

Tools Required & Tips for Success

Tools Required:

Carpenter's level	Hearing protection	Ruler
Carpenter's square	Hammer	Safety glasses
Chalk line	Hand saw	Screwdrivers
Chisel	Hoe and hose (to mix concrete)	Shims or spacers
Circular saw	Ladder	Shovel
Claw hammer	Line	Socket wrench
Combination square	Mallet	Stakes or batter boards
Crescent wrench	Nail set	String
Drills and bits	Pencils	Tamper
Dust mask	Pick	Tape measure
Extension cord	Plumb bob	Transit
Framing square	Post hole digger	Tool belt
Gloves	Rafter square	Two foot level

Tips for success:

1. When cutting or drilling wood, always wear eye protection to prevent injury from flying wood particles
2. When cutting lumber, a fabric breathing mask will help to avoid ingestion of the dust. Wear gloves as the surface is rough and can cause splinters.
3. For outdoor projects, nails and other hardware should be hot-dipped zinc-coated or equally well-protected material to keep them from rusting.
4. To help prevent splitting, drill pilot holes in each piece of lumber before nailing or screwing.
5. Make sure to treat your deck to prolong its lifespan.
6. Before you apply a finish on your deck, test for moisture by sprinkling the surface of a small area of the deck with water. If the droplets bead up, the wood is still wet. Wood that is dry enough for treatment will quickly soak up the water.
7. Deck finishes come in both water and oil based. While oil-based finishes penetrate deeper into the wood, water-based products are easier to clean up and are more forgiving in damp conditions.
8. When applying finish or cleaner to your deck, protect surrounding vegetation by wetting with a hose and covering with plastic.
9. Invest in a pair of kneepads if you are doing floor jobs or working on a deck.
10. Dispose of scraps in the regular trash or take to a landfill - never burn.