

GATERON KS-33

GATERON KS-33 Low Profile Banana Keyboard Switches Instruction Manual

Model: KS-33 | Brand: GATERON

1. INTRODUCTION

This manual provides essential information for the installation, operation, and maintenance of your GATERON KS-33 Low Profile Banana Keyboard Switches. These switches are designed for mechanical keyboards compatible with GATERON low profile switch types, offering a distinct tactile typing experience.

2. PRODUCT OVERVIEW AND FEATURES

The GATERON KS-33 Low Profile Banana switches are 3-pin tactile switches engineered for keyboard enthusiasts seeking a unique and satisfying typing feel. Key features include:

- **Tactile Feedback:** These switches provide a heavy tactile bump with a 65gf operating force, distinct from linear or clicky switches.
- **Low Profile Design:** Specifically designed for keyboards that support GATERON low profile switches, ensuring a compact and ergonomic setup.
- **Pre-lubed:** Factory pre-lubricated for a smoother keystroke experience right out of the box.
- **LED Compatibility:** SMD LED compatible, featuring a transparent upper housing for optimal RGB lighting display.
- **Durable Construction:** Composed of a POM stem, PC top housing, and Nylon bottom housing for longevity.

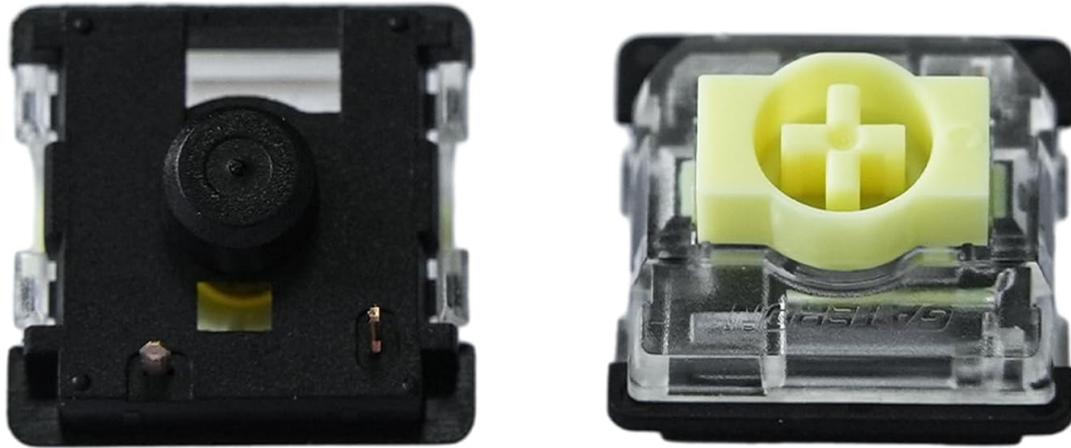


Figure 1: Front and side view of GATERON KS-33 Low Profile Banana Switches.

This image displays two GATERON KS-33 Low Profile Banana switches. One switch is shown from the top, highlighting its yellow stem and clear upper housing. The other switch is shown from the side, revealing its low-profile design and the black base. These switches are designed for mechanical keyboards.

3. SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Detail
Model Number	GAT-BP-LS-33
Switch Type	Low Profile Tactile
Operating Force	65 ± 15gf
Pre Travel	1.7mm
Total Travel	3.0 ± 0.2mm Max

Feature	Detail
Stem Material	POM
Top Housing Material	PC (Polycarbonate)
Bottom Housing Material	Nylon
LED Support	SMD Compatible
Pins	3-Pin
Lubrication	Factory Pre-lubed
Quantity per Pack	35 switches



Figure 2: GATERON KS-33 Low Profile Banana Switches in a tray.

This image shows a white tray filled with 35 GATERON KS-33 Low Profile Banana switches. The switches are arranged in an organized grid, showcasing their yellow stems and clear housings. This is how the switches are typically packaged.

4. SETUP AND INSTALLATION

Installing GATERON KS-33 switches requires careful attention to compatibility and proper handling. These switches are designed for hot-swappable mechanical keyboards that specifically support GATERON low profile switches.

