

Patching big holes, over 8 inches.

If the hole is smaller than 8", you can purchase patches that will simplify the project. If it is larger you will need to purchase a small piece of drywall. Many stores offer 12" pieces precut.

Tip:

Place newspaper under the area you're patching and tape in place to catch dropped spackle, sanding dust, primer or paint.

Shopping List:

- Pencil
- Ruler or yard stick
- Medium container of spackle or drywall mud
- Self-adhesive drywall tape
- A 4" flexible taping knife or other smoothing tool small enough to fit in a medium spackle container size
- 6" flexible taping knife or 8" joint knife
- Drywall mixer (some can be purchased that work by hand; some fit in drill)
- 120-grit sandpaper or sanding sponge
- Drywall jab saw
- Small piece of drywall. Drywall comes in 2 thicknesses: 1/2" or 5/8". You should cut out a small piece from around the hole to measure your thickness.
- HYDE® Bear Claw™ Repair Clips (They come in packs of 8 in 5/8" and 1/2" sizes)
- Small container of primer
- Paint that matches your wall
- Paint brush or mini roller and tray

**Hyde Tools offers many of these items. You can buy online at www.hydestore.com or at many retailers in your area. [Find a retailer.](#) You can also watch a video on how to complete this project in our video library or on [Youtube](#).*

1. With a pencil, draw a square around the hole that is a little bigger than the hole.
2. Use the jab saw to follow the line and cut around the hole. Jab the point through the hole to get it started.
3. Measure and cut the piece of drywall to fit snugly into the square you have cut in the wall.
4. Cut to size and stick the drywall tape on each side around the square. Do not overlap the tape or it will make it harder to coat with mud later.
5. If not using pre-mix spackle, mix the mud until it is a smooth consistency.
6. Use the 4" taping knife to spread a thin layer of mud over the tape.
7. Let dry until hard and white in color.

8. Sand any rough spots or high spots, being careful not to expose the tape.
9. Place more mud in the center of the patch. Work the mud out over the entire patch. You should spread the mud at out at least 4" from the edge of the patch. But be sure to remove as much excess mud as possible so you do not require much sanding.
10. Let mud dry until white and hard.
11. Sand the dry mud until smooth.
12. If you look down the wall and see a hump then you need to apply another coat of spackle and spread it out farther on the wall. Or you can sand off more spackle, as long as you do not expose the patch underneath.
13. Let this spackle dry overnight.
14. Apply a primer coat of paint. This will ensure you do not have a dull spot on the wall that stands out from the rest of the surface.
15. Paint to match the wall color.