

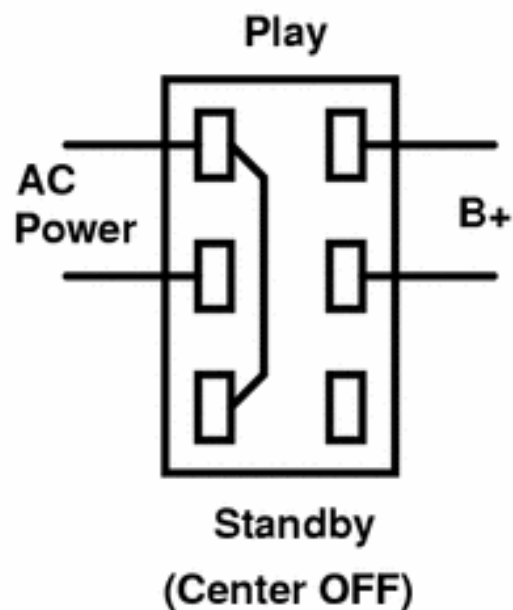
## Adding a standby-switch to any tube amp

A standby switch allows you to warm up the tubes before applying the higher voltages used for amplification. Proper use is to make sure the switch is in standby (open), turn the power switch on, wait a minute, then flip the Standby switch to play (closed). At this point, the amp is ready to play. While this is optional with any amp with a controlled warmup rectifier, you really should add one to any amp with a solid state rectifier, or rectifier tube without a separate cathode.

For this, drill a hole in the chassis and put in a big switch. Cut the wires running from your power transformer to the rectifier socket and insert the switch - et voila !

### Combined Power / Standby Switch

You can use a DPDT On/Off/On switch for power and standby in one step; wire one side of the switch for power, and the other for standby. Wire it so that when it's in Standby, you have AC but no DC (B+); in the On (Play) position you should have both. These switches are usually off in the middle, but that's OK; just mark things appropriately. Switching through Off to go from Standby to Play seems scary to some folks (it did to me initially) but the duration is brief enough that no harm is done. Lots of Ampegs did this, and Ampegs are known as tough amps. Use a switch with a 250VAC, 1A or higher rating. This can be a toggle or slide switch (or rotary or whatever you like).



*DPDT power/standby switch*