

## Drill/Hammer Drill Chuck Removal and Installation

Whether corded or cordless, just about every homeowner, DIYer, or trade professional has one or more drills in their tool arsenal. Drills get a lot of use and abuse throughout their lives, and the chuck is subjected to a majority of it. But don't let a worn or broken chuck make you "chuck" your drill if it's still in good shape! This eZtip will help you remove your old chuck, and tell you what things to consider when selecting a replacement chuck.

### Chuck Removal

- Safety First! Be sure the tool is unplugged or the battery is removed.
- Fully open the chuck jaws and determine the type of retaining screw installed in the drill spindle (commonly Hex, Torx®, Phillips, or slotted). In some cases a retaining screw may not be present.
- Using the appropriate driver, loosen and remove retaining screw.  
*Save the retaining screw for installation of new chuck.*
- **Note: Screws are reverse thread and will turn clockwise to loosen.**
- Using a 1/4" or larger hex key (Allen wrench), tighten the short end of the wrench into the chuck jaws.
- With the drill on a flat surface and the chuck facing you, use a soft-faced hammer or mallet to sharply strike the hex key 2-3 times in a counterclockwise direction (Figure A).
- Once loose, complete chuck removal by hand and remove the hex key from the chuck.

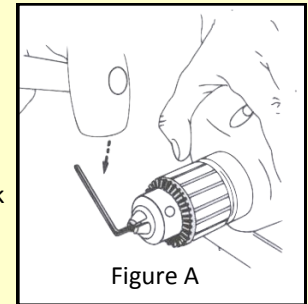


Figure A

To select your replacement chuck first determine what type you want to use, keyed or keyless. As designs have improved their gripping power, keyless chucks have become the new normal for hand held drills, not to mention their overall convenience of use (no key to lose or find). If you are going to be using a keyless replacement chuck, then you need to know whether you need a single or double-sleeve chuck. The type can be determined by looking at your current chuck, and comparing to the image below. If you are switching from a keyed to a keyless chuck, or you currently have a double-sleeve keyless chuck, then the replacement needs to be a double-sleeve keyless chuck also. Likewise, if the current chuck is a single sleeve, you will want to stick with a single sleeve replacement.

Lastly, confirm the thread size on your drill's spindle to be sure the new chuck is compatible. Typically 3/8" capacity chucks have a 3/8"-24 thread, and 1/2" chucks have a 1/2"-20 thread. However, there can be exceptions where this is opposite, or an entirely different thread may be present, so it's always best to double check first.



### Chuck Installation

- Thread the new chuck clockwise onto the drill spindle. Tighten the hex key used in the removal process into the jaws of the new chuck.
- Sharply strike the hex key 2-3 times with a soft-faced hammer or mallet clockwise and remove the hex key.
- Reinstall the retaining screw from the chuck removal process and tighten in a counterclockwise direction.
- Your repair should now be complete!



Information sources include Jacobs

If you are still having difficulty selecting a drill chuck,  
 please contact us at [askzoro@zoro.com](mailto:askzoro@zoro.com) or 855-289-9676

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