Questions & Answers

Why is the 4-facet point so beneficial?
It considerably decreases the force required on the core of the drill, i.e., the chisel edge, which reduces the heat development and permits an increased force to the cutting edges. It gives the drill a dramatic improvement in cutting performance. The improved cutting performance is especially appreciated when using a hand-driven drilling machine, since you cannot press as hard as when working with a drill press.

Why does a Tormek sharpened drill last longer?
The beneficial 4-facet point and the high precision sharpening – both cutting edges are sharpened to an exact equal length and symmetrically – make the drill work efficiently and the life of the drill bit is considerably prolonged.

What determines an exact and straight hole?
The 4-facet geometry causes the drill to bore a straight and round hole with very close tolerances. It is crucial that both cutting edges are equal and sharpened to the same angle. This is an essential requirement so that the two edges will work in the same way and ensure that the drill will bore a straight hole, which is not larger than the drill diameter. Otherwise, the longer edge will take most of the cutting force, get overheated and more heavily worn. The result is a drill that will dull rapidly and stop working properly.

What point angle should I have?
Drill bits usually have a point angle of 118° or 130°. Hardened steel and stainless steel require larger point angles. Also aluminum is best drilled with a larger point angle. When drilling plexiglass, the risk of cracks when the drill goes through the material is reduced with a larger point angle. Centering drills usually have a 90° point angle.

Is the clearance angle important?
The choice of clearance angle is crucial to the cutting performance and duration of the drill. The optimal clearance angle depends both on the drill diameter and the material to be drilled. A harder material requires a drill with a smaller clearance angle while a softer material can have a larger angle. Standard drills have a clearance angle of 11° and a 118° point angle which work well for most drilling work.

How do you know if the steel has become overheated when using a dry grinder? Overheating of the steel is often not noticeable, but the consequences are that the drill will dull rapidly and may even break. Unlike conventional drill bit sharpeners, Tormek sharpens with water cooling which is gentle on the steel.
This is How The Attachment Works

With the Tormek patented attachment for drill bits DBS-22 you can now sharpen your drill bits with the highest precision. The optimal point and clearance angles can be set according to each drilling requirement, which depends upon the drill size and material. You can completely restore worn drills as well as broken drills to a perfect shape.

You create a 4-facet point which gives the ideal cutting performance since the chisel edge gets a point instead of being almost flat as on many drills. A 4-facet point will not walk and the thrust force required is considerably reduced compared to a conventional cone point drill.

A precision sharpened 4-facet point generates less heat and the life of the drill is therefore also prolonged. Independent tests show that a Tormek sharpened drill lasts up to 4 times longer than a brand new conventional drill bit¹.

By working with the laws of physics and cooling the edge continuously, the risk that the steel becomes overheated and loses its hardness or gets micro cracks is eliminated. You have full control all the time and can see how the sharpening proceeds.

¹ Uddeholm Tooling AB, 2010. 15 mm deep holes were drilled in toughened steel with 6 mm drills. With rotation speed 1326 r.p.m and 0.15 mm feed per rotation, the Tormek sharpened drills lasted on average 327 holes while the new drills with an s-shaped point lasted 72 holes.

Flexibility and Precision

4-Facet point
The chisel edge comes to a point and will not walk. Bores a round, straight hole with close tolerances.

Always equal cutting edges
The two cutting edges are sharpened symmetrically and work in perfect unison which prolongs the life of the drill.

Sharpens all point angles
It can be set at any angle between 90° and 150°.

Always the right clearance angle
The optimal clearance angle can be set according to each drilling requirement to 7°, 9°, 11° or 14°.

Sharpens all drill sizes
One and the same drill holder copes with drills from 3 mm (1/8") to 22 mm (7/8"). No change of chuck required.