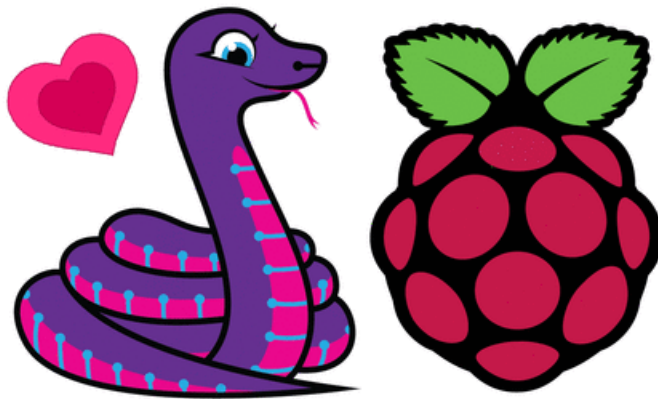




## CircuitPython on Linux and Raspberry Pi

Created by lady ada



Last updated on 2021-05-01 09:02:28 PM EDT

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# Overview

Please note! All the stuff in this guide works and we're improving and working on this code a bunch so be sure to check back for updates!



Here at Adafruit we're always looking for ways to make *making easier* - whether that's making breakout boards for hard-to-solder sensors or writing libraries to simplify motor control. Our new favorite way to program is **CircuitPython**.

## Why CircuitPython?

CircuitPython is a variant of MicroPython, a very small version of Python that can fit on a microcontroller. Python is the fastest-growing programming language. It's taught in schools, used in coding bootcamps, popular with scientists and of course programmers at companies use it a lot!

CircuitPython adds the Circuit part to the Python part. Letting you program in Python and talk to Circuitry like sensors, motors, and LEDs!

## CircuitPython on Microcontrollers

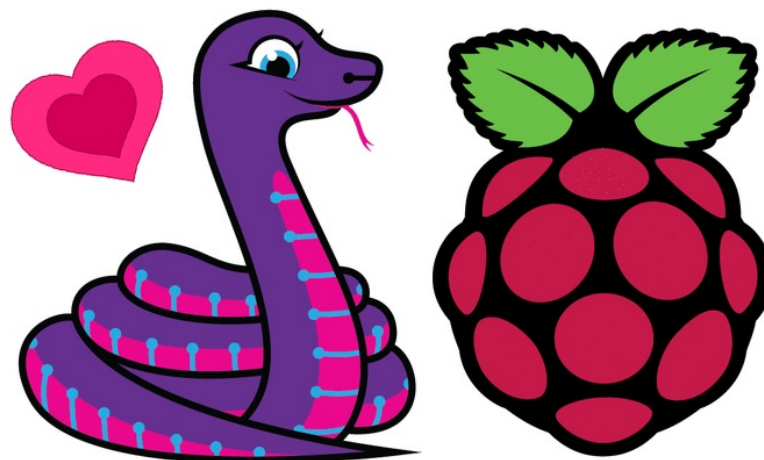
For a couple years now we've had CircuitPython for microcontrollers like our SAMD21 series with Feather/Trinket/CircuitPlayground/Metro M0, as well as the ESP8266 WiFi microcontroller, nRF52 bluetooth microcontroller and SAMD51 series.

All of these chips have something in common - they are *microcontrollers* with hardware peripherals like SPI, I2C, ADCs etc. We squeeze Python into 'em and can then make the project portable.

But...sometimes you want to do more than a microcontroller can do. Like HDMI video output, or camera capture, or serving up a website, or just something that takes more memory and computing than a microcontroller board can do...



# CircuitPython & RasPi



## CircuitPython Libraries on Linux & Raspberry Pi

The next obvious step is to bring CircuitPython **back** to 'desktop Python'. We've got tons of projects, libraries and example code for CircuitPython on microcontrollers, and thanks to the flexibility and power of Python it's pretty easy to get that code working with micro-computers like Raspberry Pi or other 'Linux with GPIO pins available' single board computers.

We are not running the CircuitPython interpreter itself on the Linux machine. But we *are* running Python code written to use the CircuitPython hardware API (`busio.I2C`, `busio.SPI`, etc.)

We'll use a special library called `adafruit_blinka` (<https://adafru.it/BJS>) (named after Blinka, the CircuitPython mascot (<https://adafru.it/BJT>)) to provide the layer that translates the CircuitPython hardware API to whatever library the Linux board provides. For example, on Raspberry Pi we use the python `RPi.GPIO` (<https://adafru.it/BJU>) library. For any I2C interfacing we'll use ioctl messages to the `/dev/i2c` device. For SPI we'll use the `spidev` python library, etc. These details don't matter so much because they all happen underneath the `adafruit_blinka` layer.

The upshot is that any code we have for CircuitPython will be instantly and easily runnable on Linux computers like Raspberry Pi.

*In particular*, we'll be able to use all of our device drivers - the sensors, led controllers, motor drivers, HATs, bonnets, etc. And nearly all of these use I2C or SPI!

## Wait, isn't there already something that does this - GPIO Zero?

**Yes! We like and use GPIO Zero a lot** (<https://adafru.it/BJV>), it's an excellent hardware interfacing library for Raspberry Pi. It's great for digital in/out, analog inputs, servos, some basic sensors, etc. In particular, one cool thing it does is thread/event management so you can have code run, say, when a button is pressed.

GPIO Zero excels at that, but doesn't cover SPI/I2C sensors or drivers, which is where we got stuck: for each sensor we had we'd write a driver in C/C++ for Arduino, CircuitPython using our hardware API, and then Python using smbus or similar.

By letting you use CircuitPython on Raspberry Pi via **adafruit\_blinka**, you can unlock all of the drivers and example code we wrote! *And* you can keep using GPIO Zero for pins, buttons and LEDs. We save time and effort so we can focus on getting code that works in one place, and you get to reuse all the code we've written already.

## What about other Linux SBCs?

Plus, we're adapting and extending **adafruit\_blinka** to [support other boards \(https://adafru.it/DbB\)](https://adafru.it/DbB) such as Allwinners and BeagleBone, even some smaller linux boards like Onion.io will be able to run CircuitPython code.

If you have a board you'd like to adapt [check out the adafruit\\_blinka code on github \(https://adafru.it/BJX\)](https://adafru.it/BJX), pull requests are welcome as there's a *ton* of different Linux boards out there! [You'll need to add a detection element \(https://adafru.it/Dyb\)](https://adafru.it/Dyb) so we can tell what board you're running on, then the pin definitions into **adafruit\_blinka** above. As long as you're running a modern kernel, you'll have libgpiod for GPIO, smbus for I2C and spidev for SPI all ready to go.

# Installing CircuitPython Libraries on Raspberry Pi

CircuitPython libraries and adafruit-blinka will work on any Raspberry Pi board! That means the original 1, the Pi 2, Pi 3, Pi 4, Pi Zero, or even the compute module.

At this time, Blinka requires Python version 3.6 or later, which means you will need to at least be running Raspberry Pi OS Buster.

## Prerequisite Pi Setup!

In this page we'll assume you've already gotten your Raspberry Pi up and running and can log into the command line

Here's the quick-start for people with some experience:

1. Download the [latest Raspberry Pi OS or Raspberry Pi OS Lite \(https://adafru.it/Pf5\)](https://adafru.it/Pf5) to your computer
2. [Burn the OS image to your MicroSD card \(https://adafru.it/dDL\)](https://adafru.it/dDL) using your computer
3. [Re-plug the SD card into your computer \(don't use your Pi yet!\) and set up your wifi connection by editing supplicant.conf \(https://adafru.it/yuD\)](https://adafru.it/yuD)
4. [Activate SSH support \(https://adafru.it/yuD\)](https://adafru.it/yuD)
5. Plug the SD card into the Pi
6. If you have an HDMI monitor we recommend connecting it so you can see that the Pi is booting OK
7. Plug in power to the Pi - you will see the green LED flicker a little. The Pi will reboot while it sets up so wait a good 10 minutes
8. [If you are running Windows on your computer, install Bonjour support so you can use .local names, you'll need to reboot Windows after installation \(https://adafru.it/IPE\)](https://adafru.it/IPE)
9. You can then [ssh into raspberrypi.local \(https://adafru.it/jvB\)](https://adafru.it/jvB)

The Pi Foundation has tons of guides as well (<https://adafru.it/BJY>)

We really really recommend the latest Raspberry Pi OS only. If you have an older Raspberry Pi OS install, run "sudo apt-get update" and "sudo apt-get upgrade" to get the latest OS!

