

About Experiments

1) Partners

Each of you should have one partner. During the first week, each partnership will receive a Red Box containing returnable parts used in the experiments, and parts kits for each experiment.

2) Tool Kits

Each student will buy a special Tool Kit designed for these experiments.

3) Red Boxes

Each pair of partners should have one Red Box to be returned at the end of the semester. Each experiment has its own plastic bag of parts in the Red Box. In addition, each experiment will make use of a selection of parts from the Red Box. Your instructions for the individual experiments will identify those items. Do not throw things away. Items that are used in one experiment may be re-used in a later experiment. We shall ask you to return the Red Box at the end of the semester, with all the major items present (of course this does not include obvious disposable items such as bits of wire).

4) Experiment Write-ups

Each experiment has a write-up that describes the experiment, apparatus, and measurements you will make. Carefully read these write-ups.

5) Safety

You will be working sometimes with sharp-edged tools and materials, soldering irons, and apparatus, which connects to the 120 Volt, 60 Hertz (60 cycles per second) line supply through a wall transformer. Use them carefully to avoid accidents. Always think about what you're doing and what would happen if the hand or the tool or the work slips, or if the soldering iron falls on flammable stuff, or if electrical things get wet. The items you will be using are fairly harmless, but be sure to tell us about any worries you or your friends have about safety.