How to Connect Switches to Your Computer

One way you can connect one or two switches to your computer is through a Don Johnston Switch Interface Pro 5.0 or 6.0. You can then use single-switch scanning or two-switch scanning to navigate through Start-to-Finish Literacy Starters.

When you use single-switch scanning, the switch acts the same as a mouse click. When you use two-switch scanning, one of the switches acts as the **Enter** key. The other switch acts as the **Tab** key. Each time you press the **Enter** switch, you select the next available option. When you press the **Tab** switch, you activate the option that you selected.

The following procedures can be used on a Windows or Macintosh computer with a USB port.

1. Connect the USB cable from the Switch Interface Pro 5.0 or 6.0 to a USB port on your computer. The lights in the settings group begin flashing.

   **Note:** If you are connecting the USB cable to a Macintosh computer with OS X for the first time, the operating system may display a screen to show that it found new hardware. Press the red button at the top to close the window and continue to step 2.

2. Once the lights stop flashing, the yellow light remains on. Confirm that the yellow light is on.

   **Note:** If a different light is on, change it to the yellow light by pressing the black button next to the cable.

3. Connect your switch cable to the first jack to the left at the bottom of the Switch Interface Pro 5.0 or 6.0. (This aligns with the column containing the word **Click** in the yellow row.)

   You can successfully use your switch.

   **Tip:** If your learners are using a single-switch, it might be beneficial for them if you turn on **One-Button Mode** in **Teacher Central**. This mode allows learners to move forward once with each press of the switch as opposed to cycling through all options on the screen. See the accompanying document on Teacher Central in Start-to-Finish Literacy Starters.
Two-Switch Mode

1. Connect the USB cable from the Switch Interface Pro 5.0 or 6.0 to a USB port on your computer. The lights in the settings group begin flashing.

   **Note:** If you are connecting the USB cable to a Macintosh computer with OS X for the first time, the operating system may display a screen to show that it found new hardware. Press the red button at the top to close the window and continue to step 2.

2. Once the lights stop flashing, the yellow light remains on. Switch it to the blue light by pressing the black button next to the cable twice.

3. Connect the cable from one of your switches to the Switch Interface Pro 5.0 or 6.0. Use the jack that is second-from-the-left; this aligns with the column containing the word **Enter** in the blue row.

4. Connect the cable from your other switch to the Switch Interface Pro 5.0 or 6.0. Use the middle jack; this aligns with the column containing the word **Tab** in the blue row.

   ![Switch Interface Pro 5.0 or 6.0](image)

   You can successfully use your switches.

   **Note:** After you have completed the connection, see the **Accessibility Options** section in the **Start-to-Finish Literacy Starters Teacher Guide** for more information.