

b. unpacking

Carefully open the box and remove the items. You will see your receipt for the kit enclosed. Also, enclosed is the parts list and instructions. Remove all packing carefully and lay the items out ready for cross checking. With the parts list in front of you tick off the items. Any shortfall please contact Hi-fi Collective once a complete count is done.

CHAPTER 3 - PREPARATION

a. work place

Whether in a dedicated workshop, the garage or on the dining room table, an organised work place will save you time and prevent mistakes. Have your tools close to you & in one place and when you have finished using them put them back. Keep your instructions to hand and try not to rip pages out. It is a good idea to protect you table, an offcut of carpet will work well. You need to have easy access to your soldering iron and solder, always turn it off when not using it especially those of you who have young children. Your work space needs to be well lit with good ventilation to move solder fumes away from you. Above all keep it clean, you don't want to scratch your chassis on a forgotten nut.

b. soldering iron and solder

Your solder and iron are the most important tools in an electronic constructors tool box, but some people get the combination wrong. A good solder joint is one that is shinny, with an even amount of solder on the joint & without brown flux residue. To get it right, first you must have an iron that gets hot enough to melt your solder properly. Most hobbist soldering irons have a tip temperature of around 370 degree C, for example the 25W Antex iron goes to around 390 degree C. Such irons will work well with solder that change from solid to liquid at around 200 degree C. A higher iron temperature will give good flow to higher temperature solders, these change at 300 degree C. Working with these types with your normal 25W Antex will cause dry joints. We have supplied with this kit 2m of Audio Note silver solder this works very well with the Antex 25 watt iron.

c. soldering technique

Before soldering, make sure the wire is bent around the selector contacts/earth post tags/phono solder tags. When soldering to the phono socket's spigot tin them first with solder. How to solder - place the tip of the soldering iron onto the surface of all parts, hold for 1.5 seconds. Apply the solder to the junction, do not flood the join with solder. The whole process should take about 3 seconds.

d. preparing the wire

The wire provided to assemble the Passive has to be prepared before soldering, you need to expose 5mm of wire as a rule. The HGC wire is teflon sleeved the actual 0.5mm silver wire moves easily within the sheath so to expose wire insert a pin into one end of the sleeving this will push the wire out at the other end. The HGC wire is directional and it is noted by the HGC logo with an arrow on it. The Arrow denotes the path from a signal source to its destination. So the arrow must point from the signal input to selector to attenuator to the output. Do not worry if you do not follow this the silver will eventually realign.