

Emergency Power Cut-Off Mushroom Buttons

DT Workshop Equipment Reference — D&T / STEM resource for school workshops | Safety & First Aid



Photo: Firesupplies — CC BY-SA 4.0 — via Wikimedia Commons (Prolite-PEL-LED-LML-CP-Emergency-Exit-Beam-Light-LED-1.jpg)

Emergency stop (e-stop) mushroom buttons are large red pushbuttons that immediately cut power to machines when pressed, installed at each machine and grouped as workshop-wide cut-offs. They are a key safety control that every student must learn to reach and use.

Key Features

- Large red mushroom buttons with twist release
- Latching action - must be reset deliberately
- NC contacts that break the control circuit
- IP rated for dusty machine areas
- Master and local emergency stops

Typical Uses in the Workshop

- Stop machines instantly in an emergency
- Cut power to whole machine bays for fire and faults
- Provide a visible panic control for students
- Satisfy machine guarding standards

Safe Operation

1. Press the button firmly to stop the machine
2. Investigate the reason before restarting
3. Twist or pull to release the latch
4. Reset the machine per its start sequence
5. Test the stop weekly as a team

SAFETY NOTES

- Do not use e-stops as normal switches - they wear
- Check that each machine has a working e-stop
- Keep access to the buttons clear
- Do not defeat or jumper the circuit
- Report e-stops that do not stop the machine

Maintenance & Consumables

- Test every e-stop weekly
- Check latching and release mechanisms
- Verify it breaks the control circuit
- Inspect wiring and covers
- Log the tests on the machine card

Specification & Buying Notes

Buy machine-matched e-stops plus a master panel for the bay. Ensure they are wired through the machine control circuit, not the handling cord. Spare buttons in the same range ease replacement.