

Re: where use all three terminals on a potentiometer?

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layoutdesign wrote:

I have used two of the three terminals to vary the resistance for controlling the gain or amplification for audio.

This describes the simplest example of a "pad". It is VERY dependent on the impedances of *other* elements in the circuit. (With a "pot", you want that other stuff to be "swamped out".)

....and if you're only using 2 terminals, you're using the wrong term:

<http://www.google.com/search?q=A.rheostat.is.a.two-terminal.variable.resistor>

Here is the fundamental concept of a potentiometer (without the fancy name).

http://www.google.com/search?q=cache:L_MdVwVuYzoJ:en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Voltage_divider+gnu+potentiometer

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