

Know your switches



Background knowledge

Electricity will only flow through a circuit that has no gaps in it. A switch is a useful device because it allows you to open or close a circuit. When a circuit is open, electricity cannot flow through the circuit to run a load in it. When a switch is turned on, it closes the circuit so that loads in the circuit can operate. Loads such as light bulbs and appliances in your home are turned on and off with switches.

This is the symbol for an open switch.  It is off.

This is the symbol for a closed switch.  It is on.

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