

How to easily replace mechanical keyboard switches for beginners.

This guide provides detailed and easy-to-follow instructions on how to replace mechanical keyboard switches at home. It helps fix key malfunctions and upgrade your typing experience quickly and efficiently.

Replacing the switches on a mechanical keyboard is the quickest way to change your typing experience without buying a new keyboard. With just a few basic steps, you can transform the typing feel from light to firm, from quiet to more distinct.

When should you replace the switches on a mechanical keyboard?

Replacing mechanical keyboard switches isn't always necessary, but in some cases, it can significantly improve the user experience. If you feel your keys are stuck, unresponsive, or no longer accurately registering keystrokes, it's likely the switches have degraded.



Additionally, many people change switches simply to change the typing feel. For example, from linear to tactile switches for a clearer response, or from clicky switches to a quieter type to reduce noise when working in an office. There are also several other common reasons:

1. The old switch was experiencing double-clicking or intermittent issues.
2. Want to try a different type of switch without changing the entire keyboard?
3. Create a keyboard that suits each person's taste and preferences.

Tools to prepare before changing

Before you begin replacing the switches on a mechanical keyboard, you need to prepare all the necessary tools to ensure a smooth operation and avoid damaging the components. The basic tools include:

1. Keycap puller (keycap removal tool).
2. Switch puller (tool for removing switches).
3. New Switch.
4. Mechanical keyboards support hot-swap.



Complete set of tools for switching replacement for easier operation.

For beginners, hot-swap keyboards are recommended for a faster and safer switch replacement process. If you're replacing switches on a mechanical keyboard without hot-swap functionality, you'll need the following:

1. Soldering iron.
2. Solder.
3. Lead extraction tool.

Detailed guide on how to replace mechanical keyboard switches.

Below is the procedure for replacing mechanical keyboard switches for beginners. Follow each step meticulously to avoid bending the switch pins or damaging the socket.

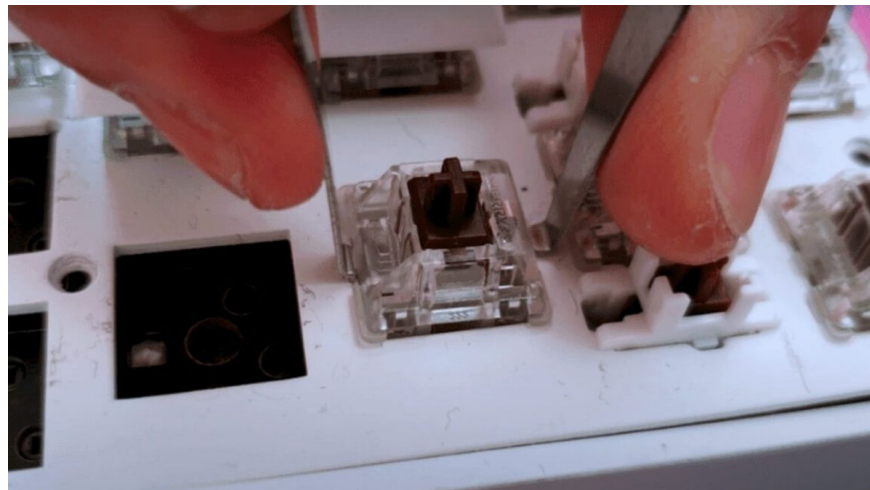
1. Remove the keycaps:

1. First, use a keycap puller to remove all the keycaps at the location where replacement is needed.
2. Pull it straight up at a right angle to the keyboard surface to avoid misaligning the stem.



2. Remove the old switch:

1. After removing the keycaps, use switch pullers to clamp onto the two edges of the switch.
2. Gently press the two retaining clips and pull straight up. If it's a hot-swap keyboard, the switch will pop out relatively easily.
3. After removing the switch, check the pins to ensure they are not bent.



3. Install the new switch:

1. Before installing, check that the new switch pins are aligned.
2. Align the switch correctly with the socket, then press down gently until you hear a small 'click'.

