10 Tips for Mounting a TV

1. **Determine wall surface type**
   Before mounting a TV, it's important to examine the type of wall you want to mount it on. Depending on the surface type (drywall, sheetrock, plaster, brick, concrete, etc.), the location you choose may need a stud(s) to anchor the screws.

2. **Consider the size and weight of the TV**
   Now that you’ve figured out your mounting surface, next thing to take into account is the size and weight of your television. This is crucial because you’ll want to make sure that the mount you choose to buy will can support your TV.

3. **Find the studs**
   To ensure safe and secure mounting, use an electronic stud finder to determine where the studs are located. If only one stud is available, make sure you have the proper toggle bolts. Avoid using plastic anchors as they cannot support TV wall mounts.

4. **Check for electrical conduits**
   Use the stud finder to deduce if there is an electrical conduit behind the wall. It is very important to avoid drilling into electrical conduits as this is a safety hazard and may result in shorting electrical lines in the room. Additionally, avoid drilling directly above or below any power outlets to prevent further damage.

5. **Examine the TV’s positioning**
   Your comfort while watching TV should be taken into consideration when deciding the TV mounting height. While some prefer a higher vantage point, positioning the TV at eye-level is the best option for comfort.

6. **Select the proper mount**
   In selecting the proper mount, contemplate your TV viewing preference. If the TV will be in a fixed location, you’ll want to go with a tilt (also known as fixed) mount. If you prefer to rotate your TV to different angles, a full motion mount would be the best option. Full motion mounts also allow better access if the ports are located on the back of the TV.

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7. Use the proper tools
Be sure to have all the necessary tools to mount your TV to the wall. You’ll need a stud finder (electric recommended), a drill, a drill bit, and a screwdriver bit. Further, your drill bit should be around the same size as the mount screws.

8. Secure the mount
If you’re mounting on drywall or plaster, make sure that the mount is secured to the studs. To ensure you’re hitting the studs, use a small drill bit to drill pilot holes in the wall. Also, be sure to use a bubble level to check that the holes are horizontal.

9. Find a spot for the components
Do you have a lot of devices hooked up to your TV? One major step in the planning process of TV mounting is finding a spot for all the components to live. Many devices, like gaming consoles and cable boxes, will likely need to be placed near the TV so the cords are able to reach the TV’s output ports. As a solution for this, many people choose to install a floating shelving unit right below the TV.

10. Choose a cord concealment plan
Two of the most common solutions for cord concealment include in-wall cord concealment and external cord masking. According to fire code in most areas, high voltage power cords cannot go inside a wall, as it is considered a fire hazard. That being said, if you decide to go with in-wall cord concealment, it is best to seek assistance by a professional. Otherwise, external cord masking with an on-wall cord cover is the safest and easiest DIY.

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