

Wire Nut Drivers, Version 1.0

By R. G. Sparber

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As I was twisting a wire nut onto some wires, I thought of a tool to provide leverage. Making such a tool would be tricky to machine but easy to 3D print.



Rather than jump into drafting the tool, I had the sense to go to Thingiverse.com and see if anyone had already submitted such a tool. “mfann72” did so back on February 4, 2016. The second iteration was without the clip: [“Stubby Wire Nut Driver Remix.”](#) The original design had a clip, but the author discovered it broke off. I can see that it would also prevent getting a good grip on the handle.



I downloaded the file and printed it on my Prusa MK IIIs in about an hour.

How does it work?



I tested the tool with various wire nuts and two wire gages. The tool worked great on my largest (red) and second to the largest (tan) wire nut sizes. It worked OK on the third size (yellow) and poorly on the fourth size (orange).

My smallest wire nut (blue) failed to engage with the tool.

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All is not lost. It is trivial to 3D print at different sizes. I printed the tool at $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{3}{4}$, and full size. As you can see, all applications worked well with the wires tightly twisted below each nut. This can take a fair amount of force with heavier wires, so the added leverage is much appreciated.

Acknowledgments

Thanks to “mfann72” for providing such a useful tool.

I welcome your comments and questions.

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