4. Reattach the keycaps and test:

1. Reattach the keycap to the position where you just replaced the switch.
2. Replacing a switch on a keyboard usually only takes about 1-2 minutes if you're familiar with the process.

Is your old keyboard experiencing stuck switches (double-clicking) or excessively loud typing noise that disturbs others? Upgrade to a new Logitech mechanical keyboard with a modern, durable switch system. Buy today to take advantage of limited-time offers!

Classification of mechanical keyboard switches and how to choose the right switch.

Before replacing switches on a mechanical keyboard, you should understand the common switch types to choose the right one for your needs. Currently, there are three main switch groups:

Linear Switch

Linear switches offer a smooth actuation force with no tactile feedback mid-jump. When pressed down, you'll feel a straight, seamless movement from top to bottom without any pause. They're ideal for gaming due to their fast response time and low noise.

This type of switch is often favored by FPS or MOBA gamers because of its fast activation, allowing for more flexible operation. Additionally, if you work at night or in a quiet environment, linear switches are also a reasonable choice. Currently, many people are looking for ways to replace their Dareu mechanical keyboards with linear switches because it's a budget-friendly yet quite durable brand.

Tactile Switch

Tactile switches have a slight tactile bump when pressed down, providing a distinct tactile feedback at the activation point. You'll feel a small resistance before the key registers the signal. This type is suitable for office workers or those who type frequently because it helps identify the activation point.

Thanks to this tactile feedback characteristic, tactile switches help prevent excessive key presses, thereby reducing hand fatigue during prolonged typing sessions. If you frequently draft documents, write content, or program, replacing your mechanical keyboard switches with tactile switches can improve accuracy.

Switch Clicky

Clicky switches produce a distinct 'click' sound when pressed. They offer a clear typing feel but are quite noisy, making them unsuitable for quiet environments. Replacing mechanical keyboard switches allows you to flexibly adjust your typing experience without replacing the entire device. When choosing switches, you should consider:

1. Usage environment (office or home).
2. Purpose (gaming, programming, content writing).
3. The pressure applied should be appropriate for your hand.

Things to note during use after replacing the switch.

After replacing the switches on a mechanical keyboard, you need to pay attention to a few points to ensure durability and performance. Additionally, you can consider lubricating the switches if you want to improve smoothness and reduce noise, but this requires extra skill.

1. First, avoid forcefully disassembling and reassembling multiple times in a short period because hot-swap sockets have a limited number of replacement cycles.
2. Secondly, the keyboard should be cleaned regularly to prevent dust and dirt from affecting electrical contacts.

3. Third, if you find that a key isn't responding, check the switch pins or socket instead of continuing to press it down.

Common problems when replacing switches

Although the process isn't overly complicated, beginners replacing mechanical keyboard switches can still easily encounter some common mistakes. Performing the process slowly and carefully checking each step will help minimize risks.

One of the most common problems is bent switch pins during installation. This usually occurs when installed incorrectly or with excessive force. A second common problem is installing the switch in the wrong orientation, causing the key to malfunction. Additionally, loose sockets can also occur due to frequent disassembly and reassembly.

Replacing switches on a mechanical keyboard is a simple way to upgrade your typing experience without investing too much money. With the right tools and careful handling, even beginners can do it at home.

Frequently Asked Questions

Will replacing the switches void the keyboard warranty?

This factor will vary depending on the manufacturer. With hot-swap keyboards, replacing switches usually doesn't affect the warranty as long as you don't damage the components. However, if you solder the circuit yourself, you are highly likely to void the warranty.

Is it possible to replace the switches myself multiple times?

It's possible, especially with hot-swap keyboards. However, the socket can only withstand a certain number of replacements. Therefore, you should limit frequent disassembly and reassembly in a short period of time.

How long does it typically take to replace a switch?

If you only need to replace a few keys, it takes about 5-10 minutes. If you need to replace an entire 87- or 104-key keyboard, it can take 30-60 minutes depending on experience.

Which switch brand is good quality and popular?

Some popular switch brands include Cherry, Gateron, and Kailh. When choosing, you should prioritize genuine products to ensure durability and stability.

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