Subject: Soldering Iron Economiser/Boost

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To  : TECH@WW

By G8MNY (Updated Dec 04)
Suitable for 15-60W mains irons only!

When on the stand the mains fed to the iron is half wave only for economiser mode (1/2 power), the iron rest on a suitably mounted stand micro switch that is connected to one of the bridge diodes. When the iron is picked up, full wave is restored for (normal power).

An added non locking press button switch mounted in the iron handle, this boosts the power by connecting a 350V 10uF with a 22R in series (47uF/10R for 60W) housed in the stand (iron not earthed 3 core cable! Or use 4 core rubber flex with an earth) resulting in approx 300V peak DC from the mains being used for high power. This is approx 2x the normal power, hence the non locking press switch!

Make sure all mains connections & switches are safe (properly shrouded heat-shrink) to avoid shocks etc.

A neon (with series 220K) across iron can be used to indicate the power status.

Why Don't U send an interesting bul?

73 De John, G8MNY @ GB7CIP
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