## Update Your Pi and Python

Run the standard updates:

```
sudo apt-get update
```

```
sudo apt-get upgrade
```

```
sudo apt-get install python3-pip
```

and

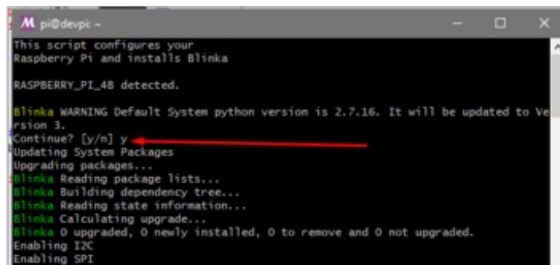
```
sudo pip3 install --upgrade setuptools
```



Python2 support has been dropped, so you will need to either use pip3 and python3 as commands or set Python 3 as the default python install.

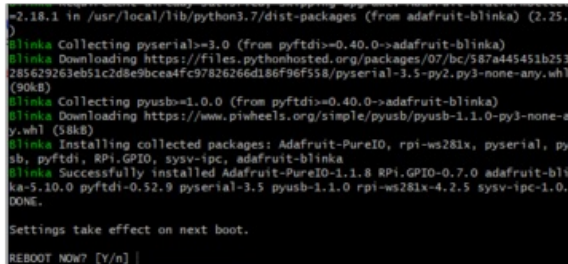
We put together a script to easily make sure your Pi is correctly configured and install Blinka. It requires just a few commands to run. Most of it is installing the dependencies.

```
cd ~
sudo pip3 install --upgrade adafruit-python-shell
wget https://raw.githubusercontent.com/adafruit/Raspberry-Pi-Installer-Scripts/master/raspi-blinka.py
sudo python3 raspi-blinka.py
```



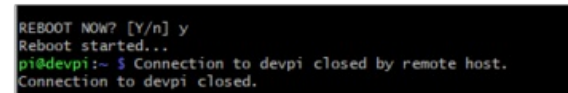
```
pi@devpi: ~
This script configures your
Raspberry Pi and installs Blinka
RASPBERRY_PI_4B detected.
Blinka WARNING Default System python version is 2.7.16. It will be updated to
Version 3.
Continue? [y/n] y
Updating System Packages
Upgrading packages...
Blinka Reading package lists...
Blinka Building dependency tree...
Blinka Reading state information...
Blinka Calculating upgrade...
Blinka 0 upgraded, 0 newly installed, 0 to remove and 0 not upgraded.
Enabling I2C
Enabling SPI
```

If your system default Python is Python 2 (which is likely on a first install), it will ask to confirm that you want to proceed. Choose **yes**.



```
~2.18.1 in /usr/local/lib/python3.7/dist-packages (from adafruit-blinka) (2.25.0)
Blinka Collecting pyserial==3.0 (from pyftdi==0.40.0->adafruit-blinka)
Blinka Downloading https://files.pythonhosted.org/packages/07/bc/587a445451b253285629263eb51c2d8e9bce4fc97826266d186f96f558/pyserial-3.5-py2.py3-none-any.whl (90kB)
Blinka Collecting pyusb==1.0.0 (from pyftdi==0.40.0->adafruit-blinka)
Blinka Downloading https://www.piheals.org/simple/pyusb/pyusb-1.1.0-py3-none-any.whl (58kB)
Blinka Installing collected packages: Adafruit-PureIO, rpi-ws281x, pyserial, pyusb, pyftdi, RPi.GPIO, sysv-ipc, adafruit-blinka
Blinka Successfully installed Adafruit-PureIO-1.1.8 RPi.GPIO-0.7.0 adafruit-blinka-5.10.0 pyftdi-0.52.9 pyserial-3.5 pyusb-1.1.0 rpi-ws281x-4.2.5 sysv-ipc-1.0.0
DONE.
Settings take effect on next boot.
REBOOT NOW? [Y/n] y
```

It may take a few minutes to run. When it finishes, it will ask you if you would like to reboot. Choose **yes**.



```
REBOOT NOW? [Y/n] y
Reboot started...
pi@devpi:~$ Connection to devpi closed by remote host.
Connection to devpi closed.
```

Once it reboots, the connection will close. After a couple of minutes, you can reconnect.

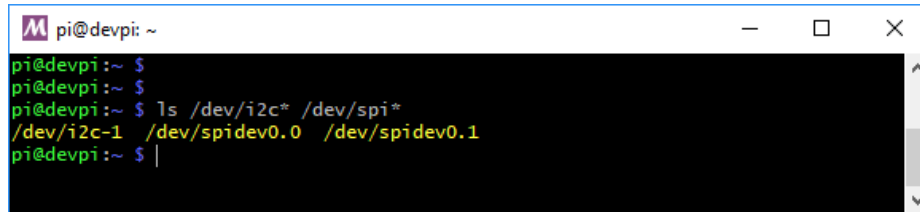
# Check I2C and SPI

The script will automatically enable I2C and SPI. You can run the following command to verify:

```
ls /dev/i2c* /dev/spi*
```

You should see the response

```
/dev/i2c-1 /dev/spidev0.0 /dev/spidev0.1
```



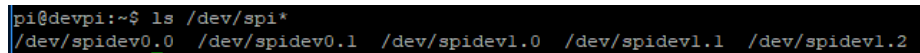
```
pi@devpi: ~  
pi@devpi:~$  
pi@devpi:~$  
pi@devpi:~$ ls /dev/i2c* /dev/spi*  
/dev/i2c-1 /dev/spidev0.0 /dev/spidev0.1  
pi@devpi:~$
```

## Enabling Second SPI

If you are using the main SPI port for a display or something and need another hardware SPI port, you can enable it by adding the line

```
dtoverlay=spi1-3cs
```

to the bottom of `/boot/config.txt` and rebooting. You'll then see the addition of some `/dev/spidev1.x` devices:



```
pi@devpi:~$ ls /dev/spi*  
/dev/spidev0.0 /dev/spidev0.1 /dev/spidev1.0 /dev/spidev1.1 /dev/spidev1.2
```

## Blinka Test

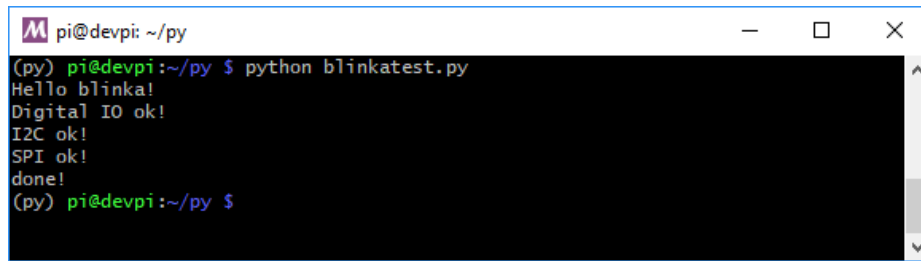
Create a new file called `blinkatest.py` with `nano` or your favorite text editor and put the following in:

```
import board  
import digitalio  
import busio  
  
print("Hello blinka!")  
  
# Try to great a Digital input  
pin = digitalio.DigitalInOut(board.D4)  
print("Digital IO ok!")  
  
# Try to create an I2C device  
i2c = busio.I2C(board.SCL, board.SDA)  
print("I2C ok!")  
  
# Try to create an SPI device  
spi = busio.SPI(board.SCLK, board.MOSI, board.MISO)  
print("SPI ok!")  
  
print("done!")
```

Save it and run at the command line with

```
python3 blinkatest.py
```

You should see the following, indicating digital i/o, I2C and SPI all worked



```
pi@devpi: ~/py
(py) pi@devpi:~/py $ python blinkatest.py
Hello blinka!
Digital IO ok!
I2C ok!
SPI ok!
done!
(py) pi@devpi:~/py $
```

A terminal window titled "pi@devpi: ~/py" with standard window controls. The prompt is "(py) pi@devpi:~/py \$". The user enters "python blinkatest.py", and the script outputs "Hello blinka!", "Digital IO ok!", "I2C ok!", "SPI ok!", and "done!". The prompt returns to "(py) pi@devpi:~/py \$".

# Digital I/O

The first step with any new hardware is the 'hello world' of electronics - blinking an LED. This is very easy with CircuitPython and Raspberry Pi. We'll extend the example to also show how to wire up a button/switch and enable a pull-up resistor.

