

Pressure Operated Mat Switch

Parts list-

2' x 2' square 1/2" plywood

2' x 2' carpet square

Mat switch- Harbor Freight Tools- harborfreight.com- Pressure sensitive alarm mat- ITEM 96481-2VGA- \$7.99

Duct tape

Optional-

Miniature 5 volt relay (or 12 volt)

5 volt power supply (or 12 volt)

Tools-

Staple gun

Wire cutters

How to-



This is a very simple project, suitable for triggering any electrically actuated stunt or sound module.

The alarm portion of the pressure mat is not used so cut the wires near the module and discard it or save it for a future project.

Center the pressure sensitive mat on the plywood square and tape it around the edges to hold it in place. (You may want to tape the whole thing if you are going to use it outside to give it an extra layer of protection.)

Place the carpet square on the plywood, covering the mat and staple it around the edges. Be very carefully to ensure you are not stapling through the pressure mat! Don't be stingy with the staples! Remember, a lot of people will be walking on the mat.

Optionally, if you are using the mat outdoors on grass, you might want to use artificial "grass" carpeting. If so, use a piece 3-4 foot square to allow the edges to overlap onto the real grass.

If you are using electronic sound or control modules, you can connect the mat's wires directly to the unit's switch connections. If you are directly switching on something like a motor or big relay, you'll want to use the mat to control a small 5 volt relay and use the relay's contacts to operate a higher current device. Always ensure that the relay you are using can handle the current of the device you are operating!

