

High Voltage Safety Top 10

1. Prior to working in a High Voltage environment remove all metallic jewelry. Also remove any loose fitting clothing, and tuck in a tie if worn. Ensure you are wearing well insulated rubber shoes, and ensure that the floor is dry.
2. When working with high voltage never work alone.
3. Work with one hand behind back or in your pocket. In the advent of an accidental high voltage discharge this is to help prevent the voltage to discharge through your chest cavity.
4. Prior to turning on the High Voltage equipment check your ground connections. Ensuring that the equipment is actually grounded correctly.
5. When troubleshooting a high voltage device, never depend on just one switch to power down a device. Turn the device off and then unplug it. Before replacing components in the devices, discharge the capacitors with discharge stick, and check voltage levels throughout the device.
6. Wear rubber gloves when working repairing high voltage equipment.
7. Never leave a high voltage experiment unattended. If the need arises, and you can not turn off the equipment, place a high voltage warning sign and light when the equipment is on. As a rule of thumb though you should never leave a high voltage experiment unattended.
8. Only work on a high voltage experiment if you are alert. If you are tired, or distracted the potential for an accident will increase dramatically.
9. Set up your work area away from possible grounds that you make come into contact with accidentally.
10. Do not expose high voltage needlessly, remove covers only when necessary. Also if possible familiarize yourself with the high voltage points in the equipment prior to working on it.

Note: High voltage is potentially lethal if not treated with respect and the proper safety procedures are not followed. Something to remember when you are working with high voltage is that 1/10th of an Amp can be lethal, and the current CPR success rate is about 5%.