

25 Top Tools for the Apartment Dweller

Pages: 70

Format: pdf, epub

Language: English

[\[DOWNLOAD FULL EBOOK PDF \]](#)

25 Top Tools

For The

Apartment Dweller

By

Edward Lally

A Survivor's Toolkit

"I first brought ashore the Carpenter's tool chest,
a prize more valuable than a shipload of gold"

Robinson Crusoe

Copyright © 2012 by Edward Lally

All rights reserved

<http://25toptools.com>

For my grandfather, my mother,
and everyone who works with their hands

For my wife
who put up with all of the sawdust

For my clients
who tried out my tools
and sometimes took my advice

Contents

[About the Author](#)

[Why this Book?](#)

[A Promise](#)

[What's in a Pro's Bag?](#)

[Where do Pros buy their Tools?](#)

[An Apartment is Not a Shop](#)

[A Word of Caution](#)

[Where's that To Do List?](#)

[Hammers](#)

[Claw Hammer](#)

[Magnetic Tack Hammer](#)

[Accessories](#)

[Nail Sets](#)

[Awl](#)

[Brad Driver](#)

[Stapler](#)

[Screwdrivers](#)

[Ratchet Screwdriver](#)

[Drill Driver](#)

[Accessories](#)

[Bit Holder](#)

[Hex Insert Nutdrivers](#)

[Hex Insert Screwdriver Bits](#)

[Drill Bits \(Wood & Metal\)](#)

[Drill Bits \(Masonry\)](#)

[Countersink](#)

[Jewelers Screwdriver Set](#)

[Pliers](#)

[Get a Grip](#)

[Adjustable Pliers](#)

[Electrician's Pliers](#)

[Needle Nose Pliers](#)

[Diagonal Cutters](#)

[Clamping Pliers](#)

[Wire Strippers](#)

[Electricians Sheers](#)

[Saws](#)

[Handsaw](#)

[Power Jigsaw](#)

[Knives](#)

[Retractable Knife](#)

[Sharpener](#)

[Measurement](#)

[Tape Measure](#)

[6" ruler \(inch/mm\)](#)

[Level](#)

[Stud Finder](#)

[Screw & Drill Gauge](#)

[Pocket Combination Square](#)

[Multitester](#)

[Miscellaneous](#)

[Flashlight](#)

[Needle Files](#)

[6 Way Tool](#)

[Storage](#)

[Tool Bag](#)

[Small Tools & Bits](#)

[Fasteners](#)

[Conclusion](#)

[Afterword](#)

About the Author

Edward Lally has designed and renovated residential apartments in Manhattan for over 35 years. This is his long planned book on practical high quality tools for apartment maintenance.

He welcomes your comments at

Email: info@25toptools.com

Book and Tools

<http://25toptools.com/>

Why this Book? A Promise

I once asked a client if I could borrow a hammer.

She handed me a meat tenderizer.

“Don’t you have a hammer?” I asked.

She looked puzzled.

“Do you mean another hammer?”

“What kind of hammer should I have?”

“I’ll make you a list,” I promised.

35 years later, here it is.

What’s in a Pro’s Bag?

There is no shortage of How -To books. This is a What-With book.

These days more than ever, we all want to take care of what we have, starting with our homes. If you want to be prepared for the home repair jobs that you can do as well or better than a professional, the first step is to use the same tools pros use. But which ones? And where do you find them? This book is my answer.

In 40 years of working in clients' apartments, I have found that although some clients are handier than others, the low quality of their tools is a constant. At first I assumed that everybody bought cheap tools because they were cheap. I found out from talking to clients about this book that no one wants cheap tools, but that's all they can find—cheaply made goods at a premium price. They don't even know what a good tool feels like unless they inherit Uncle Charlie's pen knife or Grandma's good scissors.

This was news to me. In all my professional life, I had never bought a tool that I hadn't worked with, or at least held in my hands. And even then, I sought the advice of fellow pros. Over the years, that chain of experience and trust led to a 5000 SF shop with hundreds of tools of all trades, ranging from electronics and musical instrument repair to loft renovation.

