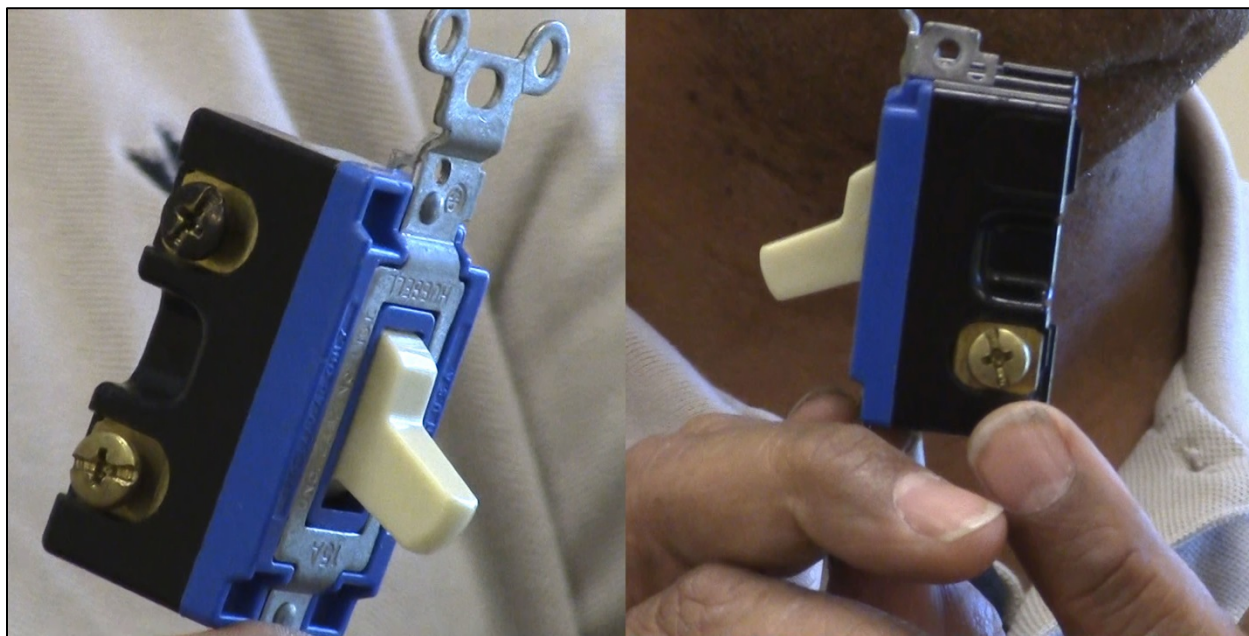


# 3-Way and 4-Way Light Switches

A handout containing the highlights of the video titled *Wiring of Three-way and Four-way lights*

## The 3-way switch

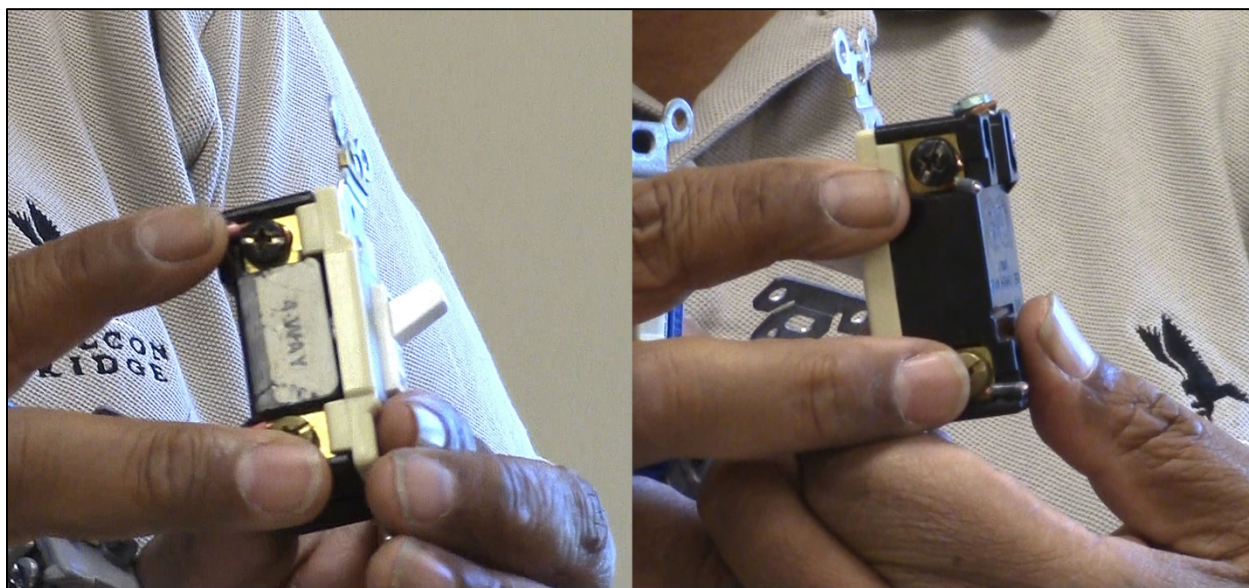
A three-way switch has three points of connection on its side, as shown in Figure 1. The two connections at the bottom are called travelers. The third connection, which is a darker color, is where the hot wire will be connected, and current will flow and cross through the travelers to turn the light on or off.



CAPTION 1. A PHOTOSHOWING THE THREE CONNECTIONS ON A THREE-WAY SWITCH.

## The 4-way switch

A four-way switch has four connections, with two on each of its side. A four-way switch is installed in-between two three-way switches. The connections are also travelers, which allow the four-way to switch in-between the two three-ways. Figure 2 shows the four connections on a four-way switch.



CAPTION 2. A CLOSE-UP OF THE 4-WAY SWITCH, WITH THE INSTRUCTOR POINTING AT THE FOUR CONNECTIONS.

## Looking for other learning materials?

The [Residential Wiring iTunes U course](#) has videos and other learning materials for you to view. You can [download iTunes for free](#) to view the course and course materials. Closed-captioned videos are available at [T4E's YouTube page](#).

## Disclaimer and License information

This workforce product was funded by a grant awarded by the U.S. Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration. The product was created by the grantee and does not necessarily reflect the official position of the U.S. Department of Labor. The U.S. Department of Labor makes no guarantees, warranties, or assurances of any kind, express or implied, with respect to such information, including any information on linked sites and including, but not limited to, accuracy of the information or its completeness, timeliness, usefulness, adequacy, continued availability, or ownership.



Unless otherwise noted, this work is licensed under the [Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License](http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/). To view a copy of this license, go to <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/> on your web browser.

