

Surface Saver (for your bench)

How many times have you soldered wire ends, terminals, or other components on the workbench and wound up burning the bench top, or worse, burning that expensive electrostatic discharge (ESD) conductive mat on the benchtop?



I know I have, but a simple piece of ceramic tile can be used to prevent this. Available at building supply stores, or left over from your last home renovation, they come in various sizes and shapes from 4 – 12 inches.

I use a smooth 4 1/4-inch tile from my last bathroom renovation, which seems to work just fine; however, I think a tile that has some kind of irregular surface, might keep parts from sliding.

(Another ham I know says he uses a plain concrete brick, which may be better if you are using a torch.)

— 73,
Don Dorward, VA3DDN,
Pickering, Ontario, L1V2T2, Canada,
va3ddn@arrl.net

Note: above photo did not appear in QST article. VA3DDN