Fastener Basics



Common Fastener Types



Hex bolts, or hex cap screws, are used in machinery and construction. Can be used with a nut, or in a tapped hole. Fully threaded hex bolts are also known as tap bolts.



Wood screws have large threads and a smooth shank for pulling two pieces of material together. They can be used in wood and other soft materials.



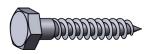
Sheet metal screws have sharp points and threads, and are designed to be driven directly into sheet metal. They can also be used in softer materials like plastic, fiberglass, or wood.



Machine screws are fully treaded for use with a nut or in a tapped hole. Certain types are sometimes referred to as stove bolts.



Socket screws are machine screws with an internal hex socket (Allen) drive. Longer lengths may have a smooth shank.



Lag bolts, or *lag screws*, are large wood screws with hex heads. Typically used for wood construction and landscaping.



Carriage bolts have smooth, domed heads with a square section underneath that pulls into the material to prevent spinning during installation.



Nuts are used to fasten machine threaded fasteners in through-hole applications. Lock nuts help prevent loosening.



Washers spread the load over a greater surface area when tightening a bolt, screw or nut. Lock washers help preventing loosening.

Tip: Find a more comprehensive fastener type chart at http://boltdepot.com/info

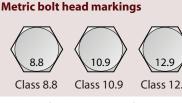
Grade / Class and Fastener Strength

Fastener **Grade** (US) or **Class** (metric) refers to the mechanical properties of the fastener material. Generally, a higher number indicates a stronger, more hardened (but also more brittle) fastener.

For a chart of fastener grades, head markings and mechanical properties, see Bolt Depot's Grade markings and Strength Chart at http://boltdepot.com/info

US bolt head markings





Note: In addition to these markings, the head will often have a manufacturer stamp.

Fastener Materials

Note: Do not rely on this guide for color-matching. The appearance of these materials sometimes differs significantly from the photos below.

Zinc-plated steel is a low carbon steel for general use. Relatively inexpensive, with the zinc plating providing moderate corrosion resistance suitable for indoors or otherwise dry conditions. Color is

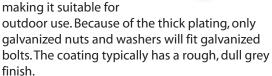




either a blue-ish tint or yellow depending on the exact process.

Hot-dipped galvanized **steel** has a thicker zinc coating for better corrosion resistance,





Stainless steel offers good corrosion resistance, making it suitable for outdoor and marine applications, but is more expensive than zinc plated.



Chrome and nickel plated steel are smooth and polished for appearance. The plating offers moderate corrosion resistance.



Brass and bronze are copper alloys with good corrosion resistance. More expensive than steel, these materials are typically used for decorative applications. Colors can vary significantly.

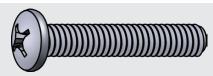


Alloy steel is highly hardened and usually black oxide and/or oil coated, offering little corrosion resistance.





How Fasteners are Notated: An Example



Machine screws, Phillips pan head, Stainless steel 18-8, #12-24 x 1"

Fastener type

Material



Drive Types





Frearson



Pozidriv









Hex socket (Allen)



(Robertson)



Phillips and **Slotted** drives are common in screws, but prone to cam-out (stripping). Combo drives, that can be used with either driver, are available for many fastener types.

Frearson and Pozidriv are similar to Phillips, but less prone to cam-out.

Hex socket (Allen) drives are compact and easy to drive, but prone to cam-out.

Torx and **Square** drive are resistant to cam-out and can be installed singlehanded.

Note: Most drive types (Frearson and Slotted being notable exceptions) require the correct driver size for proper installation.

Head Styles



Hex heads are typically used with larger bolts and screws, and tightened with a wrench.



Pan heads have a slightly domed head that sits above the surface.



Flat heads are installed in a countersunk hole for a flat surface.



Round heads are tall domed heads, used primarily for decorative purposes.



Oval heads are a low domed and countersunk heads, used primarily for decorative purposes.



Truss heads are slightly domed, with a wide head for an extra large surface area.



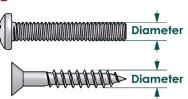
Socket heads are narrow with a socket drive, and knurled or smooth sides.



Button heads feature a medium dome. Typically used with a hex socket drive.

Measuring Diameter

types of fasteners, the diameter is measured on the outside of the threads.



Note: US diameters under 1/4" are given as numbers (e.g. #12) instead of inches, in order of increasing size. If you need to find the actual diameter, use a table corresponding to your fastener type at http://boltdepot.com/info

Thread Count and Thread Pitch

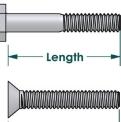
Machine threaded fasteners specify a thread density in Threads Per Inch (US) or as a Thread Pitch in mm (Metric).

