

## How to Use Pliers

Pliers come in handy for all sorts of household projects. Here are some tips so you know when to use them and which ones you want in your toolkit.

### 1. SLIP-JOINT OR ADJUSTABLE PLIERS

- Slip-joint pliers slide at the joint to adjust the width of the jaws to fit the fastener. This makes them a universal tool for almost any repair. Keep them handy for loosening and tightening fasteners, pulling nails out, or using them for extra grip.

### 2. ANGLE-NOSE OR CHANNEL-LOCK PLIERS

- These adjustable pliers have offset jaws to reach different angles. The long handle provides extra leverage. They're especially handy on plumbing projects or for loosening large nuts or bolts.

### 3. LOCKING OR VISE GRIP PLIERS

- Locking pliers, also known as vise grips, have adjustable jaws and a mechanism that clamps down to lock in place. They're great for frozen bolts or to keep one piece from moving while you're twisting on another.

### 4. LONG NOSE OR NEEDLE NOSE PLIERS

- The tapered shape of needle nose pliers make them great in tight spots or for making small bends in wire. A set of several sizes comes in handy for all kinds of repairs.

### 5. LINESMAN OR COMBINATION PLIERS

- Linesman pliers have a cutting joint at the base of the gripping jaws. They are useful for gripping, twisting, bending, and cutting wire or cable. This makes them a go-to tool for many electrical projects.

### HELPFUL TIPS:

- A spring loaded handle is a nice feature that saves time.
- Plier teeth can mar the surface of an object. Cover them with tape to protect the finish.
- You can use pliers on nuts and bolts in a pinch, but reach for the right size wrench instead of taking that shortcut.

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**NOTE: Always follow manufacturer's recommended safety precautions and instructions for the products you use.**