Even if you use a different library to create digital in/outs like GPIO Zero, there's a number of sensor libraries that use a digital pin for resetting, or for a chip-select. So it's good to have this part working!

## Parts Used

Any old LED will work just fine as long as its not an IR LED (you can't see those) and a 470 to 2.2K resistor



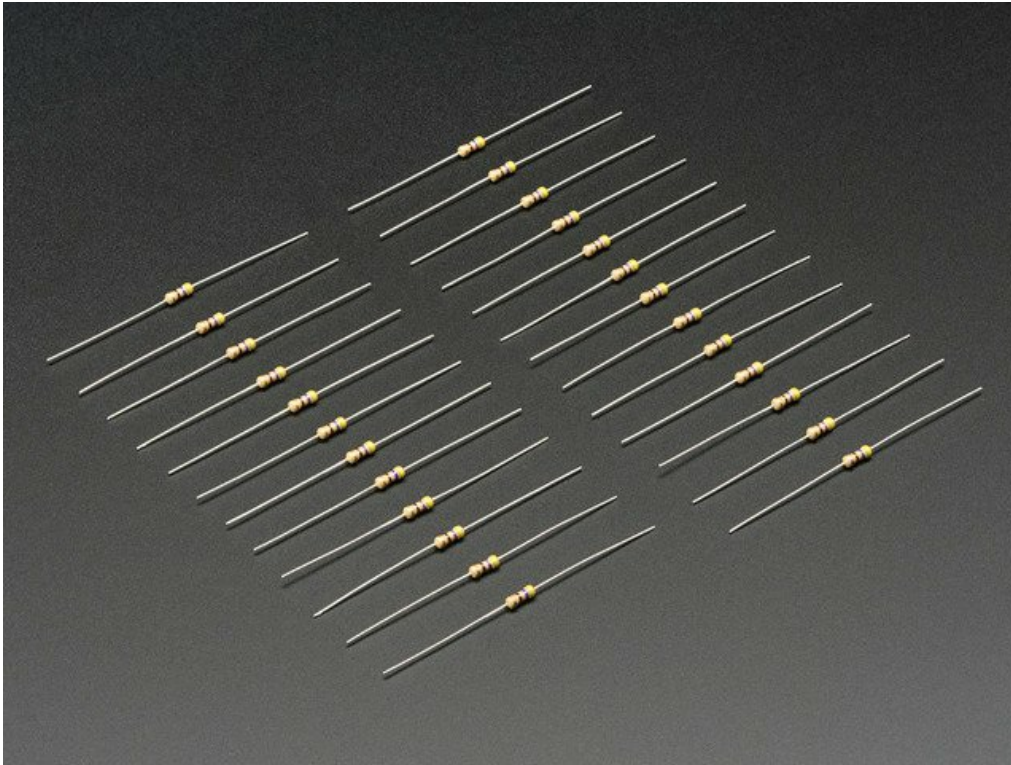
[Diffused Blue 10mm LED \(25 pack\)](#)

Need some big indicators? We are big fans of these huge diffused blue LEDs. They are really bright so they can be seen in daytime, and from any angle. They go easily into a breadboard...

\$9.95

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#### [Through-Hole Resistors - 470 ohm 5% 1/4W - Pack of 25](#)

ΩMG! You're not going to be able to resist these handy resistor packs! Well, axially, they do all of the resisting for you! This is a 25 Pack of...

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Some tactile buttons or switches



#### [Tactile Switch Buttons \(12mm square, 6mm tall\) x 10 pack](#)

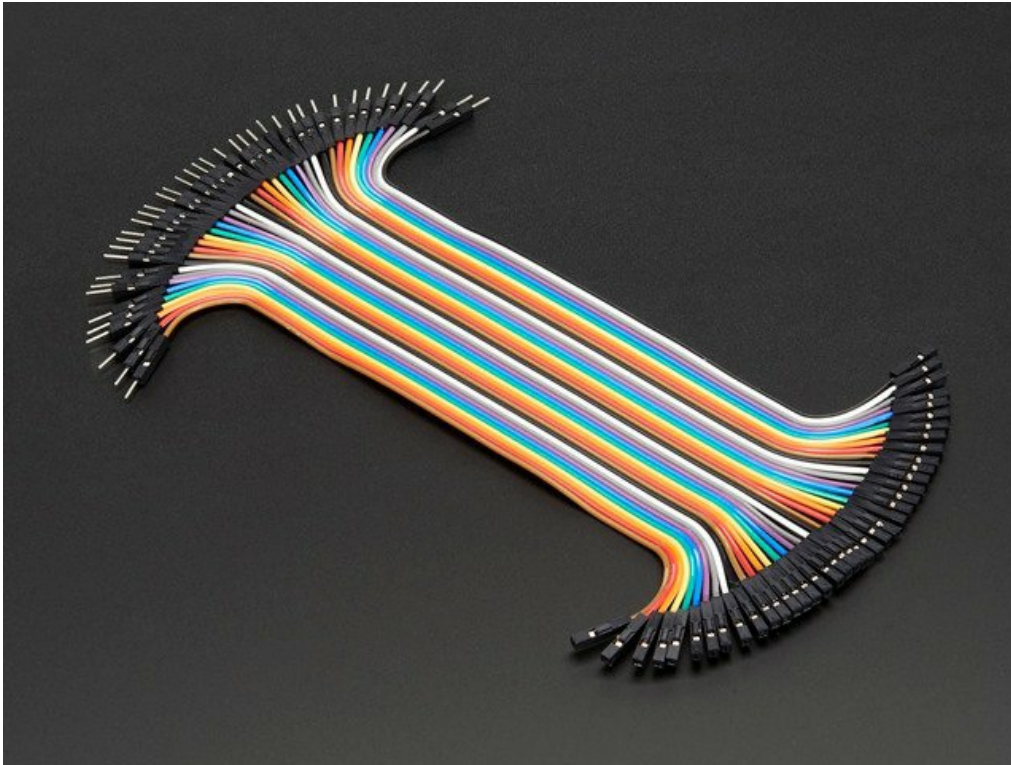
Medium-sized clicky momentary switches are standard input "buttons" on electronic projects. These work best in a PCB but

\$2.50

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We recommend using a breadboard and some female-male wires.



#### Premium Female/Male 'Extension' Jumper Wires - 40 x 6" (150mm)

Handy for making wire harnesses or jumpering between headers on PCB's. These premium jumper wires are 6" (150mm) long and come in a 'strip' of 40 (4 pieces of each of ten rainbow...

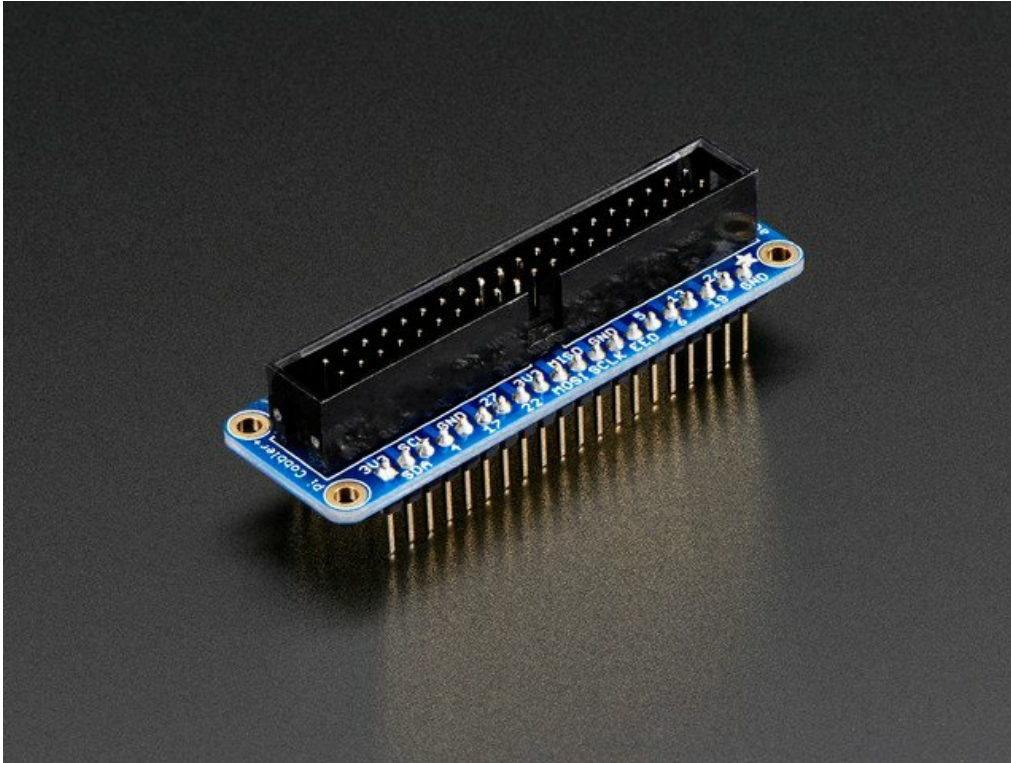
\$3.95

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You can use a Cobbler to make this a little easier, the pins are then labeled!





