

Hanging It Up!

Keeping your home neat and organized is an on-going chore. Finding a place for everything and, even more challenging, putting everything back in its place. If your kids or roommates have trouble hanging up their jackets, hats or book bags, give them a practical and stylish solution for being messy. Create your own coat hanger with a few supplies and paint!

There never seems to be a shortage of miscellaneous food or candle trays at Goodwill. They come in all shapes, sizes and materials. I chose a rectangular candle tray with a wood frame and particle board base for \$2.99. This will serve as my "coat hanger".



There just happened to be a basket of cabinet knobs for sale when I was shopping for only 49¢ each. These will become my "hangers/hooks". You can also find a big selection of cabinet knobs at any hardware store.



This tray was big enough to handle three knobs/hooks. I measured the base, so the knobs would be evenly spaced. Because they had to be screwed from the back, I needed a drill for the three holes. Simple hardware store washers served as extenders to make sure the knobs stood out from the frame.



The wood on this tray was in pretty good shape, so I just freshened it up with tung oil. I applied it with a rag. It dries fast and doesn't change the color of the original stain.



You can spice up your "hangers" by adding paint. Let your imagination take over! Paint to coordinate with your décor. Create a design or use your child's name to match his or her bedroom.



In keeping with the organizational theme, assign a peg to each family member. I painted the base with black chalkboard paint. Once it cures it can be written on with chalk, wiped off and written on over and over.

Finally, attach a sturdy picture hanger on the back and hang it next to the back door, front door or bedroom door. You could even use it for bath towels. Your family will have no more excuses for not hanging up their stuff!

