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RAWLPLUG HISTORY

Rawlplug Co

of Rawlplug House, Cromwell Road, London, SW7. Telephone: Frobisher 8111 (10 lines).
Telegraphic Address: "Rawlplug, Southkens, London"

- c1917? A small fixing problem in the British Museum is said to have led to founding of the **Rawlplug Company Limited** - the world first fixing company. The Museum needed electrical fittings fixed to walls unobtrusively and without causing damage to the masonry. This was difficult using the traditional method - chiselling a hole in the masonry, plugging it with wood, and screwing the fitting to the wood. **John J. Rawlings**, a building contractor, solved the problem by inventing the fibre plug - known as the **Rawlplug** - into which screws were driven. The basic principle in the design was grip by expansion. Each screw had its own size of plug which was designed so that it expanded to the maximum as the screw was tightened up into the plug.

HOME REPAIRS & RAWLPLUGS

A device which enables an ordinary screw to hold in any material.

For fixing and hanging Shelves, Cupboards, Coat Hooks, Pictures, Mirrors Overmantels, Electric, Gas, and Sanitary Fittings, Wires, &c. For fixing anything by means of a screw to Walls, Ceilings, &c., of Plaster, Brick, Concrete, Marble, Stone, Tiles, &c.

One of the most difficult jobs is to put up a shelf or bookcase where the wall is either too soft for a nail to hold or too hard to get a nail into. An attempt usually results in much damage to wallpaper and if the job is accomplished it is not very satisfactory or lasting.

By means of Rawlplugs you can screw your shelf to the wall

A Rawlplug is a small cylindrical body of stiffened fibres of roughly the same bore as the screw to be used. To fix, simply make a small hole with the tool supplied, push the Rawlplug into position, turn home your screw as if in wood—and it is perfectly fast.
The Rawlplug is so made that immediately the screw enters it expands automatically against the sides of the hole; obtaining thereby a firm grip of the surrounding plaster or other materials, and a perfect thread is formed in the fibre.

RAWLPLUGS

Invisible when in position.
Will hold half-a-ton in brick.

No skilled handling required.
No damage to walls.

RAWLPLUG OUTFITS:
Household Outfit—50 Rawlplugs, 50 Screws, Rawlplug Tool .. 3/6 Postage 6d. extra.
Mechanic's Outfit—100 Rawlplugs and supply of Screws, special Rawlplug Tool, 2 Bits .. .. 5/6 Postage 6d. extra.

If Rawlplugs do not do all that is claimed for them we will refund money in full.

The Rawlplug Co., Ltd. 11-15, Lenthall Place, Gloucester Road, South Kensington, S.W. 7

Osborne Park: 39 Howe Street. Ph 08 9446 6333 Fax 08 9446 8865
Bunbury: 12 Sylvan Way Ph 08 9725 4812 Fax 08 9725 4809
O'Connor: 11 Zeta Cres Ph 08 9331 3688 Fax 08 9331 1503
Wangara: U-2 6 Ismail Street Ph 08 9309 6333 Fax 08 9309 6899
Thebarton: 14 Murray Street Ph 08 8352 1888 Fax 08 8352 1666
Lonsdale: 1 Bristol Court Ph 08 8186 1888 Fax 08 8186 1666

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- The first **Rawlplug** fixing consisted of a brass strip stamped in four sections with a thread on each section. The sections were then folded and placed with the screw in the hole and expanded under the action of the screw.

- The next step was to use fibre that was found to be an ideal substance chiefly due to its resilience and tenacity. Hemp and string were laid lengthways on a mandrill and bonded with glue.

- What advantages did the **Rawlplug** offer?
  - Only a small hole was needed to accommodate the plug - this could be made easily and quickly.
  - The screw could be driven into the **Rawlplug** just as simply as if into wood but the fixing immensely stronger - in fact as strong as the screw itself.
  -

It was a much neater method of fixing. Only a small hole was required, whereas the conventional method was to chisel a large hole into which was driven a bulky wedge of wood.

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- The fibre **Rawlplug** had come to stay. Suitable for all types of masonry, it provided a simple answer to thousands of fixings problems. The plug met with immediate success. It was precisely the product for the busy building industry, and it rapidly revolutionised the making of fixings into masonry.

- Thousands of pounds were spent on demonstration and advertising to convince trade and public that a small plug could make a stronger fixing than the much larger wood plug used at the time. In its early days, the company caused a trade sensation by taking the whole front page of the *Daily Mail*. This paved the way for retail stockists to advertise in such a manner.

