

A Brief History of Metalworking

A dark blue diagonal shape that starts from the bottom left corner and extends towards the top right corner, creating a triangular area at the bottom of the slide.

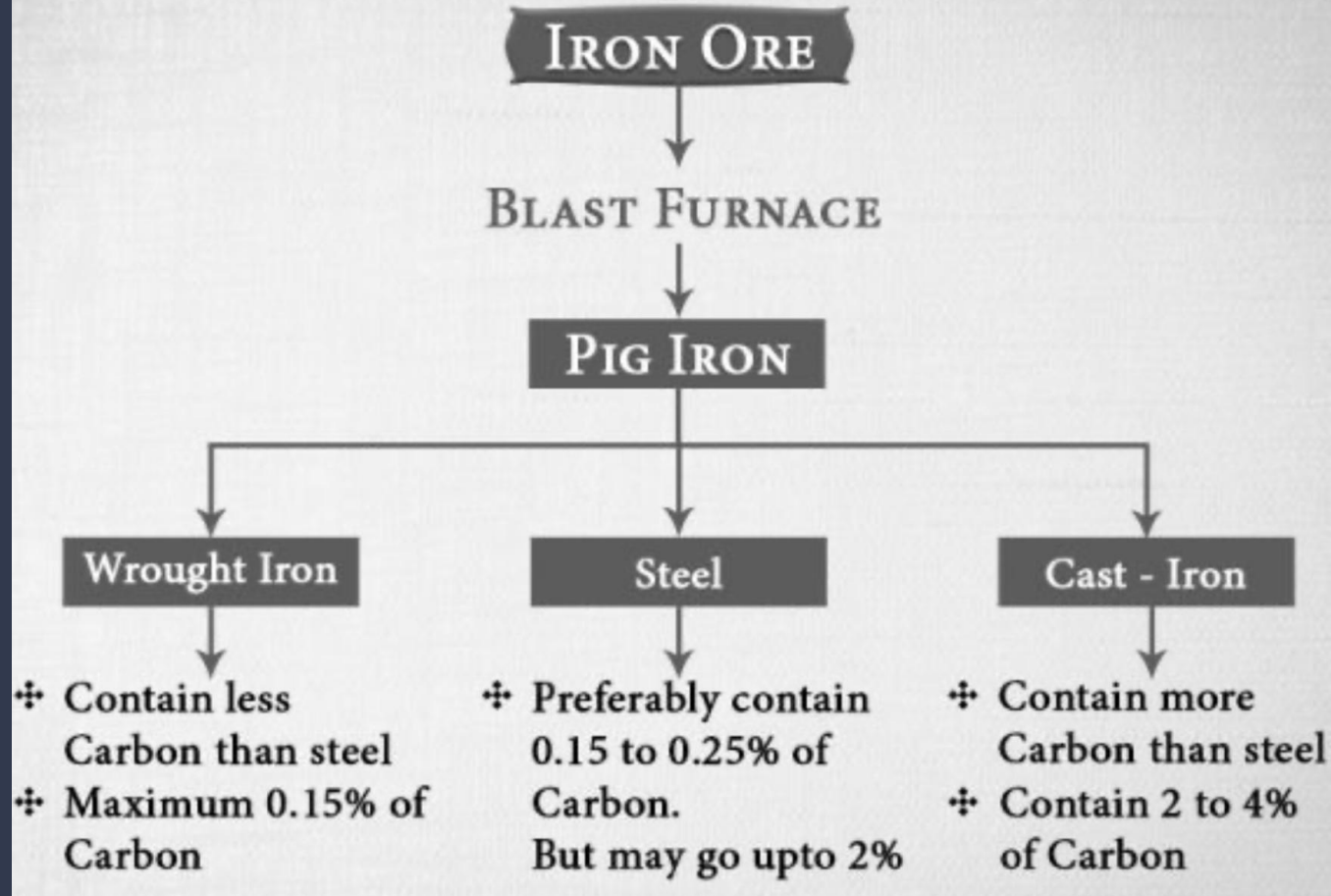
- 3300 BC
 - Earliest examples of welding: Egyptian pressure welded box
- 1200 BC
 - Egyptians begin welding iron
- Middle Ages
 - Forge welding evolves using hammering techniques
- 1800
 - An arc between two carbon electrodes is created by Sir Humphry Davy and stabilized in 1802 by Vasily Petrov
- 1881
 - Carbon arc welding introduced by Russian inventor Nikolay Benardos
- 1900
 - Coated metal electrode introduced
 - Gas welding perfected
- 1920
 - Automatic feed electrode introduced by P.O. Nobel at GE
- 1941
 - GTAW (Gas Tungsten Arc Welding)/TIG Welding perfect after years of development
- 1948
 - GMAW (Gas Metal Arc Welding)/MIG developed by combining shielded gas nozzle and automatic feed
- 1957
 - Plasma arc is discovered and applied to welding and cutting processes

Mild Steel

A dark blue diagonal gradient bar that starts at the bottom left and extends towards the top right, covering the lower half of the page.

