

Using Rosin To Start a Philips Head Screw, Version 1.0

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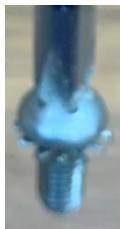
Once in a while I am faced with trying to start a Philips head screw in the bottom of a deep hole. Failure to engage the thread causes the screw to at least fall over and maybe drop deeper into the machine. No amount of profanity corrects the problem.

If the screw is steel, a magnet can be placed on the shank of the screwdriver to attract the screw head. Often it also attracts the side of the hole and any loose swarf.



My solution is to use rosin. Many years ago I went to a violin store and, for a few dollars, bought a block.

For this to work, you must use a Philips head screwdriver that is a good fit to the head of the screw.



Draw the tip of the screwdriver over the rosin while turning it. Then push the bit into the screw head. Works just as well for steel, non-magnetic stainless steel, and brass screws.

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

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