



Basics of...*Blind Rivets*

Guide to Selecting Blind Rivets

- **Strength** : It is important to determine the shear and tensile strengths required for your application and then select the rivet to best meet that requirement. Style, material, diameter and fastener spacing all can be a factor in the ability of a rivet to hold the material properly
- **Rivet Material**: You must select a rivet that is made of a similar or compatible metal to the material you are joining. Other things to consider is the environment in which the finished product will be placed, the level of moisture, high temperatures or a corrosive atmosphere
- **Hole Size**: Rivets are available in different diameters: 3/32", 1/8", 5/32", 3/16" and 1/4". It is very important that the hole size is correct in order to assure that the rivets perform properly
- **Work Thickness**: Always measure the total thickness of the material to be fastened in order to determine the required grip of the rivet. Make sure to select a sufficient grip range to allow the secondary head of the rivet to properly form
- **Rivet Style**: Blind rivets are available in several styles. Blind rivets can be used as an alternative to spot welding. The open-end blind rivet produces a neat, low-profile finished assembly. The large flange open-end blind rivet would be recommended where soft materials are fastened to a hard backing material. Closed-end rivets should be used where a watertight seal is required. Closed-end rivets prevent the passage of fluid around or through the rivet when set. In addition, closed-end rivets offer the benefit of greater shear and tensile strengths as well as better mandrel protection

Material Composition

- **Aluminum Alloy 5052 Rivet, Aluminum Mandrel**: Hi-shear quality aluminum/aluminum blind rivets are best where high grip and pull-up strengths are required. They are strong, reliable fasteners which meet or exceed IFI 114, Grade 11 specifications. Both the aluminum body and mandrel have a polished finish which serves to prevent discoloration
- **Aluminum Alloy 5056 Rivet, Coated Steel Mandrel**: Aluminum/steel blind rivets meet or exceed IFI 114, Grade 19 specifications. The aluminum body is polished to prevent discoloration. The carbon steel mandrel is zinc plated with a clear chromate coating.
- **300 Series Stainless Steel Rivet, 300 Series Stainless Steel Mandrel**: Hi-shear stainless steel/stainless steel blind rivets provide the strongest and most pure fastening power. They improve the quality of the finished product with a neat surface. Both the rivet body and mandrel are stainless steel and meet or exceed IFI 114, Grade 51 specifications
- **Plated Steel Rivet, Coated Steel Mandrel**: Hi-shear steel/steel blind rivets are tough and reliable, and can handle vibration without loosening or falling out. The rivet body and mandrel are steel and are zinc plated with a clear chromate coating. These rivets meet or exceed IFI 114, Grade 30 specifications
- **300 Series Stainless Steel Rivet, Coated Steel Mandrel**: Stainless steel/steel blind rivets are an economical alternative to all stainless steel rivets offering the same shear and tensile strengths. These rivets meet or exceed IFI 114, Grade 50 specifications. The rivet body is stainless steel alloy and the mandrel is steel and zinc plated with a clear chromate coating