

Capacitor	An electrical device used to store electrical charge.
Cold Solder Joint	A solder connection that exhibits poor wetting and is characterized by a grayish, porous appearance due to excessive impurities in the solder, inadequate cleaning prior to soldering, and/or the insufficient application of heat during the soldering process.
Digital Multimeter	Electronic test equipment that can perform multiple tasks. Typically one capable of measuring voltage, current, and resistance. More sophisticated modern digital multimeters also measure capacitance, inductance, current gain of transistors, and/or anything else that can be measured electronically.
Diode	A two terminal device that conducts in only one direction.
Dual In-Line Package (DIP)	A very common IC package with two parallel rows of pins intended to be inserted into a socket of through holes drilled in a printed circuit board.
Engineering Notation	A floating point system in which numbers are expressed as products consisting of a number greater than one multiplied by an appropriate power of ten that is some multiple of three.
Fuse	A protective device in the current path that melts or breaks when current exceeds a predetermined maximum value.
LED	Light-emitting diode. An electronic device that conducts current in one direction only and illuminates when it is conducting.
Plastic Leaded Chip Carrier (PLCC)	A square IC package with leads on all four sides designed for surface mounting on a circuit board.
Printed Circuit Board	Insulating board containing conductive tracks for circuit connections.
Resistor	Component made of material that opposes flow of current and therefore has some value of resistance.
Resistor Color Code	Coding system of colored stripes on a resistor to indicate the resistor's value and tolerance.
Scientific Notation	Numbers entered as a number from one to ten multiplied by a power of ten.
SI Notation	Abbreviation of System International, a system of practical units based on the meter, kilogram, second, ampere, Kelvin, mole, and candela.
Seven-Segment Display	An array of seven independently controlled light-emitting diodes (LED) or liquid crystal display (LCD) elements, shaped like a figure-8, which can be used to display decimal digits and other characters by turning on the appropriate elements.
Small Outline IC (SOIC)	An IC package similar to a DIP, but smaller, which is designed for automatic placement and soldering on the surface of a circuit board.
Solder	Metallic alloy of tin and lead that is used to join two metal surfaces.

Solder Bridge	The unwanted formation of a conductive path of solder between conductors.
Soldering	Process of joining two metallic surfaces to make an electrical contact by melting solder (usually tin and lead) across them.
Soldering Iron	Tool with an internal heating element used to heat surfaces being soldered to the point where the solder becomes molten.
Tinning	The process of applying a thin coat of solder to materials prior to their being soldered; for example, application of a light coat of solder to the filaments of a conductor to hold the filaments in place prior to soldering the conductor.
Transistor	Term derived from "transfer resistor." Semiconductor device that can be used as an amplifier or as an electronic switch.