

A/B/Y Switch Box User's Guide

Version 2014September04

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This is the A/B/Y Switch Box kit.

Passive A/B/Y Switch Box

Simply a passive switch box to switch one (common) input & two outputs (A or B) or two inputs (A or B) to one (common) output. It has an additional switch to switch on both A and B at the same time (the “Y” or “AND” mode). It is called passive, since the signal paths do not have any active circuits (no boost or buffering, etc). The 9 volt power going into the box is **only** to control the LED indicators.

Active A/B/Y Switch Box

An active switch box operates the same as the passive box, but it has electronic buffer circuits to help keep the signal strong and clear even when the signal is split (in the “Y” (“AND”) mode). Due to the electronics in the path, the active switch box is “directional”. In other words it can only have one input and two output **or** it can have one output and two inputs, but it can not be reversible. You **can** build it with the buffers to work as reversible, but it would be more complicated and require additional switching to make the active circuits reversible.

Caveat: A/B and A/B/Y switches can be problematic in some situations. It's difficult to predict if an A/B/Y switch will work with any given usage. It will almost always work well as a selector between two guitars input to a common output (to pedals and amp). Sometimes using A/B/Y for splitting your guitar input into two different amplifiers or into two different pedal chains can cause unwanted noise and hum. This A/B/Y switch has grounding-switched-on to the unused channel so this greatly reduces the chances that you will have unwanted noise when used to split between two amps.

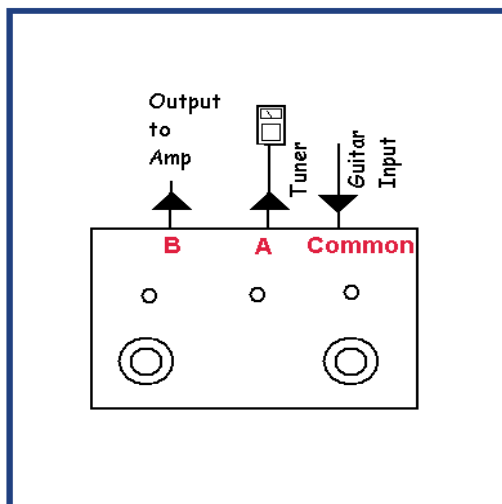
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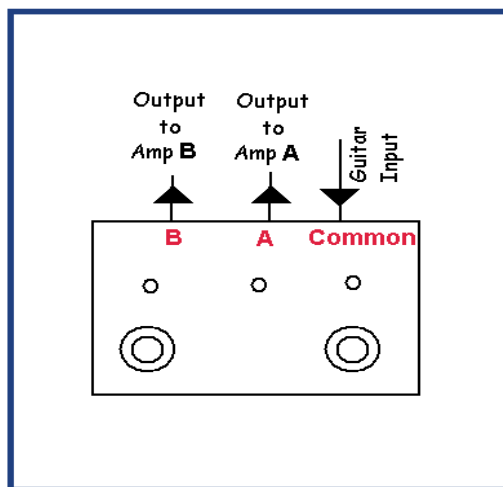
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Here are some of the ways that an A/B/Y switch box can be used.



Switch between your amp and a tuner so that you can tune silently or you can even tune while playing.



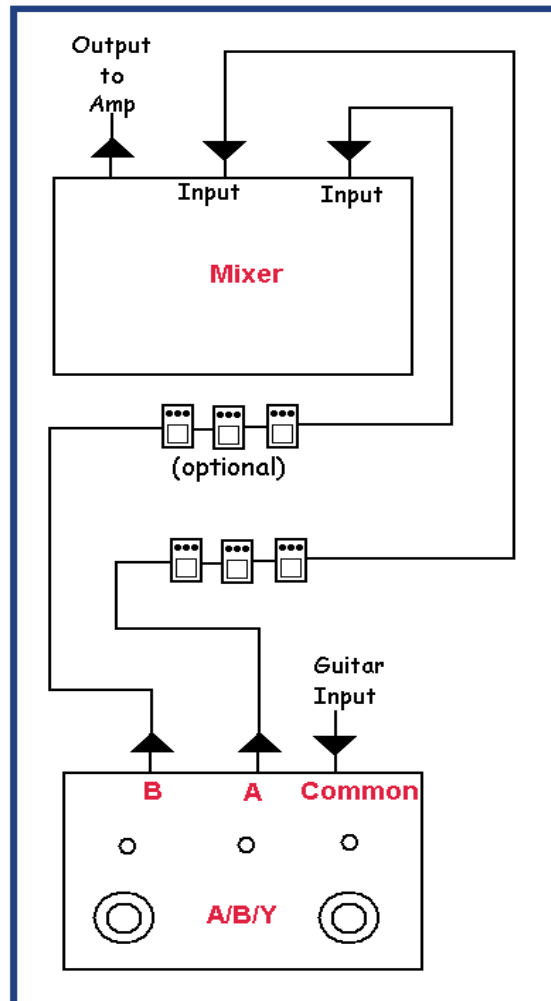
Switch between two different amplifiers. We highly recommend you use the "Input Grounded" wiring, as we use in our projects here (but not in the Morely Schematic provided). Otherwise you are leaving an open plug into your unselected amp and it will most likely buzz loudly. That is not to say that the "Input Grounded" wiring will solve all your amp selection problems, but it is a great upgrade from the typical Morely A/B/Y.

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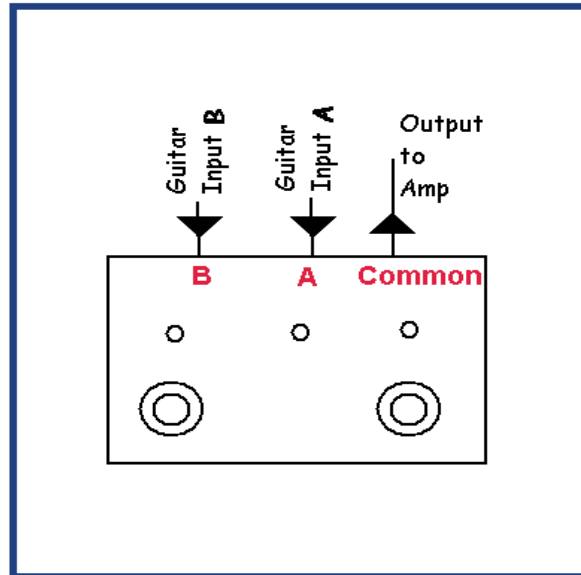
It can be used as a splitter and channel selector for parallel signals. A small mixer is also need for this usage. This works better if the active buffers are used in the A/B/Y switch box.

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Switch two Guitars into an amplifier.