

Wood Screw Size Chart: The DIY Guide to Choosing Fasteners

Picking the right wood screw can make or break your project. This chart lays out common wood screw gauges, their exact diameters, and the pilot hole sizes you'll want to drill for both hardwoods and softwoods. Knowing these details helps prevent stripped screws, split wood, and weak joints. It's about matching the screw's strength to your material, ensuring a secure hold without damaging your workpiece. You can download this chart or print it out for your workshop—it's super handy to have nearby when you're grabbing screws.

WOOD SCREW GAUGE #	MAJOR DIAMETER (IN)	SHANK DIAMETER (IN)	PILOT HOLE - HARDWOOD (IN)	PILOT HOLE - SOFTWOOD (IN)	COMMON LENGTHS (IN)
#4	0.112	0.086	0.0625 (1/16")	0.0469 (3/64")	1/2, 5/8, 3/4, 1
#6	0.138	0.104	0.0781 (5/64")	0.0625 (1/16")	1/2, 3/4, 1, 1 1/4, 1 1/2
#8	0.164	0.122	0.0938 (3/32")	0.0781 (5/64")	3/4, 1, 1 1/4, 1 1/2, 2
#10	0.190	0.140	0.1094 (7/64")	0.0938 (3/32")	1, 1 1/4, 1 1/2, 2, 2 1/2
#12	0.216	0.158	0.125 (1/8")	0.1094 (7/64")	1 1/4, 1 1/2, 2, 2 1/2, 3
#14	0.242	0.176	0.1406 (9/64")	0.125 (1/8")	1 1/2, 2, 2 1/2, 3, 3 1/2

6 rows