- 1920 Demand grew rapidly and large scale production was started. **Rawling's Rawlplugs** started not just a company but a worldwide industry, and added to many languages a new word as generic for fixings as a Singer for sewing machines and [Hoover] for vacuum cleaners. This analogy was to prove fruitful for years to come.

- A new industry was on the way. The inventors who developed the simple, effective, **Rawlplug** had now embarked on an exciting adventure that was to lead to the development of a full range of fixing devices. The success of the Rawlplug caused Architects, Civil Engineers, Builders, Electricians, and Plumbers to reveal a host of fixing problems.

- In the 1930s the increasing use of the then new material, reinforced concrete, led to the development and introduction of the patented *Rawlbolt Anchor* - the first ever mechanical fixing launched on the market. *Rawlbolt* overcame many of the problems associated with this then new

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kind of substrate, like fixing machinery to floors and walls. The *Rawlbolt* Anchor has been further developed many times since then and, over 70 years on, is still an industry standard.

- 1937 Listed Exhibitor - British Industries Fair. Rawlplugs, Rawlplug Tools. Rawlbolts. Bolt anchor. Mechanical Hammer. Wall Boring Tools. Drills. Master Tools. Durofix Plastic Wood. Electric Soldering Iron. Frostolac Bathroom Fittings. (Stand No. Cb.308) [1]

Rawlplug Products

RAWLPLUG OUTFITS

For safe, quick and neat fixings the RAWLPLUG method is still the best and the cheapest. Anything from a soap dish to a shelf can be securely and permanently fixed in brick, concrete, tiles, stone or plaster, etc., with RAWLPLUGS. Every RAWLPLUG Outfit contains the full equipment necessary for fixing ordinary articles to any material. Recommend—and sell—RAWLPLUG OUTFITS for firm fixings and quick profit.

DUROGLUE

This British glue of tremendous strength will effectively repair wood, metal, glass, earthenware, bakelite, cloth, paper, leather sports and radio goods. Hundreds of broken and damaged articles, normally discarded, can be easily mended with DUROGLUE.

Rawlplug FUSE WIRE

A useful coil carrying 3 gauges of fuse wire for lighting and power —5 amp., 10 amp. and 15 amp.

FUSE WIRE
5 AMP LIGHTING
15 AMP HEATING
15 AMP POWER

Rawlplug IRON CEMENT

For quick repairs to Boilers, Pipes, Cooking Utensils, Radiators and Metal Work in workshop and home. The cement is in powder form and for use it is only necessary to mix with cold water.

Rawlplug ALL-PURPOSE OIL

For Home, Workshop, Garage or Garden. An all-purpose Oil that Lubricates, Penetrates, Polishes, Cleans, Eases, Prevents and Removes Rust. Packed in 1 dozen Units.

Rawlplug Plastic Wood

The original plastic wood—and still the best. When set, looks like wood, works like wood. Easily applied, waterproof and weatherproof. Can be moulded to any shape.

Durofix

The best and waterproof adhesive. Quick-drying, transparent and makes almost invisible joins. Ideal for china, crockery or glass.

THE RAWLPLUG CO. LTD., LONDON, S.W.7

TECHNICAL DATA SHEET

Created July 01, 2009 ajc
Revised August 30, 2011 ajc

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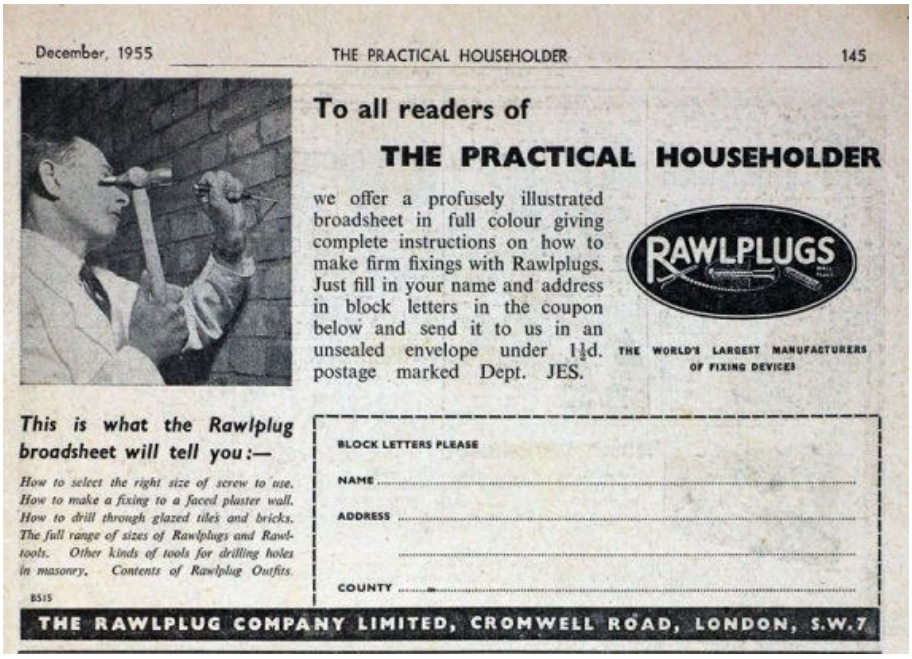

