



# The Essential Kit: Drywall Tools

Here is a downloadable summary:

## Core cutting + measuring tools

- **Utility knife + extra blades** — for scoring sheets, trimming edges, cleaning up cuts.
- **Drywall T-square (or 4-foot level) + tape measure** — keeps lines straight so pieces fit cleanly.
- **Drywall/jab saw** — for outlet and switch cutouts.

## Hanging tools (getting sheets on the wall/ceiling)

- **Cordless drill/driver + drywall bit** — the depth stop keeps you from tearing the paper face with over-driven screws.
- **Drywall lift (especially for ceilings)** — the page suggests renting/buying one if you're doing more than a tiny ceiling patch.
- **Basic helpers: hammer + flat bar** — for small adjustments and demo/removal.

## Finishing tools (where the “good vs rough” outcome happens)

- **Taping knives (at least two sizes)**
  - **6-inch** for bedding tape/first coat
  - **10–12 inch** for feathering 2nd/3rd coats
- **Mud pan (12-inch+)** — holds compound and makes it easier to keep your knife clean.
- **Surform plane/rasp** — “secret weapon” for shaving rough edges and high spots before mudding.

## Sanding + dust control

- **Pole sander (swivel head)** — faster for walls/ceilings.
- **Sanding sponges** — better control in corners/detail spots.
- **Dust mask + plastic sheeting/drop cloths + good lighting** — they stress dust gets everywhere, and lighting helps you spot flaws.

## Materials you'll go through

- **Drywall screws** (example given: *1¼-inch for ½-inch drywall*)
- **Joint compound** (pre-mixed is framed as easiest for DIY)
- **Drywall tape** (paper = traditional, mesh = more beginner-forgiving)
- **Bucket + sponge** — cleanup

## Their “when to call a pro” takeaway

If you're doing **multiple rooms or ceilings**, tool costs add up fast (they mention roughly **\$200–\$400 in supplies**, and a **drywall lift** around **\$150–\$300** to buy or **\$40–\$60/day** to rent). The argument is: a pro already owns the gear and finishes faster, so bigger jobs often cost less overall than buying specialty tools for one project.

Call us: 540- 421- 0222 for more information or questions. We're nice and happy to help.