IFIXIT

Choosing the Right Screwdriver Bit

Choosing the wrong screwdriver bit can...

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2.5	3	3.5	4	5	5.5	MAGNET	1/4 - 4	0.7	0.9	1.3
1.5	2	2.5	3	3.5	4	4.5	5	OVAL	6	3
STANDOFF	1	2	J000	J00	J0	J1	T2	T3	T4	T5
TR6	TR7	TR8	TR9	TR10	TR15	TR20	TR25	3.8	4.5	SIM
1	1.5	2	2.5	3	4	Y000	Y00	Y0	Y1	P2
P5	P6	000	00	0	1	2	2	3		
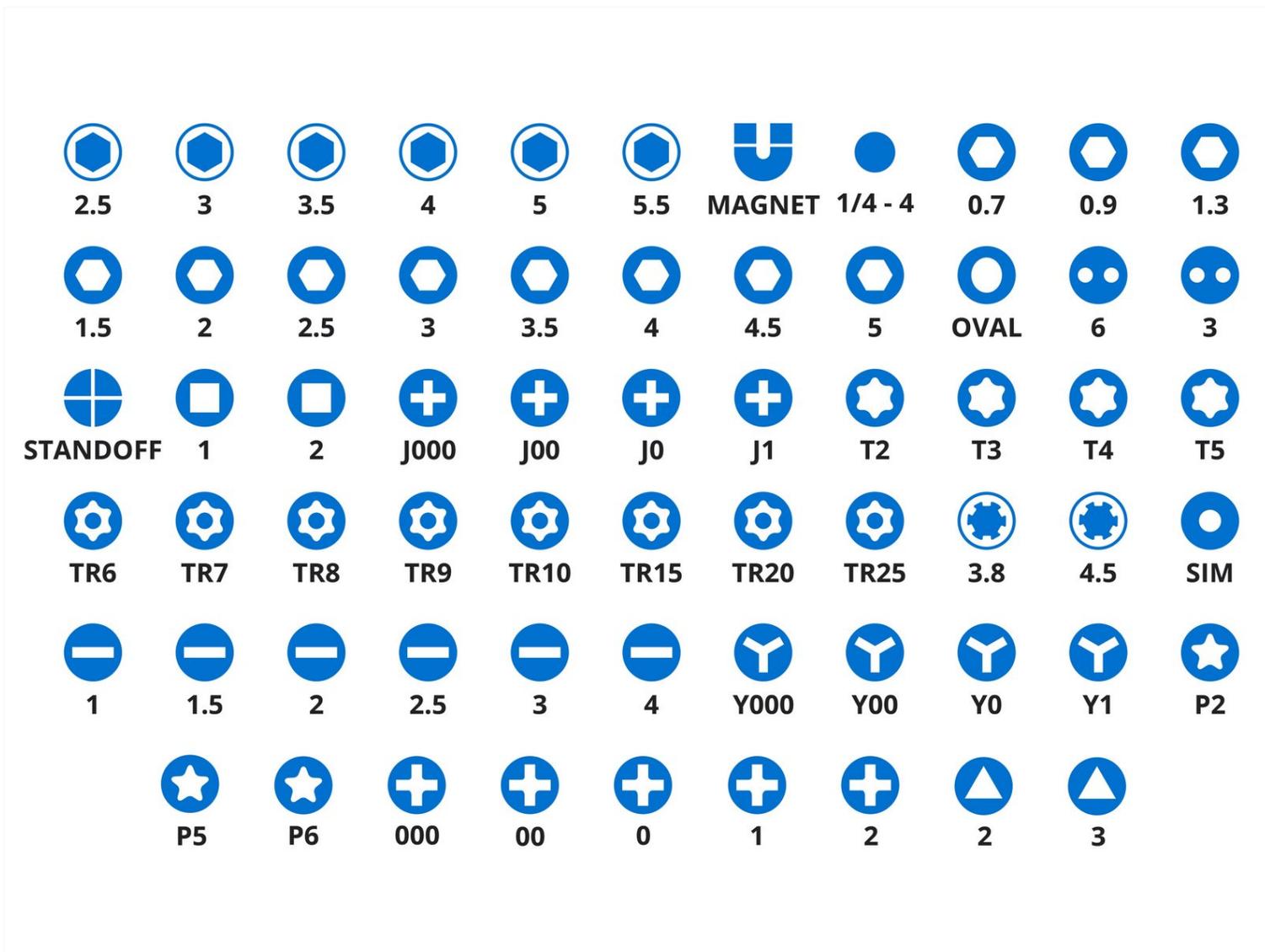
INTRODUCTION

Choosing the wrong screwdriver bit can sometimes mean the difference between repair success and repair distress. Follow the tips in this guide to correctly identify your screwdriver bits and prevent those woeful stripped screws.

If you're still running into trouble with your screws after reviewing the information here, check out this awesome guide for some screwdriver tips.

