



Materials Handling: Drywall

Workers who handle drywall sheets are at high risk of overexertion. The weight and bulkiness of drywall can intensify any bending, twisting, turning, or lifting motions and cause serious injury.

Sam's Story

Sam had worked as a drywall installer for 10 years. On his last job, after lifting and carrying individual 10-foot sections of drywall up 20 steps, he began to feel pain in his elbow. Sam went to his doctor and was diagnosed with tendonitis.

✘ **How could this injury have been prevented?**

✘ **Have you ever been injured while lifting or handling drywall? If so, what happened?**

Remember This

- Lift only one sheet at a time.
- Use two workers to lift larger, thicker, and heavier sheets.
- Use lifting tools and devices to move sheets instead of carrying them by hand.
- Use a vertical lift to position and hold the drywall so you can screw sheets to the ceiling safer.
- For vertical hanging in commercial buildings,
 - (1) raise the sheet,
 - (2) shift grip to opposite sides of the sheet,
 - (3) rotate the sheet into a vertical position, and
 - (4) secure it to the wall.
- Keep materials and tools orderly and stored safely to prevent tripping and other safety hazards.

How can we stay safe today?

What will we do at the worksite to minimize lifting and handling drywall?

1. _____

2. _____

OSHA Regulation: Section 5(1)(1) of the OSHA Act

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Play the Game!



- ✘ Use two workers to lift larger, thicker, and heavier sheets.
- ✘ Lift only one sheet at a time.
- ✘ Use a vertical lift to help hold the drywall so you can screw sheets to the ceiling safer.