
Subject: Re: Necessary Tools

Posted by [gofar99](#) on Sun, 18 Sep 2011 20:14:47 GMT

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Hi Fixing old amps can be both simple and difficult. I'll do the simple first. Good needle nose pliers, wire cutters, wire stripper, set of socket wrenches in the sizes from 3/16 to 1/2 inch, 25-40 watt soldering iron, some solder (I like .031 diameter 60/40 - has lead) an inexpensive digital volt meter (\$25 or so), a de-soldering device (there are many types, the bulb type is probably the least costly and will work OK), standard and Philips screw drivers, for the standard ones 1/8 wide tip for the smallest and about 1/4 inch for the largest, Philips sizes of 0, 1 and 2 ought to be enough, a standard house hold type pliers and you should be set.

To do the job on more than a minimal level I would add the following: A second larger soldering iron in the 60-100 range (old equipment often has soldering to the chassis and more heat is needed), swap the 25 watt iron for a temperature controlled one (several are available for under \$40 -see sources below), a temperature controlled vacuum de-solderer (see below, an analog volt meter (about \$25), additional screwdrivers in smaller sizes, a set of Allen wrenches (mostly small sizes to get out set screws).

To really do it first class you need an oscilloscope (could be a PC based one), a signal generator, a better digital meter, and a tube tester. These things can cost a significant amount of \$\$.

Other things, an assortment of wire and heat shrink insulation

Sources: Many things can be obtained from the local radio Shack, I prefer though Parts Express and MCM on the web. For the temp controlled soldering iron and de-soldering station check Circuit Specialists (also on the web). I got great buys on both from them (about \$40 each). Buy at least one extra tip for the iron just in case the model changes. Look for sales and specials on their site. You can often get a free digital voltmeter when you but certain \$ amounts. The "freebee" is pretty nice meter and would cost about \$25-30 if bought separately.

I hope this helps,
