



Materials Reference Charts:

The following tables and charts are meant to be a miniature home-repair reference center for the reader. The information contained within them is valuable and timeless. Some of them, particularly the table of Ladder Safety Rules and the Fire Prevention Checklist, are meant to be studied carefully or even memorized. Others - charts on abrasives, lubricants, adhesives, etc. - can be used only when very specific information is required for a particular task.

Screws And Nails

There is little we can tell you about screws and nails- except, of course, that they hold the world together and, like people, they come in all sizes, shapes, colors, with and without heads.

One's selection of screws and nails for home repair jobs is important: you simply cannot choose a 16 penny nail (see chart) to hammer together 2 quarter-inch pieces of plywood. Nor could you make use of a one-half-inch finishing nail to join a couple of two-by-fours. It simply won't work.

Screws must also be carefully selected for appropriate jobs. Screws fall into two general categories: wood screws and metal screws. But don't be confused - both types are actually made of metal. Wood screws have shanks tapered to a sharp point, and they are designed to be driven into wood. Metal screws have untapered shanks and are designed to be driven through already existing holes in metal and fastened at the other end with a nut.

Screws are calibrated in diameter size. Nails are measured in penny (d) weight. See the two charts that follow. We suggest that the reader stock up on screws and nails as a general household staple. Using the accompanying charts as a guide, go to your nearest hardware store and get a generous assortment of each.

Nail Size Chart:

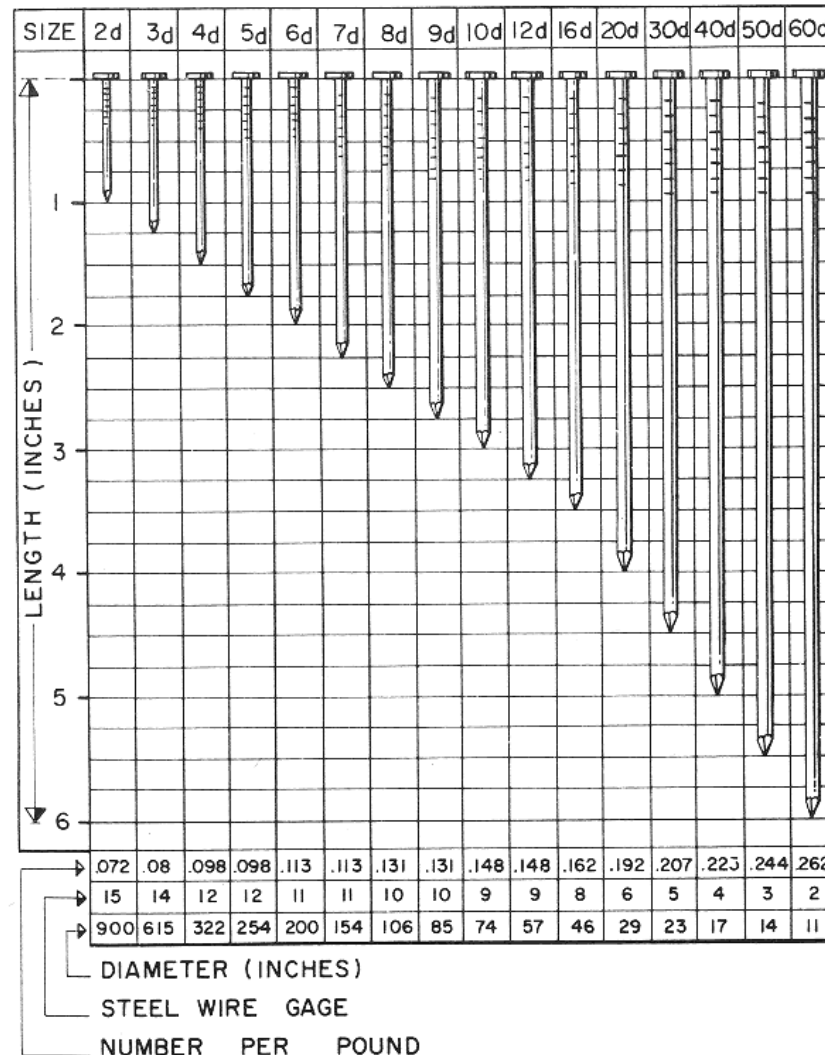


Figure H.
Nail Chart, Common Sizes