#### Adafruit Pi Cobbler + Kit- Breakout Cable for Pi B+/A+/Pi 2/Pi 3

The Raspberry Pi B+ has landed on the Maker World like a 40-GPIO pinned, quad-USB ported, credit card sized bomb of DIY joy. And while you can use most of our great Model B accessories...

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## Assembled Pi T-Cobbler Plus - GPIO Breakout

This is the assembled version of the Pi T-Cobbler Plus. It only works with the Raspberry Pi Model Zero, A+, B+, Pi 2, Pi 3 & Pi 4! (Any Pi with 2x20...

\$7.95

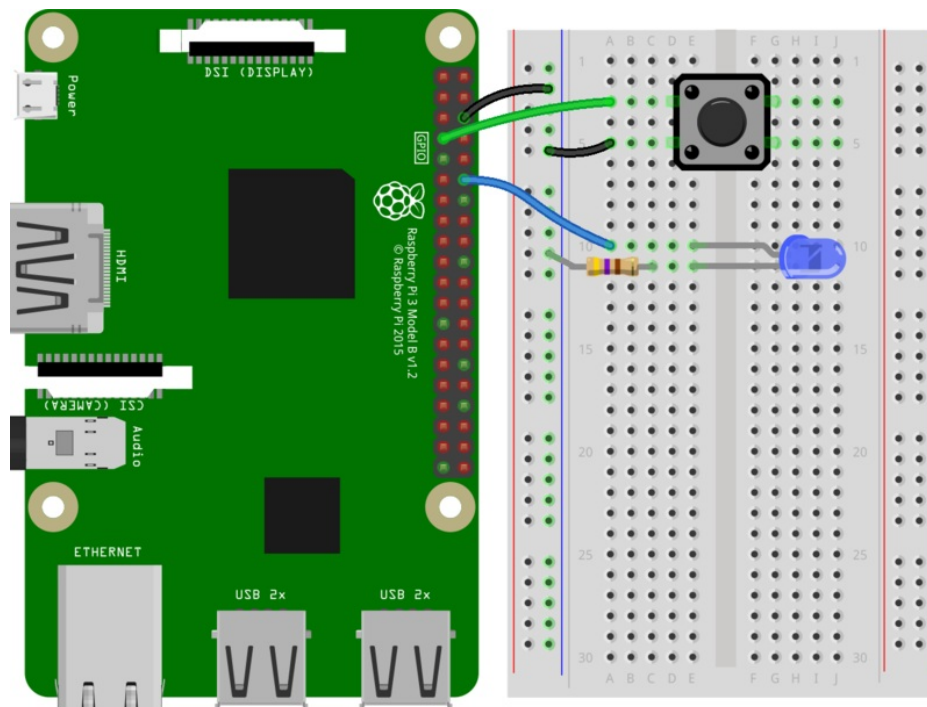
In Stock

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## Wiring

Connect the Raspberry Pi **Ground** pin to the **blue ground rail** on the breadboard.

- Connect one side of the tactile switch to Raspberry Pi **GPIO #4**
- Connect the other side of the tactile switch to the **ground** rail
- Connect the longer/positive pin of the LED to Raspberry Pi **GPIO #18**
- Connect the shorter/negative pin of the LED to a 470ohm to 2.2K resistor, the other side of the resistor goes to **ground** rail



fritzing

Double-check you have the right wires connected to the right location, it can be tough to keep track of Pi pins as there are forty of them!

No additional libraries are needed so we can go straight on to the example code

However, we recommend running a pip3 update!

```
pip3 install --upgrade adafruit_blinka
```

## Blinky Time!

The finish line is right up ahead, lets start with an example that blinks the LED on and off once a second (half a second on, half a second off):

```

import time
import board
import digitalio

print("hello blinky!")

led = digitalio.DigitalInOut(board.D18)
led.direction = digitalio.Direction.OUTPUT

while True:
    led.value = True
    time.sleep(0.5)
    led.value = False
    time.sleep(0.5)

```

Verify the LED is blinking. If not, check that it's wired to GPIO #18, the resistor is installed correctly, and you have a Ground wire to the Raspberry Pi.

Type Control-C to quit

## Button It Up

Now that you have the LED working, lets add code so the LED turns on whenever the button is pressed

```

import time
import board
import digitalio

print("press the button!")

led = digitalio.DigitalInOut(board.D18)
led.direction = digitalio.Direction.OUTPUT

button = digitalio.DigitalInOut(board.D4)
button.direction = digitalio.Direction.INPUT
button.pull = digitalio.Pull.UP

while True:
    led.value = not button.value # light when button is pressed!

```

Press the button - see that the LED lights up!

Type Control-C to quit

# I2C Sensors & Devices

The most popular electronic sensors use *I2C* to communicate. This is a 'shared bus' 2 wire protocol, you can have multiple sensors connected to the two SDA and SCL pins as long as they have unique addresses ([check this guide for a list of many popular devices and their addresses](https://adafruit.it/BK0) (<https://adafruit.it/BK0>))

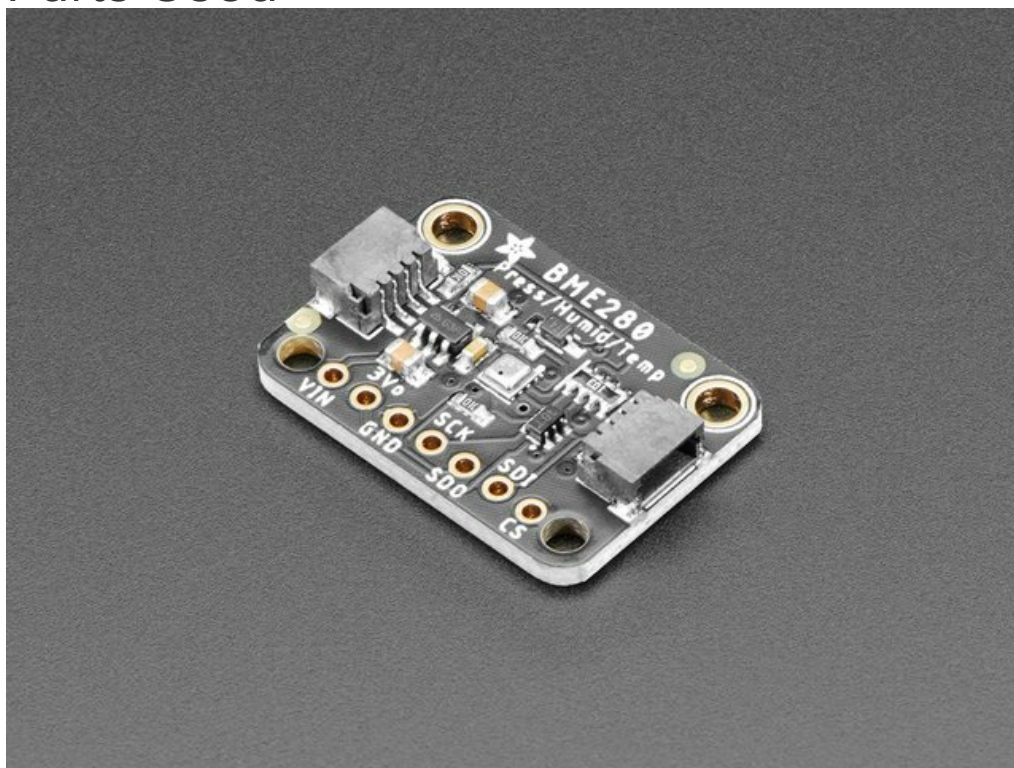
Lets show how to wire up a popular BME280. This sensor provides temperature, barometric pressure and humidity data over I2C

We're going to do this in a lot more depth than our guide pages for each sensor, but the overall technique is basically identical for any and all I2C sensors.

