



Who was Benjamin Forstner?

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THE HISTORY:

Benjamin Forstner (25.03.1834 - + 27.02.1897) was born in Beaver County, Pennsylvania. He was an American gunsmith, inventor and a dry goods merchant. His ingenious invention of the Forstner drill bit, patented on Sept. 22, 1874, was to make him a rich man. Back in those days a brace was traditionally used as a drill machine. It was powered by muscular strength. Therefore the drill had a gimlet point generating automatically a feed at a peripheral rotation. This was perfect for through bore-holes but not very appropriate for stud holes, like those found in old firearms. Hence, the invention of Mr. Forster came in the nick of time. The Forstner bit was unsurpassed in drilling an extremely smooth-sided, flat-bottomed bore hole. Without the conventional wood screw-drill, it would prove especially useful to gunsmiths. Through lucrative royalty payments Benjamin Forstner became a wealthy citizen of Salem (Oregon). Even today, the traditional Forstner drill continues to be manufactured.

THE DRILL FORSTNER:

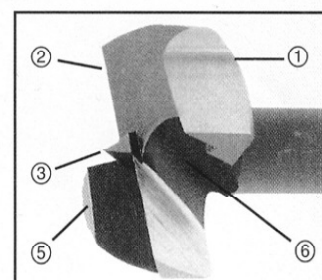
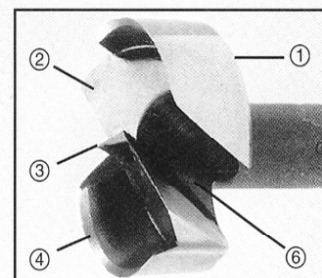
The classic Forstner drill bit has a shank, a blade and a cylindrical drill head provided with a center point, two main cutting edges and two opposing continuous peripheral cutting edges.

These peripheral cutting edges have a carve effect. When they are drilling in soft and long-fibered wood, they cut the wood fibres and produce a clear tear free-bore wall.

Furthermore the continuous peripheral cutting edges ensure that the drill has a good guidance when used with a hand drill. With a good Forstner bit it is possible to generate pitch holes on the work piece border without the drill running off. As well for boreholes that do not run exactly at a 90° angle, it is a good partner.

The Forstner drill is the perfect tool when it comes to drilling clean and precise holes in soft wood and in bigger diameters.

Founded in 1865, FAMAG has acquired more than a 140 years of expertise in the production of drilling and cutting tools for woodworking, especially for the famous Forstner drill. Today, due to a sophisticated geometry



1. Drill head
2. Main cutting edges
3. Center point
4. Peripheral cutting edges (Forstner bit)
5. Taper tap (cylinder boring bit)
6. Flute

and further technical details as well as constant development, not only has the FAMAG Forstner drill a significantly lower evolution of heat as a conventional Forstner bit but therefore also a significantly increased service life.

THE INDEPENDENT TEST

In April 2008, 18 different brand Forstner drills were tested by the American magazine "Fine Woodworking". The FAMAG Forstner drill was awarded the title "BEST OVERALL". "They have the longest rims but tight machining tolerances. As a result they cut accurately, run cool, and are easy to operate." This report can be downloaded from our website www.famag.com.