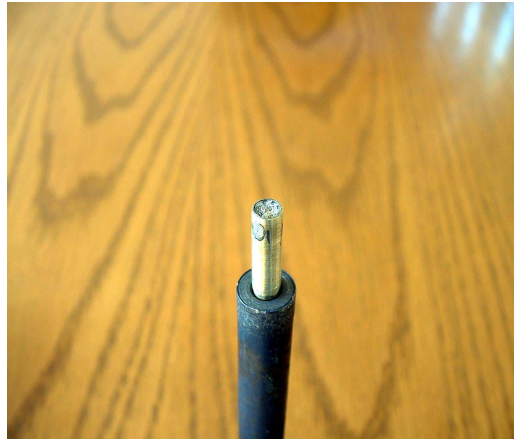


Mini-Solder Pot

One of the many things Doug Hendricks and I spoke of during our drive to HamCom 2008 this summer, was the idea of a small solder pot to tin the ends of the Thermaleze wire used in toroids. Doug came up with the idea of modifying an old worn out soldering iron tip, and asked me to make one up to see how it would work. I had an old 25 watt, dollar store variety, iron that hasn't been used in years, since I started using my temperature controlled model that we all use now. I took a brass screw that fit the end of the iron and drilled a 1/8" diameter hole, 3/16" deep into the end of it, cut the handle in half and mounted it in a block of wood. I heated it up and filled the small reservoir with solder.



The results were great! I first cut the toroid leads to the finished length. Then, I dipped them, no scraping, and beautiful tinned leads ready for installation. It may not warrant going to all this trouble of mounting it like this, but if you have a defunct tip you haven't thrown away, you might want to try a similar option the next time you have several toroids to do.

