



## Tool Tips

**5-in-1 painter's tool can be your new best friend:** Nearly every guest instructor this summer has recommended using a 5-in-1 tool for some aspect of their project. While originally designed as a painter's tool, these multipurpose gadgets are incredibly versatile.

The tool has several basic functions: putty knife, chisel, scraper, pick, and paint roller cleaner. The blade has a point on one side, great for removing old caulk or glue, prying up staples or wood trim, and cleaning out tight places. The flat side can be used as a can opener, spreader, or – if you keep the blade sharp – to scrape, pry, or remove most anything: wallpaper, paint, thinset mortar, window glazing, etc.

This tool is a “must have” in every homeowner's tool box. Since they are quite inexpensive, it's worth paying a bit more for the type where the steel extends from the blade up into the handle.