



Basics for a Scene Shop:

Julie and I always buy the majority of our hand tools at our local Dollar store. The tools work just fine and the kids are going to lose or destroy them anyway, so we see them as expendable.

For power tools-- we buy the medium level brands from big box hardware stores, although we have a lot of luck with bulk tool supply stores as far as affordability and quality.

Hand Tools:

Tape Measurers-- most jobs can be done with a 16' one and you will need many of these for projects etc. but have a few 25' and 100' (if your space is large)

Snap line and chalk

Level

Carpenter Square

Claw Hammers

Phillips Screwdrivers

Flathead Screwdrivers

4-in-1 screwdrivers

Socket set with extra ratchets

Adjustable wrenches

Needle Nose pliers

Putty knives

C-Clamps and Hand Clamps

Power Tools:

Chop/Mitre Saw

Jig Saw

Screw Gun/Drill Gun (I prefer cordless, Julie has the corded ones)

Impact Driver/ Drill Gun (I prefer cordless, Julie has the corded ones)

The cordless are superior for freely moving around, but the corded don't run out of battery when a kid forgot to charge it. A mixture of both isn't bad.

Chargers for Drills

Extra Batteries for Drills

Circular Saw

Belt Sander

Palm Sander

Table Saw (We suggest you have one of these ONLY if you can follow OSHA regs about space around the tool in the shop and ONLY if you personally are comfortable using this tool)

Other Supplies:

Hearing Protection: Disposable Foam ear plugs or Ear Muffs
Safety Goggles
Leather Palmed gloves
First Aid Kit-- the big industrial kind
Ladders-- Fiberglass 6' (having at least 2 makes sense)
Push brooms
Fox Tail broom
Dustpan
Mop bucket and mop
P-Touch touch machine for labeling
Extension Cords-- Heavy Duty kind (12 or 14 gauge)
Surge Protectors or 3-tap plugs
Saw Horses

A Locking Cabinet to ensure your equipment does not walk away.

Hardware:

Screws (you don't need to be fancy--you can use drywall screws. 1", 1 1/4", 1 5/8", 2", 2 1/2", 3". The lion's share of use will be 3" and 1".)
Bolts
Nuts
Washers

Paint Brushes

Get a variety of 1", 2", 3", and 4" brushes.

Buying chip brushes in bulk is a great way to go. Don't spend big money on brushes or your heart will break when a student leaves it out with paint on it. Chip brushes are also good for getting into the cracks of wood without worrying about hurting an expensive brush. Julie finds that when students paint with brushes with longer bristles that they tend to drip more and paint more unevenly.

Other Important Supplies Every Theatre Program Should Have:

(Most of these items are available on-line if you do not have access to a theatrical supply shop)

Extra lamps for lighting equipment
Gaff Tape-- Black (throw away any duct tape you have. Duct Tape is Satan)
Spike Tape