



TAP LAB SAFETY LEVEL:
HIGH RISK

Read the safety card | Receive induction from a trainer
Supervision required until approved to operate independently

Soldering Iron

KEY RISKS:



Burns



Fire



Fumes



Electric shock

PURPOSE:

Soldering irons are used to heat up solder which is then used to join metallic components together. Soldering irons can also be used to heat solder so that components can be separated too.



SAFETY:

- Soldering irons reach temperatures in excess of 400°C and are capable of causing severe burns. Never touch the tip of a heated soldering iron. Give any soldered surface adequate time to cool down before you touch it. Be sure to unplug your soldering iron when you're not using it.
- The soldering iron has a timer at the plug. Set it for the amount of time you expect to use the station for (this is a precaution in case you forget to turn it off).
- Never place a hot soldering iron on your work surface: You could start a fire. Never leave flammable items (such as paper) near your soldering iron.
- There is running water in the bathrooms for burns.
- Use safety glasses or your own reading glasses when soldering.
- Always use an extractor with a carbon filter to prevent the mildly caustic and toxic fumes from building up and causing eye or throat irritation.
- Learn to hold the iron correctly and be conscious of where it is pointed at all times when in use.
- Never solder a live circuit.
- Never flick hot solder at someone.
- Do not use soldering irons for melting plastic or wooden pokerwork.
- Always put your soldering iron back in its stand when not in use. Be sure that the stand is stable so it doesn't topple over if you brush against the cord.