# SUSAN HARTER 

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## MEASURING YOUR ROOM

## A NOTE FROM SUSAN:

The nicest gift you can give yourself, starting this mural project, is some quiet, focused time to take accurate measurements. I know a job-site can be full of distractions. You deserve a few distraction-free minutes to take the best possible measurements. Taking that time now will make you much happier later. Your accurate measurements are the single most important way you can ensure that your mural is designed quickly, delivered on time, and fits beautifully on install day. The power to achieve a good outcome rests largely in your own hands, those competent hands now holding the tape measure. Let's begin!

## START HERE:

Our goal today is to get images of each of your room's walls, clearly labeled with all the necessary measurements for a quote. We'll walk you through each step.
--If you aren't comfortable drawing, please take photos of your room, print them out, and write the measurements on the room images.
--If want to try drawing "to scale", please use one sheet of graph paper per wall, and have every square on the paper represent 6 " on the actual wall.

Either way, please label the walls $A, B, C, D$ as you turn towards your right, around the room (i.e. clockwise).


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## OVERALL ROOM MEASUREMENTS:

Please remember that a mural isn't like patterned wallpaper. If you are used to ordering material by the roll, the following process will be unfamiliar. We do it this way because the goods have to be laid in sequence. We need to understand your whole room as a "box," as it exists in three-dimensions (see "Why to Measure" for details). Some measurements are about the shape of the room itself, and some are about the shape of each flat wall.

## Starting with Wall A:

Step 1) Room height: Measure the overall height of the room, floor to ceiling, including moldings.

$\square$ I've added the room height to my image of wall A

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Step 2) Wall height (NOT the same as room height): the height of the actual wall surface to be papered. Please do not include any moldings, just the wall surface itself. This should not be the same answer as one above, unless you have no moldings. If you don't have trim yet, because the space is still under construction, please note that for us. We may need as-builts later.

$\square$ I've added the wall height to my image of wall A

Now, go on to your other walls, measuring and recording room height and wall height. Wall heights can vary, especially in older houses, please double-check them all.
$\square$ I've added the room height and wall height to my images of walls B, C, \& D (etc.)

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Step 3) Overall Wall Width: Measure the total width of each wall, corner to corner, including doors and windows. Run your tape right over the doors and windows, from one side of the wall to the other, like you were measuring the side of a box. This overall "box" measurement is absolutely key for our production team. Be sure to label each wall A, B, C, D, moving clockwise around the room.


Pro tip: If you don't have a helper, or furniture is in your way, lay the tape measure on the floor instead. Please note the total floor width is usually slightly smaller than the total wall width, because the base molding sits on $1 / 2^{\prime \prime}$ or so of floor space. Please measure and include the thickness of that molding, as seen from above. Don't understand? Imagine the base-molding is a piece of bread with the butter side stuck to the wall. You'd be measuring the crust, how thick a slice was cut from the loaf. You'd add that amount, on each side, to the floor measurement.
Floor method for same room: If tape measure on floor = 119" plus $1 / 2^{\prime \prime}$ thickness of base molding on either side $=120^{\prime \prime}$ (see photo to the right)

$\square$ I've added my overall wall width to my images of Wall A, B, C, D (etc.)

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Does your project have any of these features?



A room with multiple niches and bump-outs


A room with large doors, windows, or built-ins

If NO, then you can do a simple "Straight Run" project.
You may stop here, and email us at studio@susanharter.com with photos of your wall images and measurements.

If YES, then we will need more detailed measurements, for "Tailored Run" project, please continue to step 4:

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Step 4) Openings (doorways, windows, etc.)
How many single doors you have: $\qquad$
How many double doors you have: $\qquad$
How many standard size windows you have: $\qquad$
How many bay or bow windows you have: $\qquad$

## What sort of quote would you like- rough or accurate?

Just want a rough quote for Tailored Run? You can stop here and send your answers to steps 1-4 including drawings/ photos of your room to us at studio@susanharter.com

Want an accurate quote for a Tailored Run, and to go into production more quickly? Please continue by taking 30-45 minutes or so to carefully measure and answer steps 5-10:

## SMALL WIDTHS

Step 5. Locating your Openings. Starting with wall A, please mark the distance from the left-hand corner to the nearest door or window frame. Please don't include any molding, just the actual wall surface to be papered.


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## SMALL WIDTHS (Step 5 continued from previous page)

Then measure across the door and window, including the molding. Please do not skip the doors and windows. Even though they don't need to be papered, we MUST know exactly where they are, and how big they are, to do a tailored run.


I've measured the small widths and added them to Wall A

Continue in this manner across all the walls, measuring across wall surface, doors, and windows.
Note down all the widths that make up Wall B, C, D, etc.

I've added all the small widths to Wall B, C, D, etc.

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Step 6. Checking Your Widths: Compare your small widths with your overall width. Do the small segments add up to the total? If not, please correct.

I've doubled-check all my math. All of the small widths on wall $A$ add up the total width of wall $A$. All of the small widths on wall B add up to the total width on wall B, etc.

## SMALL HEIGHTS

Once you've done all your widths, now it's time to capture all the vertical measurements.
Step 7. Moldings. Starting again at wall A, note down your molding heights:
Crown - please note the height of your crown molding, if you have any.
Base/Chair-rail: Measure the height of your base or chair molding.

$\square$ I've added the molding heights to my images of Wall A, B, C, D (and any additional walls you may have)

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Step 8) Doors. Please tell us:
Door height: Measure from the top of the door frame molding to the floor:


Over-doors: Measure the wall surface between the top of the door frame molding and the bottom of the crown molding.


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ALERT: If you have a little strip of wall above the door, don't forget to include it's measurements! Because the goods are hung in sequence, and the sky color varies, we need to know just what bit of sky to print there. You can't just slap a scrap in, we want it to look right for you.


I've added the door heights, and the height of the wall surface above the door, to every door on my images of Walls A, B, C, D etc.

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Step 9) Windows: Please tell us:

Height under and above windows: the wall surface, if any, between lower window frame and top of base molding, and upper window frame and bottom of crown molding. (see close-up to the right)


Height of the window itself, including all moldings (see close-up to the right)


I've added the height of each window, and the height of the wall surface above and below each window, to every window on my images of $W$ alls $A, B, C, D$ etc.

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## Thank you so much for completing your measurements!

For extra wonderfulness, please include a quick sketch of a floor plan like this, showing us how the walls relate, if you were looking down into the room from above.


## We look forward to hearing from you:

Please send us your completed sketches and/or photos with meauremnets to studio@susanharter.com.


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