

UTILITY MECHANIC//SR. UTILITY MECHANIC

Ref. Code: L-UM-30

FINISHING AND REPAIRING DRYWALL		
Activity	Hazard Identification	Required Precautions
1. Driving to and from work site.	1. Motor vehicle accident; striking pedestrians, bicyclists, or individuals using rollerblades.	1. Wear prescription lenses, if required, and seatbelt. Verify that all equipment on vehicle is secured properly. Stay alert for pedestrians, bicyclists, and individuals using rollerblades.
2. Using stepladder.	2. Ladder collapsing; slipping/falling from ladder.	2. Inspect ladder before use. Use ladder of proper height. Make sure ladder is properly assembled and locked and standing on level ground. Do not exceed weight limit for ladder. Do not stand on top of ladder or on top rung. Have coworker hold ladder.
3. Using extension ladder.	3. Ladder collapsing; slipping/falling from ladder.	3. Inspect ladder before use. Verify that ladder is properly assembled and that it is securely positioned on level ground. Use 1'-4' rule. Use OSHA decal to verify that ladder is in the proper position.
4. Using scaffolding.	4. Scaffolding collapsing; slipping/falling from scaffolding.	4. Verify that scaffolding is properly assembled and wheels locked. Use safety rails properly. Verify a safe means of climbing on/off scaffolding.
5. Lifting heavy weight.	5. Back strain; overexertion.	5. Know your weight-lifting capacity and get help if needed. Lift using leg muscles. Keep back straight. Use mechanical lifting equipment.
6. Sanding drywall.	6. Inhalation of dust; dust in eyes.	6. Wear dust mask and safety glasses.
7. Cutting into walls when making repairs.	7. Serious illness from exposure to asbestos and lead.	7. When doing repairs in older building where asbestos or lead is suspected, call in safety department to do any required cutting, then proceed with patching.

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8. Using hand tools such as spackle blades and trowels.	8. Cuts.	8. Keep tools in good condition. Inspect tools before use. Keep sharp edges away from self. Work away from self. Use normal caution required for all hand tools.
9. Working in area of pedestrian traffic.	9. Pedestrians knocking over ladder; dropping tools on pedestrians; other injuries to pedestrians.	9. Secure area with tape and cones before beginning work.