



CONNECTING SCREWS

When it came time to join the cubby, locker, and base units together while building the storage lockers, we needed screws that would hold fast in the MDF. We could have used pocket screws, just like on the rest of the project, but we didn't want to have visible holes or fasteners, and we didn't want to have to fill in the holes.

We could have turned to regular woodscrews, but they're not the best choice for materials like MDF. That's because standard woodscrews tend to either split the MDF or strip out as you drive them in.

The solution is to use connecting screws (*Photo*). They have straight shanks to prevent splitting, and deep threads that grab firmly. A stepped drill bit is used to bore the pilot hole, shank hole, and countersink in one operation.

You can purchase connecting screws and the bit that goes with them in home centers. Or you can purchase a starter kit (#7050-CSP-A) at McFeelys.com. It comes with 100 7mm x 50mm connecting screws, and the stepped drill bit for about \$35.