What is mild steel?

Mild steel is a ferrous metal alloy made of iron and carbon. The carbon content of mild steel is very low, any higher and it would be considered cast iron. The particular balance of iron and carbon allows for high ductility, machinability and weldability which makes mild steel perfect for many general fabrication applications.



How do we fabricate with mild steel

There are four main things we will commonly do with mild steel to make new objects, to simplify;

- Cutting
- Shaping
- Joining
- Finishing



Cutting

Cutting steel is done to shape the material into parts we can use. This is commonly done in a few ways;

- Abrading (Cut off Wheel, Abrasive Chop Saw)
- Cutting (Cold Saw, Bandsaw, Shear, Throatless Shear, Tin Snips, Nibbler)
- Melting (Plasma Cutter, Laser Cutter)





Shaping

Shaping is done with a variety of tools and methods;

- Simple Shaping (Brake, Flat Roller and Rod Bender)
- Compound Shaping (English Wheel, Smithing, Pressing, Spinning)
- Hot Shaping (heat assisted)

Joining

- Hot Connections
 - Welding
- Cold Connections
 - nuts and bolts
 - Rivets
 - Solid Rivets
 - Pop Rivets





Finishing

Finishing for steel is generally done in two stages;

- Sanding and Polishing (Grinder, Sander, Buffing Wheel, Sand Blaster, Tumbler)
- Additive Finishing (Waxing, Chemical Patina, Powder Coating, Painting, Plating)





