

Wood Screw Head Styles & Drive Types

Tip: Set your PDF viewer to "Actual size" before printing to maintain scale.

Head Styles

Head Style	Profile	Installation	Best Applications
Flat Head (Countersunk)	Conical underside, flat top, 82° angle	Sits flush when countersunk	Hinges, hardware, general woodworking
Pan Head	Rounded top with flat bearing surface	Does not require countersinking	Sheet goods, metal-to-wood
Round Head	Dome-shaped top, highly visible	Sits above surface	Decorative applications, visible fastening
Oval Head	Countersunk with rounded top	Partially visible above surface	Furniture, cabinets, finish work
Bugle Head	Curved taper, self-countersinking	No pre-countersinking needed	Decking, drywall, construction
Truss Head	Extra-wide, low dome profile	Large bearing surface	Sheet metal to wood, thin materials
Hex Head	Hexagonal head	Driven with socket or wrench	Heavy-duty structural connections (lag screws)
Trim Head	Small diameter countersunk head	Minimally visible, can be filled	Finish carpentry, molding, trim
Washer Head	Built-in washer under flathead	Extra bearing surface	Pocket holes, soft materials

Drive Types

Drive Type	Features	Advantages	Common Uses
Phillips	Cross (+) shape, self-centering, sizes #1-#3	Universal availability, self-centering design	Traditional wood screws, general purpose
Square (Robertson)	Square recess, excellent grip, sizes #1-#3	No cam-out, one-handed driving	Deck screws, construction screws
Star (Torx)	6-point star, superior torque, T10-T30 common	High torque transfer, no cam-out, long bit life	Modern wood screws, premium applications
Slotted	Single straight slot, traditional design	Classic appearance, simple tooling	Decorative screws, brass/bronze hardware
Combo (Phillips/Square)	Accepts both Phillips and square bits	Maximum compatibility, versatile	Pocket hole screws, general purpose
Hex Socket	Internal hexagon, high torque capacity	Very strong, no stripping	Structural screws, lag screws

Selection Tips

- **Flush Installation:** Use flat head or bugle head screws
- **Decorative:** Round head or oval head for visible fastening
- **High Torque:** Star (Torx) or hex socket drives prevent stripping
- **Speed:** Square drive for quick one-handed installation
- **Traditional Look:** Slotted drive with round or oval head
- **Thin Materials:** Truss head prevents pull-through

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