

Doepfer — A-151 Quad Sequential Switch

• [Manual PDF](#)

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Doepfer A-151 Quad Sequential Switch — Cheat Sheet

What it does

The **A-151** is a **4-step sequential switch**: each trigger advances the connection between the **common jack** and the next one of **4 switched jacks**.

Think of it as an electronic rotary switch for: - **4 inputs** → **1 output**, or - **1 input** → **4 outputs**

It is **bi-directional**, so either use case works.

Core behavior

- Each rising edge at **Trigger In** advances to the next step.
- Steps cycle:
 - **1 → 2 → 3 → 4 → 1**
- **Reset In** immediately returns the switch to **step 1**.
- **LEDs 1–4** show the active step.
- **Version 2** modules add a **2/3/4 step selector**.

Controls / Indicators

LEDs

- **LED 1–4:** show which **I/O 1–4** is currently connected to the common jack.

Switch

- **Steps switch** (*Version 2 only*):
- **2** = alternate between I/O 1 and 2
- **3** = cycle through I/O 1–3
- **4** = full 4-step cycle

Jack Reference

Inputs

- **Trig. In**
- Function: advances the switch one step on each **rising edge**
- Type: trigger input
- Voltage range: not explicitly stated for trigger threshold in the manual
- **Res. In**
- Function: resets immediately to **I/O 1** on rising edge
- Type: reset input
- Voltage range: not explicitly stated for reset threshold in the manual

Common jack

- **O/I**
- Function: common **output/input**
- Connects to the currently active **I/O 1–4**
- Signal direction is patch-dependent

- **Voltage range:**
 - **Version 1: -8 V to +8 V**
 - **Version 2: -12 V to +12 V**

Switched jacks

- **I/O 1**
- **I/O 2**
- **I/O 3**
- **I/O 4**

Each is a bidirectional switched jack connected in sequence to **O/I**.

Voltage range for all I/O jacks: - Version 1: -8 V to +8 V - Version 2: -12 V to +12 V

How to patch it

1) Switch between 4 signal sources

Patch: - 4 different signals into **I/O 1–4** - Take output from **O/I** - Send clock/triggers to **Trig. In**

Result: - Each trigger selects the next source.

Good for: - Oscillator waveform switching - Selecting different modulation sources - Switching among filter outputs

2) Send 1 signal to 4 destinations

Patch: - Signal into **O/I** - Destinations from **I/O 1–4** - Clock into **Trig. In**

Result: - One source is routed to a different destination each step.

Good for: - Sending one CV to different modulation targets - Distributing gates or modulation in sequence

3) Shorter repeating sequences

Use either: - **Version 2 Steps switch** to set **2, 3, or 4** steps, or - **Reset In** to force return to step 1

Example: - With reset timing, you can create **1 → 2 → 3 → 1...**

Musical uses from the manual

- **Waveform sequencing:** switch between VCO waveform outputs
- **Audio-rate switching:** very fast triggering can create new timbres / audio-rate modulation effects
- **Envelope sequencing:** cycle through different envelopes affecting a filter
- **Filter mode stepping:** switch among multimode filter outputs per note

Important notes / gotchas

- The module is **bi-directional**: there is no fixed “input side” vs “output side” for the audio/CV path.
- On **Version 1**, signals outside **-8 V to +8 V** may cause malfunction.
- **Version 2** supports the full A-100 signal range: **-12 V to +12 V**.
- Very fast triggers can push the switch into **audio-rate behavior**, which can be creatively useful.

Quick reference

Element	Type	Function	Voltage Range
Trig. In	Input	Advance one step on rising edge	Not specified
Res. In	Input	Reset to step 1 on rising edge	Not specified

Element	Type	Function	Voltage Range
O/I	Bidirectional jack	Common jack connected to active step	V1: -8 to +8 V, V2: -12 to +12 V
I/O 1	Bidirectional jack	Step 1 jack	V1: -8 to +8 V, V2: -12 to +12 V
I/O 2	Bidirectional jack	Step 2 jack	V1: -8 to +8 V, V2: -12 to +12 V
I/O 3	Bidirectional jack	Step 3 jack	V1: -8 to +8 V, V2: -12 to +12 V
I/O 4	Bidirectional jack	Step 4 jack	V1: -8 to +8 V, V2: -12 to +12 V
LED 1–4	Indicator	Show active step	—
Steps switch	Toggle/selector	Limit cycle to 2, 3, or 4 steps	Version 2 only

In one sentence

Use the **A-151** whenever you want a clocked, resettable way to **cycle one signal through 4 destinations** or **cycle through 4 sources into one destination**.

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