

Self-cancelling touch button control

This method of touch button control has the advantage that the buttons automatically cancel each other and that a defined button comes on when the power supplies are applied. The circuit is extendable to larger numbers of buttons by cascading further sections as shown in the dotted lines.

The system operates by detecting skin resistance across a pair of contacts. The 0-volt contact would normally be the equipment front panel. Light-emitting

diodes indicate which button is currently actuated; any type of l.e.d. capable of handling 20mA may be used. The supply voltage may be from 20 to 30 volts. Outputs may be used to drive f.e.t. analogue switches directly, varactor tuning diodes or relays via suitable buffer circuits. The capacitor briefly holds the transistor on when power is first applied, so ensuring that this stage always comes on first.

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