

Don't Turn Away Customers – Tips to Finishing Basements Faster

Many families today are finding their current home lacks sufficient square footage for their needs, but they are reluctant to pack up and move. They look for a solution to their space dilemma, and often find the answer in an unfinished basement area. For contractors, this has become a great source of lucrative work. New advancements in high quality fasteners and application techniques can make this basement-refinishing trend even more profitable by reducing installation time and cost.

Construction Fasteners:

Within every step of a basement project, you will need fasteners. You will need to select the proper construction fastener for the materials you are using and the function they must meet. A different fastener will be necessary when you are framing a wall than when you are building custom cabinetry. All of these various fasteners need to meet government standards for quality and strength. Other considerations when selecting your construction fasteners will be the aesthetic requirements, the application method to be used, and any budget limits imposed by the homeowner.

Nails and screws are the most basic construction fasteners. They can be purchased in bulk quantities or in collated strips or coils held together with wire, plastic or paper. Collated fasteners are intended for use with pneumatic nailers.

A Better Solution:

An alternative to basic nails and screws is available with SCRAIL[®]. SCRAIL[®], The Faster Fastener[®] is a performance-driven hybrid between a screw and a nail, featuring the advantages of both in one fastener. When applied with pneumatic nailers, these crossover collated fasteners can be applied twice as quickly as standard collated screws, and an amazing eight times faster than bulk screws or nails.

All of the fasteners in the extensive SCRAIL[®] family combine the speed of pneumatic nail application with the dramatically improved holding power of screws. Manufactured for use in most common brands of nailers, SCRAIL[®] fasteners are offered in a wide range of sizes, drives, thread types, specialized collations and finishes to complement any decorative need.

Walls and Framing:

Standard SCRAIL[®] fasteners are also a superior choice for framing walls in the new basement area. A strong framework is essential to ensure long-term stability. Vital to this strength is the need for all fasteners to be sunk sufficiently into joists or studs, and there must be no improperly connected or missing fasteners.

By combining SCRAIL[®] nail screw hybrid fasteners with the power and consistency of a pneumatic nailer, you will build strong and sturdy framing for the new walls. These fasteners also are the perfect choice for framing doors and other openings.

Drywall:

Additionally, standard SCRAIL[®] fasteners are a superior choice for applying drywall. All wooden framing studs will naturally warp and swell as the temperature and humidity in the basement changes. This movement may be miniscule, but can create large problems in drywall by causing fasteners to loosen or fall out completely. This problem can be greatly reduced, or even eliminated, by using pneumatically driven collated SCRAIL[®] construction fasteners. A pneumatically driven collated SCRAIL[®] fastener has twice the hold of a ring shank nail, thereby reducing the possibility of it becoming loose.

Stairs and Steps:

One very common problem with building stairs and steps is the tendency for squeaks and creaks to develop after continued use. Regular nails and screws will begin to work loose and rub against the wood around them. The use of SCRAIL[®] collated nail screw fasteners will reduce the possibility of movement and the resulting unwanted noises.

With SCRAIL[®], you can be assured that the fastener will be sunk deeply into the wood and will create a smooth, clean surface after the application of wood filler. Moreover, if squeaks and/or creaks should develop, SCRAIL[®] fasteners can be adjusted to again form a tight and solid stairway providing access to the newly remodeled basement.

Cabinets, Bookshelves, Furniture:

If the basement plan calls for built in cabinets, bookshelves or furniture, Mini-Scrail[®] fasteners are the perfect solution. When building anything intended to support weight, it is important that the fasteners be set deeply and firmly into the wood. These smaller-

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sized Mini-SCRAIL[®] fasteners are designed for small projects and to be used in areas where space is limited.

For millwork, bed railings, windows, barstools and all types of furniture, Mini-Scrail[®] fasteners are quickly installed and easy to handle. With their pan head design, Mini-SCRAIL[®] can be used as a decorative item to further enhance any finished project.

Ceiling:

Many basement-remodeling projects include a steel-framed drop ceiling. For fastening metal support joists, and for attaching drywall, gypsum or wood to these joists, you will want to use SteelThread SCRAIL[®] construction fasteners. When using conventional nail and screw fastening methods, damage can occur to the surface material. These fasteners are designed for light gauge steel construction applications and, when applied with a pneumatic nailer, will help you avoid the possibility of damage, as well as other potential problems, and will greatly reduce application time.

A Century of Experience:

SCRAIL[®] fasteners are distributed by [Fasco America[®], Inc.](#), the North American distribution arm for products from The BECK Fastener Group[®] products. The BECK Fastener Group[®] has been in business for more than 100 years and continues to focus on innovative thinking and consistent quality dedicated to satisfying each customer's unique needs.

Job Pack:

As part of their continuing efforts to anticipate and provide solutions for problems that arise with construction projects, Fasco America[®] recently introduced its innovative Job Pack Nail Program. This program was developed to address the issue of having to purchase a quantity of fasteners in excess of the needs within a particular project.

These Job Packs offer an assortment of construction fasteners in counts of 800 to 1,000 in a variety of high-quality products. Packaged individually, and available in a wide range of lengths and finishes, contractors will find joist hanger nails, plastic sheet nails, plastic strip nails, paper tape clipped head nails, and wire coil nails.

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The innovative BECK Fastener Group® Job Pack coil nails are packaged four to a box to provide the preferred quantity for smaller jobs, such as a basement remodel. These nail coils have been designed to fit most common coil pneumatic nailers. Most of these nailers have a specified capacity between 200 and 300 nails, varying by collation type. With the Job Pack Nail Program, contractors will be pleased to find they are left with fewer partially used coils at the end of a project. The Job Pack program also makes it more efficient and much easier to switch between construction fasteners of different sizes and/or finishes as needed.

Basement remodeling can add significantly to your business, and with SCRAIL® you can make the most of this opportunity to get the job done efficiently and swiftly. Each basement remodeling project is unique, and each project will require a variety of different tools and equipment. With all these variables, it's very satisfying to know you have a choice in the high-quality fasteners you choose.

To learn more about SCRAIL® and the other fasteners available through Fasco America®, Inc. and the BECK Fastener Group®, [contact](#) our main office or the regional manager serving your area. Additional information is also available on the SCRAIL® [Facebook Page](#) and videos are available on [YouTube](#).

Fasco America®
105 Industrial Park
P. O. Box 2389
Muscle Shoals, Alabama 35662
Phone Toll Free 800-239-TOOL (8665) or fax 256-381-6659
www.fascoamerica.com