

3.1.1 Removing Drywall and Trim

It is often necessary to remove water damaged materials from the structure. This may also be to facilitate drying, trying to get the hot, dry, airflow to the water. Perhaps removal is necessary due to mold or other microbial contamination.

Clean and Professional

While we often call this demo we need to make sure that our removal of materials is both clean and professional.

There are 3 things that we need to consider when we are removing materials:

1. Cleanliness including sweeping up and dust control.
2. Appearance including cutting straight lines.
3. Ease of replacement which includes removal of nails and cutting at the proper height.

Removing Trim

1. Score the caulking between the trim and the wall.
2. Use thin flat bar like a 5 in 1 to get the base loose.
3. Use a flat pry bar to remove the base the rest of the way, prying against the baseplate NOT the drywall.
4. If there is a lot of trim to be reinstalled mark its location for easy reinstall. This can be done by numbering the trim and putting the same number on the drywall where the trim goes.
5. Remove nails.



Cutting Drywall

1. Determine the height at which to cut the drywall. That may be either below the level of the base or at one, two or 4 feet depending on the height of the water. Also add half an inch to each measurement to allow the drywall to be raised half an inch off the floor.
2. Measure and mark the drywall at the height you would like to cut.
3. Chalk a line at this height.
4. Using a drywall saw cut exactly on the chalk line. Do not allow the cut to waver back and forth across the line.
5. Carefully remove the drywall and nails or screws.
6. Sweep or vacuum dust and debris.