Honestly, the hardest part of using I2C devices is [figuring out the I2C address](https://adafruit.it/BK0) (<https://adafruit.it/BK0>) and which pin is SDA and which pin is SCL!

Don't forget you have to enable I2C with raspi-config!

## Parts Used



[Adafruit BME280 I2C or SPI Temperature Humidity Pressure Sensor](#)

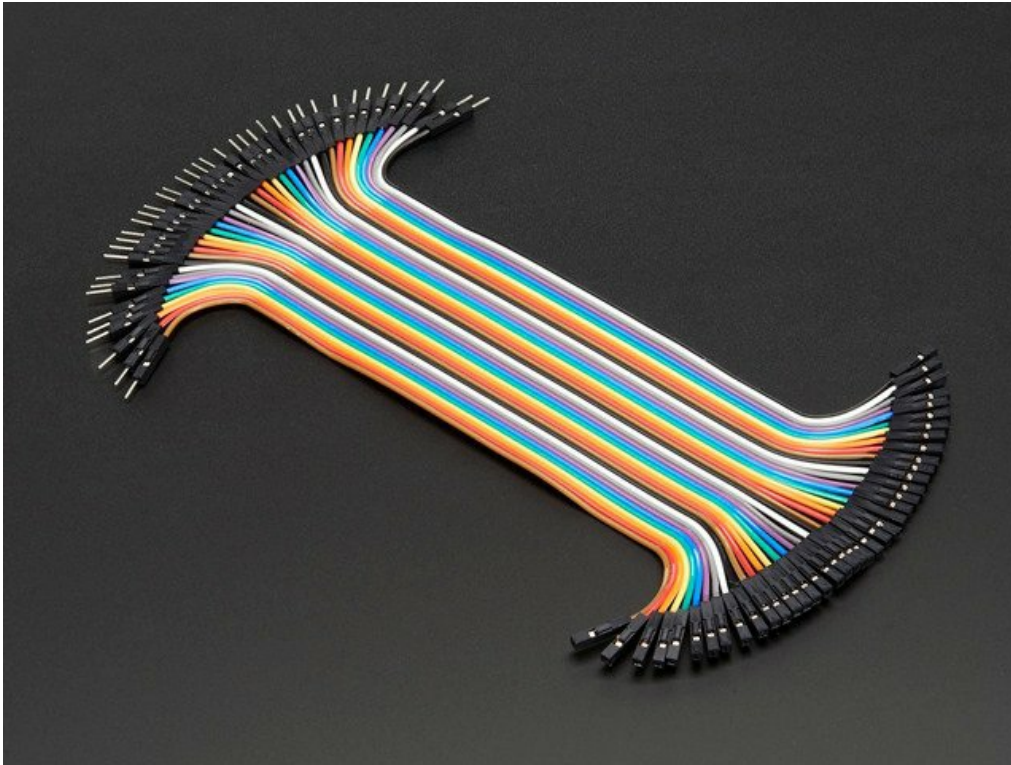
Bosch has stepped up their game with their new BME280 sensor, an environmental sensor with temperature, barometric pressure and humidity! This sensor is great for all sorts...

\$14.95

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We recommend using a breadboard and some female-male wires.



#### Premium Female/Male 'Extension' Jumper Wires - 40 x 6" (150mm)

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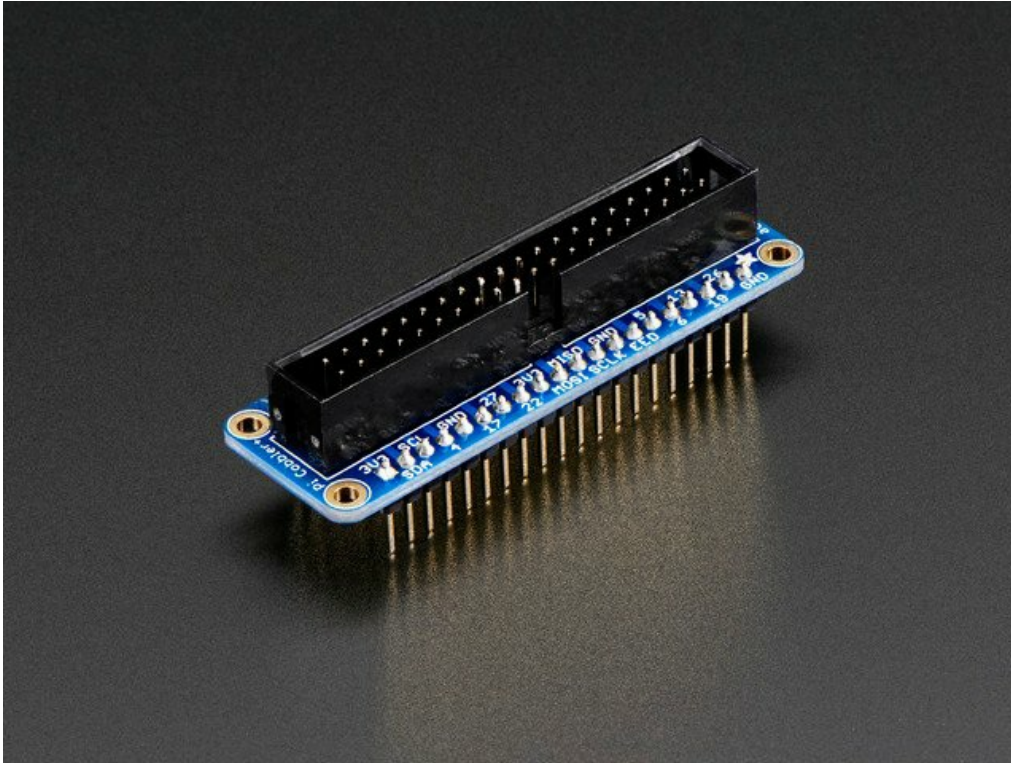
\$3.95

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You can use a Cobbler to make this a little easier, the pins are then labeled!





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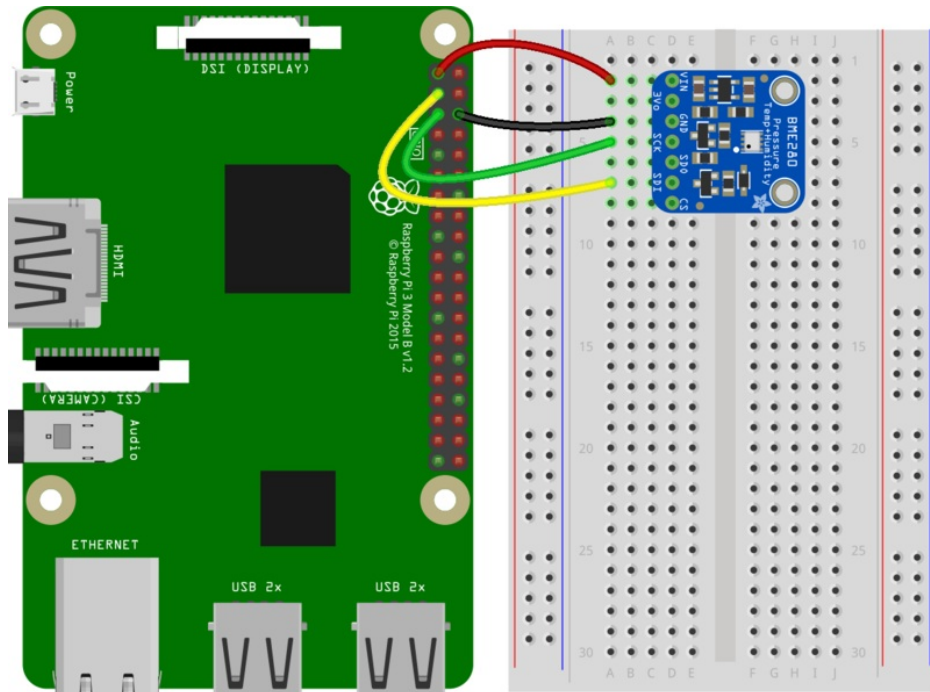
\$7.95

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## Wiring

- Connect the Raspberry Pi **3.3V** power pin to **Vin**
- Connect the Raspberry Pi **GND** pin to **GND**
- Connect the Pi **SDA** pin to the BME280 **SDI**
- Connect the Pi **SCL** pin to the BME280 **SCK**



fritzing

Double-check you have the right wires connected to the right location, it can be tough to keep track of Pi pins as there are forty of them!

