MTS
MUSEUM TEXTILE SERVICES

HANGING A TEXTILE USING A VELCRO SLAT

- Decide how far down from the ceiling you want your textile to hang, e.g. 36 inches down. Remember that the holes in your slat will be along the bottom edge, not the top edge when the slat is installed, otherwise the screws will show.

- Hold the slat up to the wall at the desired location and place a pencil dot in each pre-drilled hole. These dots correspond to where you will place your screws in the wall. If you have leeway side to side, you may be able to line the screws up with studs in your wall. Otherwise you'll want to use drywall anchors. If you have older walls, you may want to hire a professional.

- Double check that the slat is parallel to the ceiling before proceeding (in older homes, you may want to be parallel to the floor instead.)

- Using a drill, make a pilot hole at each of the dots that you've drawn. Using a drill or screw driver, sink the dry-wall anchors into your pilot holes until they are flush with the wall.

- Holding your slat up to the wall, insert a screw through the first hole in the slat and drive it into the coordinating dry-wall anchor. Install the remaining screws in the same manner.

- Hanging the textile on the slat is best done with two or more people. Lay the textile out on a clean surface with the Velcro header parallel to the wall. Using arms to cradle it, lift the textile up and begin to marry one side of the Velcro to the other. Try not to let the textile down until all of the Velcro is connected.

- Adjust the textile side to side, and up and down, so that the slat isn't visible. Sometimes a textile will hang flatter if the corners are raised a bit. It may also hang better if it is pulled outward gently. Once you are happy with the position, press gently along the whole length of the Velcro to insure it is fully married.

- When taking a textile down from a Velcro slat, slide your hand between the two layers of Velcro and gently separate them. Never pull on the textile. Cradle the textile in your arms and place it on a clean surface.

- Store all textiles in using archival storage materials. For more information, see our MTS handout: "Clothing & Storage Textile Guidelines"