Grinding

Mig Welding

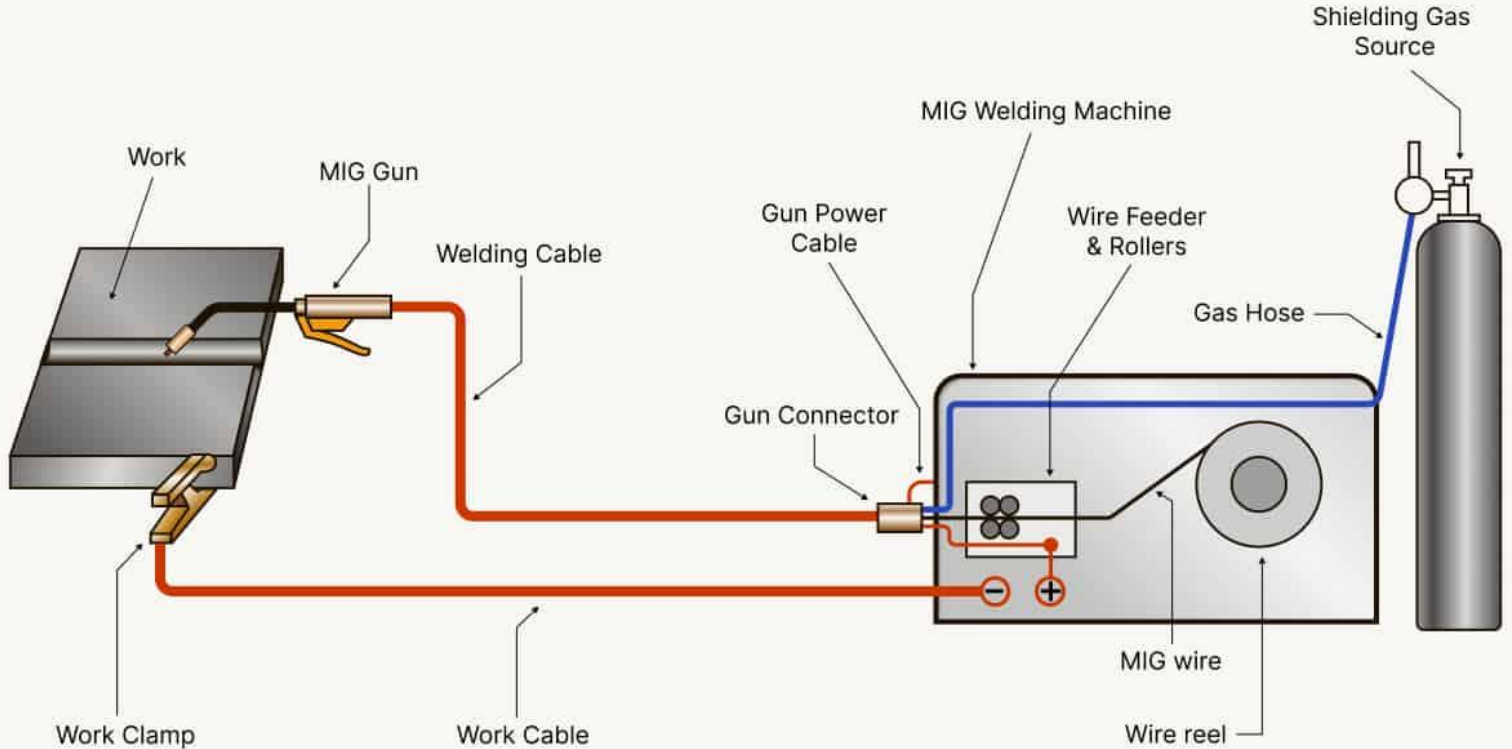


Metal

Inerter

Gas

MIG Welding Setup



Welder Settings



General Welding Guidelines

Welding Guidelines for Carbon and Low Alloy Steel

Welding Guidelines for Carbon and Low Alloy Steel Short-Circuiting Transfer — Horizontal Fillets and Flat Butt Joints

CTWD⁽¹⁾: 1/2" (13mm)
 Gas: 100% CO₂
 Gas flow: 25 to 35 cfh
 (12 to 17 L/min.)

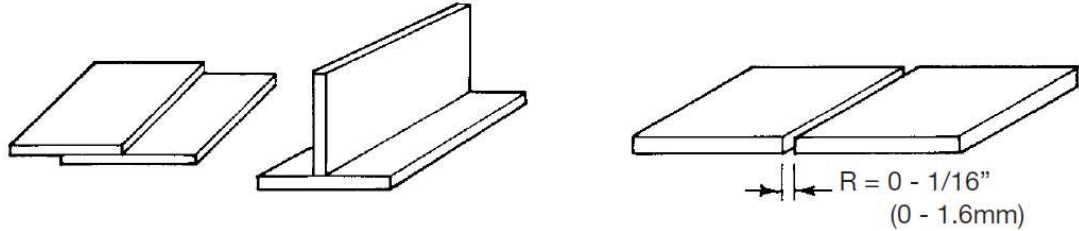


Plate Thickness - (mm)	24 ga (0.6)		20 ga (0.9)		16 ga (1.5)		14 ga (2)		12 ga (3)		10 ga (4)			3/16" (5)	1/4" (6)
Electrode Dia. - in. (mm)	0.025 (0.6)	0.030 (0.8)	0.030 (0.8)	0.035 (0.9)	0.030 (0.8)	0.035 (0.9)	0.030 (0.8)	0.035 (0.9)	0.030 (0.8)	0.035 (0.9)	0.030 (0.8)	0.035 (0.9)	0.045 (1.1)	0.045 (1.1)	0.045 (1.1)
WFS - in./min (M/min.)	100 (2.5)	75 (1.9)	125 (3.2)	100 (2.5)	175 (4.4)	150 (3.8)	225 (5.7)	175 (4.4)	275 (7.0)	225 (5.7)	300 (7.6)	250 (6.4)	125 (3.2)	150 (3.8)	200 (5.0)
Amps (Approximate)	35	35	55	80	80	120	100	130	115	160	130	175	145	165	200
Travel Speed - in./min (M/min.)	10 (0.25)	10 (0.25)	14 (0.35)	13 (0.33)	13 (0.33)	20 (0.50)	18 (0.45)	18 (0.45)	20 (0.50)	20 (0.50)	17 (0.43)	20 (0.50)	18 (0.45)	15 (0.38)	13 (0.33)
Voltage ⁽²⁾ (DC+)	17	17	18	18	19	19	20	20	21	21	22	22	18-20	19-21	20-22