For a given diameter, a fastener may be available in coarse (standard), fine and sometimes super fine

Measuring Length

Fastener length is usually measured from where the material is assumed to be to the end of the fastener.

Thus, countersunk fasteners



are measured overall and non-countersunk fasteners are measured from under the head.

Length

Nut and Washer Sizes

Nut and washer sizes indicate the screw or bolt they fit. For example:



Different washer patterns have different outside diameters. For example, hardened US washers are available in USS (wider) and SAE (narrower) patterns. Fender washers have large outside diameters.







More Information

At http://boltdepot.com/info you'll find:

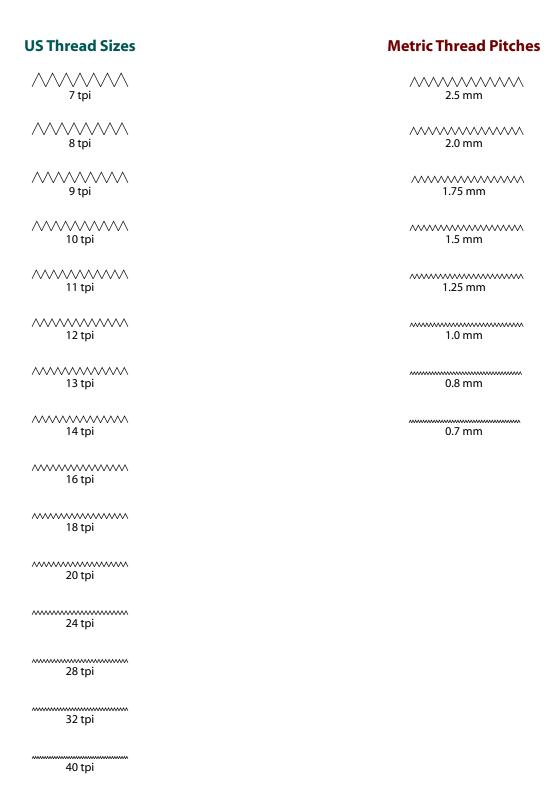
- In-depth fastener info
- Charts and tables
- Printable lay-over charts and tools for quickly identifying fastener sizes and types
- Much more...



US and Metric Thread Sizes



www.boltdepot.com/tools



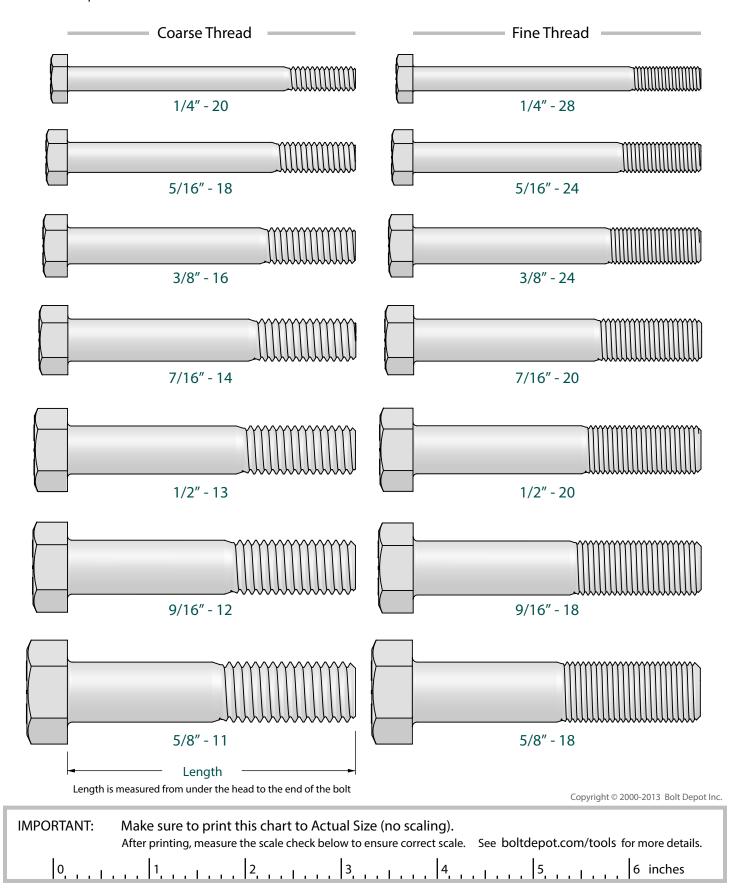
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IMPORTANT:	PORTANT: Make sure to print this chart to Actual Size (no scaling). After printing, measure the scale check below to ensure correct scale. See boltdepot.com/tools for more details.									
0, , , ,	, , , 1, , , , , 2, , , , , , 3, , , , , , , 4, , , , , , , 5, , , , , , 6 inches									

