

Gardner Bender GSW-39

Gardner Bender GSW-39 Electrical Three-Speed Pull Chain Switch User Manual

Model: GSW-39

1. INTRODUCTION

The Gardner Bender GSW-39 is an electrical three-speed pull chain switch designed for multi-function applications, commonly used in ceiling fans and lighting fixtures. This switch provides four distinct positions: OFF, ON(A), ON(B), and ON(A+B), allowing for versatile control over connected electrical loads. This manual provides essential information for the safe installation, operation, and maintenance of your GSW-39 switch.

2. SAFETY INFORMATION

WARNING: Risk of electric shock. Always disconnect power at the circuit breaker or fuse box before installing, servicing, or removing this switch. Failure to do so can result in serious injury or death.

- Ensure all wiring is performed by a qualified electrician or a knowledgeable individual familiar with electrical codes and practices.
- Verify that the voltage and current ratings of the switch are compatible with your application.
- Do not exceed the specified electrical ratings of the switch.
- Keep the switch and wiring away from water and moisture.
- Always use appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) when working with electricity.

3. PACKAGE CONTENTS

Your Gardner Bender GSW-39 package typically includes:

- One (1) GSW-39 Three-Speed Pull Chain Switch with pre-attached 6-inch wire leads.
- One (1) Pull Chain Extension (may include a decorative bell or connector).



Image 1: Components of the Gardner Bender GSW-39 switch, showing the main switch unit with its colored wires and the separate pull chain assembly.

4. SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Specification
Model	GSW-39
Switch Type	DP3T (Double-Pole, Triple-Throw)
Function	Off-ON(A)-ON(B)-ON(A+B)
Electrical Rating	6 A / 125 V AC, 3 A / 250 V AC, 6 A / 125 VL
Maximum Temperature	75°C
Terminal Type	6 inch. wire leads, 18 AWG Wire
Dimensions (L x W x H)	1.5 x 2.75 x 5 inches (approximate)
Color	Brass (pull chain housing)

5. INSTALLATION AND WIRING

Before you begin, ensure power is disconnected at the circuit breaker.

1. **Identify Wires:** The GSW-39 switch comes with pre-attached wire leads. Typically, these are:

- **Black Wire:** Common / Line Input
- **Blue Wire:** Load A Output
- **Red Wire:** Load B Output

2. **Remove Old Switch (if applicable):** Carefully disconnect the wires from the existing switch, noting their connections.
3. **Connect New Switch:**
 - Connect the **Black wire** from the GSW-39 switch to the incoming power line (or the common wire from your fixture).
 - Connect the **Blue wire** from the GSW-39 switch to the first load (e.g., one set of lights in a ceiling fan).
 - Connect the **Red wire** from the GSW-39 switch to the second load (e.g., another set of lights or a fan motor).
 - Secure all connections with appropriate wire connectors (not included). Ensure connections are tight and insulated.
4. **Mount the Switch:** Insert the threaded portion of the switch into the designated opening in your fixture. Secure it with the provided nut (if applicable) or by tightening the brass housing.
5. **Attach Pull Chain:** Connect the pull chain extension to the chain protruding from the switch.
6. **Restore Power:** Once all connections are secure and the switch is properly mounted, restore power at the circuit breaker.

Refer to the wiring diagram provided with your specific fixture for detailed connection points, as configurations may vary.

6. OPERATION

The Gardner Bender GSW-39 switch operates in a sequential manner by pulling the chain. Each pull cycles through the following positions:

1. **Initial State:** OFF
2. **First Pull:** Activates Load A (ON(A))
3. **Second Pull:** Activates Load B (ON(B))
4. **Third Pull:** Activates Load A and Load B (ON(A+B))
5. **Fourth Pull:** Returns to OFF state

The cycle repeats with subsequent pulls.

7. MAINTENANCE

The GSW-39 switch requires minimal maintenance. To ensure optimal performance and longevity:

- Periodically inspect the pull chain for wear or damage. Replace if necessary.
- Ensure the switch housing and connections remain free from dust, dirt, and moisture.
- Do not apply excessive force when pulling the chain.

8. TROUBLESHOOTING

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Switch does not operate or no power to loads.	No power to the fixture, loose wiring connection, faulty switch.	Check circuit breaker. Verify all wire connections are secure. Test switch with a multimeter (if qualified) or replace if faulty.

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Incorrect load activation (e.g., A+B activates instead of A).	Incorrect wiring of load wires.	Review Section 5 (Installation and Wiring) and re-check connections for Blue and Red wires.
Pull chain is stuck or difficult to operate.	Internal mechanism obstruction, damaged chain.	Do not force the chain. Inspect for external obstructions. If internal, the switch may need replacement.

9. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

Gardner Bender products are manufactured to high-quality standards. For specific warranty information, please refer to the documentation included with your purchase or visit the official Gardner Bender website. If you require technical assistance or have questions regarding your GSW-39 switch, please contact Gardner Bender customer support through their official channels.

For more information, visit the [Gardner Bender Store](#).

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Ask about setup, troubleshooting, compatibility, parts, safety, or missing instructions. Manuals+ will review the question and use this page’s manual context to help answer it.

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Question

Example: How do I reset this device or fix this error?

Details

Model number, symptoms, what you tried, or the section of the manual you are using.

Submit question