After wiring, we recommend running I2C detection to verify that you see the device, in this case its address **77**

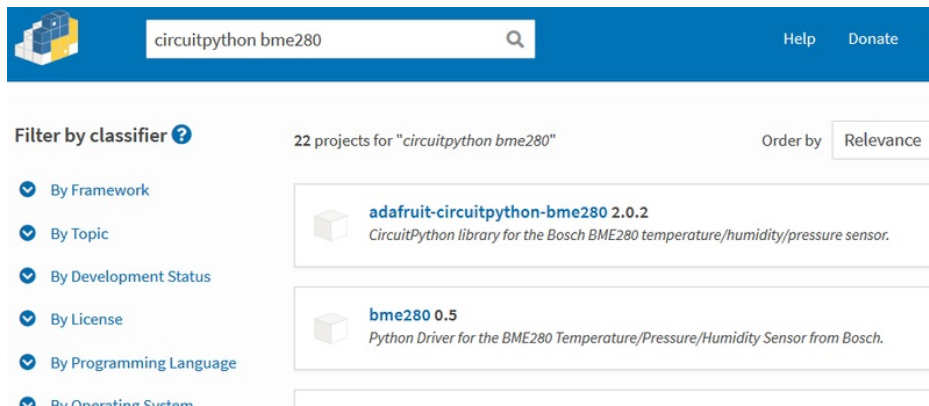
```
sudo i2cdetect -y 1
```

```
pi@devpi: ~/py
(py) pi@devpi:~/py $ i2cdetect -y 1
    0  1  2  3  4  5  6  7  8  9  a  b  c  d  e  f
00:  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --
10:  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --
20:  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --
30:  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --
40:  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --
50:  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --
60:  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --
70:  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  77
(py) pi@devpi:~/py $
```

## Install the CircuitPython BME280 Library

OK onto the good stuff, you can now install the Adafruit BME280 CircuitPython library.

As of this writing, not *all* libraries are up on PyPI so you may want to search before trying to install. Look for **circuitpython** and then the driver you want.



(If you don't see it [you can open up a github issue on circuitpython to remind us](https://adafru.it/tB7) (<https://adafru.it/tB7>))

Once you know the name, install it with

```
pip3 install adafruit-circuitpython-bme280
```

```
pi@devpi: ~/py
(py) pi@devpi:~/py $ pip install adafruit-circuitpython-bme280
Looking in indexes: https://pypi.org/simple, https://www.piwheels.org/simple
Collecting adafruit-circuitpython-bme280
Requirement already satisfied: Adafruit-Blinka in ./lib/python3.5/site-packages
(from adafruit-circuitpython-bme280) (0.1.6)
Collecting adafruit-circuitpython-busdevice (from adafruit-circuitpython-bme280)
Requirement already satisfied: Adafruit-GPIO in ./lib/python3.5/site-packages (f
rom Adafruit-Blinka->adafruit-circuitpython-bme280) (1.0.3)
Requirement already satisfied: spidev in ./lib/python3.5/site-packages (from Ada
fruit-GPIO->Adafruit-Blinka->adafruit-circuitpython-bme280) (3.2)
Requirement already satisfied: adafruit-pureio in ./lib/python3.5/site-packages
(from Adafruit-GPIO->Adafruit-Blinka->adafruit-circuitpython-bme280) (0.2.3)
Installing collected packages: adafruit-circuitpython-busdevice, adafruit-circui
tpython-bme280
Successfully installed adafruit-circuitpython-bme280-2.0.2 adafruit-circuitpytho
n-busdevice-2.2.2
(py) pi@devpi:~/py $
```

You'll notice we also installed a *dependancy* called **adafruit-circuitpython-busdevice**. This is a great thing about pip, if you have other required libraries they'll get installed too!

We also recommend an **adafruit-blinka** update in case we've fixed bugs:

```
pip3 install --upgrade adafruit_blinka
```

## Run that code!

The finish line is right up ahead. You can now run one of the (many in some cases) example scripts we've written for you.

Check out the examples for your library by visiting the repository for the library and looking in the example folder. In this case, it would be

[https://github.com/adafruit/Adafruit\\_CircuitPython\\_BME280/tree/master/examples](https://github.com/adafruit/Adafruit_CircuitPython_BME280/tree/master/examples) (<https://adafru.it/BK1>)

As of this writing there's only one example. But that's cool, here it is:

```
# SPDX-FileCopyrightText: 2021 ladyada for Adafruit Industries
# SPDX-License-Identifier: MIT

import time
import board
import adafruit_bme280

# Create sensor object, using the board's default I2C bus.
i2c = board.I2C() # uses board.SCL and board.SDA
bme280 = adafruit_bme280.Adafruit_BME280_I2C(i2c)

# OR create sensor object, using the board's default SPI bus.
# spi = board.SPI()
# bme_cs = digitalio.DigitalInOut(board.D10)
# bme280 = adafruit_bme280.Adafruit_BME280_SPI(spi, bme_cs)

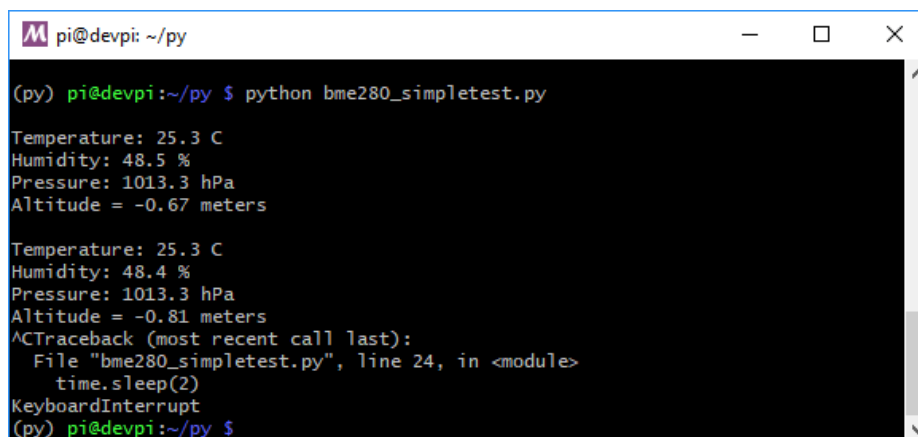
# change this to match the location's pressure (hPa) at sea level
bme280.sea_level_pressure = 1013.25

while True:
    print("\nTemperature: %0.1f C" % bme280.temperature)
    print("Humidity: %0.1f %" % bme280.relative_humidity)
    print("Pressure: %0.1f hPa" % bme280.pressure)
    print("Altitude = %0.2f meters" % bme280.altitude)
    time.sleep(2)
```

Save this code to your Pi by copying and pasting it into a text file, downloading it directly from the Pi, etc.

Then in your command line run

```
python3 bme280_simpletest.py
```



```
pi@devpi: ~/py
(py) pi@devpi:~/py $ python bme280_simpletest.py
Temperature: 25.3 C
Humidity: 48.5 %
Pressure: 1013.3 hPa
Altitude = -0.67 meters

Temperature: 25.3 C
Humidity: 48.4 %
Pressure: 1013.3 hPa
Altitude = -0.81 meters
^CTraceback (most recent call last):
  File "bme280_simpletest.py", line 24, in <module>
    time.sleep(2)
KeyboardInterrupt
(py) pi@devpi:~/py $
```

The code will loop with the sensor data until you quit with a Control-C

That's it! Now if you want to read the documentation on the library, what each function does in depth, visit



our readthedocs documentation at

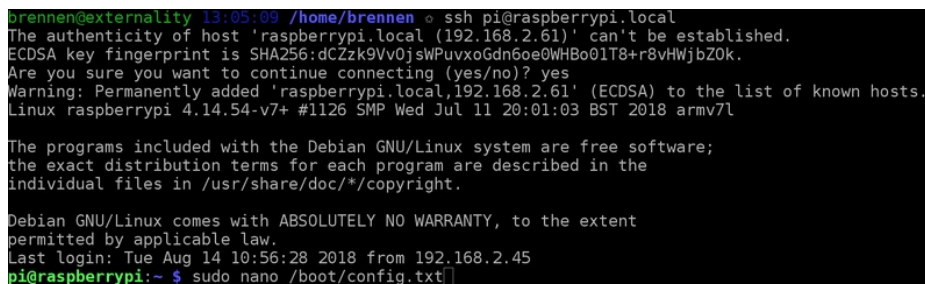
<https://circuitpython.readthedocs.io/projects/bme280/en/latest/> (<https://adafru.it/BK2>)

# I2C Clock Stretching

In order to use certain I2C sensors, such as the [BNO055 \(https://adafru.it/fE0\)](https://adafru.it/fE0), BNO085 and the [CCS811 \(https://adafru.it/BIK\)](https://adafru.it/BIK), you'll need to enable I2C clock stretching 'support' by greatly slowing down the I2C clock on the Raspberry Pi using the device tree overlay.

