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Subject: Speaker Selection Switch

Posted by [elektratic](#) on Sun, 18 Jan 2004 22:46:40 GMT

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Not necessarily an "audiophile" question: A friend with a new house has an integrated amp with one set of speaker outputs. He was hoping to be able to hook up a second set of speakers to it, so he could play Pair A or Pair B, or both simultaneously. I can rig up a simple switch box that will allow him to play Pair A or Pair B, but rigging it so that both pairs play at the same time gets more complicated (presumably they'd have to be wired in series). I see that Parts Express has "speaker selection systems" that claim "Amplifier is fully protected against low impedance and overload by a protection On/Off switch. Switch is located on the bottom so protection can't accidentally be switched off and damage the amplifier." Does anyone know how these things work or have a schematic? Even though these things are inexpensive, I hate the spring clip terminals they come with so I'm thinking of making a diy version as a housewarming present. Thanks in advance.  
PE "Speaker Selection System"

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Subject: Re: Speaker Selection Switch

Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Mon, 19 Jan 2004 19:12:13 GMT

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Usually, switches like these connect speakers in parallel when connected. So each speaker is connected across the amplifier when it is switched on. The protection device probably senses current, and when current goes beyond a certain level, it trips. For switch connection of two speakers using a switch, I'd use this kind of make-or-break connection to place them across the amplifier. If you hear the amplifier clipping, limit current using the volume control. I don't anticipate any problems doing this.

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