



DRYWALL PROJECT GUIDE

Tools and Materials:

- ▶ Dust Masks
- ▶ Eye Protection
- ▶ Drywall Sheets
- ▶ Drywall Screws or Nails
- ▶ Screw Gun or Hammer
- ▶ Pencil
- ▶ Measuring Tape
- ▶ Chalk/Lipstick

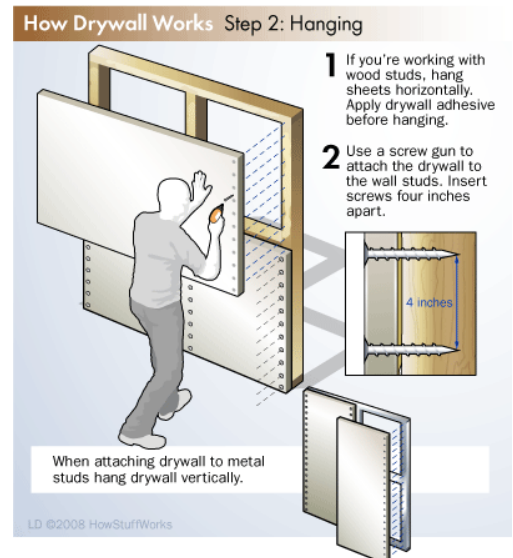
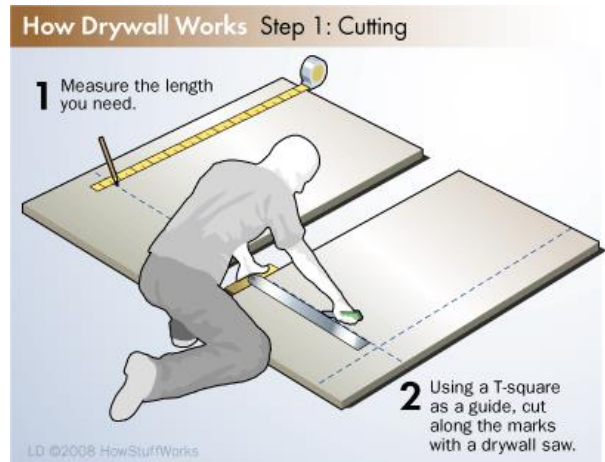
- ▶ Rags or Sponges
- ▶ Hand Saw
- ▶ Utility Knife
- ▶ Joint Compound
- ▶ Drywall Tape
- ▶ Bucket of Water
- ▶ Sandpaper

Prep for Drywall Projects:

1. Cover any flooring or furniture. Drywall can get messy! Ask the homeowner to turn off the AC so that dust particles are not spread throughout the house.

Process for Hanging Drywall:

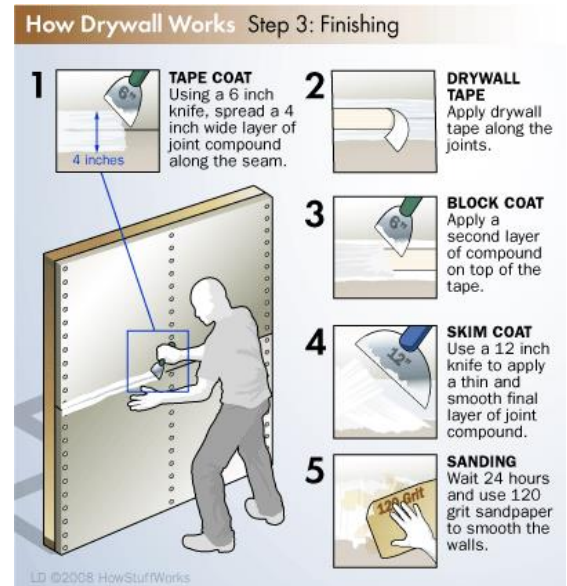
1. Calculate the amount of drywall needed by computing the square footage of the walls and/or ceiling.
2. Cover any flooring or furniture. Drywall can get messy! Ask the homeowner to turn off the AC so that dust particles are not spread throughout the house.
3. Measure the width of the wall. Subtract $\frac{1}{4}$ inch to help the sheet fit flush with the ceiling and cut the sheet to the measurements. You may have to cut more than one sheet in order to cover an entire wall. Hold the sheet flush to the ceiling and screw/nail in $1\frac{1}{4}$ " screws/nails in the middle of the panel into wall studs.
4. Finish screwing/nailing in the drywall, moving your way from the center to the outside. Screw/Nail 16" apart into each wall stud.
5. *If the wall has a window:* Measure the window before hanging the drywall. Mark on the drywall sheet and cut with a handsaw. Remove window trim. Install as directed above.
6. *If the wall has a door:* Measure a door cut the same as windows. Remove trim. Install as directed above.



