

Ask Jon Eakes

How to remove molding without damaging it.

Last Updated: Wednesday, March 27th, 2013, Created: Tuesday, September 14th, 1999

Helen from Halifax, N.S. is undertaking a major renovation of her kitchen and wants to remove her beautiful molding and then put it back up. Start by cutting the paint lines between the moldings and the wall and between two pieces of moldings. Don't try to pry it off with a hammer or a chisel because they are too fat. Strong stiff spatulas work but they do make special very thin "pry bars", like in the photo. Don't try to force one end all the way off, but work the whole piece slowly forward. When you get it off the wall, don't pound the nails out the front but pull them through the back using a pair of locking pliers. Check out "Pulling Nails" for more details on this trick.

Keywords:

Molding, Trim, Techniques

Article 298

www.joneakes.com