These days my business is mostly design. The only tools I need are the ones that I took home from the shop for apartment maintenance and never took back. They sit on the floor of my linen closet. One day I took them all out and counted them—25 high quality tools with their accessories that fit my needs and fit in one bag on the floor of my closet. My set. High quality. Compact. Complete. No frills. Making a list was easy. It was all in one tool bag.

Where do Pros buy their Tools?

Finding a place for readers to buy the tools was the problem. I began to see what my clients were going through. Hardware stores that once served pros and the occasional amateur with dependable tools and solid advice have disappeared. In their place we have Home Centers and the Internet, where profit is the primary driving force. Cheap knock-offs with big mark-ups clamor for our attention at the cash register or at the top of Google searches. Good advice and good tools often get lost in a cloud of wrong answers.

For the average Do-It-Yourselfer, finding a quality tool on the internet is like finding a needle in a haystack made of imitation needles. For example, a Google search on "best quality claw hammer" yields 341,000 results. The top pages recommend cheaply made but overpriced foreign knock-offs. Don't ask me how all this junk gets to the top of the list. I just know that the hammer that's in every pro's top 3 and that I rank #1 has a Google page rank of 67. Would you have found it? Not without a model number. Neither would I. Fortunately, all quality tools are stamped with a model number and the manufacturer. I found all my tools eventually and so will you. I include the model numbers in this book. I also include approximate prices (2012). You can shop them for price yourself. That's what I did.

The internet is a tough place to search. But if you know exactly what you want, it's a great place to buy. You'll notice that many of my tools are modestly priced. The market for quality tools is very competitive. Pros know exactly what they're looking for. This keeps the prices down. The hammer I recommend costs about a dollar more than did in 1970.

You won't find any of my tools at the Home center, or at the top of a Google search, but you will find them in the hands of skilled mechanics and craftsmen in this country and around the world.

Check out Norm's hammer on This Old House, or an assembly mechanic's pliers on How It's Made.

An Apartment is Not a Shop

With the exception of a Drill Driver and an optional Jig Saw, I don't include shop power tools in this book nor do I use them in my apartment. Power saws, routers, and sanders belong in a ventilated shop or on a protected and ventilated job site. An occupied apartment is neither of these things. A local lumberyard or unpainted furniture store can supply the occasional plywood shelf. They'll cut it to your specifications, sand it, and tape the edges at a much better level of finish than you and at less cost - if you factor in the 24 hours of vacuuming and dusting that would follow doing the work in your apartment. Take it from someone who knows. If despite my reservations you feel as though you must have a jigsaw (you know who you are), I list the one I recommend as (OPTIONAL) under saws.

A Word of Caution

Apartment dwellers, whether they rent or own, share supply lines for mechanical systems with other apartments in the building. These include Electrical, Plumbing, and Central HVAC (FYI: Heat, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning). Any work on shared mechanical systems needs to be performed by licensed and insured personnel and approved by management in order to protect the property of all tenants and owners.

In other words, leave anything buried in your walls to the licensed trades. That being said, there are many tasks that can be done by tenants, and should have been done by you a long time ago. Just ask your significant other.

Where's that To Do List?

If you are interested in fixing things yourself, this book will give you an idea of what tools you will need, and how and where to look for them.

As far as How-To questions, the internet is the first place to look. Start with Wikipedia. Any task, no matter how complex, can be broken down to a series of simple steps. There are only so many ways to change a doorknob. Good answers tend toward the top of a search. A couple of youtube videos and a little common sense will usually get you started.

No matter where your interest leads you, you will have the necessary tools at hand, and a very good idea of where to look for any specialty tools that you may need. If you get in over your head and need to call in the building handyman, you can take a more knowing look in his toolbox. And if he gets halfway through the job before he finds out that he doesn't have the right tool, you can show him to your closet with pride. He'll see that you like things done right, and he'll probably find the tool he needs. Just see that he returns it. Good tools travel all too well. As Mark Twain said, "Put all your eggs in one basket, and watch that basket."

25 Top Tools

For The

Apartment Dweller

Hammers Size Matters

All of the tools in this book are selected for optimum size and weight for the home repair task at hand. Not too big. Not too small. Just right.

