

Drywall Installation Checklist

Use this checklist after estimating sheets and materials to plan a drywall hanging and finishing project.

PROJECT SUMMARY

Room Dimensions:	
Wall/Ceiling Area:	
Sheet Size:	
Finish Level:	
Estimated Sheet Count:	
Planned Date:	

HOW TO USE THIS CHECKLIST

- 1 Run the Drywall Calculator using accurate measurements.
- 2 Confirm sheet size, framing spacing, and finish level.
- 3 Review each phase before ordering drywall and compound.
- 4 Verify moisture-resistant board is used where needed.
- 5 Confirm permit or inspection requirements if applicable.

PHASE 1 — PLANNING

- ☐ Confirm drywall type by room (standard, moisture-resistant, fire-rated).
- ☐ Select finish level (typically Level 3 for painted walls).
- ☐ Plan sheet layout to minimize butt joints.
- ☐ Confirm framing is plumb, square, and on correct spacing.
- ☐ Check ceiling drywall thickness for sag resistance.

PHASE 2 — SITE PREPARATION

- ☐ Confirm insulation and vapor barrier are complete first.
- ☐ Verify electrical and plumbing rough-in is finished.
- ☐ Stage drywall sheets flat, off the floor.
- ☐ Confirm room temperature is within compound working range.
- ☐ Protect flooring from drywall dust and debris.

PHASE 3 — MATERIAL ORDERING

- ☐ Calculate total sheets needed from net wall/ceiling area.
- ☐ Add 10% waste allowance for cuts and openings.
- ☐ Calculate screws, tape, and compound from the same area.
- ☐ Confirm corner bead quantity for outside corners.
- ☐ Order extra compound if targeting Level 4 or 5 finish.

PHASE 4 — QUALITY & RISK CONTROL

- ☐ Check fastener spacing meets code (studs and ceilings).
- ☐ Inspect taped joints for air pockets before second coat.
- ☐ Sand between coats without breaking the paper face.
- ☐ Allow full drying time between compound coats.
- ☐ Review final wall for flatness under raking light.

COMMON PLANNING MISTAKES