Standard US Hex Bolt Sizes and Thread Pitches



www.boltdepot.com/tools



Standard Metric Hex Bolt Sizes and Thread Pitches



6 inches

www.boltdepot.com/tools

(Note: Head sizes may differ from what is shown due to differences between metric standards) 4mm x 0.7mm 10mm x 1.25mm 14mm x 2.0mm 5mm x 0.8mm 10mm x 1.0mm 6mm x 1.0mm 14mm x 1.5mm 7mm x 1.0mm 12mm x 1.75mm 8mm x 1.25mm 16mm x 2.0mm 12mm x 1.5mm 8mm x 1.0mm 10mm x 1.5mm 12mm x 1.25mm 16mm x 1.5mm Length Length is measured from under 100 the head to the end of the bolt Copyright © 2000-2013 Bolt Depot Inc. **IMPORTANT:** Make sure to print this chart to **Actual Size** (no scaling). After printing, measure the scale check below to ensure correct scale. See boltdepot.com/tools for more details.

DECIMAL EQUIVALENTS

METRIC - GREEN FRACTIONAL - RED WIRE GAGE - PURPLE LETTER SIZE - BLUE



DRILL Size	DECIMAL INCHES	DRILL Size	DECIMAL INCHES	DRILL Size	DECIMAL INCHES	DRILL Size	DECIMAL INCHES	DRILL Size	DECIMAL INCHES
0.3mm	.0118	1.75mm	.0689	4.1mm	.1614	L	.2900	33/64	.5156
0.32mm	.0126	50	.0700	4.2mm	.1654	7.4mm	.2913	13.2mm	.5197
80	.0135	1.8mm	.0709	19	.1660	M	.2950	17/32	.5312
0.35mm 79	.0138 .0145	1.85mm 49	.0728 .0730	4.3mm 18	.1693 .1695	7.5mm 19/64	.2953 .2969	13.5mm 13.8mm	.5315 .5433
0.38mm	.0150	1.9mm	.0748	11/64	.1719	7.6mm	.2992	35/64	.5469
1/64	.0156	48	.0760	17	.1730	N	.3020	14.0mm	.5512
0.4mm	.0157	1.95mm	.0768	4.4mm	.1732	7.7mm	.3031	14.25mm	.5610
78	.0160	5/64	.0781	16	.1770	7.8mm	.3071	9/16	.5625
0.42mm 0.45mm	.0165 .0177	47 2.0mm	.0785 .0787	4.5mm 15	.1772 .1800	7.9mm 5/16	.3110 .3125	14.5mm 37/64	.5709 .5781
0.45Hilli 77	.0177	2.05mm	.0807	4.6mm	.1811	8.0mm	.3150	14.75mm	.5807
0.48mm	.0189	46	.0810	14	.1820	0	.3160	15.0mm	.5906
0.5mm	.0197	45	.0820	4.7mm 13	.1850	8.1mm	.3189	19/32	.5938
76	.0200	2.1mm	.0827	3/16	.1875	8.2mm_	.3228	15.25mm	.6004
75 0.55	.0210	2.15mm	.0846	4.8mm 12	.1890	P	.3230	39/64	.6094
0.55mm 74	.0217 .0225	44 2.2mm	.0860 .0866	11 4.9mm	.1910 .1929	8.3mm 21/64	.3268 .3281	15.5mm 15.75mm	.6102 .6201
0.6mm	.0236	2.25mm	.0886	10	.1935	8.4mm	.3307	5/8	.6250
73	.0240	43	.0890	9	.1960	Q	.3320	16.0mm	.6299
0.62mm	.0244	2.3mm	.0906	5.0mm	.1969	8.5mm	.3346	16.25mm	.6398
72	.0250	2.35mm	.0925	8	.1990	8.6mm_	.3386	41/64	.6406
0.65mm	.0256	42 3/32	.0935	5.1mm	.2008	R	.3390	16.5mm	.6496
71 0.7mm	.0260 .0276	3/32 2.4mm	.0938 .0945	7 13/64	.2010 .2031	8.7mm 11/32	.3425 .3438	21/32 16.75mm	.6562 .6594