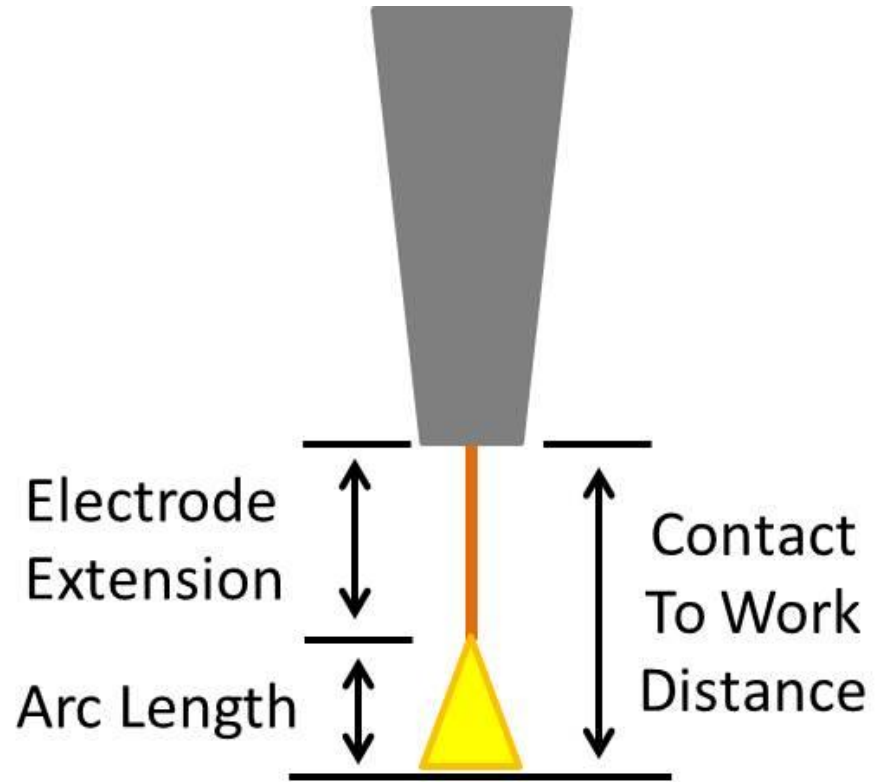
Contact to Work Distance

$1/2'' - 5/8''$

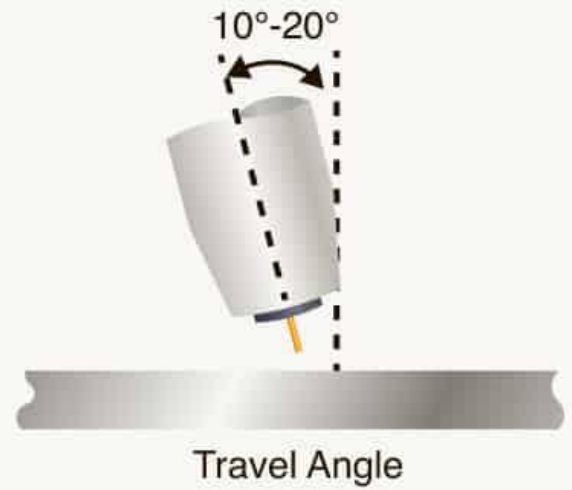
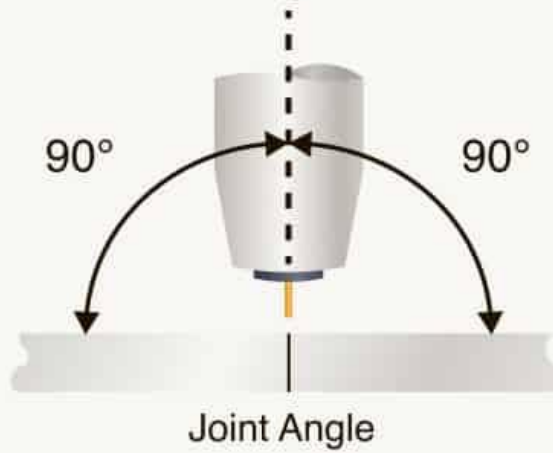
Electrode* Extension

$1/4'' - 3/8''$

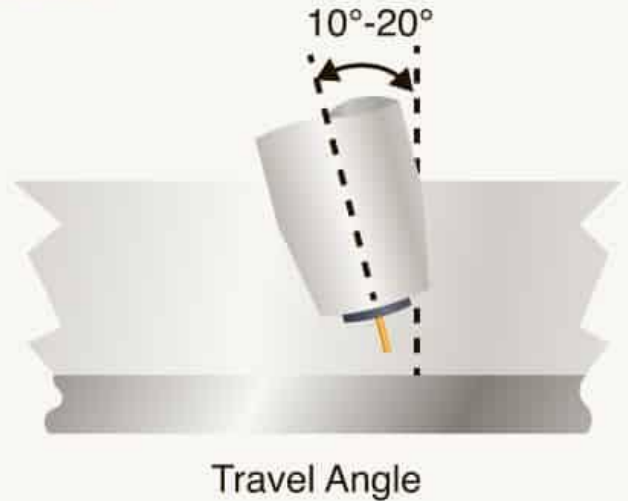
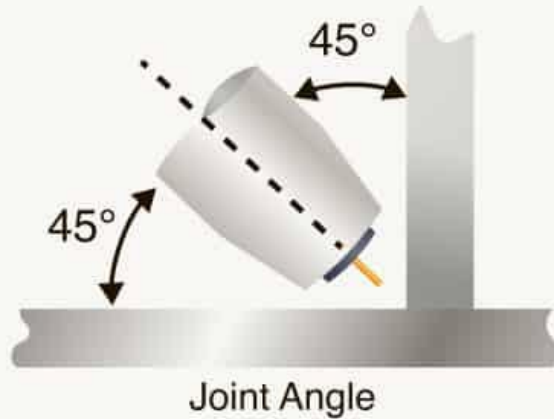
*welding rod or wire



