Match the fastener to the tool.

A check before buying finish nails or staples. Match the exact model and fastener specification, then use the installation guide for the attachment.

Five checks before you buy

1. Model: Read the label on the actual tool; similar-looking models can differ.

2. Family + gauge: Match the specified nail or staple series and gauge.

3. Angle or crown: For nails, check strip angle/family. For staples, check crown width.

4. Length: Stay inside the exact tool range and meet the job requirement.

5. Complete setup: Check compatible air fittings and supply, or the battery and charger.

Manufacturer examples

These ranges describe the named tools. They are not an installation fastener schedule.

Exact model	Fastener specification	Accepted length
Bostitch BTFP72156 [1]	15-gauge FN-series finish nails	1-1/4 to 2-1/2 in
DeWalt DCN650 [2]	15-gauge, 34-degree nail sticks	1-1/4 to 2-1/2 in
Metabo HPT N3804AB3 [3]	18-gauge, 1/4-in crown staples	1/2 to 1-1/2 in
Milwaukee 2749-20 [4]	18-gauge, 1/4-in crown staples	3/8 to 1-1/2 in

Two easy mismatches: DA and FN are different finish-nail families. Bostitch SX staples have a 7/32-in crown [5]; that is different from 1/4 in. Matching gauge and length alone is not enough.

If the required nail is too long, pause. The cased-opening and window-jamb guides retain a 2-3/4-in requirement. The two finish-nailer examples above stop at 2-1/2 in. Their specifications do not authorize shortening the job requirement. Confirm the actual gun and nail box before ordering.

Read the full reference: letsbuildstuff.co/learn/nail-guns-and-air/

Manufacturer references checked October 17, 2026. Examples are specification checks, not field tests, stock checks or purchase recommendations. Follow the exact tool manual and job requirements.

[1] Bostitch BTFP72155/156 manual, p. 6

[2] DeWalt DCN650 manual, English p. 9

[3] Metabo HPT N3804AB3 specifications

[4] Milwaukee 2749-20 manual, p. 3

[5] Bostitch Industrial SX-series fasteners