

#### WLC100 ELECTRONIC SOLDERING STATION

The Weller® WLC100 Soldering Station offers adjustable temperature hand soldering. The power can be adjusted anywhere from 5 watts up to 40 watts with a knob on the base unit. The WLC100 also provides a built-in iron stand and tip cleaning sponge. The WLC100 is supplied with an ST3 1/8" screwdriver tip. Refer to the tip table for other styles available. The WLC100 is UL listed.



#### **OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS**

Unpack the unit carefully. Place tool holder in slot provided in top of unit. Wet sponge. Distilled water is preferred, especially in areas where tap water has a high mineral content. Insert tool into holder. Insert line cord plug into a 120 volt A.C. receptacle. Turn on unit with rocker switch. Set power control knob to "5" to heat tool up quickly. Wait 1 minute. Lower setting take longer to reach operating temperature. Adjust control to lower setting. Remove tool from holder and tin tip with solder. Unit is now ready for use. Always use the lowest power setting and properly selecting tip styles, sensitive components will be protected from heat damage.

## TIPS ON SOLDERING

Soldering is the fastest and easiest way to join metals. The solder, usually and alloy of tin and lead, has a low melting point and is run into the joint, fusing the parts together. A soldered joint is stable and electrically efficient. However, it is not capable of taking a lot of stress or movement. To make a soldered joint you need: 1) a source of heat, 2) clean metal surface to be joined, 3) a suitable grade of solder, 4) flux – rosin core solder is what you need for the majority of jobs. It means that you don't have to bother about separate flux. Rosin core solder must be used for any electrical connection. Now here is what you have to do.

**1.** Ensure that items to be soldered are perfectly clean. This can be achieved with wire wool or fine emery cloth. Just because a piece of metal looks bright and clean, it may not be.

2. Make a good mechanical connection by wrapping wires around each other or around a terminal.

**3.** When applying heat, don't apply it to the solder. Heat the base material, e.g. wires so they become sufficiently hot to melt the solder and flow it into the joint. A small amount of fresh solder on the tip when you begin soldering will help to carry heat from the iron to the joint.

4. When solder has been applied to a joint smoothly slide the iron away to leave the joint neat.

5. Avoid moving joint or wire after removing iron. Blowing on the joint will speed cooling.

**6.** On electrical and electronic components avoid too much heat. A heat sink can be used to dissipate heat away from the component.

7. Do not apply more solder than needed. Excess solder can cause short circuits.

**8.** It is advisable to pre tin components before soldering, especially stranded wire. Twist the strands together, then heat and saturate with solder.

9. Sweating a joint is easy after tinning. Just twist wires together and apply heat.

**10.** To desolder a joint apply heat and use a soldering aid like a solder wick to remove solder and separate joint. Be sure to use new solder when re-soldering.

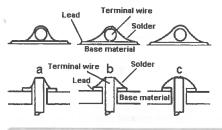
**11.** Fumes from some fluxes can be unpleasant so be sure there is good ventilation in the work area.

**12.** Don't use a file to clean the soldering tip, wiping on a wet sponge when tip is hot should keep tip clean.

## THE CORRECT WAY TO SOLDER

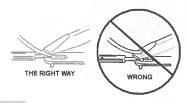
Always use the soldering iron to heat the joint, not the solder. A small amount of fresh solder on the tip will help conduct heat to the joint faster. The solder should be heated by the joint so it will flow into and around the connection resulting in a stronger joint.

# THE AMOUNT OF SOLDER AND QUALITY CONTROL



#### **DIFFERENT TYPES OF BAD SOLDER JOINTS**

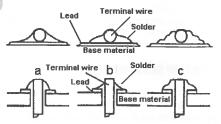
a) Bad soldering of terminal wire. The wire was not heated enough and the solder did not wet the top. This wire could pull away from the joint.
b) Bad soldering of PCB trace. The trace was not heated enough to let the solder wet and flow over the surface of the trace. The solder can pull away from the trace if strained. This can also occur if the trace was not cleaned or enough flux was used.



a) Minimum amount of solder.

b) Optimum amount of solder. The solder should cover the pad and wire. There should be some wicking action of the solder up on to the wire. The surface of the solder should be smooth and shiny.

c) Excessive solder, hides the connection from begin checked. There is also a possibility the solder could bridge between traces and cause a short circuit.



c) Bad soldering of terminal wire and PCB trace. This is a "cold" solder joint where the soldering iron was not held on the joint long enough to heat the joint sufficiently and where some movement of the joint could have occurred before the solder cooled. It will appear to have a rough textured surface. This can be corrected by reheating the joint until the solder flows and adding a small amount of flux.

#### SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

The Weller<sup>®</sup> WLC100 Soldering Station is a very safe tool, and complies with all the relevant safety regulations of the USA. Nevertheless, like all electrical appliances, it must be handled with care. Never forget that the soldering tip and heater can reach high temperatures. Follow these simple safety rules at all times. Keep tool out of reach of children.

1. Keep your soldering iron well away from all flammable material.

2. To avoid burns, always assume that the tip is hot.

**3.** Be sure the hot soldering tip and heater does not come into contact with the electric power cord.

 Before making any adjustment – removing or replacing a tip, etc. – make sure the station is unplugged and cool.

5. Do not dip the tool into any liquid.

**6.** Many materials give off unpleasant fumes when heated – so always work in a well ventilated room.

7. Clean the tip by wiping it, when hot, across damp sponge provided.

8. After use, disconnect the soldering station, allow the tip to cool, and store in a safe place.

Safety goggles are recommended to prevent hot materials from entering eyes.

**10.** The receptacle is not to be used for controlling a solder gun or any products other than a soldering iron.

## **SELECTION OF WELLER® ST SERIES TIPS**

Weller<sup>®</sup> tips are solid cooper, plated with iron, nickel, and chromium. The chromium is eliminated from the working area and the tips and pretinned with tin/lead solder. The nickel and chromium protect the shank from corrosion and solder creep. The Weller<sup>®</sup> WLC100 uses the ST series tips. **Use only original Weller soldering tips, parts and accessories for this product.** 

Cat. #	Description	Tip size "/mm	Reach "/mm
ST1	Screwdriver tip	0.06/1.58	0.75/19.05
ST2	Screwdriver tip	0.09/2.38	0.75/19.05
ST3	Screwdriver tip	0.12/3.17	0.75/19.05
ST4	Screwdriver tip	0.18/4.74	0.75/19.05
ST5	Single flat tip	0.03/0.79	0.75/19.05
ST6	Screwdriver tip	0.03/0.79	0.75/19.05
ST7	Conical tip	0.03/0.79	0.75/19.05
ST8	Narrow SD tip	0.06/1.58	0.75/19.05

## CARE OF WELLER<sup>®</sup> SOLDERING TIPS

1. Keep tip tinned; wipe only before using.

2. Use rosin or activated rosin fluxes. Acid type fluxes will greatly reduce tip life.

3. Remove tip and clean with suitable cleaner for flux used. The frequency of cleaning will depend on the type of work and usage. Tips in constant use should be removed and cleaned al least once a week.

**4.** Don't try to clean tip with abrasive material and never file tip, to do so will greatly reduce tip life. Tip wettability is affected by contact with organics such as plastic resins, silicone grease, and other chemicals. If the tip becomes unwettable it may be cleaned with a Weller® Polishing Bar Part No. WPB1. Do not over do this or the iron plating will be removed and the tip will be ruined. Retin tip immediately to prevent oxidation.

5. Do not remove excess solder from heated tip before storing. The excess solder will prevent oxidation of the wettable surface when the tip is reheated.

**6.** Do not use any compound or anti-seize material on Weller<sup>®</sup> tips. They will cause wettability problems and may cause seizing after long heated periods.

# **REPLACEMENT AND OPTIONAL PARTS FOR WLC100**

Soldering Tips	See tip chart for part numbers	
WCC104	Replacement tip cleaning sponge	
WPB1	Weller <sup>®</sup> polishing bar	

## **OTHER QUALITY WELLER® SOLDERING PRODUCTS**

 SPG80
 Stained glass soldering iron

 WLC200
 Controllable Stained glass iron and station

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