



Action Electronics Since 1972

1300-B E. Edinger Ave.
Santa Ana CA 92705-4425
Phone (714) 547-5169 WWW.Action-Electronics.com

Solder Tip Care

To get maximum performance and life out of your soldering iron tips, follow these few steps:

Use mildly activated rosin fluxes rather than water soluble or no-clean types.

Use an anti-seize agent. Stop your tips from seizing in the iron.

<http://www.action-electronics.com/weller.htm>

Before using a tip for the first time, pre-tin it to remove any oxide coating. Use a high quality solder.

<http://www.action-electronics.com/kester.htm>

Clean and re-tin tip often. For cleaning, use a dampened Weller synthetic sponge (no rags or cloths). Distilled water is best. Never file or sand tip to remove excess solder. You will damage the plating.

Do not remove excess solder from tip before turning iron off. The solder will prevent oxidation of the tip. If there is no solder on the tip, put some on before turning off your iron.

THE "TEN COMMANDMENTS" FOR ELECTRONIC SOLDERING EQUIPMENT

I. Thou shall not remove tip from soldering iron when power is "On". Causes heating element to rise in temperature to approximately 1300 F resulting in thermal shock and reduced heater life.

II. Thou shall maintain a damp (NOT drenched) iron sponge (preferably with de-ionized water). A drenched sponge will bring the temperature of the tip down too drastically, causing thermal shock and reduced tip life.

III. Thou shall not disconnect soldering iron from base unit when power is turned "On". Disconnecting or reconnecting the soldering tool from the base unit with power applied may cause a short between non-compatible pins resulting in damage to the base unit or pencil.

IV. Thou shall maintain a coating of solder on working area of soldering iron tip. Protects the tip from oxidation.

V. Thou shall never drop soldering iron while heated. Dropping the soldering tool while heated may cause thermal/mechanical shock to the heater, sensor, or tip (fractured plating).

VI. Thou shall not throw soldering iron into soldering tool stand. See Commandment V.

VII. Never use soldering iron as a crowbar or pry tool. Could chip or pit finish on tip rendering it useless.

VIII. Using sharp or serrated objects to remove tip from soldering iron is forbidden. See Commandment VII.

IX. Honor thy "KGB" (Known Good Base). Do not plug a non-working soldering iron into a KGB. Could cause damage to the base.

X. Thou shall turn station down to lowest setting during daily usage when not being used. Turning the station down during non use periods will prevent severe thermal cycling of the tool. However, tools not being used for extended periods of time should not be left on indefinitely.

I have sinned and broke my station. Parts are at <http://www.action-electronics.com/westations.htm>
<http://www.action-electronics.com/hakko.htm> Hope this helps! Action-Electronics.com Since 1972