🔧 **TOOLS:**

[Pro Tech Toolkit](#) (1)

Step 1 — Identification

- The screw bits in our iFixit bit kits have engraved prefixes that indicate the head **type**. These prefixes are typically followed by a number that indicates bit **size**. For example:
  - **PH2** - (Phillips #2) A large Phillips bit.
  - **PH0** - (Phillips #0) A medium Phillips bit.
  - **PH000** - (Phillips #000) A small Phillips bit.
- ⓘ Choose the bit size that fills the screw head entirely. A bit that is too big or too small will not seat properly, and you'll end up with a stripped screw.

| Bit Shape	Name	Sizes
⊕	Phillips	000, 00, 0, 1, 2
⊖	Flathead	1, 1.5, 2, 2.5, 3, 4 mm
✶	Torx	T2, T3, T4, T5
✶	Torx Security	TR6, TR7, TR8, TR9, TR10, TR15, TR20, TR25
✶	Pentalobe	P2, P5, P6
⊕	JIS	J000, J00, J0, J1
⬡	Hex	0.7, 0.9, 1.3, 1.5, 2, 2.5, 3, 3.5, 4, 4.5, 5 mm
▽	Tri-point	Y000, Y00, Y0, Y1

Bit Shape	Name	Sizes
◉	Nut Driver	2.5, 3, 3.5, 4, 4.5, 5, 5.5 mm
▢	Square	0, 1, 2
✳	Gamebit	3.8, 4.5 mm
⦿	Spanner	4, 6, 8
◁	Triangle	2, 3 mm
◎	SIM Eject Bit	
•	1/4" to 4 mm Driver Adapter	

- If you find yourself scratching your head over identifying the bits in your tool kit, feel free to use this reference list.
  - Physical bit shape followed by proper name.

  - Bit size.

  - If there is no prefix engraved in your bit, simply use the full proper name and size when using your bit in a guide. **(For example: "Use a 1.5 mm Flathead bit to remove the two 5 mm case screws.")**
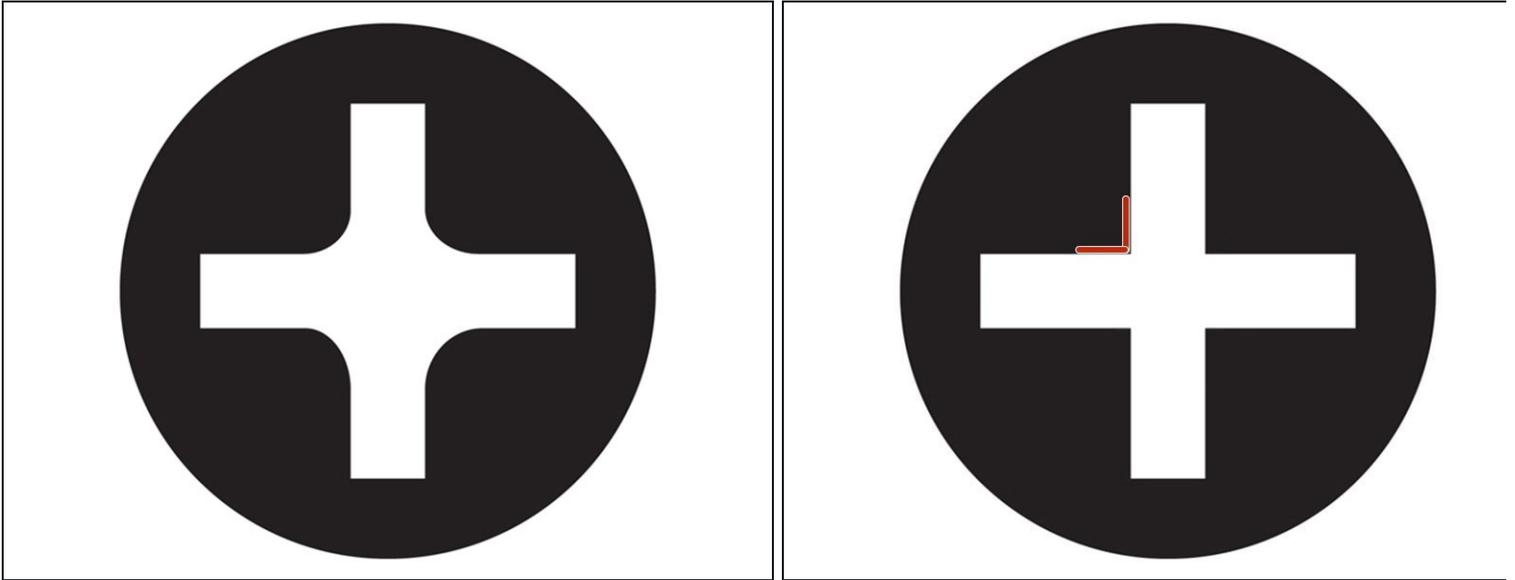
- Bits with the prefix "**J**" and "**PH**" are often thought to be the same bit. Don't be fooled by their similar appearance—they are quite different.

  - **Phillips (PH)** screws are designed to make a Phillips screwdriver cam out if too much torque is applied. This prevents damage to screws and screwdrivers or bits.

  - **Japanese Industrial Standard (J)** screws do not provide a cam-out option, and have 90 degree corners.

⚠ **J** (or JIS) and **PH** (Phillips) driver bits are not always interchangeable. As you can see, they **do not** share identical physical properties.