

WIRE JOINTS—Tap Joint

Making a Tap Joint

Purpose:

The tap joint is used for connecting a branch conductor to one that “runs through” a box, without cutting the latter apart.

Materials:

Two, 8-inch (20 cm.) lengths of solid, insulated copper wire, size AWG 14 or 16, for each joint.

Procedure:

(a) Remove 1 inch (2.5 cm.) of insulation from the centre of one conductor, and 3 inches (7.6 cm.) from one end of the second conductor. (b) Hold the bare end of the second conductor tightly against the left side of the gap in the long-run conductor. Bend the bare wire upward (c) Now, without releasing your left-hand hold, make 6 tight turns around the long-wire run. With diagonal pliers, cut off the stubby end of the branch conductor and bend it down carefully. Finally, bend the branch conductor downward until it makes a 90-degree angle with the long-run wire.

