

Loc-Line Switch Mounts

Linda J. Burkhart

What is Loc-Line?

Loc-Line is a ball and socket modular hose used in industry applications. It can also be used as a switch mount for individuals with disabilities. Loc-Line is flexible and can be repositioned by hand in a variety of positions. Order Loc-Line from the website: www.Modularhose.com. We have had most success with the 3/4" size. You can also order a tool to connect the segments from them as well.

How do you mount the switch?

1. You can hot glue a jar lid to the end of the hose and then connect the switch with Velcro®.



2. You can use a commercial switch mount like the Small Triangular Mounting Plate from AbleNet. The switch is then fastened to the mount with bolts and wing nuts.



Note: It is highly suggested that if you use a hard plastic switch to be activated by the head, you should add a dense foam pad to make it softer. You can make a pad out of pipe wrap and attach it with double stick carpet tape, Another option is a foam cosmetic pad.

How do you attach the mount to the chair?

Note: You can fasten the mount to the metal frame of the chair with electrical ties. Reusable electrical ties are recommended so they can easily be repositioned as needed. (Make sure to get the kind that hold firmly, until released)

1. Make sure you have a long enough length of Loc-Line to go along the vertical piping of the chair, as well as along some part of the chair that runs horizontally. (This will prevent swiveling.)
2. Use electrical ties to securely fasten the Loc-Line to the chair every few inches. Make sure that you are not blocking any moveable parts of the chair.



How sturdy is Loc-Line?

For most uses, Loc-Line is reasonably sturdy. The ease of being able to reposition it, makes it ideal for the child who changes positions with fatigue or tonal changes. A teacher, assistant, or therapist working with the child, can monitor the position of the switch and adjust as needed. When mounting the Loc-Line, fasten it as close to the solid part of the chair as possible to minimize movement.

How do you make it sturdier?

If you feel that the Loc-Line does not hold its position enough, you can insert a pipe or thick solid piece wire to make the Loc-Line less flexible.

1. Fill a segment of Loc-Line with hot glue. Cut a length of pipe or thick solid wire to the desired length and slide it inside the Loc-Line. Use the tool to fasten the plugged segment onto the section with the wire or pipe. The plug keeps the pipe or wire from slipping out.



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