This is done by adding a line in `/boot/config.txt`. Log in to a terminal on your Pi and open that file in Nano, or your text editor of choice:

```
sudo nano /boot/config.txt
```



```
brennen@externality 13:05:09 /home/brennen ~ ssh pi@raspberrypi.local
The authenticity of host 'raspberrypi.local (192.168.2.61)' can't be established.
ECDSA key fingerprint is SHA256:dCZzk9Vv0jswPuvxoGdn6oe0WHBo01T8+r8vHWjbZ0k.
Are you sure you want to continue connecting (yes/no)? yes
Warning: Permanently added 'raspberrypi.local,192.168.2.61' (ECDSA) to the list of known hosts.
Linux raspberrypi 4.14.54-v7+ #1126 SMP Wed Jul 11 20:01:03 BST 2018 armv7l

The programs included with the Debian GNU/Linux system are free software;
the exact distribution terms for each program are described in the
individual files in /usr/share/doc/*/copyright.

Debian GNU/Linux comes with ABSOLUTELY NO WARRANTY, to the extent
permitted by applicable law.
Last login: Tue Aug 14 10:56:28 2018 from 192.168.2.45
pi@raspberrypi:~$ sudo nano /boot/config.txt
```

Scroll down until you find a block like:

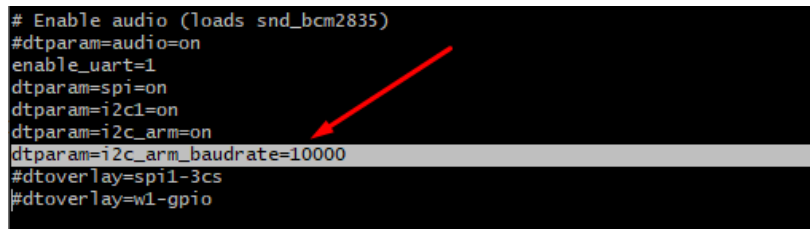
```
# Uncomment some of all of these to enable the optional hardware interfaces
dtparam=i2c_arm=on
dtparam=i2s=on
dtparam=spi=on
```

This block might vary depending on what you've enabled in `raspi-config`. Directly below it, add the following:

```
# Clock stretching by slowing down to 10KHz
dtparam=i2c_arm_baudrate=10000
```

The default baudrate may be 100KHz or 1MHz, by slowing it down to 10KHz or more, you may be able to be slow enough to avoid missing clocks.

In Nano, your screen should look like this:



```
# Enable audio (loads snd_bcm2835)
#dtparam=audio=on
enable_uart=1
dtparam=spi=on
dtparam=i2c1=on
dtparam=i2c_arm=on
dtparam=i2c_arm_baudrate=10000
#dtoverlay=spi1-3cs
#dtoverlay=w1-gpio
```

Next, save the file and exit (in Nano, press **Ctrl-X**, **y** for yes, and **Enter**).

Now you can reboot your Pi and proceed to testing your I2C device:

```
sudo reboot
```

If you still get bad data, try slowing it down more, maybe to 5 KHz or 1 KHz rate. Reboot after each change



# SPI Sensors & Devices

SPI is less popular than I2C but still you'll see lots of sensors and chips use it. Unlike I2C, you don't have everything share two wires. Instead, there's three shared wires (**clock**, **data in**, **data out**) and then a unique '**chip select**' line for each chip.

The nice thing about SPI is you can have as many chips as you like, even the same kind, all share the three SPI wires, as long as each one has a unique chip select pin.

The formal/technical names for the 4 pins used are:

- SPI clock - called **SCLK**, **SCK** or **CLK**
- SPI data out - called **MOSI** for **M**icrocomputer **O**ut **S**erial **I**n. This is the wire that takes data *from* the Linux computer *to* the sensor/chip. Sometimes marked **SDI** or **DI** on chips
- SPI data in - called **MISO** for **M**icrocomputer **I**n **S**erial **O**ut. This is the wire that takes data *to* the Linux computer *from* the sensor/chip. Sometimes marked **SDO** or **DO** on chips
- SPI chip select - called **CS** or **CE**

Remember, connect all SCK, MOSI and MISO pins together (unless there's some specific reason/instruction not to) and a unique CS pin for each device.

**WARNING! SPI on Linux/Raspberry PI WARNING!**

SPI on microcontrollers is fairly simple, you have an SPI peripheral and you can transfer data on it with some low level command. Its 'your job' as a programmer to control the CS lines with a GPIO. That's how CircuitPython is structured as well. `busio` does just the SPI transmit/receive part and `busdevice` handles the chip select pin as well.

Linux, on the other hand, doesn't let you send data to SPI without a CS line, and the CS lines are fixed in hardware as well. For example on the Raspberry Pi, there's only two CS pins available for the hardware SPI pins - **CE0** and **CE1** - and you *have* to use them. (In theory there's an ioctl option called `no_cs` but this does not actually work)

The upshot here is - to let you use more than 2 peripherals on SPI, we decided to **let you use any CS pins** you like, CircuitPython will toggle it the way you expect. But when we transfer SPI data we always tell the kernel to use **CE0**. CE0 will toggle like a CS pin, but if we leave it disconnected, its no big deal

**The upshot here is basically never connect anything to CE0** (or **CE1** for that matter). Use whatever chip select pin you define in CircuitPython and just leave the **CE** pins alone, it will toggle as if it is the chip select line, completely on its own, so you shouldn't try to use it as a digital input/output/whatever.

**Don't forget you have to enable SPI with raspi-config!**

If you have installed a PiTFT from another guide, you will need to "uninstall" that before you can use the main spi ports.

# Using the Second SPI Port

The Raspberry Pi has a 'main' SPI port, but not a lot of people know there's a second one too! This is handy if you are using the main SPI port for a PiTFT or other kernel-driven device. [You can enable this SPI #1 by adding \(https://adafru.it/Oaa\)](https://adafru.it/Oaa)

```
dtoverlay=spi1-3cs
```

to the bottom of `/boot/config.txt` and rebooting. You'll then see the addition of some `/dev/spidev1.x` devices.

Here's the wiring for SPI #1:

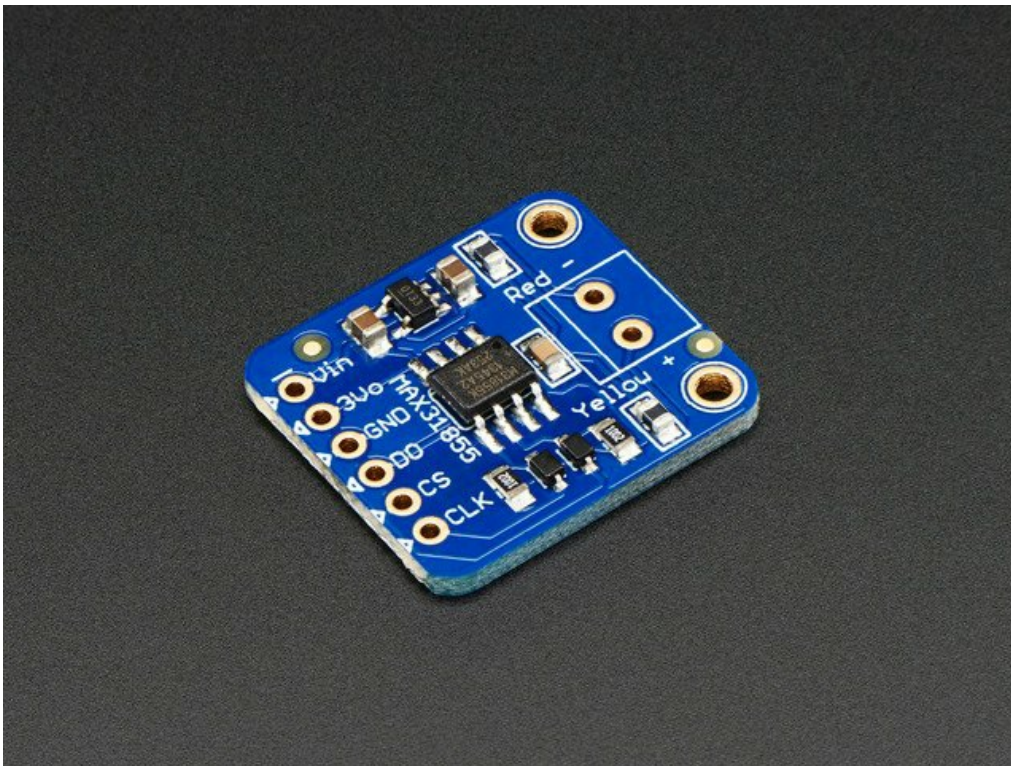
- **SCK\_1** on GPIO #21
- **MOSI\_1** on GPIO #20
- **MISO\_1** on GPIO #19
- SPI #1 **CS0** on GPIO 18
- SPI #1 **CS1** on GPIO 17
- SPI #1 **CS2** on GPIO 16

