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› Wilton Shop Bench Vise, 8" Jaw Width, 8" Max Jaw Opening, 4" Throat (Model WS8) - Instruction Manual

Wilton 63304

Wilton Shop Bench Vise (Model WS8)

Instruction Manual

1. PRODUCT OVERVIEW

The Wilton Shop Bench Vise, Model WS8, is engineered for rugged use and extended life in various workshop environments. Constructed with heavy-duty ductile iron, this vise provides exceptional stability and a secure hold for a wide range of materials and applications. Its robust design incorporates features that enhance versatility and user convenience, making it an essential tool for both general-duty tasks and more demanding fabrication jobs.

Key features include an 8-inch jaw width, an 8-inch maximum jaw opening, and a 4-inch throat depth, accommodating large workpieces. The integrated pipe jaws allow for secure gripping of cylindrical objects, while the 360-degree swivel base with dual lockdowns ensures precise positioning. The large anvil work surface provides a stable area for hammering and shaping, and replaceable serrated top jaws ensure long-term performance.



Figure 1: The Wilton Shop Bench Vice (Model WS8) in its standard configuration.

2. KEY FEATURES

- **Heavy-Duty Ductile Iron Body:** Built for rugged use and extended life, capable of withstanding significant force.
- **360-Degree Swivel Base with Double Lockdowns:** Allows for quick and easy positioning of the vise for optimal workflow.
- **Built-in Pipe Jaws:** Designed to securely hold various pipe sizes and cylindrical objects.
- **Rubber Pinch Point Safety Guards:** Enhances user safety during operation.
- **Large Anvil Work Surface:** Provides a robust and stable area for hammering, shaping, and other metalworking tasks.
- **Replaceable Serrated Top Jaws:** Ensures long-term gripping performance and easy maintenance.
- **Four Mounting Posts:** Offers enhanced stability and a secure hold when mounted to a workbench.



DUCTILE IRON CASTINGS

Figure 2: Large Anvil Work Surface for hammering and shaping.



360° SWIVEL BASE W/ DUAL LOCKDOWNS

Figure 3: Built-in Pipe Jaws for securing cylindrical objects.



REPLACEABLE SERRATED TOP JAWS

Figure 4: Heavy-duty Ductile Iron Castings ensure durability.



Figure 5: 360-Degree Swivel Base with Dual Lockdowns for flexible positioning.



A HISTORY OF HIGH-QUALITY CLAMPING SOLUTIONS
Forged during the automotive boom of the 1950s, Wilton's expansive and versatile line of C-clamps will tightly secure parts for all your clamping needs—whether assembly, fastening, gluing, or welding.

Figure 6: Replaceable Serrated Top Jaws for enhanced grip and easy replacement.

SHOP BENCH VISES

Wilton Shop vises have heavy-duty castings with a 30,000 PSI gray cast iron body built for rugged use and extended life.

REPLACEABLE SERRATED TOP JAWS

LARGE ANVIL WORK SURFACE

4-BOLT MOUNTING POSTS

3. SETUP AND INSTALLATION

Proper installation of your Wilton Shop Bench Vise is crucial for safety and optimal performance. The vise is designed for secure mounting to a sturdy workbench using its four mounting posts.

3.1 Mounting the Vise

1. **Choose a Location:** Select a strong, stable workbench or surface that can support the weight of the vise and the forces applied during use. Ensure sufficient clearance around the vise for operation and workpiece handling.
2. **Mark Mounting Holes:** Position the vise on the workbench in the desired location. Use a pencil or marker to accurately mark the centers of the four mounting holes on the workbench surface.
3. **Drill Pilot Holes:** Remove the vise and drill pilot holes at the marked locations. The size of the drill bit should be appropriate for the mounting hardware (bolts, washers, nuts) you intend to use. Ensure holes are drilled straight and to the correct depth.
4. **Secure the Vise:** Place the vise back onto the workbench, aligning the mounting holes. Insert appropriate bolts through the vise base and the workbench. Secure with washers and nuts from underneath, tightening them firmly to prevent any movement or wobble during use.

3.2 Initial Preparation

Before first use, it is recommended to wipe down the vise to remove any manufacturing residues or protective coatings. Apply a light coat of machine oil or grease to all moving parts, including the lead screw and slide, to ensure smooth operation and prevent corrosion.

4. OPERATION GUIDE

Operating your Wilton Shop Bench Vise is straightforward, but proper technique ensures safety and extends the life of the tool.

4.1 General Clamping

1. **Open Jaws:** Rotate the main handle counter-clockwise to open the vise jaws to a width slightly larger than your workpiece.
2. **Position Workpiece:** Place the workpiece securely between the jaws. Ensure it is seated firmly and evenly. For delicate materials, use soft jaw covers (not included) to prevent marring.
3. **Tighten Jaws:** Rotate the main handle clockwise to close the jaws until the workpiece is held firmly. Apply only enough force to secure the workpiece; excessive tightening can damage the vise or the material.

