



Soldering iron Heat control

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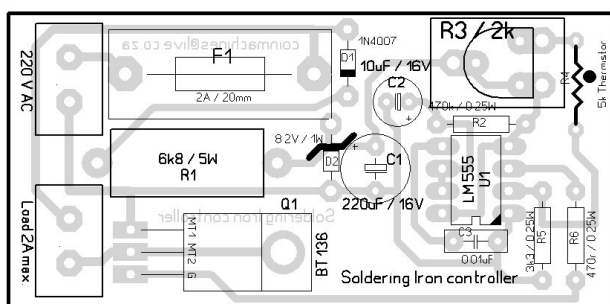
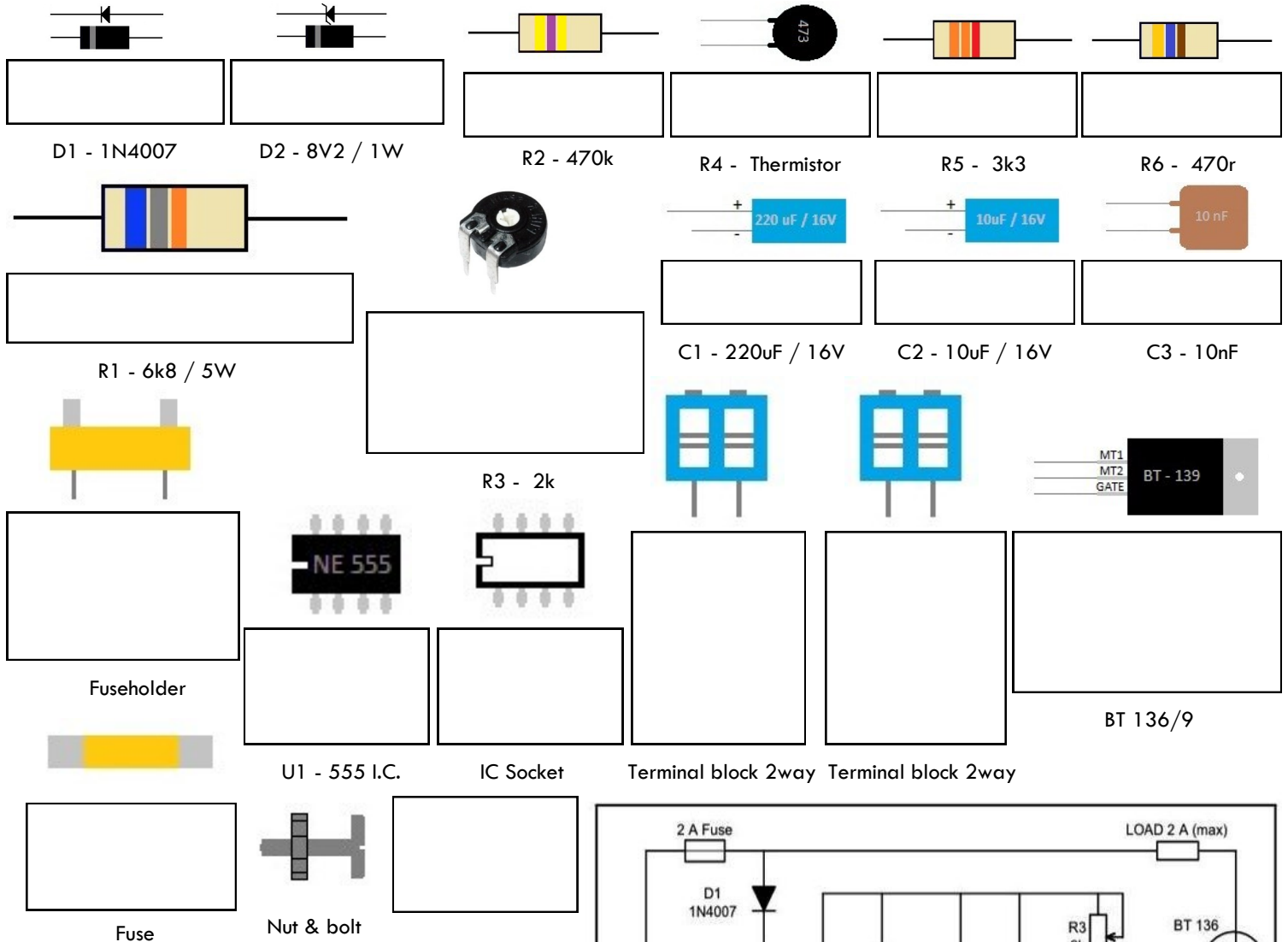
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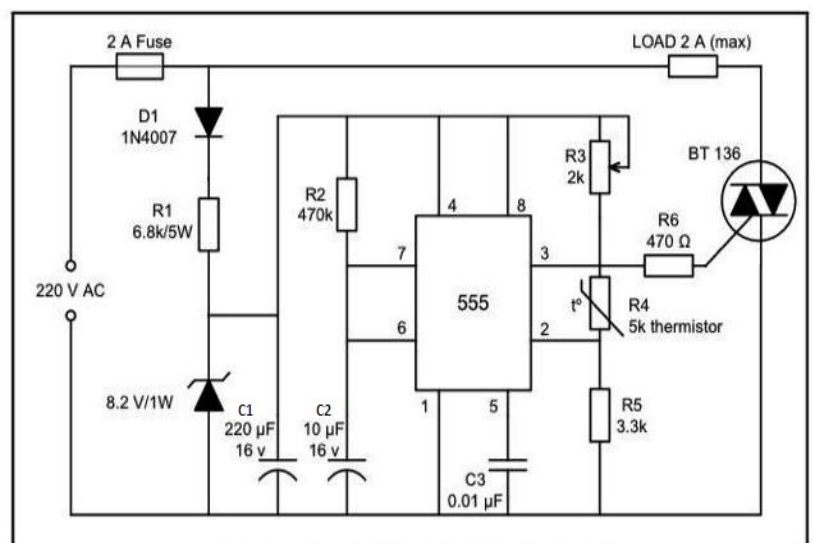
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Pcb layout



Assembly

The biggest problem encountered by novices in electronic assembly projects is soldering. There is a common misconception that if the solder will not melt when placed against the soldering iron, then the soldering iron is too cold. While that may be true in some cases, the problem is more than often the tip of the iron that is dirty. The tip should be bright and shiny and not dull and black. Apply the tip to both surfaces that need to be joined simultaneously. Then feed a bit of solder onto the tip. Once melted, withdraw the solder and tip. This whole process should not take longer than about 3 seconds. Cut off the excess component leads and check for bridged joints on adjacent tracks. Check that joint are shiny, smooth and not lumpy.