

Repairs

How to Magnetize Standard Screwdrivers

Magnetic screwdrivers stay aligned with the head of the screw, and they're helpful for finding dropped screws. These screwdrivers are available commercially, but why not try magnetizing the screwdrivers you already own?

Here's how to magnetize a standard screwdriver:

- Use a bar magnet made of neodymium, with at least 1/4-pound pull force.
- Run the tip of the screwdriver across the magnet in the same direction about 10 times, turning the screwdriver one-quarter turn each time.
- Or run the magnet from the handle to the tip of the screwdriver. For a large screwdriver, start the magnet halfway up the shaft and go to the tip. Only move the magnet in one direction. Lift the magnet off, and then run it to the tip about 10 times, turning the screwdriver one-quarter turn each time.

