



Superficial Drywall Ceiling Crack Repair

Do ceiling cracks keep you up at night? This guide shows a simple technique for cosmetically covering ceiling cracks.

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INTRODUCTION

It is very important to understand that a crack in drywall, specifically in the ceiling, could indicate structural damage. Be sure to check the framing of the room and fix any problems before fixing cracks in your ceiling.



TOOLS:

- [Five-in-One](#) (1)
- [4" Putty Knife](#) (1)
- [Paint Roller or Brush](#) (1)
- [Medium Grit Sand Paper](#) (1)



PARTS:

- [Drywall Joint Compound](#) (1)
- [Mesh Tape](#) (1)
- [Paint and Primer to Match Your Ceiling's Color](#) (1)

Step 1 — Superficial Drywall Ceiling Crack Repair



- Use a utility knife or five-in-one to remove loose paint or drywall from inside the crack.
- Don't gouge the ceiling but firmly scrape parallel to the crack. Scraping perpendicularly to the crack will only cause more damage.

Step 2



- Use mesh tape to tape over the crack.
- Try to use long pieces of tape, if possible taping the entire crack with one piece.
- It is also important to keep each piece of tape centered on the crack.

Step 3



- Use either a five-in-one or a putty knife to spread the compound.
- Spread drywall joint compound over the tape so that it appears flat.
 - Use more joint compound than you need rather than less. You will sand off excess later.
 - Make sure to cover the tape completely.

Step 4



- After the compound has completely dried sand down any ridges that resulted from the putty knife.
- This step will be messy! Everything in the room will get some dust on it, so either use dropcloths or be ready to clean when you're done.
- Also, be careful not to get dust in your eyes, or inhale dust. You may wish to wear goggles and a dust mask.
- Don't sand into the tape.
 - You still want the compound to cover the tape and its contours completely.

Step 5



- Prime and paint the ceiling.
- Use a primer and paint that has been matched to your ceiling by a paint shop.
- The primer can be any color that is the same or lighter than your ceiling color.

It is important to note that a crack in drywall may indicate a more critical problem with the framing in your walls or ceiling. Please do not assume that this repair will prevent further cracking.