

How to Use a Saw

Using a saw looks easy, but choosing the proper saw for your project can be a different story. Sometimes, you can hire an expert for less than you'd pay for the right tool. Use this guide to help you decide whether you'll DIY or hire a guy.

DIY • Hire a Guy	
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DIFFICULTY	
COST	
TIME	

Materials Required:

- Material to saw
- Saw: handsaw, compound miter saw or jig saw
- Gloves
- Safety glasses

Steps:

- Handsaw: A handsaw is the most basic of saws. It's most often used for fine wood working projects like joinery or dovetails. Handsaws start at around \$30.
- Compound miter: A compound miter saw cuts angles across the wide face of a piece of wood, making it essential for almost any carpentry project. A good miter saw can cost upwards of \$1,000.
- Jigsaw: The jigsaw is primarily used for cutting curves, stenciling designs and creating shapes. The key to using a jigsaw is control. Use a sharp blade and move it slowly to ensure you get a high-quality cut. Jigsaws range from about \$25-\$400.

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P HomeAdvisor Tip: Make sure the blade is moving at full speed before starting to make your cut.