

A **check nut** (also widely referred to as a **jam nut** or half nut) is a low-profile, thin hexagonal nut used as a secondary locking device. It is tightened tightly against a standard primary nut to **create frictional interference and prevent the assembly from self-loosening** due to vibrations, shocks, or cyclic thermal movements. [[1](#), [2](#), [3](#), [5](#)]

How it Works

When two nuts are tightened together on a threaded shaft, they jam against each other. This forces the threads of the inner nut and outer nut to press against opposite sides of the bolt's thread flanks. The resulting wedging action vastly increases thread friction, ensuring the primary nut cannot back off under stress. [[1](#), [2](#), [4](#), [5](#)]

Core Technical Specifications

- **Thickness:** Roughly **0.5 to 0.6 times** the diameter of the bolt (standard hex nuts are about 0.8 times the diameter).
- **Common Materials:** [Solid Brass](#) (excellent for plumbing and corrosion resistance), [Stainless Steel 304/316](#), and Mild Steel.
- **Standards:** Follows standard metric profiles (such as **DIN 439** or **ISO 4035**) and Imperial UNC/UNF threads. [[1](#), [2](#), [3](#)]