

Hanging a mirror using Z-Bars (also known as French Cleats)

Z-Bars/French cleats are wide supports with notches on them, they're usually made from wood or metal and are used for hanging heavy objects from walls.

Step One: Attach one of the Z-Bars to the top edge of the back of your mirror. Do this using either a strong glue or the correct screws. The piece which attaches to the back of your mirror is usually the smaller of the two you will have. Us a level to ensure it's perfectly straight and ensure that the raised part of your Z-Bars is facing downwards to create a hook, which will later catch on the corresponding piece you'll attach to your wall.

Step Two: Attach an off-set board to the bottom of your mirror. Once you've hung your mirror, the weight will be supported along the top edge, if there's nothing to support the weight at the bottom, this can cause the mirror to twist towards the wall and damage the mirror or even rip the cleat from the wall. Attaching an offset board will ensure that the bottom edge rests flush against the wall and the mirror has the necessary support along its bottom edge.

Step Three: Mark the Z-Bars position on the wall. Using a level, draw a vertical line through the centre of the studs you're using to bear the mirror's weight, then, again with the level, draw a horizontal line through the vertical ones at the exact height you want your Z-Bars to attach to the wall. Mark off the points where your horizontal and vertical lines cross, these are where you'll attach your Z-Bars to the wall.

Step Four: Attach the Z-Bars to the wall. Using wood screws which are rated to bear loads larger than that of your mirror, fasten the remaining half of the Z-Bars to the wall. This piece should be attached so that it provides an upwards gap that the 'hook' created by the piece on the mirror can sit in.

Step Five: Hang the Mirror. Finally, lift the mirror into place and gently **bring down until the cleats sit together and the mirror's weight is held.** The cleats should fit together perfectly leaving you with a stunning mirror, hung perfectly on your wall.









