

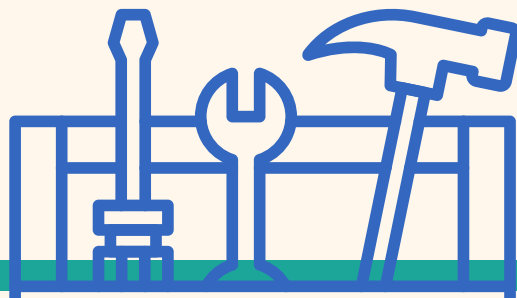
MELISSA'S TOOL BOX

When I was first starting out, I was in over my head as to what tools are needed to do house projects.

I created the guide that I wish I had when I was starting out. These are the tools that I use day in and day out.

I organized them by project, so that you can get exactly what you need!

If you prefer to shop by storefront, you can see them all [here](#) as well.



Disclosure: This guide may contain affiliate links, meaning if you decide to make a purchase via my links, I may earn a commission at no additional cost to you.

MELISSA'S TOOL BOX

Starter Kit

all photos & descriptions
are clickable links!



tape measure: I find the 16 ft to be the perfect size! any bigger and its too heavy

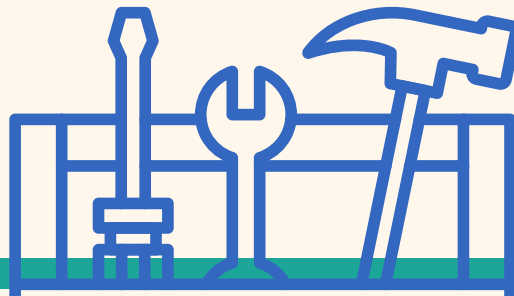


safety glasses: wear anytime you use a saw, are doing demo, drywall, or any other project where debris could hit your eye!

screwdriver set: a singular screwdriver that can use multiple bits will save you tons of space! (a similar set is in the hand tool kit)



stud finder: use to find the studs (wooden boards) in your wall to securely hang heavy items! This one will also find live wires- which you do NOT want to hit!



Starter Kit: if you are just starting out with DIY, these are the first tools I would buy!

MELISSA'S TOOL BOX

Wall Hanging Kit

all photos & descriptions
are clickable links!



tape measure: I can probably count on 1 hand the number of projects where I HAVEN'T needed to measure something



laser level: this self levels and can be used to hang multiple items along the same plane

level: use to make sure what you're hanging is straight. If the bubble is in the center, you're good to go!

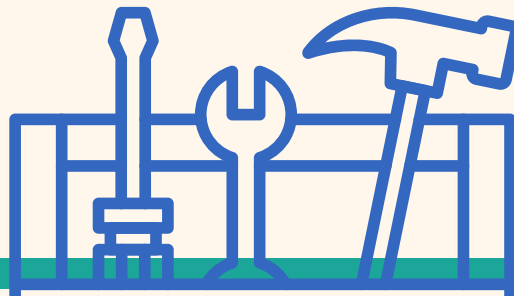


drill & driver: you will need these for anything you are wanting to screw into OR if you are using drywall anchors

hammer: use this to replace the random things you have used to hammer in a nail (a book, a shoe, etc)



stud finder: If you are hanging something heavy, use this to identify and hang it into a stud. If you need to hang into drywall, use drywall anchors



Wall Hanging: the tools you need to hang art, shelves, TVs, and lighting on your walls

MELISSA'S TOOL BOX

Simple Woodworking

all photos & descriptions
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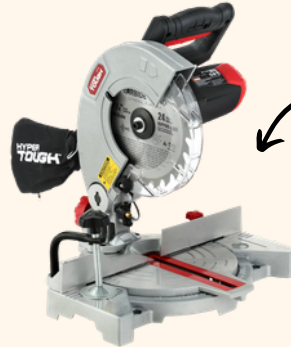
safety glasses: are a must anytime you are using a saw or sanding



orbital sander: use to sand your wood to a smooth finish



speed square: use anytime to pieces of wood intersec to ensure a perfect 90°



miter saw: use to cut down narrow pieces of wood like 2x4s, crown moulding, etc

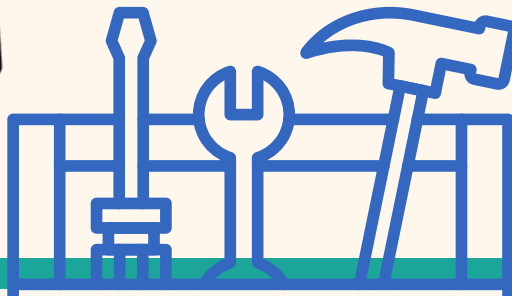
brad nailer: use for nailing or stapling wood together



circular saw: a very versatile saw, can be used to rip down large sheets of plywood



drill & impact driver: use to drill holes and screw into your wood



Simple Woodworking: tools for beginner woodworking projects. I included a few more that wouldn't fit here.

