

A Quick and Dirty Light Duty Carriage Bolt Wrench, Version 1.0

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I had many used 1" long carriage bolts, some with damaged threads. I ran a nut on each one to clean out and straighten the threads. Driving the nut wasn't a problem since I own an electric screwdriver and a socket. The trick was to hold the carriage bolt by the head as I performed this operation.



Such a homemade tool only has to last long enough for the job. I'm not looking to make this a tool worth passing down to my grandchildren.



I used a metric wrench that fit the tapered square shank of the carriage bolt good enough to stop rotation. Added two pieces of scrap metal and a vise grip, and I was ready to go.

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The stack consists of the wrench, a spacer, and a piece of aluminum. By clamping at a distance from the end, I can use the flex of the aluminum to clamp the head against the wrench. It is strong enough to hold yet easy to release.



After starting the nut by hand, I drive it down and back up with my electric screwdriver. The bolt is pulled out of the tool and tossed into a bucket.

Once done with this job, the wrench went back into my toolbox, the spacer back in with my other lathe tool spacers, and the scrap of aluminum went back into my junk drawer.

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