TECHNICAL

Correct use of a Coach Screw

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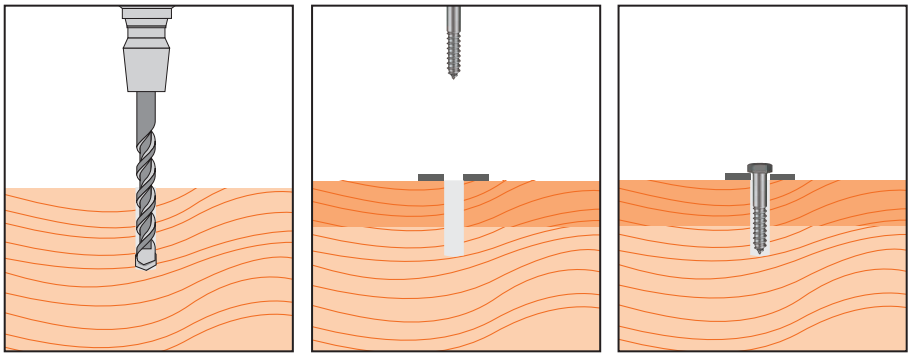
Coach screws are heavy duty fasteners used in connections with timber and masonry substrates. Coach screws have either an external hex or countersunk internal hex head, an unthreaded shank and threaded length that tapers into either a conical or gimlet point. Used in a wide range of applications, Hobson coach screws come in zinc-plated (Z/P) for indoor use, hot dip galvanised (HDG) for moderate corrosive outdoor use and 316 stainless steel for high corrosive, marine and use in treated timbers.

Fixing to Timber: To prevent the wood from splitting all coach screws require pilot holes to be pre-drilled into the timber. As a general guide the diameter of the pilot hole should be half the coach screw diameter for soft woods such as Pine or three quarters when using hardwoods such as Merbau. For example an M10 coach screw will require a 5mm pilot hole in softwood and a 7.5mm pilot hole for hardwood. To avoid over-tightening and driving the screw head into the timber it is recommended to use a washer under the screw head. Another tip is to dip the coach screw in grease or lanolin to reduce the installation friction, this can be particularly useful with larger diameters into hardwood.

The fixture hole diameter should be 1mm larger than the coach screw diameter. This prevents unnecessary friction when installing timber to timber and prevents metal fixings from damaging the screw threads.

Fixing to Masonry or Concrete: Coach screws are widely installed into masonry or concrete with the use of an appropriately sized wall plug. Follow the installation instruction for the wall plug to determine correct hole diameter and load capacities.

Fixing to Timber Installation



Fixing to Masonry or Concrete Installation