

The following is a list of the pros & cons attributed to each vise.

Abel Supreme

Positives:

- Excellent hook holding.
- Quality machining.

Negatives:

- Bulky jaws.
- Expensive.
- Ten cents rubber O-ring on jaws has **NO** place in a \$500 vise!

Anvil Apex

Positives:

- Reasonably priced.
- Better than average finish.
- Compact.
- Very good small hook holding power and access.

Negatives:

- Average fit and machining.
- Fussy hook wire diameter adjustment on large hooks.
- Substandard sized pedestal base and C-clamp.

Dan-vise (aka Danica vise)

Positives:

- Excellent value for money. Likely the best bang-for-the-buck offering on the market today.
- Very good hook holding qualities.

Negatives:

- Part metal, part Delrin composition may take some getting comfortable with.
- Somewhat limited access to small hooks.

DynaKing Barracuda and Barracuda Jr.

Positives:

- Fully machined, excellent fit and finish.
- Bulldog hook holding power throughout the range.
- Well-placed within the price range of competing vises.

Negatives:

- DynaKing jaw system does not translate well into a compact, true rotary vise.
- Pedestal base on the Jr. is too small.
- Standrod on the Jr. is too short.

DynaKing Squire

Positives:

- Fully machined, excellent fit and finish.
- Bulldog hook holding power throughout the range.
- Rotary head.
- Very reasonably priced for this level of quality and functionality.

Negatives:

- None. One of our "best buys" for a basic vise.

DynaKing Kingfisher

Positives:

- High quality fit and finish in a very reasonably priced tool.
- Excellent hook holding power through the range of hooks for which the jaws are designed. Would serve very well as a traveler.

Negatives:

- Pedestal base is too small for high tension thread techniques.
- C-clamp gap may be insufficient for some applications.

DynaKing Trekker

Positives:

- Significant price reduction from the Dyna-King Barracuda Jr. makes this a very good value. Our selection for "best in price class."

Negatives:

- Marketed as a traveling vise, it remains a physically large tool, probably more suitable for the home bench.

Griffin Odyssey

Positives:

- Holds hooks securely.
- The (more expensive) cam option is an improvement.

Negatives:

- Low cost component build.
- Contrived, awkward design.

Griffin Montana Mongoose

Positives:

- A significant improvement over earlier Griffin true rotaries in terms of materials, fit and finish. Well placed MSRP. Comes with both pedestal and c-clamp bases.

Negatives:

- Rotary tension adjustment on the test model did not function properly.
- Time will tell whether the neoprene bearing surfaces will wear or deform, causing significant wobble in the bearing.

HMH Spartan

Positives:

- Fully machined, excellent fit and finish.
- Very good hook holding.
- Optional speciality jaws.
- One of the real deals in contemporary vises.

Negatives:

- Pedestal somewhat light and small footprint.

HMH Standard

Positives:

- Fully machined, excellent fit and finish.
- Very good hook holding.
- Optional speciality jaws.
- Recommended vise in its price range.

Negatives:

- Sales may be lost to the revamped, less expensive, HMH Spartan.

HMH Silhouette

Positives:

- Allround vise at a very competitive price
- Bulletproof design

Negatives:

- Less suitable for C-clamp use due to short length standrod.

HMH Silhouette SX

Positives:

- Allround vise at a very competitive price
- Bulletproof design
- Specialized jaws options

Negatives:

- Less suitable for C-clamp use due to short length standrod.

Jvice

Positives:

- Solid build.
- Very complete package.

Negatives:

- At present (early 2004) no C-clamp option.

- Less suitable for small hooks.

Law Bench Model

Positives:

- Highest quality materials, machining, fit and finish.
- Thoughtful, ultra-simple design.
- Best jaw design for a broad range of hook sizes with no fuss adjustment to any hook.
- Our "best at any price" all-around vise.

Negatives:

- High cost.

Law Traveler

Positives:

- Highest quality materials, machining, fit and finish.
- Same thoughtful, simple design in a more compact tool.
- Same jaw design in a more compact rendition.

Negatives:

- Slightly higher cost than competing traditional vises with similar features.

MP vise

Positives:

- Versatile design, cleverly packaged.
- Quality machining.

Negatives:

- Expensive.
- Versatility comes at expense of usability.

Nor-vise

Positives:

- True spinning design

Negatives:

- True spinning design.
- Access to small hooks restricted.
- Does not allow large hooks to be centered.
- Steep learning curve.
- Automatic, retractable bobbin almost compulsory purchase when using Norvise.

Peak

Positives:

- Solid build.
- Bomb proof design.

Negatives:

- Fiddly jaws changeover.
- At present (early 2004) no C-clamp option.

Regal

Positives:

- Excellent hook holding across wide range of hook sizes.
- Very simple to operate.

Negatives:

- Placement of small hooks in jaws critical. Potential to chip jaws if not done correctly.
- Optional midge jaws an expensive proposition.
- No tier influence possible on jaws pressure.

Renzetti Master

Positives:

- Superb machining, fit and finish.
- Most versatile vise on the market today.
- Superb hook holding power throughout the range.

Negatives:

- Tied for highest cost vise available.

Renzetti Presentation 4000 Cam

Positives:

- Superb machining, fit and finish.
- Our "best" in the true rotaries in this price range.
- Excellent hook holding power and hook access for the hooks within its range.

Negatives:

- Smaller jaws than the Master or Traveler compromises holding power for the largest hooks.

Renzetti Traveler Cam

Positives:

- Compact, lightweight, simple true rotary design.
- Great performance from a no-frills vise.
- Change to lever cam simplifies operation and cleans up the lines.
- Better than average fit.

Negatives:

- Costs twice as much as the Danvise which has similar features.
- Materials and machining only average.

Renzetti Apprentice

Positives:

- Lowest priced Renzetti.
- Light weight to serve as a traveling vise.
- Cam lever is long enough to provide comfortable, secure lock-up through the range of hook sizes.

Negatives:

- Fit, finish and feel below other sub-\$100 entries. Round-tipped jaws not the best for very small hooks.

Tiemco

Positives:

- Quality Machining

Negatives:

- Baffling design.
- Complex to set up and use.
- Expensive.