1960s Plastic replaced the fibre of the original plug

Dramatic strides in construction techniques led to the continued development of appropriate new innovative products.

These include the *Rawl SafetyPlus*, designed to meet safety critical applications, as well as a *Rawl* bonded anchor range in cartridge and capsule form, first introduced in early 70s, and *R-HPT Throughbolts* for use in cracked concrete.

With the boom in DIY activity that followed in the 1970s and 80s the product and the name **Rawlplug** became household names.

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How to use RAWLPLUGS

Brick and plaster walls must first be plugged before screws can be driven into them.

This is done by cutting a hole into the wall and filling the hole with a fibrous plug.

The plug-holes may be bored with a carbon-tipped masonry drill used in an electric-powered drill or hand drill, or the hole may be tapped with a 'jumper'.

A jumper (or 'star' chisel as it is sometimes called) is a fluted chisel, fitted into a solid steel handle; it is held in position against the wall and the end of the handle is struck with a hammer.

In between each hammer blow the jumper is rotated slightly to make a cleanly cut hole.

The jumper chisel-blades are exchangeable in the handle, and they are available in standard screw gauge numbers.

A number eight jumper (used with a No. 8 screw) will be found to be the most useful general size, other jumper sizes may be added to the handyman's tool-kit when and as required.

The plugs of tubes of compressed fibre are also supplied in standard screw sizes — a number eight plug is used in the same jumper number for No. 8 screws, and so on with other sizes.

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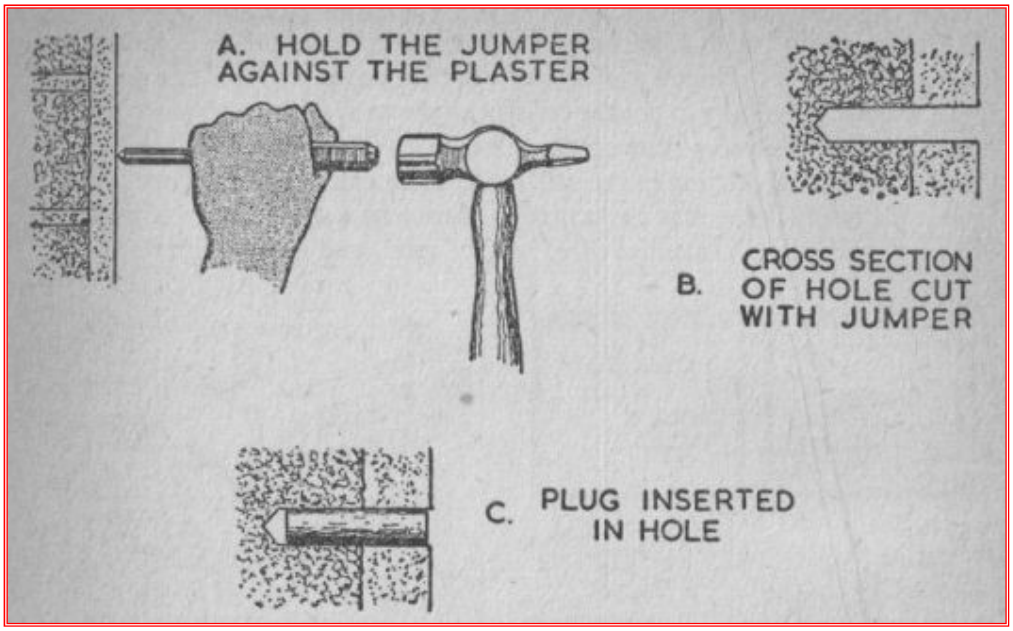
The sequence of operations is illustrated below:

(A) shows the jumper held against the wall,

(B) shows a cross-section of the hole cut into the masonry,

(C) shows the fibre plug inserted in the hole — note that the hole is slightly longer than the plug.



With this done the screw may be driven into the plug to attach any kind of fitment, and will support considerable weights.

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