Article published on March 21st 2012 | Customer Service

This article will address some common problems that may arise in choosing and using nuts, bolts, and washers. Sometimes itâ€™s hard to know when to use nuts and washers, why you would use them, and what youâ€™d use them with. Machine screws take nuts. Certain self-tapping screws take nuts. You hear terms â€œnuts and bolts,â€• yet you may not know how to use them! Nuts and washers are importan in helping to keep screws or other fasteners in place within a material.

In addition to knowing what to use, sometimes people have questions knowing how to put their parts together! You have to consider nuts, screws, and washers, and then you consider what types of materials youâ€™ll use. They questions tend to be simple, but the answers depend a lot on many different factors. Experience usually helps, but for now, weâ€™ll talk about it as if you donâ€™t know anything yet.

Many people think you can simply put a flat washer under a screw head to help spread the weight over the surface more evenly. However, things can shift and move as you tighten them, which may leave the washer able to spin and move. This may affect the relationship between torque and tension in the materials. Yet, also, if you are very careful and evenly tighten everything, the washer can, in fact, do a good job to spread the load. It depends on the materials and the skill of the builder.

Nuts and bolts in general work to prevent slipping of materials. Machine screws and machine screw nuts are commonly used pairings. Your project may or may not have materials that are prone to slipping against each other, so you may or may not require that machine screw nut or other washers and nuts.

There is another method apart from washers and one nutâ€”the two nut system. It often is actually only one full nut and one half nut. Again, though, this application depends a lot on the torque given and required by the materials to fasten them together. Torque is often applied incorrectly, and the two nut system can work poorly if this happens.

In choosing your nuts, screws and washers, remember that there are more factors than one, and you may do best to consult the advice of a skilled, experienced builder who has encountered many of these issues beforehand. You may be doing everything right, you have your machine screw, your machine screw nut, your washer, your proper screw driver, your materials picked out and thought out; but you still may be installing everything incorrectly. Small factors end up throwing things off because of how closely everything must work together.

If you are confused about a screw question, please feel free to contact LTS Supply for information and education.

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Article Keywords:
Machine screw nuts; socket screw; stainless steel screw; self-tapping screws

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