

Drilling A Hole in a Slot with a Step Drill, version 1.0

By R. G. Sparber

Copyright protects this document.¹

Have you ever tried to drill a hole where a slot was present.



It can be done with a twist drill but often the drill snatches, bends the area around the slot, and flings the workpiece in some random direction.

There is a better way - use a step drill². I own a set from Harbor Freight®.



¹ You are free to copy and distribute this document but not change it.

² See <http://www.harborfreight.com/catalogsearch/result?q=step+drill>



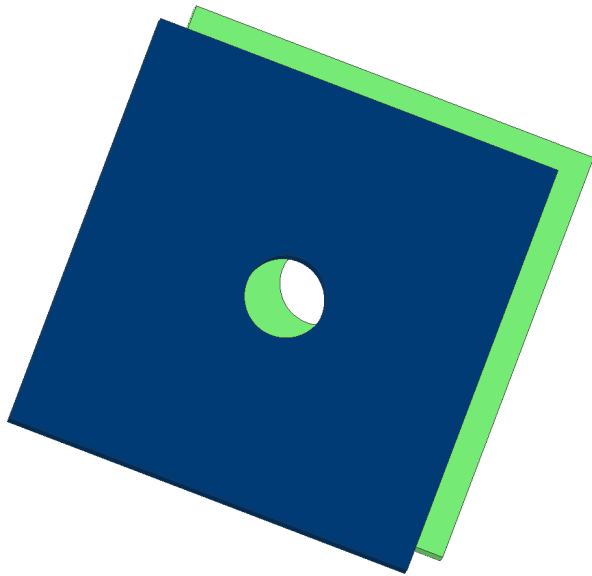
The smallest step drill has a point that fits down in the slot. That lets me center the drill.



The cutting action was very smooth and controlled.



The resulting hole was centered and exactly where I wanted it to be.



This trick also works when you have two holes that don't perfectly align. The resulting hole will be centered near the average center of the two holes.

Acknowledgements

Thanks to Jerry Cargill for suggesting a step drill to solve the offset hole problem.

I welcome your comments and questions.

Rick Sparber

Rgsparber@aol.com

Rick.Sparber.org

