

2 Interpret the first number. The first number gives the major, or largest, diameter.

Examples: #4-40 x .5

1/4-20 x 5/8

M3-0.50 x 10

How to

REHEAD

SCREW

THREAD



The major diameter for the threaded portion of the screw.

- In Unified threads (measured in inches) there are numbered diameters #0 through #10, with 0 the smallest and 10 the largest. (Diameters #12 and #14 may also be found, but are usually on older equipment and needed for repairs or restorations. #14 is close to, but not exactly the same as, 1/4-inch.) The major diameter in Unified threads = 0.060" + 0.013" (numbered diameter). So, #2 has a major diameter of 0.086". The odd numbers exist, but the even numbers are in far more common use. For screws larger than a #10, the diameters are listed in fractional inches. For instance, a 1/4-20 screw has a 1/4-inch major diameter.

- For metric threads, e.g. M3.5, the number following the M is the major diameter of the