

## How To Repair Large Holes In Plasterboard

Repairing holes in plasterboard, otherwise known as dry wall or sheetrock, is a little trickier than ordinary plaster walls. Still, there's nothing to get uptight about. We've got it all worked out for you. But we'd like to pass along a little anecdote about the current trend in building construction and the feelings some people have about those thin plasterboard walls. We saw a bumper sticker on an auto recently that read: "Keep New York Plastered."

### Utensils

Ruler  
Hand cutter with razor blade  
Keyhole saw  
12" inch steel trowel  
Hammer

### Ingredients

Piece of plasterboard (the same thickness as existing wall and slightly larger than the hole to be patched).  
An extra piece of plasterboard for strips  
Taping compound  
Paper joint tape  
1 lbs. box of 1" 1/2 inch flathead nails

### Approximate Time: 45 Minutes

1. With ruler or straight edge, mark off a perfectly square or rectangular area around periphery of hole. See Figure 43A.
2. Cut strips of plasterboard approximately 2" inches wide with razor cutter.
3. Cut out rectangle or square marked off in step 1 with razor cutter or keyhole saw.
4. Dab compound at ends of strips and insert behind plasterboard as shown in Figure 43B. Strips may be vertically inserted if there is framing obstruction. Squeeze tightly in position. The more strips you can insert, the stronger the patch will be.
5. Let dry overnight.
6. Cut piece of new plasterboard approximately 1/8" inch smaller than the hole in wall on all dimensions.
7. Now place dabs of taping compound on the strips already in place.
8. Fit in new section over strips until flush with wall. Don't use hammer.

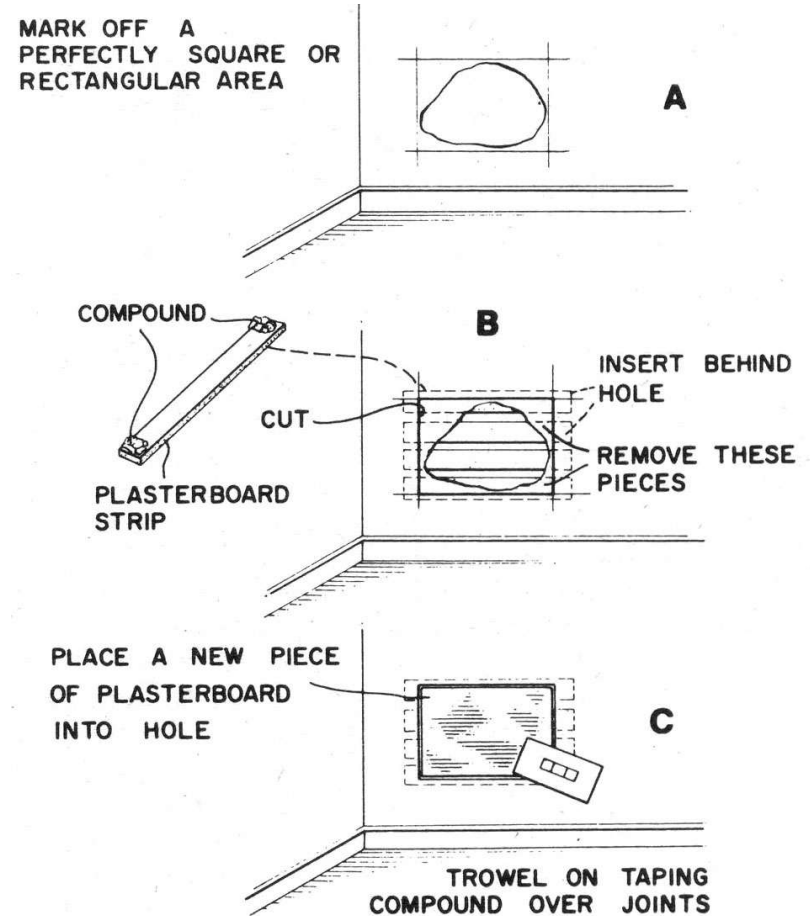


Figure 43.  
Plasterboard Patching Technique