Toggle Switch Applications

Common uses for electronic toggle switches

Tech Brief



Toggle switches are widely used in various electronic and electrical devices for their simplicity and reliability. This application note will provide a brief overview of toggle switches and their applications.

Toggle Switch Functionality and Uses

A toggle switch is a type of switch that has a lever that can be moved up and down or side-to-side to open or close an electrical circuit. They are commonly used to turn on and off power to electronic devices or to switch between different modes or functions. Toggle switches are used in a wide range of applications, from simple household appliances to complex industrial control systems. Some common applications include:



Audio equipment: Toggle switches are commonly used in audio equipment such as amplifiers and mixers to switch between different input sources or to turn the power on and off.

Lighting control: Toggle switches are often used to control lighting in residential and commercial buildings. They can be used to turn lights on and off or to switch between different lighting modes.

Industrial control: Toggle switches are widely used in industrial control systems for their reliability and simplicity. They can be used to control motors, pumps, and other machinery.

Selecting a Switch

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

Contact rating: The contact rating specifies the maximum current and voltage that the switch can handle. Make sure to select a switch that can handle the maximum current and voltage of your application.

Number of poles and throws: The number of poles and throws determines how many circuits the switch can control and how many positions the switch can be in. Make sure to select a switch with the appropriate number of poles and throws for your application.

Actuator style: Toggle switches come in several different actuator styles, including bat, lever, and rocker. Select the actuator style that best suits your application.

Mounting style: Toggle switches can be panel-mounted or PCB-mounted. Make sure to select the mounting style that is appropriate for your application.

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Contact Information

Contact Page

https://www.ctscorp.com/contact/sample-request/

CTS Corporation 4925 Indiana Avenue Lisle, IL 60532

Web: <u>www.ctscorp.com</u> E-mail: sales@ctscorp.com