70	.0280	41	.0960	6	.2040	8.8mm	.3465	17.0mm	.6693
69	.0292	2.45mm	.0965	5.2mm	.2047	S	.3480	43/64	.6719
0.75mm	.0295	40	.0980	5	.2055	8.9mm	.3504	17.25mm	.6791
68	.0310	2.5mm	.0984	5.3mm	.2087	9.0mm_	.3543	11/16	.6875
1/32	.0312	39	.0995	4	.2090	T	.3580	17.5mm	.6890
0.8mm 67	.0315 .0320	38 2.6mm	.1015 .1024	5.4mm 3	.2126 .2130	9.1mm 23/64	.3583 .3594	45/64 18.0mm	.7031 .7087
66	.0320	37	.1024	5.5mm	.2165	9.2mm	.3622	23/32	.7188
0.85mm	.0335	2.7mm	.1063	7/32	.2188	9.3mm	.3661	18.5mm	.7283
65	.0350	36	.1065	5.6mm	.2205	U	.3680	47/64	.7344
0.9mm	.0354	7/64	.1094	2	.2210	9.4mm	.3701	19.0mm	.7480
64	.0360	35	.1100	5.7mm	.2244	9.5mm	.3740	3/4	.7500
63 0.95mm	.0370 .0374	2.8mm 34	.1102 .1110	1 5.8mm	.2280 .2283	3/8 V	.3750 .3770	49/64 19.5mm	.7656 .7677
62	.0374	33	.1130	5.9mm	.2323	9.6mm	.3780	25/32	.7812
61	.0390	2.9mm	.1142	A	.2340	9.7mm	.3819	20.0mm	.7874
1.0mm	.0394	32	.1160	15/64	.2344	9.8mm	.3858	51/64	.7969
60	.0400	3.0mm	.1181	6.0mm_	.2362	W	.3860	20.5mm	.8071
59	.0410	31	.1200	B	.2380	9.9mm	.3898	13/16	.8125
1.05mm 58	.0413 .0420	3.1mm 1/8	.1220 .1250	6.1mm C	.2402 .2420	25/64 10.0mm	.3906 .3937	21.0mm 53/64	.8268 .8281
57	.0430	3.2mm	.1260	6.2mm	.2441	X	.3970	27/32	.8438
1.1mm	.0433	30	.1285	D	.2460	10.2mm	.4016	21.5mm	.8465
1.15mm	.0453	3.3mm	.1299	6.3mm	.2480	Υ	.4040	55/64	.8594
56	.0465	3.4mm	.1339	1/4. E	.2500	_ 13/32	.4062	22.0mm	.8661
3/64 1.2mm	.0469 .0472	29 3.5mm	.1360 .1378	6.4mm	.2520	Z 10.5mm	.4130	7/8 22.5mm	.8750
1.25mm	.0472	28	.1376	6.5mm F	.2559 .2570	27/64	.4134 .4219	57/64	.8858 .8906
1.3mm	.0512	9/64	.1406	6.6mm	.2598	10.8mm	.4252	23.0mm	.9055
55	.0520	3.6mm	.1417	G	.2610	11.0mm	.4331	29/32	.9062
1.35mm	.0531	27	.1440	6.7mm	.2638	7/16	.4375	59/64	.9219
54	.0550	3.7mm	.1457	17/64	.2656	11.2mm	.4409	23.5mm	.9252
1.4mm	.0551 .0571	26 25	.1470	H 6 9mm	.2660	11.5mm	.4528	15/16 24.0mm	.9375
1.45mm 1.5mm	.0571 .0591	3.8mm	.1495 .1496	6.8mm 6.9mm	.2677 .2717	29/64 11.8mm	.4531 .4646	24.0mm 61/64	.9449 .9531
53	.0595	24	.1520	0.511111	.2720	15/32	.4688	24.5mm	.9646
1.55mm	.0610	3.9mm	.1535	7.0mm	.2756	12.0mm	.4724	31/32	.9688
1/16	.0625	23	.1540	J	.2770	12.2mm	.4803	25.0mm	.9843
1.6mm	.0630	5/32	.1562	7.1mm	.2795	31/64	.4844	63/64	.9844
52 1.65mm	.0635 .0650	22 4.0mm	.1570 1575	K 0/22	.2810	12.5mm	.4921	1"	1.0000
1.7mm	.0669	4.0mm 21	.1575 .1590	9/32 7.2mm	.2812 .2835	1/2 12.8mm	.5000 .5039		
51	.0670	20	.1610	7.2mm	.2874	13.0mm	.5118		
-									