

Question: How can I magnetise a screwdriver with a horseshoe magnet?

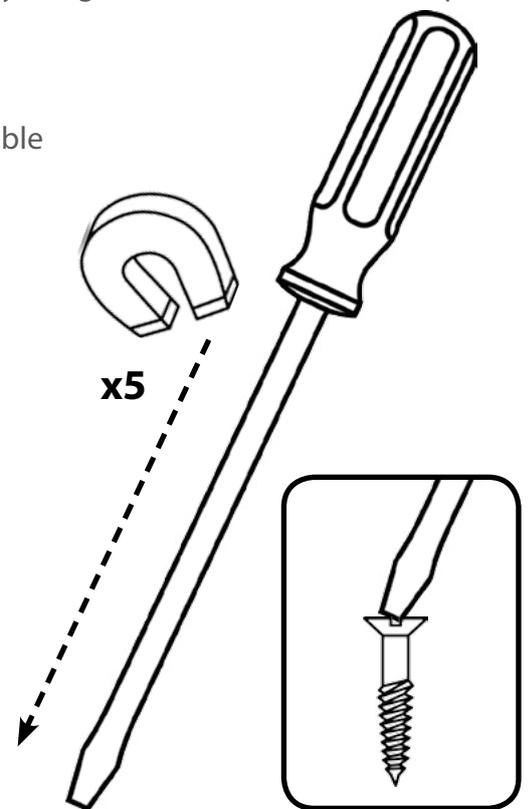
Answer: A horseshoe magnet is a useful item to keep in a CCTV installer's toolbox. The below simple steps can magnetise any iron or steel screwdriver.

Sometimes the only way to get a screw in straight especially in tight corners or when screwing into a ceiling is by using a magnetic tipped screwdriver. They help the screw sit properly on the tip of the screwdriver and can eliminate the need to a second hand to hold the screw in place whilst you tighten it. You can also use it pull a screw out from an extra deep hole where your hand just won't fit.

A great tip is to carry a small magnet in your toolbox so if you haven't got a known magnetic tipped screwdriver with you, it is actually possible to magnetise the tip of one you do have.

Here's how to do it...

- 1 Firstly make sure the shaft of the screwdriver is clean and free from dirt particles.
- 2 Next starting at the handle end run the magnet down the length of the screwdriver shaft to the tip.
- 3 Remove contact and starting at the handle end again, repeat this action five times.
- 4 Don't rub the magnet back and forth up and down the shaft, you must always rub in the one direction.
- 5 If you are using a horseshoe magnet always use just one end/pole of it.
- 6 Test the screwdriver tip using a steel screw if necessary repeat another 5 times to achieve a stronger pull.
- 7 The screwdriver should stay magnetised for sometime but this trick can be repeated again.
- 8 If you wish to demagnetise the screwdriver then carry out the above steps in reverse from tip to handle.



A small magnet is also great way to...

- Locate metal studs in a wall
- Collect up nails spilt on the floor
- Hold in place a plan or schematic on the side or bonnet of your van.
- Collect up metal burrs or shavings.

Don't forget these tricks will only work on iron or steel screwdrivers, nails and screws and not on non-magnetic materials such as brass or aluminium.

This CCTV installation tip is aimed at helping you to install CCTV equipment. If you are looking for answers on "how to fit CCTV" or perhaps "how to network a DVR or NVR" or even "how to get CCTV on your mobile phone" why not check out our full range of CCTV installation tips at: www.systemq.com

How to guides aim to answer commonly asked questions in a concise and informative manner. They are for advice & guidance only and do not replace any of the manuals or other literature supplied with our products.