



Capability Switches – Which One Is Right For You?

Enabling Devices takes pride in manufacturing hundreds of durable yet extremely sensitive capability switches at reasonable prices. However, it can be difficult to decide which switch would work best for your particular set of circumstances. In this newsletter, we set forth important factors to consider when choosing a switch. Of course, our technical staff is available to address any additional questions or concerns you may have at customer_support@enablingdevices.com.

When selecting a switch, there are several important factors to consider:

Actions

What actions can the person who will use the switch reliably perform?

Activating the switch should not cause a person undue fatigue or pain, or compromise good muscle tone.

Parts of the Body

Which part of the body will give the person the best control over switch activation?

Many switches are available for different parts of the body: head, mouth, hand, finger, etc.

Head Switches**

- Ultimate Switch (#1671 & #2700)
- Mother's Third Arm with Switch (#9098)
- Wobble Switch with Gooseneck & Clamp (#1063)
- Head Switch (#705)
- Chin Switch (#6001)
- Tilt Switch (#990)

***Can also be activated by other parts of the body*

Foot Switch

- Foot Switch (#6000)

Mouth Switch

- Sip and Puff Switch (#970)

Eye Switch

- Eye Blink Switch (#9008)

Hand Switches

- Finger Switch (#717)
- Thumb Switch (#802)
- Cushion Grip Switch (#3137)
- Grip & Puff Switch (#700)
- Pinch Switch (#800)

Small Muscle Movement

- Twitch Switch (#1061)

Amount of Force

How much force can the person consistently exert when hitting a switch?

► *Sensitive Switches*

If a person can only apply a minimum amount of force, then our most sensitive switches are appropriate:

- | | |
|---|------------------------------|
| Gumball Switches (#782R, Y,
B, G, P) | Twitch Switch (#1061) |
| Credit Card Switch (#5580) | Compact Switch (#714) |
| Finger Switch (#717) | Saucer Switch (#718) |
| Ultimate Switch (#1671) | Petite Pillow Switch (#1675) |
| | Grip & Puff (#700) |

► *Durable Switches*

If a person will exert a lot of force, the switch will need to be very durable. Most desirable is a switch that will soften the impact between the switch and the body part. Our “Soft Yet Strong” switches are:

- Ultimate Switch (#1671)
- Gooshy Switch (#634)
- Petite Pillow Switch (#831)
- Gel Shape Switches (#6343)
- Senso Dot Switches (#682)

Targeting

Does the person lack good targeting ability?

If so, you should choose a switch with a larger surface area. Our largest switches are:

- Jumbo Switches (#787R, Y, B, G, P)
- Modified Pancake Switches (#769R, B, Y G)
- Textured Saucer Switches (#722R, B, S)
- Saucer Switch (#718)
- 5" x 8" Plate Switch (#820)
- Large Lens Switch (#957)

Range of Motion

What is the person's range of motion?

People with fine motor skills and a small range of motion must choose a switch which is activated after a short "travel". Travel is the distance a person must press on a switch before it is activated. Our switches requiring short travel are:

- | | |
|---|----------------------------|
| Gumball Switches (#782R, Y,
B, G, P) | Twitch Switch (#1061) |
| Ultimate Switch (#1671) | Credit Card Switch (#5580) |
| Saucer Switch (#718) | Finger Switch (#717) |
| | Compact Switch (#714) |

Perception

Does the person have perceptual difficulties?

If so, feedback from the switch that has been activated will be beneficial. Feedback on our switches includes music, vibration and/or lights. Our switches with feedback include:

- 9" x 6" Multi-Sensory Center (#725)
- 11" x 7" Multi-Sensory Center (#726)
- Textured Roller Switch with lights, vibration & music (#639)
- Sensi-ball Switch with lights, vibration & music (#643-S)
- Koosh Switch (#883)
- Jumbo Switch w/Lights, Music & Vibration (#768)
- Musical Fan Switch w/Lights (#742)
- Vibrating Light (#459)

Does the person have visual impairments?

Several of our switches are specifically designed for people with visual impairments. Several have bright locator lights, texture and the switch itself is a bright light. These switches include:

- Gumball Switch for VI (#7820)
- Large Lens Switch (#957)
- Bright Switch for the VI (#2045)
- Bright Red Switch (#262)
- Tail Light Switches (#463 & #465)
- Switch and Glow (#894)
- Adjustable Angled Sequencer/Switch (#806)
- Vibrating Light w/Switch (#458)

Motivation

Do you want to motivate a student to participate in activities?

Many switches are designed to encourage a person to reach out and engage in activities. Some examples include:

- Silly Pin Switch with lights, vibration & music (#209)
- Lady Bug Switch with lights, vibration & music (#729)
- Saucer Dome Switch with lights, vibration & music (#78)

Mounting

Where will the person be using the switch?

This will determine how the switch should be mounted in order to facilitate its use. The switch should not be positioned too far away so that it is inconvenient to reach, nor should it be too close so that it interferes with other activities. Many of the switches listed here may require mounting systems that are sold separately. Switches that are sold with mounts are:

- Ultimate Switches (#1671, 1551, 1552, 2700)
- Mother's Third Arm with Switch (#9098)
- Wobble Switch with Gooseneck & Clamp (#1063)
- Mini Mount with Mini Gumball Switch (#3709)
- Petite Pillow Switch with Gooseneck (#1675)

Switches for Learning

Do you want to use switches to teach your students new skills?

▶ ***For Cause and Effect, we suggest:***

Musical Fan Switch with Lights (#742)

▶ ***To Increase Strength, Dexterity, or Fine Motor Skills, we suggest:***

Retractable Pincer Switch (#1031)

Finger Isolation Button (#716)

Cushion Grip Switch (#3137)

Squeeze Switch Kit (#6430)

Switches for Computers and iPads

▶ ***For iPads:***

iPad Cordless Super Switch (#1052)

▶ ***For Computers:***

Super Switch (#563)

Computer Ready Switches (#4070, #4071, #4072, #4073)

Switches for the Classroom

Do different students in your classroom have different switch needs? We suggest:

Classroom Switch Kit (#7803N)

Switches for Assessment

Do you need a variety of switches to ascertain what is best for each of your clients? We suggest:

Basic Switch Assessment Kit (#7750)

Assessment Kit for More Involved Clients (#7755)

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