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Subject: Holes in metal w/o chassis punch. HELP!!!  
Posted by [colinhester](#) on Thu, 27 Jan 2005 02:07:17 GMT  
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I need to put a couple of 0.75" holes in a piece of copper sheeting. Yeah, I know a chassis punch is the way to go, but I don't have one. Any ideas?.....Colin

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Subject: Re: Depends on thickness  
Posted by [BillEpstein](#) on Thu, 27 Jan 2005 09:11:59 GMT  
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If it's very thin you'll need to sandwich it between 2 pieces of plywood and clamp. Thicker sheet means cooling as you drill, a squirt of 3 in one oil. Just use one of those 'bi-metal' hole saws you buy at Lowes/Home Depot. About \$10. Be sure and clamp the workpiece to the bench or drill press table. If you don't, the workpiece can easily get away from you and spin. That's bad! Better yet, while you're buying the hole saw, see how much a Greenlee punch is over in the electrical dept.

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Subject: Re: Holes in metal w/o chassis punch. HELP!!!  
Posted by [GarMan](#) on Thu, 27 Jan 2005 13:29:25 GMT  
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Hole saws have worked pretty well for me. I use it free-hand with a hand drill. Just go slow and use a bit of lubricant like Bill said. I always make sure there's a nice thick piece of MDF clamped tightly under the piece of metal to make sure the bits don't wander.Gar.

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Subject: Another thing: WEAR EYE PROTECTION! (nt)  
Posted by [GarMan](#) on Thu, 27 Jan 2005 13:57:10 GMT  
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Subject: Re: Another thing: WEAR EYE PROTECTION! (nt)  
Posted by [colinhester](#) on Thu, 27 Jan 2005 15:02:40 GMT

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Since second semester organic I always do. One experiment made a true believer out of me. It went BOOM in my face....Colin

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Subject: Hole saw worked like a champ. Thanks (nt)  
Posted by [colinhester](#) on Sat, 29 Jan 2005 05:16:01 GMT  
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