

Reed Switch in Comparison with Mechanical Switch

Specifications	Reed Switch	Mechanical Microswitch
Sensing Distance	up to 40 mm effectively	touch (zero distance)
Power Required all the Time	no	no
Input Requirements	external magnetic field > 5 Gauss Min.	mechanical force
Hysteresis	ability to adjust, to meet design request	differential travel (D.T.)
Life Expectancy: Low Level	10 ¹⁰ cycles	10 ⁶ cycles
Switching Voltage	up to 200 V (1000 V available)	250 VAC
Switching Current	up to 2 A	up to 25 A
Switching Load Minimum	no load required (μ V / pA)	50 mW
Switching Load Maximum	up to 100 Watts	up to 5'000 Watts
Insulation Resistance	10 ¹⁴ Ohm	10 ⁹ Ohm
Contact Resistance	50 milliohm	100 milliohm
Noise	no switching noise	switching noise
Overload	very sensitive	insensitive
Hermeticity	yes	no
General	galvanic isolation (air gap)	galvanic isolation (air gap)