

AUDIO TRANSDUCER TACTILE PAD

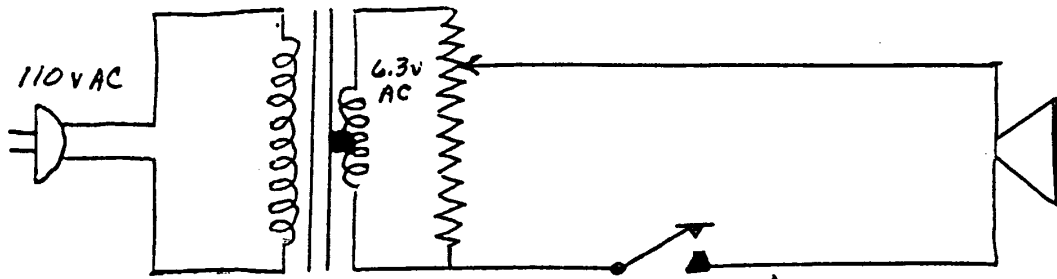
The audio transducer is a modified permanent-magnet speaker with its voice coil removed and its diaphragm intact. It is a tactile aid. Mine was made from an old PA system, but it can be made from any loud-speaker. The core is magnetic and vibrates strongly at a low audio frequency.

Building the transducer is quite simple – all that is needed is a discarded loudspeaker. When the coil is removed, it is advisable to enclose it in a wooded or metal box so it will not get crushed (the plastic cone is easily broken). It is a good idea to use an 8-ohm speaker as deaf persons respond best to low-impedance speakers because the vibrations are stronger.

I have used an audio transducer for five years and find it much easier than headphones. I do not have any hearing left – it all disappeared a few years ago and headphones can be very confusing – it is difficult to copy CW with only a little hearing left. I can copy CW at 25 wpm and send at 18 wpm. These speeds may appear to be an overstatement when said by a deaf amateur who has only been on the air three years, but they are not an exaggeration and are possible with the help of an audio transducer. However, I usually copy about 18 wpm when there is too much interference. Some deaf/blind hams can copy faster than this because they have had much more practice.

By: Gayle Sabonaitis,, WA1OPN

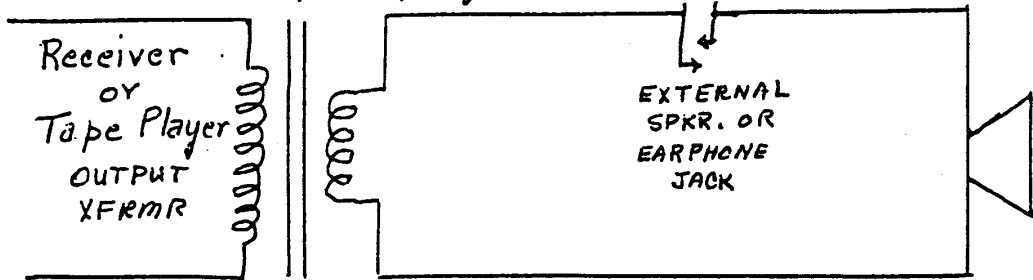
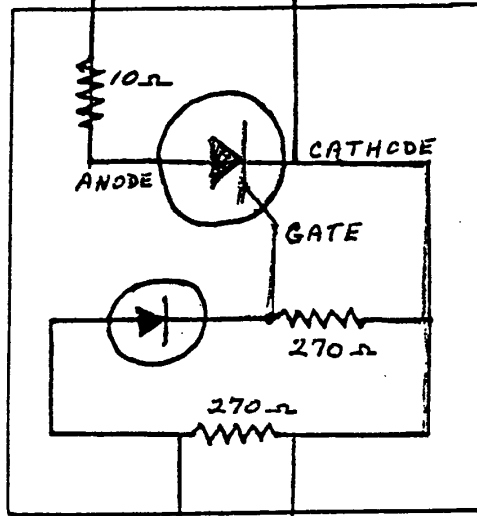
*Tape recorder connection
for the tactel pod*



Note: The 10Ω resistor is only a safety feature.

Note: It is important that the diode be connected as shown, in order to apply a positive voltage to the SCR gate (with respect to SCR cathode)

Note: It is important this lead be connected to the "TIP" of the male headphone plug



Circuit Designed by:
WØKVO, Tony Trettor
533 Wildwood Ave.
White Bear Lake, MN 55110
651-426-4465

handhams

www.handham.org