MELISSA'S TOOL BOX

Wallpaper Kit



tape measure:

wallpaper is always easiest to install if you to measure and cut off the extra

all photos & descriptions are clickable links!

screwdriver: use to take all the outlet covers and switch plates off!



laser level: use this on your first wallpaper panel on each wall and anytime you go around a corner to level your wallpaper

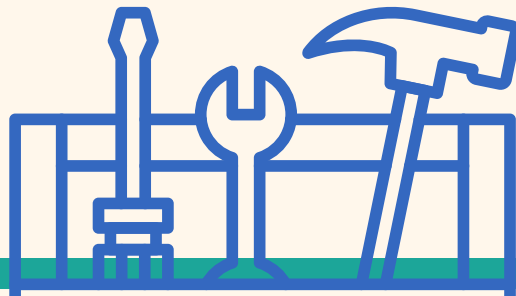


scissors: use these to cut off the extra material before hanging your panels!

snapaway knife: you will need to get a fresh blade every panel when hanging wallpaper, and these snap away easily with a pair of pliers



tape knife: use this as your flat surface to cut off the top and bottom of each panel



Wallpaper: everything you need to install wallpaper

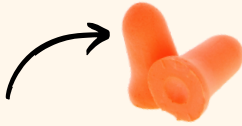
MELISSA'S TOOL BOX

Demo Kit

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safety gear: glasses are a must during demo, ear plugs to protect you from the loud hammering, gloves give protection from insulation, drywall dust, splinters, etc



reciprocating saw:
use this to cut through pipes, studs, etc

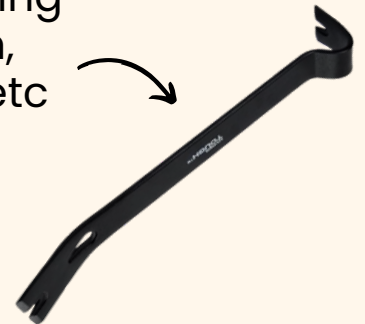


hammer: use this to pull up nails, punch out drywall, etc

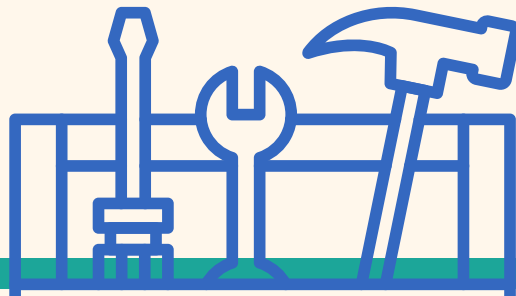


sledge hammer: has a heavy duty carbon steel head for breaking down sturdy material during demo

crow bar: also called a pry bar, used for removing molding, trim, flooring, nails etc



impact driver: use this to remove screws from drywall/ cabinetry, etc, before removing



Demo kit: use these tools to
do light demolition!

MELISSA'S TOOL BOX

Drywall Repair

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putty knives: use to apply joint compound. the wider one is good for second coats or over taped seams

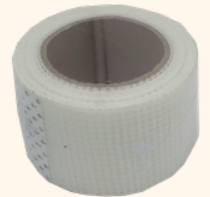


utility blade: use this to score and snap sheets of drywall before installing

mud pan: use this to hold, mix, and carry joint compound. The flat side is used for scraping/cleaning your putty knife



drywall tape: use this to cover drywall patches/seams before mudding

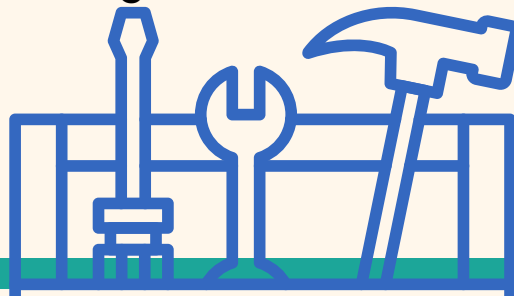


jab knife: use this to cut drywall still attached to the wall. The teeth easily penetrate the drywall compared to a utility blade.



block sander: another sanding option & can be used for wet sanding

orbital sander: use this with a 220 grit in after each coat of mud



Drywall Repair: use these tools to patch holes, repair dents, apply drywall mud, and sand smooth