

Pop Rivets and Back-up Washers

DT Workshop Equipment Reference — D&T / STEM resource for school workshops | Fasteners & Hardware

Pop rivets join two sheets of metal or plastic from one side by pulling a stem through a sleeve, expanding it behind the hole. Back-up washers spread the load on soft or thin materials and seal the joint.

Key Features

- Sizes 2.4, 3.2, 4.0, 4.8 mm
- Aluminium and steel rivets
- Countersunk and dome heads
- Back-up washers for thin sheets
- Stem lengths for grip ranges

Typical Uses in the Workshop

- Join sheet metal, plastic and trims
- Fix brackets and panels in frames
- Repair gutters, guards and cases
- Assemble products without welding

Safe Operation

1. Drill the hole to the rivet size
2. Select the rivet for the material thickness
3. Insert the stem and squeeze the gun
4. Check the head sits tight
5. Drill out and re-rivet on mistakes

SAFETY NOTES

- Stems are sharp - collect and dispose
- Wear eye protection when drilling and riveting
- Support thin sheets with washers
- Do not rivet where it will be under fatigue
- Keep small rivets from children

Maintenance & Consumables

- Keep rivets sorted by size
- Check the rivet gun nosepieces
- Clear stems from the work area
- Store the gun with the case
- Restock the popular sizes

Specification & Buying Notes

Stock the standard aluminium rivet sizes with matching drills and a backup washer pack. Quality rivets set cleanly; cheap stems bend in the gun.