

A Cost Reduced Wall Anchor, version 1

By R. G. Sparber

Copyright protects this document.¹

A friend of mine sent me a link to a rather clever and useful wall fastener made by Veritas®:



See: <http://www.leevalley.com/en/wood/page.aspx?cat=1,43326&p=72514>

The idea is that you drill a 1/2" hole through the drywall and then a smaller pilot hole into the stud. Using a screwdriver, you drive one of these fasteners into the hole. The exposed face of the fastener is slightly proud of the drywall. This prevents the object being supported from contacting and loading the drywall. Sound great until you look at the price: almost \$5 each!

So, of course it got me thinking. How can I make these for a lot less money and little effort. Do understand, I have no interest in selling anything.

¹ You are free to distribute this article but not to change it.



My answer was to use a 1-1/2" long piece of 1/2"-13 threaded rod. A #7 hole was drilled through it and 1/4-20 threads cut about 1/2" in from one end. The other end was beveled for easy insertion.



Instead of having to cut a slot in the top face for a screwdriver, I used a 1/4-20 bolt with a nut on the end. This lets me drive home the insert. Then, by loosening the nut, I can back out the bolt without backing out the insert.



I first drilled a hole through the drywall and stud using the tap drill for a 1/2-13 bolt: 27/64". Yeah, I know, there is no drywall in this picture and this is not a stud.



The insert with drive bolt and nut was placed in the hole.



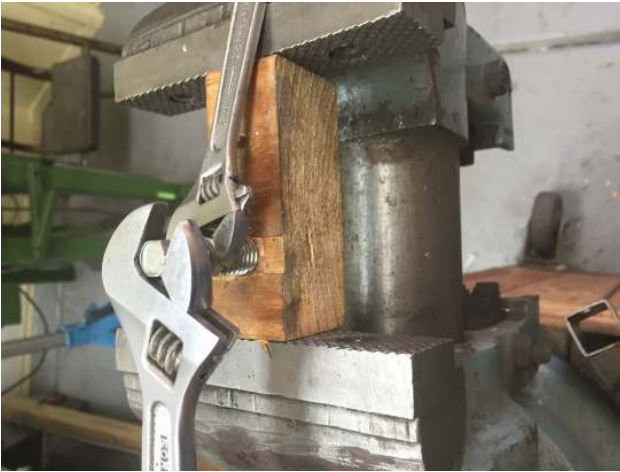
Then the assembly was driven down until the top of the fastener was just proud of the drywall. Now do you see the drywall?



Using a wrench, I backed off the nut and then the bolt. The insert remained in the stud.



The fastener was then ready for use.



To remove the insert, screw the bolt with nut back into the fastener. Take care not to bottom out the bolt in the threaded hole.

Tighten the nut down.



You can then turn the bolt and back the fastener out of the hole.

Acknowledgments

Thanks to Dennis MacIntyre for showing me these fasteners.

I welcome your comments and questions.

If you wish to be contacted each time I publish an article, email me with just "Article Alias" in the subject line.

Rick Sparber
Rgsparber.ha@gmail.com
Rick.Sparber.org

