

# Arduboy Kit

The Arduboy Kit is a video game system on a circuit board. Based on the popular Arduboy open-source game platform, it is designed to be assembled by hand.

# Goals

The Goal of the Arduboy Kit is to be a casual and friendly introduction to surface mount soldering. Most introduction soldering kits feature only through-hole components. Surface mount kits can often be daunting. This kit aims to be somewhere in the middle. While many of the components are surface mount, they are large and easy to manipulate by hand.

# Intermediate Difficulty

This kit will be best enjoyed by those with some soldering experience but is accessible to beginners with no experience at all. The most difficult component is the flash chip (SOP-8), but with a little bit of flux and determination anyone can successfully complete this kit. Ages 12 and up.

# Materials

Required: Soldering Iron, Solder, Snips

Recommended: Flux, Solder Braid

**Included:** PCB, Pro-Micro, OLED Display, Short Pin-Headers, Reset Button, Buttons (x6), Speaker, Headphone Jack, Flash Chip, Tweezers, Practice PCB, USB-C 2.0 Cable

## Learn to Solder

Soldering involves melting a metal alloy to create a bond between components. Temperature control is important but almost just as important is our friend flux. Flux, or sometimes called rosin, is often integrated into the solder, cleans the surfaces, prevents oxidation, and enhances the soldering process by aiding the flow and bonding of the solder.

Begin by pre-heating the components and PCB. Apply solder where the components meet, heating the joint sufficiently to allow the solder to flow into place. Use as little solder as possible to avoid bridging nearby connections. Timing is key—hold the iron just long enough for proper wicking without burning the flux. Always ensure you are working in a well-ventilated area, clean the iron's tip frequently, and wear safety glasses to protect against splashes of hot solder.

# Solder Practice

Contained within the Arduboy Kit is a green circuit board. Use this board to tune the settings of your iron and practice your soldering before getting started. Practice making solder connections and get a feeling for how quickly the solder melts and how it flows to the PCB. Try to use as little solder as possible. Experiment with and without pre-heating the pad, intentionally use too much solder, make a mess and of course – have fun!



It's recommended to use the PCB for reference instead of counting the number of required pins. The PCB is used as a jig to align the pins to the module CAUTION: When cutting pin headers, they can go flying



CAUTION: Do not disturb components already mounted to the Pro-Micro. Hold the soldering iron in a way that safely clears other components





This method of applying solder to the pad is known as "tinning"



If you end up with solder tails, peaks generated when removing the soldering iron, try to complete the joint quicker as this is a sign of inadequate flux. This can be fixed by applying additional flux and reflowing the solder joint.







### Step 5: Headphone Jack



Tinning the pads are not necessary for the headphone jack as it has pins that locate it to the PCB









## Step 8: Modules to PCB



Step 9: Loading Game	S	
Plug into PC via USB	Visit using chrome browser: https://arduboy.github.io/Kit	Use the one-click interface to upload all the games

#### Step 10: Making Games

Install Arduino software: https://www.arduino.cc/en/software

Add custom board files: https://boards.arduboy.com/homemade.json

Preferences		×		BOARDS MANAGER	
	Settings Network			Arduboy	
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#### Configure board: Select from the tool's menu the following configuration

Board: "Homemade Arduboy"	>	Lipland Halla War
Port	>	
et Board Info		
used on: "Pro Micro 5V - Alternate wiring"	>	Select from the menu:
ootloader: "Cathy3K (starts with menu)"	>	File > Examples > Ardu
splay contrast: "Normal"	>	Select the Arduboy Kit on t
pre: "Arduboy optimized core"	>	Tools > Port
splay: "SSD1306"	>	Upload the sketch using the
lash select: "Pin0/D2/Rx (original)"	>	Sketch > Upload