Butt Joint Angle

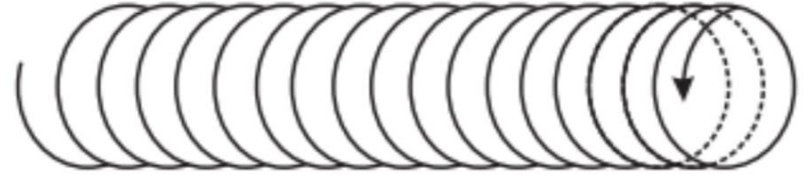


Fillet Joint Angle





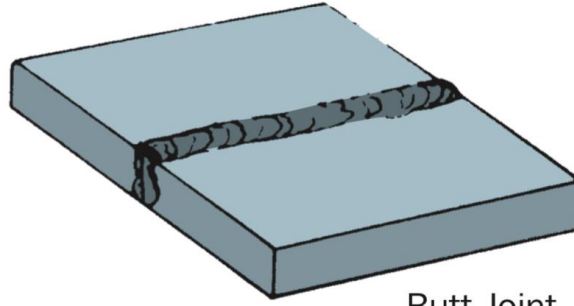
Semicircular Motion



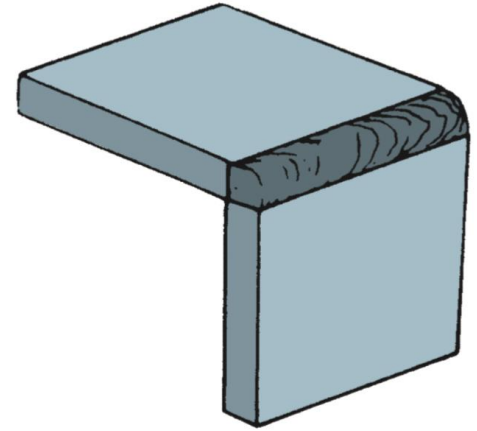
Circular Motion

Weave Movements

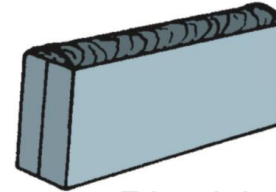
Types of Welds



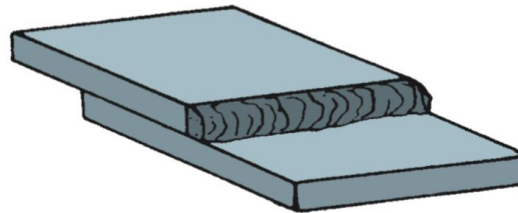
Butt Joint



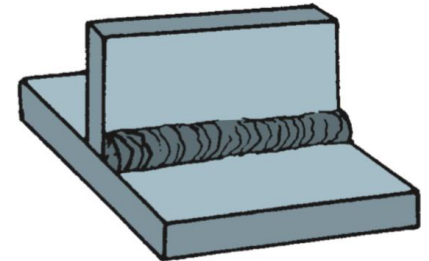
Corner Joint



Edge Joint



Lap Joint



Tee (Fillet) Joint



**Good
Weld**



**Current
or Voltage
Too Low**

To Correct:



or



**Current
or Voltage
Too High**

TO CORRECT:

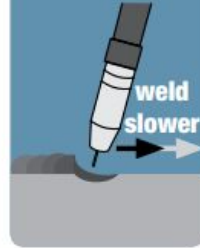


or



**Weld Speed
Too Fast**

TO CORRECT:



**Weld Speed
Too Slow**

TO CORRECT:



**CTWD
Too Long or
Wrong
Polarity**

TO CORRECT:

**Check Polarity
and
maintain
less than
1/2" CTWD**



Weld Troubleshooting