasn't been useful. I love a lot of the ideas in the book, and the pictures make me long to do things with my walls and stuff. However, for an average family with a mix of old and new furniture and living in a suburban semi, the high ceilings, old walls with generations of paint, wide window sills, small bays etc to use these ideas are not as easily come by. However if you want a look that is uniquely you and you have either the old country manor or urban loft from a lot of the examples in the book; or you have the imagination to take those ideas and find ways of applying them to what you do have as I am hoping to, then this book will give you an enjoyable few hours.

Shannon says

Another of my favorite design tomes. James is an artist and the photos are beautiful. If you want creative, out-of-the-box design inspiration, you'll enjoy this. It's one I re-read often.

Lisa says

Love the cover, but definitely not a book I would buy because there isn't enough eye candy. I didn't read much from the book, which I feel a little guilty about, but I checked this book out for the pictures and not the words. It had a few ideas I liked and did give me some inspiration for the blank walls I have all over my house!

Sherri says

I wanted to like this book. It's sturdy and seemed welldone, however all it showed me was to take your ENTIRE collections of stuff and put it out = clutter.

Jessica says

Eh, this just wasn't as inspiring as I'd hoped for!