For example, these are my 3 hammers. Their weights and lengths are designed and balanced for specific tasks. The 20 oz is for framing houses and laying floors. the 16 oz for finish carpentry and trim molding, and the 12 oz is the one I use at home and the one I recommend in this book. It's lighter and easier to handle for close work.

Note:

The 16 oz hammer in the middle is the one my grandfather gave me, forged in 1929 and still going strong

Good tools are made to last, and they do.

Claw Hammer

ESTWING E12S 12 OZ LEATHER HANDLE STRAIGHT CLAW \$21.00

This company made the first of these hammers in 1926. The handle is unique. It is made with stacked leather washers. The end plate rivets holding the grip together are actually not rivets. They are part of the original forging and have been spun over into rivet heads to fasten the grip. The result is a firm grip with excellent control and just enough cushion to dampen the impact of the steel shaft. It feels like a high quality wooden handle and yet is absolutely unbreakable. I have a 20 oz and a 16 oz that are over 70 years old and still going strong.

This hammer makes it easy to learn how to be accurate. With a little practice, the hammer does all the work with a little wrist snap.

Estwing also makes a model with a curved claw, but it is most useful for framing carpenters, who need a lot of leverage to pull large nails. I prefer the straight claw style around the house. A straight claw pulls nails without marring wood as much, and also doubles as a pry bar, a rough chisel or even a hatchet. I've chopped down a small tree or two with this hammer. It costs about a dollar more than I paid 20 years ago, and half as much as the cheap knock-offs on Google.

Check out Norm's hammer on [This Old House](#).

Magnetic Tack Hammer

VAUGHN ST-5 MAGNETIC TACK HAMMER \$12.98

I first saw this hammer in an upholsterer's bag. I've never seen it in a store and had trouble finding it on the web. Its thin 5oz head is designed to hit small nails rather than fingers. It's hickory handle is hand shaped and feels like it. This is the only quality tack hammer I have found that has a claw for pulling brads, wire nails and tacks. It makes hanging pictures (and correcting mistakes) a pleasure. I use the magnetic head for picking up nails I drop. Yes. I occasionally drop a nail.

It's the hammer I pickup most often at home for any number of small nailing jobs or if something needs a tap of adjustment. It's the kind of hammer my grandfather called a Come-Along.

- ☐ Hanging pictures,
- ☐ attaching nylon heel plates to shoes (shoe repair is another vanishing service. Heel plates are something anyone can do)
- ☐ Upholstery
- ☐ Counter sinking small nails and staples
- ☐ Installing venetian blind and curtain hardware
- ☐ Starting screws with an awl (or adding a hole to a belt- after you've lost weight, of course))
- ☐ Loosening jar lids (better than pounding them on the edge of your counter)

Accessories

Nail Sets

STANLEY 58-930 CUSHION GRIP NAIL SET

One place where a cushion grip is actually an improvement in handling, plus a time saving color code for size (usually red) 1/32" 1/16" 3/32"

Awl

CRESCENT 73 SCRATCH AWL \$10.46

Starts screws accurately punches new holes in belt (after you've lost weight, of course)
Helps untangle knotted shoe laces and tangled necklace chains *

What's in a Pro's Bag?

There is no shortage of How-To books. This is a What-With book. If you want to be prepared for the home repair jobs that you can do as well or better than a professional, the first step is to use the same tools pros use. But which ones? And where do you find them? This book is my answer. I've designed and renovated residential apartments for 35 years. This is the set of tools I keep in my own apartment and recommend to all my clients. I list 25 high quality tools and their accessories that I've taken home from my shop over the years and never taken back. They fit my needs and fit in one small bag on the floor of my closet. I include the approximate prices as well as the model numbers so that you can shop for price yourself.

The internet is a tough place to search. But if you know exactly what you want, it's a great place to buy. You'll notice that many of my tools are modestly priced. The market for quality tools is very competitive. Pros know exactly what they're looking for. This keeps the prices down. The hammer I recommend costs about a dollar more than did in 1970.

You won't find any of my tools at the Home center, or at the top of a Google search, but you will find them in the hands of skilled mechanics and craftsmen in this country and around the world.

Check out Norm's hammer on This Old House, or an assembly mechanic's pliers on How It's Made.

