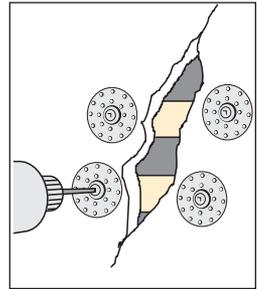
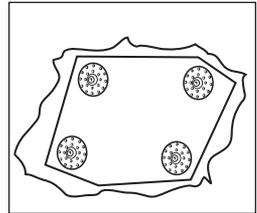


These washers are primarily for the repair of lath and plaster walls. The construction of these walls involved the nailing of split or sawn lath loosely spaced on the wall studs. The first coat of plaster was fairly coarse, much like mortar, and squeezed through the lath as well as covered it. When this dried, the plaster would be firmly held to the lath and locked in place by a portion that had squeezed through, called the keys. One or more top coats were usually applied to this base coat. All of this made for a fairly heavy product and, with normal wood movement and house movement, keys eventually broke and plaster came away from the wall studs and ceiling joists.

The primary use of plaster washers is to repair plaster that has come loose because of broken keys. The first thing you should do with such plaster is clean up any broken edges, drill screw holes (if you do not drill holes, you may further split the plaster). Using an ordinary #6x1<sup>5</sup>/<sub>8</sub>" drywall screw (not included), draw the plaster tight against the lath; the plaster washer flattens as it is squeezed by the screw. With the plaster held tightly in position, you can now complete the repair.



For anything but very small areas, you can fill holes in the plaster with modern plaster board. Use plaster board as close as possible to (but always less than) the thickness of the plaster being repaired. Fix it in place using the plaster washers and then put a coat of patching plaster over the entire repair. You can then finish it with drywall compound before sanding it all smooth.



Plaster washers are also ideal for holding foam insulation in place or attaching thin plywood where there is a danger of screw pull-through.



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