

How to Identify a Flat Wire Belt

Use the following 7 steps to identify a flat wire belt for replacement.



Step 1: Determine belt width

Measure the overall belt width, including the rods.

Step 2: Determine openings

Count the number of openings across the width of the belt. This will always be an odd number.

Step 3: Determine belt gauge

The belt gauge will either be **standard** or **heavy-duty**. There are 2 ways to determine this:

- Determine the height of the strip by placing the belt flat on a table and measuring from the table to the top of the belt. A **standard belt will measure $\frac{3}{8}$ "** and a **heavy-duty belt will measure $\frac{1}{2}$ "**.
- Determine the diameter of the connecting rod. **Standard-duty rods can be 0.105" or 0.120"** and **heavy-duty rods are 0.192"**.

Step 4: Determine opening width

Measure the width of the second opening from the belt edge. Be sure to measure at the middle of the opening, as shown in the diagram.

Step 5: Determine longitudinal pitch

Measure the longitudinal pitch of the belt, as shown in the diagram.

Step 6: Determine selvage

This can be done by visual inspection. The selvage will either be **clinched** or **welded**.

- Refer to the diagram to see an example of a **welded selvage** (on the left side) and a **clinched selvage** (on the right side).

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Step 7: Determine belt material

Because stainless steel is not magnetic, the magnet can narrow the choice to carbon or stainless steel. Beyond this, material determination can be done by application.

- **High-carbon belts** are generally used for **temperatures between 500°F and 800°F** and can withstand abrasive environments better than galvanized belts.
- **Galvanized steel belts** are a lower-cost, low-temperature alternative to high-carbon belts and are rust-resistant.
- **Stainless steel belts** will either be **Type 304** or **Type 316**. While more expensive, Type 316 stainless steel belts offer greater corrosion resistance and are stronger than Type 304 belts at higher temperatures.

