

7.1 Tacking items prior to soldering

- 1** Tacking or fixing work pieces together prior to soldering has many advantages over using binding wire or clips.

Parts which are welded together are held securely and cannot slip out of position during soldering. Also, if subsequent soldering is necessary on the same work piece, there is no danger that parts will fall off again.



fig. 7.1



fig. 7.2

In addition, forms that cannot be successfully clipped or bound with wire, can very often easily be joined using a few welds.

Another advantage is the fact that, as many parts as required can be joined together at the same time, and then afterwards soldered all in one go. This brings a substantial saving of time when it comes to cleaning up the work piece.

- 2** Settings for rectangular stones can easily be adjusted to the correct length by simply laying the sides of the setting alongside the stone, and tacking them in the correct position.

The welds can be placed on both ends, as these will be sawn off later anyway.

(fig. 7.3)

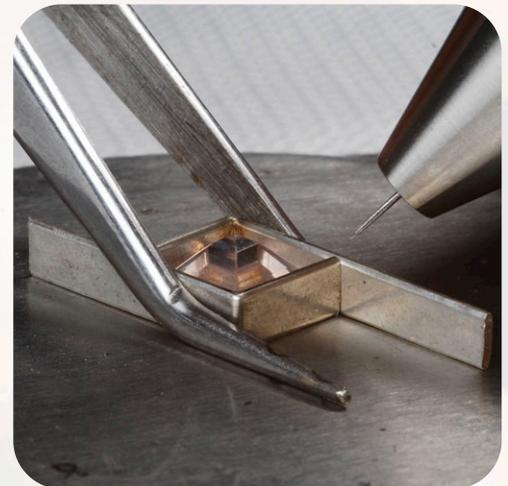


fig. 7.3



fig. 7.4

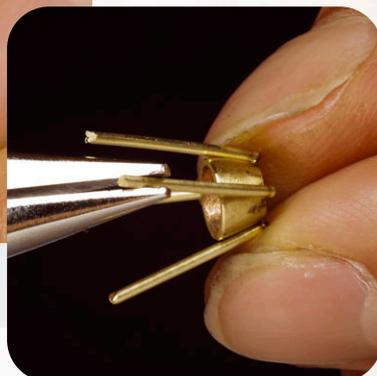


fig. 7.5

- 3** Prongs can be easily fixed from underneath the setting with just one weld; they can then be easily realigned and bent to the correct angle later.

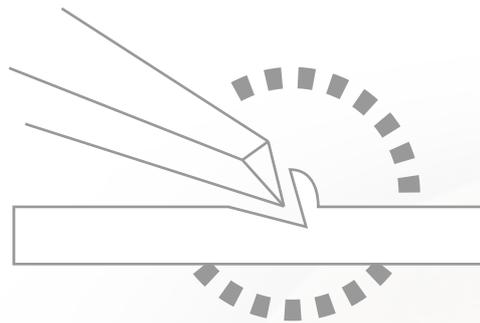
Always be aware of where you are placing welds, they should be somewhere where they are easy to clean later, or not visible at all, (i.e. welded from inside).

(fig. 7.4 & fig. 7.5)

7.2 Tacking items prior to soldering



fig. 7.6



- 4** Sometimes it is a good idea to create a burr using a graver (etchers needle).

This is not only useful for the exact positioning of parts, but the burrs also act as extra material when welding. This is especially useful for welds in hard-to-reach places.

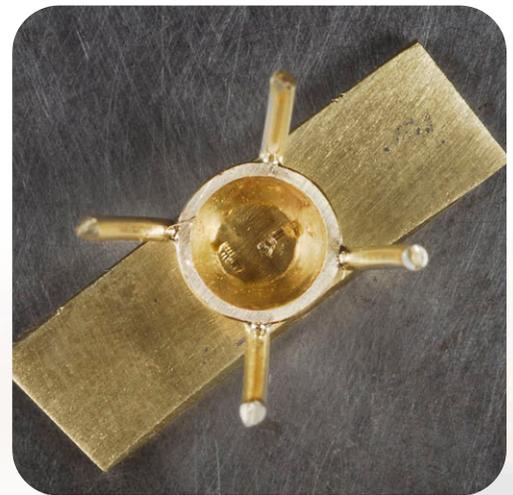


fig. 7.7

- 5** With some of the more complex applications, it can be useful to build a "bridge" of wire so that the part can be tacked in the correct position. The "bridges" of metal wire on the hinge shown in this example, can be filed off later after soldering.

This procedure protects the thin edges of the tubing from being damaged.



fig. 7.8



fig. 7.10

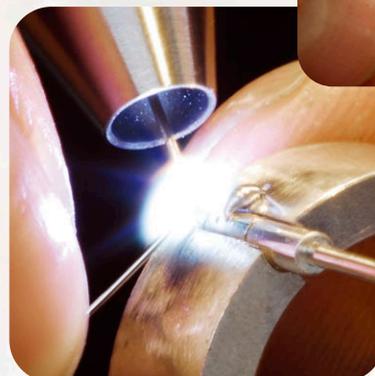


fig. 7.9