



Make a Floating Bookshelf

Today's make is a combination of craft and DIY – a floating bookshelf.

You can buy expensive custom-made brackets that will make your books look like they're floating, but this is a quick and easy way to make your own for a fraction of the cost.

This is also a great solution for covering up parts of walls that don't look so great. As you'll see from the photos, I've used mine to cover up a patch of raggedy wallpaper – perfect solution!

Tools

- *Electric drill
- *2 G-clamps
- *Strong all-purpose glue
- *2 corner braces
- *8 screws
- *4 rawl plugs or plasterboard fixings

- *Old damaged book
- *Pencil
- *Spirit level
- *Hammer

Method

Get 2 corner braces that are longer than half the width of your book, and screws that are the depth of the pages of your book, not including the covers.

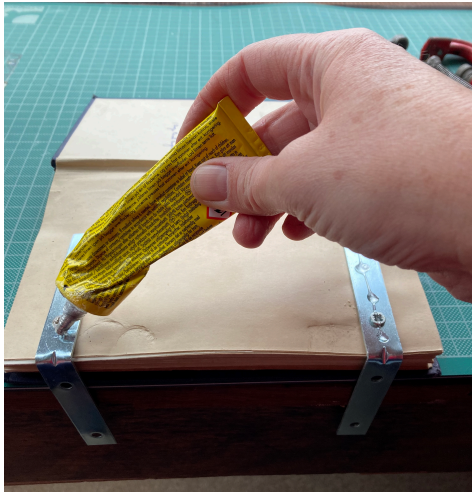
Make sure that your book is bigger than the books you will stack on top of it, and be careful not to overload the floating bookshelf with more tomes than it can cope with.



With the book pages facing towards you, clamp the book to a bench or table, leaving the cover free, so both brackets can fit on either side of the clamps.



Using the screwdriver attachment on your drill, screw the brackets to the book, then remove the clamps.



Glue brackets and screw heads then close cover and put something heavy on the book until it dries to the brackets.



Once dry, put a spirit level on the book and, once straight, hold in position on wall and mark bracket holes with a pencil.

Remove book.



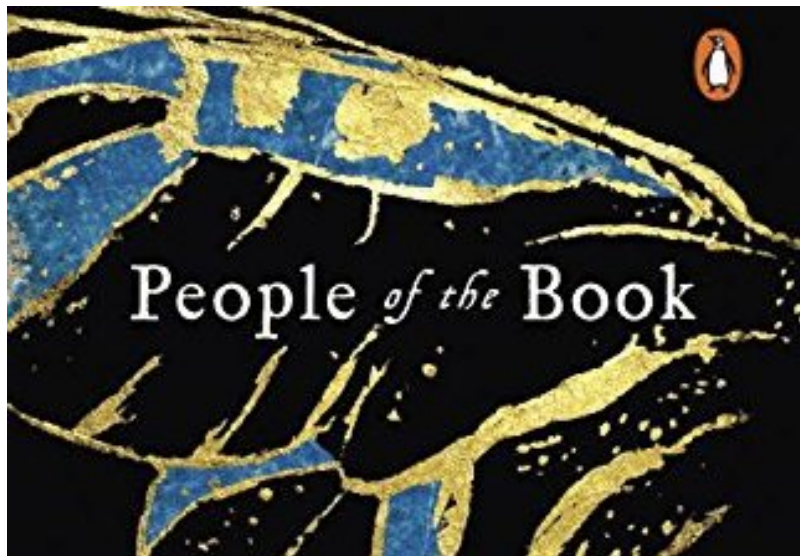
Using a bit that's the same width as the shaft of your screws, drill into your wall where your pencil marks are.

Gently hammer rawl plugs into the holes you've made then hold the book brackets over these and screw brackets into wall.



Stack books on top and enjoy your new floating bookshelf!

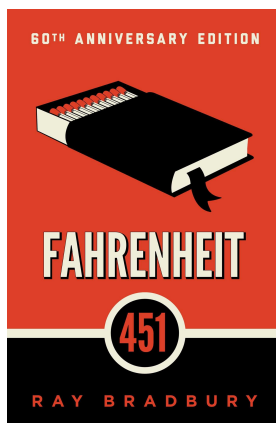
*How did you get on with making the floating bookshelf? Which book did you use, and why? Let me see your finished shelf on [@thebookholiday](#) on Instagram.



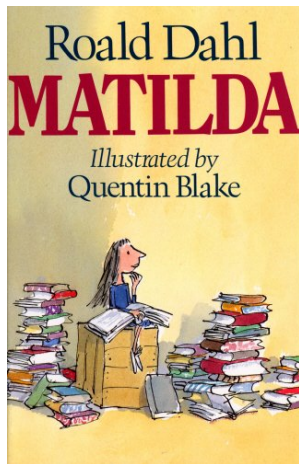
Novels About the Significance of Books

Is it any wonder that many celebrated stories centre around the importance of books and reading? Here are just a few of these meta-referential masterpieces, for those who might need a quick reminder how important books really are!

1. *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury



2. *The Book Thief* by Markus Zusak
3. *The Shadow of the Wind* by Carlos Ruiz Zafon
4. *Mr. Penumbra's 24 Hour Bookstore* by Robin Sloan
5. *Matilda* by Roald Dahl



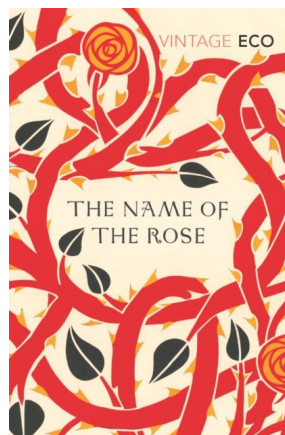
6. *Northanger Abbey* by Jane Austen

7. *1984* by George Orwell

8. *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society* by Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Barrows

9. *If on a Winter's Night a Traveler* by Italo Calvino

10. *The Name of the Rose* by Umberto Eco



11. *The People of the Book* by Geraldine Brooks