

Sticky Wall

A sticky wall provides a surface for posting sheets of paper that can then be rearranged easily, without the risk of damaging the sticky wall. The sticky wall is helpful in situations where you need to group and regroup students' ideas that they've written on sheets of paper and subsequently placed on the sticky wall. The sticky wall is also a great place for students to place exit tickets, questions they have or any other type of work.

You can purchase a sticky wall and adhesive through the Institute of Cultural Affairs' website:

<https://ica.site-ym.com/store/ListProducts.aspx?catid=100044>

You can also make your own wall if you prefer. Sticky walls are made of lightweight material and will last for years. If you prefer to make your own wall, you can do so from a fabric called Rip Stop Nylon, which can be found at most fabric stores. To give the wall its "stick", spray with repositionable adhesive such as 3M.

The wall can be stored when not in use and rehung in the classroom when needed.

Using Your Sticky Wall

- You can hang the sticky wall with duct tape, staples or tacks.
- You can use most types of paper on your wall. Do not use construction paper because it may permanently stick. Copy paper and cardstock work well.
- When folding the wall for carrying or storage, be sure to fold with the STICKY SIDE IN. (When you unfold the fabric, it will sound like Velcro being pulled apart. This will not damage the wall.)
- For subsequent uses, check the wall for stickiness. If papers do not stick to the wall, spray lightly with *repositionable* spray adhesive as needed. Avoid over-spraying. Repositionable spray adhesive can be found at craft stores such as Hobby Lobby or Joann's Fabrics.

Applying and Reapplying Adhesive to the Wall

- Unfold and hang the clean fabric in a well-ventilated area, preferably outdoors.
- Make sure you have Artist Layout Spray, such as 3M Spray Mount, Artist's Adhesive or another type of *repositionable* spray adhesive.
- Shake the spray and apply a thin coat using even strokes over the entire surface of the material. The material works best (and lasts longest) when there is just enough adhesive to hold paper to the material, but not so much that it is difficult to pull the paper off and reposition it. Let the first coat dry a few minutes, then try placing and removing several papers at different spots on the material. If the papers stick, your wall is ready for use. If the papers fall off, apply another thin coat, let it dry and test again. Covering the entire surface requires approximately ½ of the can. One coating should be sufficient for first time use.
- After spraying the sticky wall, allow to dry for 5 to 10 minutes before folding. Fold sticky side in.
- For subsequent uses, first check the wall for stickiness. If papers are not sticking to the wall, spray lightly with additional spray mount as needed. Avoid over-spraying.
- When there is adhesive build up on your wall, you may want to clean it. To do this, use 3M Citrus Based Cleaner. Clean in a well-ventilated area, preferably outside and follow instructions on the can. Clean from the center of the wall and work your way out and down. You will get an even, clean look.