

Installing & Finishing Drywall

<b>Facility:</b>	<b>Written By:</b>	<b>Approved By:</b>	<b>Date Created:</b>	<b>Date of Last Revision</b>

<b>Hazards Present:</b>	<b>PPE or Devices Required:</b>	<b>Additional Training Required:</b>
Cuts to hands	Eye protection	Lift/Materials Handling Training
Fall from heights	Gloves	Working Alone
Electrical shock	Hearing protection	Aerial Platform Training
MSI - Possibility of a variety of injuries	CSA approved footwear	Scaffold Training
Hazardous materials	CSA approved hard hat	
Slip and trip hazards	Knee pads	
Dust inhalation	Dust masks	
Burns	Fall arrest system	
Noise	Lock out - Tag out	

**Safe Work Procedure:**

**First Stage:**

- 1) When the drywall is delivered have it stacked in areas that works best for the process of your work. The usual location is the center of the room, however each job is different and may require different needs. When moving drywall around, ensure that you are using *proper lifting techniques* and the proper personal protective equipment. Make sure there is constant communication between yourself and your lifting partner to avoid confusion and injury. A drywall cart is recommended for large quantities of drywall.
- 2) Before installing the drywall, everyone involved should be wearing safety glasses, steel toed footwear and hardhats, knee pads, gloves, and if necessary fall protection. Ensure that all equipment, tools, and cords are in working order.
- 3) Ensure that all floor openings are either covered or secured with a proper railing before starting work
- 4) Ceilings are usually done first, so in most cases this will require some type of elevated work platform. Ensure to utilize the proper safe work procedures beforehand. Prior training is required for each of these systems. A fall arrest system has to be in place if you will be working over 8' high from finished floor to the top of your work platform. Three point contact is necessary for ascending and descending any type of elevated platforms. Drywall "stilts" are not allowed for installing drywall.
- 5) Workers fastening the drywall should be aware of the potential of trip hazards with their cords, and should also be mindful of their co-workers hands holding the drywall in place.
- 6) While the drywall is being installed it is necessary to keep the construction area free and clear of debris, cut-offs, and loose fasteners. Cords will have to be continually moved around to avoid entanglement.
- 7) If you decided to use a drywall router to cut in the electrical boxes once the drywall is partially fastened, it is imperative that the power is shut off.

**Second Stage:**

- 1) After all of the drywall is installed and you have the site cleaned up, your next step will be finishing the drywall. The most common way of mixing drywall "mud" is with a drill and a mixing paddle. You must ensure the drill is capable of this job, a W" corded drill usually suffices (many drills have been "burned out" by this procedure). When mixing it is always a good idea to secure the pail first as opposed to trying to hold it with your legs.
- 2) When applying the drywall mud wear safety glasses and gloves.
- 3) Use scaffolding when practical as opposed to working off of a ladder to lessen the strain on your legs.

**Third Stage:**

- 1) The final step is sanding. When sanding most experienced installers use a hand held light to help see and deficiencies.
- 2) When sanding, everyone onsite must wear a proper dust mask. Drywall dust can be irritating to a person's respiratory system, and has been known to cause long term side effects. If practical use a vacuum sander system to avoid excess dust.
- 3) When finished be sure to completely clean up the job site. Make sure that you have the proper fine particle filter on your vacuum before using it to avoid "burning it out" if you plan on using it.

***If an emergency situation occurs while conducting this task, or there is an equipment malfunction, engage the emergency stop and follow the lock out procedure***

**REPORT ANY HAZARDOUS SITUATIONS TO YOUR SUPERVISOR**

<b>Guidance Documents/Standards:</b> MB Workplace Safety & Health Act & Regulations: 2.1 Safe work procedures Part 6 Personal Protective Equipment Part 8 Musculoskeletal Injuries Part 14 Fall Protection Part 28 Scaffolds and Other Elevated Work Platforms Part 38 Electrical safety Guidance Documents MSDS sheets	This Safe Work Procedure will be reviewed any time the task, equipment or materials change and at a minimum of every three years
	Reviewed By WSH Committee:  Date: