

Drywall Carts, Dollies & Doorway Transitions

TRADE: DRYWALL & PAINTING

LEADER GUIDE: 8-12 MINUTES

USE WHAT FITS TODAY

LEADER NOTE

Do not read this sheet word-for-word. Pick the sections that match today's task, point to the actual equipment/work area, and get the crew to answer the questions out loud.

WHY THIS MATTERS

Use this leader guide before drywall carts, dollies & doorway transitions work to review the real setup, the controls that need to be in place, and the conditions that should stop the task. Material handling becomes dangerous when the load blocks vision, shifts unexpectedly, exceeds the planned handling method or is stored where it can roll, fall or trap someone. Plan the route, grip, team/lifting aid and final storage before the material starts moving.

A SCENARIO TO DISCUSS

The crew starts Drywall Carts, Dollies & Doorway Transitions with a clear route, then a doorway, stair, delivery, occupied area, or another trade changes the path. The load is already picked up. Where should it be set down, and what route/control should be reset before moving again?

BEFORE WORK STARTS

- Confirm load weight/shape and select the lifting aid, cart, team size or handling method before moving it.
- Walk the route and remove trip hazards, protect finished surfaces and control doors/traffic.
- Prepare stable storage/landing space before the load leaves its starting point.
- Load drywall carts within capacity and distribute sheets so the cart remains stable and visible to the mover.
- Use enough workers to control slopes, thresholds and doorway transitions instead of letting a loaded cart run or tip.

SAFE WORK SEQUENCE / CONTROLS

- Load drywall carts within capacity and distribute sheets so the cart remains stable and visible to the mover.
- Use enough workers to control slopes, thresholds and doorway transitions instead of letting a loaded cart run or tip.
- Keep hands and feet away from wheels, jams and the sheet stack when maneuvering through tight openings.
- Park carts on level surfaces with brakes/chocks as applicable and do not leave them blocking egress.

QUESTIONS THAT SHOULD CHANGE THE JOB

1. What does this load weigh, where is its center of gravity/awkward side, and what does that mean for the number of people or equipment we need?
2. What route are we using, and where will vision, footing, doors, stairs, traffic, or other workers make the move harder?
3. Who is calling the move, and what lifting aid/cart/team method are we using instead of trying to muscle through a bad position?

COMMON FAILURE POINTS

- Starting the move before there is a clear destination and route.
- Handling a load that blocks vision or shifts without enough people or a mechanical aid.
- Stacking material where it can roll, tip, slide or obstruct emergency/access routes.

STOP AND RESET IF...

- The load weight, route, center of gravity or handling method is uncertain.
- Storage, racks, cribbing, carts or landing areas are unstable, overloaded or blocked.
- The crew cannot maintain visibility, communication or clear hand/foot placement during the move.

4. Where will the material be set down or stored so it cannot roll, tip, slide, blow over, or block access?
5. Where should it be set down, and what route/control should be reset before moving again?

MAKE IT REAL ON THE JOB

Walk the move from pickup to set-down and identify the pinch points and where vision will be blocked.

BEFORE YOU RELEASE THE CREW

Before the crew starts, everyone should be able to explain the hazard, point to the control being used today, and name the condition that would make the work stop.

ATTENDANCE & SIGN-OFF

Drywall Carts, Dollies & Doorway Transitions

Project / Job:		Date:	
Talk leader:		Location:	

CREW ACKNOWLEDGMENT

By signing, attendees confirm they participated in this toolbox talk and had the opportunity to raise job-specific questions. Signatures do not replace required training, qualifications, permits or certifications.

#	Name	Company / Trade	Signature
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QUESTIONS / CONDITIONS / CORRECTIVE ACTIONS

END-OF-TALK CHECK

☐ Crew can point to the main hazard.	☐ Critical control is in place and usable.
☐ The responsible person/check is clear.	☐ Stop/re-brief conditions were discussed.