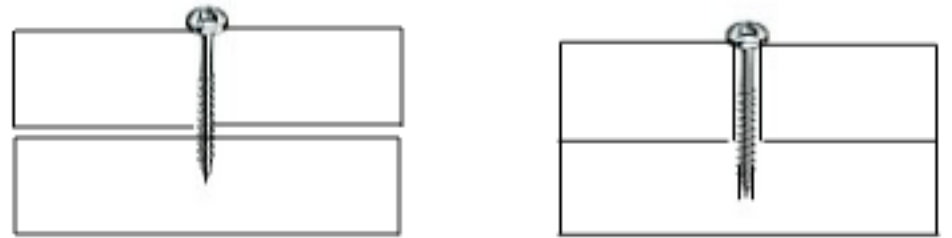


Wood Screw Pilot Hole Guide

Why drill pilot holes ?

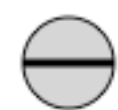
Drilling shank and pilot holes prevents your wood from splitting, and allows for a tighter joint, as shown in the two drawings at the right.



Without a shank hole the screw will thread the wood as it is driven, therefore the screw cannot tighten any gap between the boards.

Screw Gauge	Shank Hole	Pilot Softwood	Pilot Hardwood
0	1/16	1/64	1/32
1	5/64	1/32	1/32
2	3/32	1/32	3/64
3	7/64	3/64	1/16
4	7/64	3/64	1/16
5	1/8	1/16	5/64
6	9/64	1/16	5/64
7	5/32	1/16	3/32
8	11/64	5/64	3/32
9	3/16	5/64	7/64
10	3/16	3/32	7/64
11	13/64	3/32	1/8
12	7/32	7/64	1/8
14	1/4	7/64	9/64
16	17/64	9/64	5/32
18	19/64	9/64	3/16
20	21/64	11/64	13/64

Driver Styles



Slot



Phillips



Robertson

Common Screw Heads



Round



Flat

Working with Screws

Use soap or wax to lubricate screws in hardwoods.

To prevent brass screw heads from twisting off in hardwood use a steel screw of the same gauge to thread the wood, then insert the brass screw.

Your screwdriver bit is less likely to slip when you use Phillips or Robertson style screws.

Use a drill with an adjustable chuck clutch to avoid stripping screw heads.

"If it doesn't feel good, don't do it."