



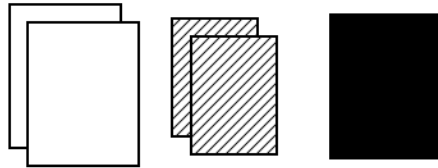
Pressure Sensitive Switch

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Gather:

- Plastic zipper bag
- 2 sheets of cardstock or heavy paper
- Aluminum foil
- Fleece or felt for padding
- 2 wires
- Tape, Rubber cement
- Scissors

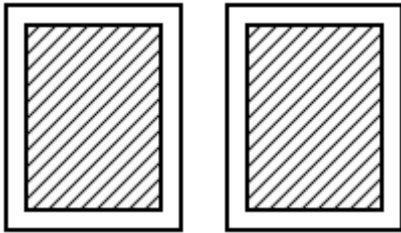
1 Cut 2 pieces of aluminum foil slightly smaller than the cardstock sheets. Cut padding to the same size as the cardstock.



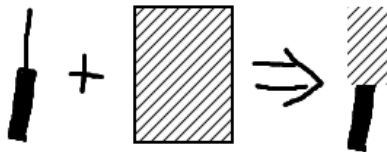
2 Cut several large holes in the padding, 2 inches in diameter or larger each. Leave padding in one corner to cover the wires in step 6.



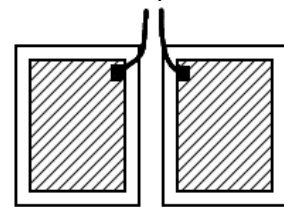
3 Glue one piece of aluminum foil to each sheet of cardstock.



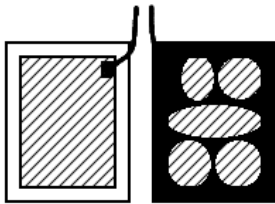
4 Strip the insulation from the wires, then wrap small pieces of aluminum foil around the bare wire ends and twist or fold them so the wire doesn't come out.



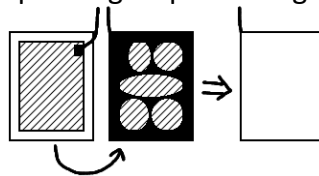
5 Tape the foil covered part of each wire to the foil on each sheet in the corners where the pad will cover it, one wire per sheet.



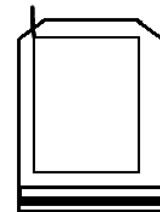
6 Glue the padding to one of the aluminum foil/cardstock sheets around the edges. Avoid getting glue on the foil.



7 Flip the other aluminum foil/cardstock sheet onto the padding, so the aluminum foil sides face each other through the holes in the padding. Tape the edges.



8 Cut each corner on the bottom of the zipper bag, thread the wire through one of the holes, and seal the whole assembly inside the bag.



9 Test the pressure pad with a buzzer or flashlight connected to the wires. If it doesn't switch on when pressed, check the foil wire connections. If it is always on check that the foil sheets aren't touching around the edges, and that the wire connections aren't touching each other.

Further Experiments:

- Try different hole patterns in the padding
- Make smaller switches using smaller materials
- Section the foil on one sheet with one wire for each section to create multiple switches in one pad

Warning!

*This switch is **not** for high voltages or high currents.*

Do NOT connect to AC plugs or appliances.

It is intended for battery powered electronics only.

Ideas: Camera trigger, Doorbell chime, Flashlight switch, Electronic kits, Arduino, Halloween props, Alarm, Pranks



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