

# Counterboring and Countersinking

## GENERAL HINTS ON COUNTERBORING AND COUNTERSINKING COUNTERBORING

The counterbore is an end cutting tool which is used to enlarge a preformed hole when a flat bottom is required or to spotface when a machine finish is required. It may have a fixed pilot (solid pattern) **Fig.1** or be designed **Fig.2** for an interchangeable pilot **Fig. 3**.



**Fig.1**



**Fig.2**



**Fig. 3**

## COUNTERSINKING

The countersink is a conical cutting tool, usually made with angular relief, having one or more flutes with specific size angle cutting edges. It is used for chamfering and countersinking holes. The countersink may have a straight shank, tapered shank, bit stock shank or special shank requiring a special holder, for holding in a power or hand operated machine.



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## TROUBLE SHOOTING WHEN COUNTERBORING

Problem	Cause	Remedy
Excessive Cutting Edge Wear	Incorrect feeds & speeds	Increase feed - especially when machining ductile or free machining materials. Also try reducing speed
	Rough cutting edge	Lightly hone cutting edge with fine grit diamond hone
	Insufficient coolant	Increase coolant flow - review type of coolant
Chipping	Poor chip removal	Use tool with larger flute space - larger diameter or fewer flutes
	Recutting work hardened chips	Increase coolant flow
	Vibration	Increase rigidity of set-up, especially worn tool holders
Short Tool Life	Excessive cratering	Increase speed or decrease feed
	Abrasive material	Decrease speed and increase feed Increase coolant flow
	Hard materials	Reduce speed - rigidity very important
	Insufficient chip room	Use larger diameter tool
	Delayed resharpening	Prompt resharpening to original geometry will increase tool life
Glazed Finish	Feed too light	Increase feed
	Dull cutting edge	Resharpen tool to original geometry
	Insufficient clearance	Resharpen tool with more clearance
Rough Finish	Dull cutting edge	Resharpen to original tool geometry
	Wrong feeds & speeds	Increase speed - also try reducing feed
Chattering	Insufficient machine horsepower	Use tool with fewer flutes as correct feeds & speeds must be maintained
	Vibration	Resharpen tool with more clearance