## **SOLDERING TIPS**

It is important to make a good solder joint at each connection point. A cold solder joint is a connection that may look connected but is actually disconnected or intermittently connected. (A cold solder joint can keep your project from working.)

Follow these tips to make a good solder joint. *Take your time with each connection and make sure that all components are connected and will remain connected if your project is bumped or shaken.* 

- 1. Bend the component lead or wire ending and wrap it around the connection point.
  - Make sure it is not too close to a neighboring component which could cause an unintended connection.
- 2. Wrap the component lead so that it can hold itself to the connection point.
- 3. Touch the soldering iron to both the component lead and the connection point allowing both to warm up just before applying the solder to them.
- 4. Be sure to adequately cover both component lead and connection point with melted solder.
  - Remove the soldering iron from your work and allow the solder joint to cool. (The solder joint should be shiny and smooth after solidifying.)
  - Cut off any excess wire or component leads with cutting pliers.
  - Clean the soldering iron's tip by wiping it across the wet sponge again after making the solder joint.



