What drill bit should be used for galvanized cable trays



Overview

Top 5 Drill Bits for Galvanized Steel: Buying GuideBy the end of this guide, you'll understand exactly what makes a drill bit suitable for galvanized steel.

Key Takeaways

Cobalt, titanium nitride-coated, and carbide drill bits are the best choices for drilling galvanized cable trays due to their hardness, heat resistance, and durability.

Best Drill Bit Materials

Cobalt Drill Bits: Made from M35 high-speed steel with 5–8% cobalt, these bits are extremely hard and heat-resistant, making them ideal for drilling through galvanized steel without dulling quickly or breaking. They are particularly effective for thicker cable trays and repeated use. Titanium Nitride (TiN) Coated Bits: These bits have a titanium nitride coating that reduces friction, prevents sticking, and extends the bit's lifespan up to six times longer than standard bits.

They are suitable for medium-thickness galvanized steel and provide smooth, precise holes.

Carbide-

Tipped Bits: Extremely hard and wear-resistant, carbide-tipped bits are best for very thick or industrial-grade galvanized steel. They can handle high-speed drilling and maintain sharpness over prolonged use.



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High-

Speed Steel (HSS) Bits: Suitable for thinner galvanized steel, HSS bits are more affordable but less durable than cobalt or carbide options. They are best for light-duty or occasional drilling. Recommended Drill Bit SetsDEWALT Titanium Nitride Coated Drill Bit Set (21-Piece): Includes popular SAE sizes, stubby design for tight spaces, and 135° split point tips for faster, accurate drilling.

MACXCOI

P Cobalt Drill Bit Set (13-Piece): M35 cobalt steel, 135° point tip, polished for precision, ideal for hard metals.

COMOWAR

E 15-Piece Drill Bit Set (1/16″–3/8″): Versatile sizes for various projects, durable and heat-resistant.

Nord

Wolf 5-Piece M35 Cobalt Stubby Drill Bit Set: Compact, durable, and compatible with impact drivers, perfect for stainless steel and galvanized steel.

Drilling Tips for Galvanized Cable Trays

Mark and Secure: Use a center punch to mark drilling points and clamp the tray securely to prevent movement. Use Lubrication: Apply cutting oil or water to reduce heat and friction, preserving the zinc coating and extending bit life. Correct Speed and Pressure: Use medium to high drilling speed with steady pressure.

Avoid forcing the bit, which can cause breakage or damage the coating. Pilot Holes: For larger holes, start with a smaller pilot hole to guide the larger bit and reduce stress on the material. Safety Gear: Always wear safety goggles and gloves to protect against metal shavings and sharp edges.

Key Considerations

Material Thickness: Thicker galvanized trays require cobalt or carbide bits for durability. Bit Size: Match the bit size to the hole diameter needed for fasteners or cable entry. Frequency of Use: For frequent drilling, invest in high-quality cobalt or TiN-coated bits to reduce wear and replacement costs.

Using the right drill bit and proper technique ensures clean, precise holes, protects the galvanized coating, and extends the life of your tools, making your work on cable trays more efficient and professional.

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Article Content

Top 5 Drill Bits for Galvanized Steel: Buying Guide

By the end of this guide, you''ll understand exactly what makes a drill bit suitable for galvanized steel. We''ll break down the best types of bits to use, what to look for, and how to get

What Type Of Drill Bit For Galvanized Steel? – Find The Right One

For drilling through thick or hard galvanized steel, a cobalt or titanium-based drill bit is recommended. Always use a sharp drill bit to prevent excessive heat buildup and improve cutting

Choosing The Right Drill Bit For Galvanized Steel: A ...

The most suitable type of drill bit for drilling holes in galvanized steel is the cobalt drill bit. Cobalt drill bits are made from a high-speed steel alloy with a cobalt additive.

Can Holes Be Drilled in Galvanized Steel Without Compromising Its

Drill Bit Type: Use high-speed steel (HSS) or cobalt drill bits, as they provide the strength and heat resistance needed to penetrate galvanized steel without excessive wear.

How To Choose The Right Drill Bit For Galvanized Steel

The best drill bits for galvanized steel include cobalt drill bits, titanium drill bits, and carbide drill bits because they handle heat and tough metal easily.

Best Drill Bits for Galvanized Steel: Durable Metalworking Sets

This guide highlights five top picks—ranging from cobalt-coated twist bits to titanium-coated step bits—that are well-suited for galvanized steel and related sheet metal work.

The Best Drill Bit For Galvanized Steel: A Complete Guide

In conclusion, while it is possible to drill into galvanized steel with a regular drill bit, it is highly recommended to use a high-speed steel (HSS) bit with a titanium or cobalt coating for the best

Efficient Guide: How to Drill Holes in Galvanized Metal Safely

High-speed steel drill bits are a top choice for drilling into galvanized metal due to their hardness and heat resistance. These drill bits can effectively cut through the tough zinc coating on

10 Best Drill Bits for Galvanized Steel in 2026

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Perfect your drilling projects with the 10 best drill bits for galvanized steel in 2026—precision and durability combine like never before. Discover which one suits your needs!

Cable Tray Installation 211215 | PPTX

- The steps for installing cable trays, which include marking, cutting, drilling holes, installing supports, and fixing fittings and accessories. - Common tools used for cable tray installation like saws, drills,

June G. O. A. T. Estate Auction

Public Auction: "June G. O. A. T. Estate Auction - Riggs / Munnerly" by Barber Auctions. Auction will be held on Fri Jun 12 @ Time TBA at 219 Butler Creek Rd, We are located in NORTHWEST

Products

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Cable Tray SOP

Trays and fittings should be stacked by their physical dimensions (width) and type. Cable tray should be stored away from well travelled corridors. Stack loosely on adequate support to prevent contact with

CABLE TRAY

Hot dipped galvanized after fabrication (H.D.G.A.F.) (see ASTM A 123) steel, aluminum, and stainless steel cable tray and fiberglass or other non-metallic cable tray can be stored outside without cover,

NEMA BI 50016-2024

Foreword 267 For cable tray installers: NEMA BI-50016-2024 (hereinafter referred to as NEMA BI-50016) is intended 268 as a practical guide for the proper installation of cable tray systems. Cable

Cable Tray Installation Tools: Essential Equipment for a

Get the best cable tray installation tools for efficiency and safety. A complete guide covering cutting, drilling, measuring, and safety gear.

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Best Practice Guide to Cable Ladder and Cable Tray Systems

Cable ladder systems and cable tray systems are designed for use as supports for cables and not as enclosures giving full mechanical protection. They are not intended to be used as ladders, walk ways

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