

Patch Holes in the Wallboard

Checklist

- Sandpaper (coarse and fine)
- Joint compound
- Keyhole saw
- Adhesive
- Wallboard tape
- Pieces of wallboard
- Hammer
- Sandpaper block
- Scraper
- Putty knife
- Hand saw
- Short sections of 2x4
- Heavy cord
- Small drywall bandage
- Nails
- Utility knife

Smaller Holes

One: Make a drywall bandage.

- Use a keyhole saw to make the hole into a square or rectangle.
- Cut a piece of drywall the same shape as the hole.
 - It should be 2" wider and 2" longer than the size of the hole.

Two: Make another cut.

- Lay the piece of drywall on a flat surface with the shiny side down.
- Measure 1" from all four edges and draw a line.
 - This will be a shape the size of the hole.
- Use a straight edge and a utility knife to cut through the drywall of the bottom layer. Don't cut the bottom layer of paper.
- Use a putty knife to remove the top layer of paper and core all the way down to the bottom layer of paper. Don't tear the bottom layer.

Three: Apply the compound.

- The cut part should fit into the hole and the paper edge should cover an inch around the hole.
- Apply a thin layer of patching compound around the hole.
- Place the patch into the hole.
- Use a putty knife to work the paper edge down into the compound.
- Feather the edges of the compound and allow it to dry.
- You might have to sand lightly and apply a second layer of compound.

Larger Holes

One: Make a drywall bandage.

- Do the same as in step one above.

Two: Apply the patch for the larger hole

- Punch or drill two small holes through this piece of board.
- Tie a stick to it.
- Allow for about 8" between the board and the stick.

Three: Get the patch to stick.

- Apply a smooth coat of good grade adhesive around the edges of the piece of patching material.
- Insert the patching board through the hole and position it so the adhesive fits firmly against the solid area around the hole.
- Turn the stick clockwise twisting the string and increasing pressure against the patch board at the rear of the hole.
- When the string has been thoroughly tightened, it will hold the board into place until the adhesive dries.

Four: Allow the patch to dry.

- Give the adhesive time to dry.
- Fill in the area with good grade patching plaster.
- Leave the stick and string in position during the patching process.
- You might have to apply two or three layers of patching plaster to build up the patched area.
- Always allow one layer to dry before applying another.
- Remove the stick and string just before the material dries.
- Smooth out the area and let the patch dry all the way through.

Five: Add the finishing touches.

- Sand off all of the high spots and apply a prime coat.