

Tool Tip #28 – Silicone Rubber Wire Soldering Jig

One of the most frustrating tasks is that of soldering a wire splice when the wire simply will not sit still while it is being worked on. Often, the pressure of the soldering iron on the wire(s) alone will be enough to undo the physical joint or to chase the wire across the work surface. Wouldn't it be great to have a tool that would keep that from happening? Well, now you can. Meet the ZYRELYNX Silicone Wire Soldering Stand, what I like to call a *jig*.

This device will firmly hold wires of any size from 32AWG through 10AWG (advertised as 32AWG to 12AWG), making soldering of the splice a simple matter. A word or two about the wire range is needed here. This device is advertised as being able to hold wire as large as 12AWG, but in actual use, mine will hold wire of 10AWG size.

As can be seen in the Figure 1 illustration, the unit has a total of six slots of varying sizes, each of which is tapered narrower as they get deeper, making each slot capable of holding multiple wire diameters. The Figure 2 illustration shows a series of wires loaded into the jig in preparation for soldering.



Figure 1 - Wire soldering jig



Figure 2 - Jig loaded with wires

Between the side slot supports is a small tray-like depression, which is ideal for catching any excess solder drips that may fall from the wire joints under work above. Because of its solid silicone rubber construction, the device is heat resistant to high temperatures, is almost impervious to harm from the heat of molten solder, and is not subject to the solder bonding to or melting into the base. Markings in the tray area hint that it might be useful for holding heat shrink tube (HST) in preparation for its use, but

experience has shown that when excessive solder was (deliberately) applied for testing purposes, the solder would of course drip onto the HST placed underneath, effectively rendering it useless by shrinking and deforming it. The underside of the unit is equipped with a grid array of rubber points that aid in keeping the jig stable on the work surface, which is exactly what is needed in a tool of this type.

This product is available online from Amazon at a price of \$9.99 (USD) plus shipping. Of course, the government has to get its share, so tax will also be applied. Point your browser to <https://www.amazon.com/dp/B0D5CKWKR8> if you want to investigate this item for yourself.