

Ahooga with a single switch

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This paper shows how to select a word, we will use 'ahooga ', the cry of a wild animal, with a single switch, Oriented Scanning, an alphabetically ordered matrix and word prediction.

Some people communicate with a single switch, usually because they have a neurological condition that makes ordinary speech impossible. Switches come in many flavours and can be accessed by pulling a wire or by pressing with ones' thumb, see Picture 1.



Picture 1. A switch for use with a communication aid.

In Figure 1 shown below we see an alphabetically ordered matrix that is easy to remember and can be accessed by a single switch. Short or . = Down and Long or _ = Right. Long repeats automatically, so _ puts the blue focus on 'Sp' or Space, __ puts it on 'a' and ___ puts it on 'b', *without* a pause.

	Sp	a	b	c	so	
Bs	d e	f g	h i	j k	w3 w	
l	m n	o p	q r	w1 w		fine
s	t u	v w	, .			goodhello
x	y z	? !		no	not	okay
F1	F3		precis	quite	really	sorry
F2		terrib	why	you	yes	

Properties &
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Figure 1. Oriented Scanning with an alphabetically ordered matrix.

When we do just that, the screen image of Figure 2 will appear. Word prediction displays words that start with 'a'.