4.1 Compatibility Note

Important: The KS-33 low profile switch is exclusively compatible with keyboards designed for GATERON low profile switches. It is not suitable for replacement in keyboards that use other types of low profile switches or standard MX-style switches.



Tip ! The KS-33 low profile switch is only apply for the keyboard fit GATERON low profile switch, not for other low profile switch replacement.

Figure 3: Compatibility warning for GATERON KS-33 switches.

This image features a close-up of a GATERON KS-33 Low Profile Banana switch. A prominent text overlay reiterates the critical compatibility information: "Tip! The KS-33 low profile switch is only apply for the keyboard fit GATERON low profile switch, not for other low profile switch replacement." This emphasizes the need to verify keyboard compatibility before installation.

4.2 Installation Steps (Hot-Swappable Keyboards)

1. **Power Off:** Ensure your keyboard is disconnected from power to prevent accidental inputs or damage.

2. **Remove Keycaps:** Carefully remove the keycaps from the switches you intend to replace.
3. **Remove Old Switches:** Use a dedicated switch puller tool to gently extract the existing switches from the keyboard's PCB. Avoid excessive force to prevent damaging the switch sockets. A GATERON switch puller is recommended for ease of use.
4. **Insert New Switches:** Align the 3 pins of the GATERON KS-33 switch with the corresponding holes on the PCB. Gently press the switch down until it clicks into place. Ensure the switch is seated flush with the PCB and the pins are not bent.
5. **Test:** Reconnect your keyboard and test each newly installed switch to ensure proper functionality and tactile response.
6. **Reinstall Keycaps:** Once all switches are installed and tested, place the keycaps back onto the switches.

5. OPERATING YOUR SWITCHES

Once installed, the GATERON KS-33 Low Profile Banana switches provide a consistent tactile typing experience. The 65gf operating force offers a firm yet responsive feel, suitable for users who prefer a more pronounced tactile bump compared to lighter switches.

- **Tactile Feel:** Expect a noticeable bump during actuation, providing clear feedback for each keystroke.
- **Sound Profile:** These switches are designed to have a quieter, bassier sound profile compared to some clicky switches, contributing to a more subdued acoustic experience.
- **RGB Lighting:** The transparent upper housing allows for vibrant RGB lighting to shine through, enhancing your keyboard's aesthetics if your PCB supports it.

6. MAINTENANCE

Proper maintenance can extend the lifespan and maintain the performance of your GATERON KS-33 switches.

- **Cleaning:** Periodically remove keycaps and use compressed air to clear dust and debris from around and within the switches. A soft brush can also be used for stubborn particles.
- **Lubrication:** While factory pre-lubed, some users may choose to re-lube switches for a customized feel or after extensive use. If re-lubing, use lubricants specifically designed for mechanical keyboard switches and apply sparingly to the stem and housing rails.
- **Storage:** If storing unused switches, keep them in their original packaging or a clean, dry, anti-static container to protect them from dust and damage.

7. TROUBLESHOOTING

If you encounter issues with your GATERON KS-33 switches, consider the following troubleshooting steps:

- **Switch Not Actuating:**
 - Ensure the switch is fully seated in the PCB socket.
 - Check for bent pins on the switch. If a pin is bent, carefully straighten it with tweezers before reinserting.
 - Test the switch in a different socket on the keyboard (if hot-swappable) to determine if the issue is with the switch or the PCB socket.

- **Double Typing or Missed Inputs:**

- This can sometimes indicate a faulty switch. Try replacing the problematic switch with a new one.
- Ensure the switch is clean and free of debris that might interfere with its mechanism.
- Check your keyboard's firmware or software settings for debounce time adjustments, if available.

- **Inconsistent Feel or Sound:**

- Verify that all switches are correctly installed and seated.
- Inspect for any foreign objects or debris inside the switch housing.
- Consider re-lubricating the switch if the factory lubrication has worn off or is uneven.

8. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

For information regarding warranty coverage and technical support for your GATERON KS-33 Low Profile Banana Keyboard Switches, please refer to the official GATERON website or contact your point of purchase. Specific warranty terms may vary by region and retailer.

For further assistance, you may visit the [GATERON Store on Amazon](#).

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