4.2 Using the Swivel Base

The 360-degree swivel base allows you to rotate the vise to any desired angle. To adjust:

1. **Loosen Lockdowns:** Loosen the two lockdown handles located on the base of the vise.
2. **Rotate Vise:** Rotate the vise body to the desired angle.
3. **Tighten Lockdowns:** Firmly tighten both lockdown handles to secure the vise in its new position.

4.3 Utilizing Pipe Jaws

The built-in pipe jaws are located beneath the main jaws and are designed for gripping round or cylindrical objects. To use:

1. **Open Main Jaws:** Open the main jaws sufficiently to expose the pipe jaws.

- 2. **Position Pipe:** Place the pipe or cylindrical object into the contoured pipe jaws.
- 3. **Tighten:** Rotate the main handle clockwise to close the jaws, securing the pipe firmly.

4.4 Safety Precautions

- Always wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE), such as safety glasses, when working with the vise.
- Ensure the vise is securely mounted to a stable surface before use.
- Do not over-tighten the jaws, as this can damage the vise or the workpiece.
- Avoid using a "cheater bar" or extension on the handle, as this can apply excessive force and damage the vise.
- Keep hands and fingers clear of the jaws and moving parts during operation.
- Do not use the vise as an anvil for heavy hammering unless specifically designed for such impact. The large anvil surface is for shaping and light hammering.

5. MAINTENANCE

Regular maintenance will ensure your Wilton Shop Bench Vise remains in optimal working condition for many years.

- **Cleaning:** After each use, clean the vise to remove any metal shavings, dust, or debris. A brush or compressed air can be used.
- **Lubrication:** Periodically apply a light coat of machine oil or grease to the lead screw, slide, and swivel base mechanism. This prevents rust and ensures smooth operation. Frequency depends on usage and environment; more frequent lubrication is needed in humid conditions.
- **Jaw Inspection:** Regularly inspect the serrated top jaws for wear or damage. If the gripping surface becomes worn, the jaws can be replaced to restore full gripping power.
- **Tightness Check:** Periodically check all mounting bolts and swivel base lockdown handles for tightness. Re-tighten as necessary to maintain stability.
- **Rust Prevention:** In humid environments or during periods of non-use, apply a thin layer of rust-preventative oil to all exposed metal surfaces.

6. TROUBLESHOOTING

Most issues with your bench vise can be resolved with simple adjustments or maintenance.

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Jaws are stiff or difficult to open/close.	Lack of lubrication; accumulation of dirt/debris on lead screw or slide.	Clean the lead screw and slide thoroughly. Apply machine oil or grease to all moving parts.
Vise wobbles or moves during use.	Loose mounting bolts; loose swivel base lockdowns.	Check and tighten all four mounting bolts to the workbench. Ensure both swivel base lockdown handles are fully tightened.
Workpiece slips in jaws.	Jaws not tightened sufficiently; worn or damaged serrated jaws; incorrect jaw type for material.	Tighten jaws more firmly. Inspect serrated jaws for wear and replace if necessary. Use appropriate soft jaw covers for delicate materials.
Rust appearing on surfaces.	Exposure to moisture; insufficient protective coating.	Clean off rust with a wire brush and rust remover. Apply a rust-preventative oil or grease to all exposed metal surfaces. Store in a dry environment.

7. TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

Specification	Value
Model Number	63304
Jaw Width	8 inches
Max Jaw Opening	8 inches
Throat Depth	4 inches
Material	Ductile Iron
Tensile Strength	30,000 PSI
Item Weight	65.3 Pounds
Product Dimensions (L x W x H)	22.2 x 9.3 x 11.4 inches
Color	Gray
Country of Origin	China
UPC	019907633044

8. WARRANTY AND CUSTOMER SUPPORT

Wilton stands behind the quality and durability of its products.

8.1 Warranty Information

The Wilton Shop Bench Vise (Model WS8) comes with a **Lifetime Warranty**. This warranty covers defects in materials and workmanship under normal use and service. Please refer to the official Wilton warranty policy for full terms and conditions, including any limitations or exclusions.



Figure 8: Wilton Lifetime Warranty symbol.

8.2 Customer Support

For technical assistance, parts, or warranty claims, please contact Wilton customer support. You can find contact information on the official Wilton website or through your product retailer. When contacting support, please have your model number (WS8 or 63304) and purchase information readily available.

You can also visit the official Wilton Store for more information and products:[Wilton Store on Amazon](#)

ASK A QUESTION ABOUT THIS MANUAL

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Question

Example: How do I reset this device or fix this error?

Details

Model number, symptoms, what you tried, or the section of the manual you are using.

Submit question