7. *Where there are outlets:* Remove outlet covers (if applicable). Cover the outlet boxes with lipstick or dark chalk. Put the panel into place, allowing the lipstick/chalk to transfer to the back of the drywall sheet. Remove and cut along the lipstick/chalk lines with a hand saw.
8. Cut a piece of drywall $\frac{1}{4}$ inch short. Fit this between the corner of the room and the last installed piece of drywall. Screw/nail into place.
9. For the bottom row of drywall, stagger the seams. Starting with a shorter piece will help. Install the piece of drywall flush with the above row of drywall. Create a $\frac{1}{2}$ inch gap between the floor and bottom piece of drywall- Floorboards will cover this later.
10. Continue until all the drywall is up.

Process for Taping and Finishing Drywall:

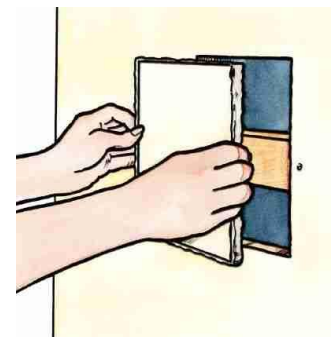
1. Stir the joint compound (called "mud") until it is well mixed.
2. Put about an inch of joint compound on a 6" utility knife and fill the grooves and screw holes with compound.
3. Place drywall tape over the compound, pushing it into the groove every foot or two to keep it in place.
4. Starting in the corners of the room, take the 6" utility knife and run it over the tape to smooth and secure.
5. Let the compound dry overnight.
6. Using medium-grit sandpaper, sand the first coat of joint compound.
7. Apply a second coat using the same method. Allow to dry several hours. Sand with light-grit sandpaper.
8. Apply a third coat using the same method. Allow to dry.
9. Sand the mud until the walls are smooth.
10. Clean the wall surface with a rag or sponge and water



Turner, Bambi. "How Drywall Works" 23 March 2007. HowStuffWorks.com. <<http://home.howstuffworks.com/drywall.htm>> 17 December 2013.

Process for Repairing Drywall:

1. Measure the area you will be repairing.
2. Cut a piece of drywall about an inch wider in diameter than the repair area.
3. Hold the drywall patch over the repair area and trace with a pencil.
4. Using a hand saw, cut along the pencil lines.
5. Attach the drywall patch to a wall stud. If this is not possible, create a backer behind the drywall patch to screw into. Screw or nail in place.
6. Tape the seams with drywall tape.
7. Apply joint compound over the tap, covering an area 6" larger than the patch Smooth with mudding knife and allow to dry.
8. Sand the joint compound.
9. Apply a second coat of joint compound. Allow to dry.
10. Sand the area.
11. Clean the wall surface with a rag or sponge and water.



Curtis, Walter. "How to Fix Drywall Holes" 14 April 2006. HowStuffWorks.com. <<http://home.howstuffworks.com/how-to-fix-holes-in-drywall.htm>> 17 December 2013.

Clean-Up:

1. Using a rag or sponge, wipe down the walls 2–3 times. Periodically rinse your rag or sponge into the bucket of water to clean.
2. Vacuum or sweep the floors.
3. If applicable, mop.
4. Carefully remove the tarps or plastic sheeting from any furniture. Take outside.
5. Sweep/vacuum again as needed.
6. Place any extra drywall scraps in the trash
7. Gather all supplies and bring back to the housing site unless otherwise specified by the Work Projects Coordinator.

Team Tips and Strategies:

- Allow the youth foreman to read the Project Guide and delegate tasks to others.
- Guide and delegate tasks to others.
- Use nails instead of screws. That way, youth can be actively involved in putting the drywall up on the walls.
- Invite youth to measure the room and figure out the math.
- Cleaning up a drywall project takes a lot of time. Allow a good hour to clean.