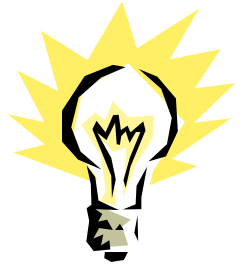


# Thomas Edison's Filament Experiment.



## Equipment:

- |                           |  |
|---------------------------|--|
| 1) Nichrome wire          | 10 feet of both 32 and 28 gauge wire<br>(Wiretronic inc. 1-888-947-3876) |
| 2) Copper wire            | 20 feet of wire  |
| 3) Mason Jars             | Six jars (found in grocery stores for canning fruit)                     |
| 4) Tea light candles      | Six candles (and matches to light the candles)                           |
| 5) Batteries              | At least ten 6 volt batteries  |
| 6) Wire cutters/strippers |  |
| 7) Scotch Tape            |  |

## Set-up: (See example below)

- 1) Punch two holes in the metal cap of a mason jar.
- 2) Get two pieces of copper wire about 6 inches in length.
- 3) Use a wire stripper to strip the insulation off both ends of the wires.
- 4) String one of the copper wires halfway through a hole in the jar lid.
- 5) Tape the wire down to the top of the lid with scotch tape.
- 6) Repeat the last two steps with the other copper wire.
- 7) Cut lengths of nichrome wire (about 2 inches) to test.



## Directions:

- 1) Unscrew the lid of the mason jar.
- 2) Get a length of nichrome wire and attach it to the two copper wires.
- 3) Screw the lid back on the jar.
- 4) Attach a 6 volt battery to the wires on the outside of the jar and see if the filament will light.
- 5) Try a different gauge of wire. Does it work better, last longer, Etc.?
- 6) What would happen if you could get rid of the oxygen in the mason jar before lighting up the filament? How could you do this? (Hint: candle)
- 7) Try different batteries or more batteries in series or parallel. What happens? What else could you test?