

June 17, 2026

Light Switch Covers

Switch plate covers, also known as wall plates or faceplates, serve as protective enclosures for electrical switches, outlets, and wiring. Their primary purpose is to conceal and safeguard these electrical components from accidental contact, thus minimizing the risk of electric shock or fire hazards. By providing a barrier between live wires and individuals, switch plate covers play a crucial role in promoting electrical safety within households.

(Excerpt taken from <https://www.dkhardware.com/blog/the-importance-of-electrical-safety-and-switch-plate-covers>)



Materials:

- switch cover template
- wooden switch cover
- screws
- paint
- paint brushes

Process:

1. Find a comfortable place to work and open up your packet.
2. Cover your table with newspaper, paper bags, butcher paper or some other protective sheet.
3. **PARENTS – PLEASE NOTE! – We are working with acrylic paints. While they are non-toxic, they can stain clothes. Please make sure your children have paint appropriate clothes. When possible, painting in a well-ventilated area is best. Please make sure your children clean their hands afterwards!**
4. Use your light switch cover template to come up with some designs before beginning.
5. Wipe off your switch cover with a dry paper towel to remove any dust.
6. Prime your light switch cover using the white gesso which is labeled with a "P" in your paint set. Bare wood is porous and will act like a sponge, soaking up your paint. Primer seals the wood and gives your design a foundation.
 - a. Feel free to add many coats of primer before painting.



- b. Make sure you let each coat of primer dry before adding another layer or before painting.
7. Get busy on your design. Have fun painting and feel free to use any extra adornments. Don't forget to include the screws in your design!
 - a. Give your switch cover time to dry.
8. This switch cover is a functional piece of art and can be added to your room!
9. Please put your name and age on the back of your switch cover.
10. Be proud of your creation and bring it back to Old Town Square next Wednesday so that we can hang it up for all of Fort Collins to see!
 - a. Don't worry! After we have displayed your piece, it will be available for you to pick up the following week!

About the Art for the Heart Program

Art for the Heart is a program of the Fort Collins Downtown Development Authority and NOLA Creative Company.

All returned projects will be displayed in our outdoor kiosk located in between Coopersmith's Pub and Poolside restaurants. All projects will be returned to you the following week after they have been displayed.

Each art project returned will earn you a punch on our "Frequent Artists" punch card. Artists with consistent participation (5 punches or more) will be awarded a t-shirt at the end of the program.

You can find all of our past projects and more information about the program at <https://downtownfortcollins.org/art-for-the-heart/>

Follow us on Instagram @nola_creative_company as we will be featuring artwork from each week. We will not use full names or identify your children in any way other than using their first name in order to give credit.