No matter where your interest leads you, you will have the necessary tools at hand, and a very good idea of where to look for any specialty tools you may need. If you get in over your head and need to call in the building handyman, you can take a more knowing look in his toolbox. And if he gets halfway through the job before he finds out that he doesn't have the right tool, you can show him to your closet with pride. He'll see that you like things done right, and he'll probably find the tool he needs. Just see that he returns it. Good tools travel all too well. As Mark Twain said, "Put all your eggs in one basket, and watch that basket."

Tenement Homes: The Outsized Legacy of New York's - Sep 25, 2013 - Workshop organization is an ongoing project. When I was a young apartment dweller, my workshop was a 3 x 3-ft.. a new book: "The Best of Instructables Volume 1," featuring a bunch of projects from the As you acquire more tools, you have to rearrange your shop to work in storage for those new items. Visitor Management in Apartment Complexes: Still In Stone - Carry hardware, tools and parts all in one handy tool storage organizer. Recommended; Price; Easy to Use; Durability; Great Value this will give him a compact place to store and organize his parts while being a reasonable size for a city apartment dweller. November 25, 2019 Request a Free Coupon Book Today. Because Christmas Shopping from the Couch is The Best Ever - case, their amazing structures are the best-understood ancient large buildings.. apart from a few Roman apartment buildings of six or seven storeys and Europe's... distress itself was less in the under-25 and over-65 age groups than.. apartment dwellers tended to

choose friends outside the building,. Gfsi Explained - drid 22â€“25 March 1995 participants presented and discussed a wide range of... â€œNomads have now invaded cities through the conversion of town dwellers.. a useful tool for policy making (prospective) and for assessing policy imple-... volume of roads, traffic congestion is a daily dilemma experienced by many. Weekly World News - Download Our Home-Buying Book It's about a 25-minute drive from Downtown Austin. Amanda started saving money and looking for alternatives to apartment living. a hands-on workshop that offered instruction on using all the tools you List the top 5 hardest adjustments to living in a tiny home. Gardening Gifts â€¢ Insteading - IntechOpen Building Neighbourhood Social Resilience - UBC Sustainability - Choosing Your Van for a DIY Campervan Conversion - Best Vans to Live In and Build.. workout equipment, tools, a spare solar panel, extra water, books,.. which means shipping costs (generally about 20%-25% on top of... If you're gutting a van, a flat bar is one of the most useful tools you can have. Lightweight Model Railroad Benchwork - catris-naturprodukte.de - The balcony will serve to power the rest of the apartment, and the plans for the roof, which isn't necessarily the best angle for solar power production.. slow cookers, televisions, air compressors, or power tools... Few apartment dwellers will have enough space available to Lowtech-book-2012-2018. Cleaning Tools for a Tiny Apartment - The New York Times - Easy online design tool. A weekly worship planning book for United Methodist pastors and musicians.. 25 . Have a read through and discover the best subscription boxes for stationery lovers to help you start. Room Planner - Design Home 3D If you just bought a house or an apartment or want to decorate your existing 25 Top Tools For The Apartment Dweller - The Rose Home Fashion Privacy Room Divider is the best-selling room divider May 23, 2017 Â· Here are 25 bookcase room dividers for your inspiration. lofts, living rooms, dorm rooms or office spaces without tools or contractors.. They're great for dorm or apartment dwellers or just about anybody Truck Company Book 2 â€“ Forcible Entry - Fauquier County - Below you'll find the best products, memberships, and more that are not The Instant Pot is the must-have cooking device of the moment, and a great size for apartment dwellers.. But repairs, both minor and major, call for the right tools.. Financial expert Suze Orman's The Money Book can help them

Relevant Books

[[DOWNLOAD](#)] - Infectious Ideas: U.S. Political Responses to the AIDS Crisis pdf,

epub

[\[DOWNLOAD \]](#) - View Book Four frequency ground scatterometer pdf online

[\[DOWNLOAD \]](#) - Book Masturbation - The Final Frontier pdf

[\[DOWNLOAD \]](#) - Book Steve's Selection of Short Stories: issue 1 free epub, pdf online

[\[DOWNLOAD \]](#) - Free Celtic Traditionals for Beginner Piano Volume 1A free epub
