

Types of Screws and Their Uses

The screw families side by side, with what each one is for.

Screw type	Head	Typical material	Best for
Wood screw	Flat / pan	Steel, stainless, brass	Woodworking, cabinetry
Drywall screw	Bugle	Phosphate steel	Hanging drywall on studs
Deck screw	Bugle / flat	Coated steel, stainless	Decks, outdoor wood
Machine screw	Pan / flat / round	Steel, stainless, brass	Tapped holes, electronics
Self-tapping screw	Pan / hex	Case-hardened steel	Sheet metal, plastic
Self-drilling (TEK) screw	Hex washer / pan	Case-hardened steel	Steel framing, metal roofing
Concrete screw (Tapcon)	Hex / flat	Case-hardened steel	Concrete, brick, block
Lag screw	Hex	Steel, galvanized	Heavy wood framing, ledgers
Set screw	Headless	Alloy steel	Securing pulleys and collars
Socket cap screw	Socket / button	Alloy steel, stainless	Machinery, robotics

Note: Names vary by region; check the profile

Reference values only — verify against the governing standard or manufacturer before use.