



NO-FAIL APPROACH TO

Removing a Wall Stud

Don't let wall studs dictate where a built-in like the display niche goes. If one's in the way, remove it and reinforce the opening.

- 1] Lay out the location of the niche on the wall.
- 2] Cut an opening in the drywall 3" taller and 6" wider than the niche using a utility knife (Illustration, top right).
- 3] Set your circular saw for a full-depth cut. Cut carefully across the stud near the top and bottom of the opening (Photo, above).
- 4] Use a hand saw to complete each cut (Inset).
- 5] Carefully pull the stud free. **Note:** This may pull some screws through the drywall on the backside of the stud. You'll need to patch these holes with joint compound.
- 6] Cut 2x4 "header" and "sill" pieces to fit between the studs adjacent to the opening. Screw them to the two exposed ends of the cut-off stud, and to the adjacent studs with pocket screws (Illustration, bottom right).
- 7] Cut two "trimmer" pieces to fit between the header and sill. Screw them in place with pocket screws on either side of where the display niche will be mounted.
- 8] Install the display niche. Then patch in drywall, and mud and tape the drywall joints to create a smooth, flat surface around the niche.