like the main SPI, we'll use CEO as our default but don't connect to it! Use any other pin and leave that one unused. Then update your scripts to use

```
spi = busio.SPI(board.SCK_1, MOSI=board.MOSI_1, MISO=board.MISO_1)
```

## Parts Used

OK now that we've gone thru the warning, lets wire up an SPI MAX31855 thermocouple sensor, this particular device doesn't have a MOSI pin so we'll not connect it.



Thermocouple Amplifier MAX31855 breakout board (MAX6675 upgrade)

Thermocouples are very sensitive, requiring a good amplifier with a cold-compensation reference. The MAX31855K does everything for you, and can be easily interfaced with any...

\$14.95

In Stock

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#### Thermocouple Type-K Glass Braid Insulated

Thermocouples are best used for measuring temperatures that can go above 100 °C. This is a bare wires bead-probe which can measure air or surface temperatures. Most inexpensive...

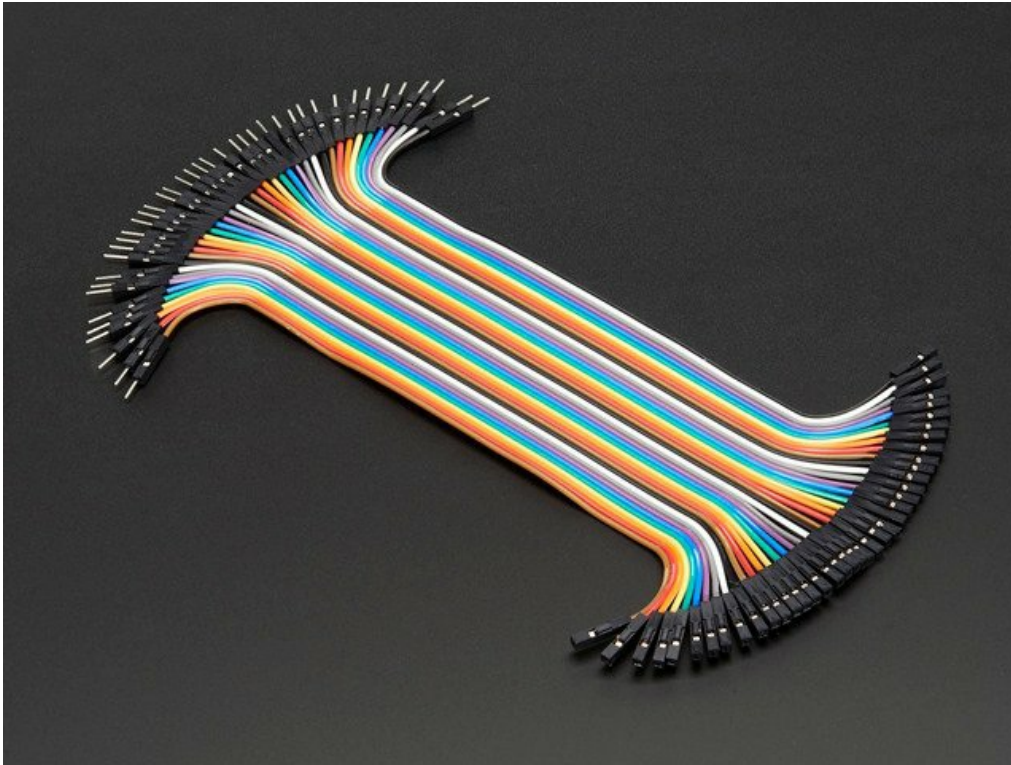
\$9.95

In Stock

Add to Cart

We recommend using a breadboard and some female-male wires.





#### Premium Female/Male 'Extension' Jumper Wires - 40 x 6" (150mm)

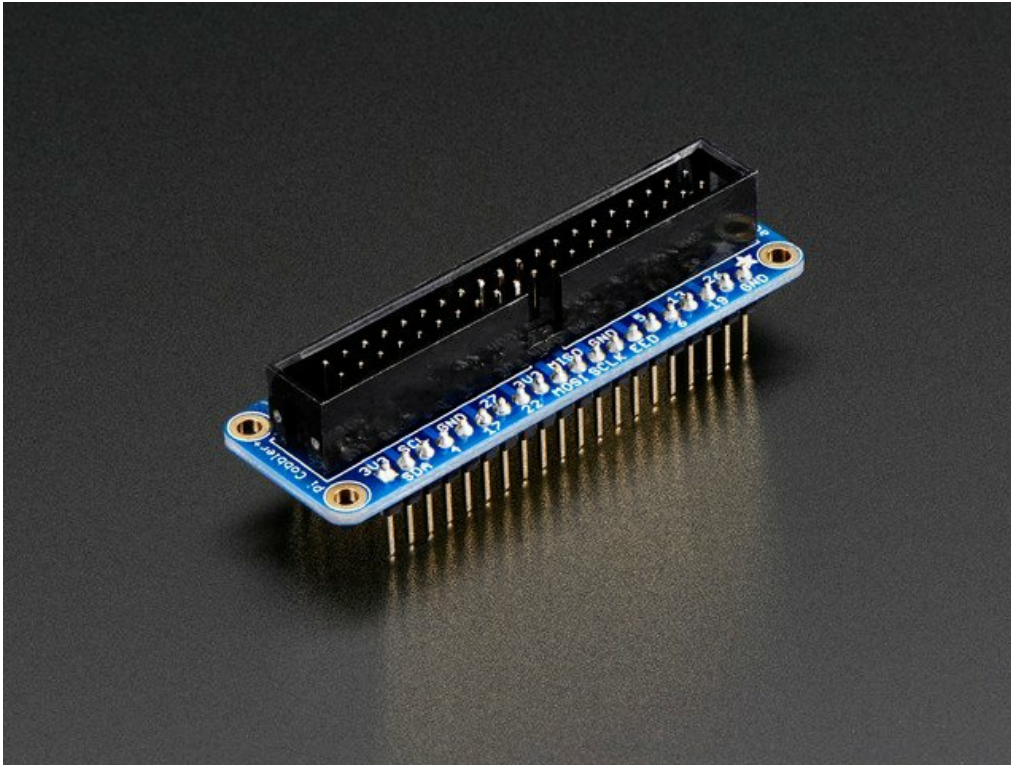
Handy for making wire harnesses or jumpering between headers on PCB's. These premium jumper wires are 6" (150mm) long and come in a 'strip' of 40 (4 pieces of each of ten rainbow...

\$3.95

In Stock

[Add to Cart](#)

You can use a Cobbler to make this a little easier, the pins are then labeled!



#### Adafruit Pi Cobbler + Kit- Breakout Cable for Pi B+/A+/Pi 2/Pi 3

The Raspberry Pi B+ has landed on the Maker World like a 40-GPIO pinned, quad-USB ported, credit card sized bomb of DIY joy. And while you can use most of our great Model B accessories...

Out of Stock

Out of  
Stock





## Assembled Pi T-Cobbler Plus - GPIO Breakout

This is the assembled version of the Pi T-Cobbler Plus. It only works with the Raspberry Pi Model Zero, A+, B+, Pi 2, Pi 3 & Pi 4! (Any Pi with 2x20...

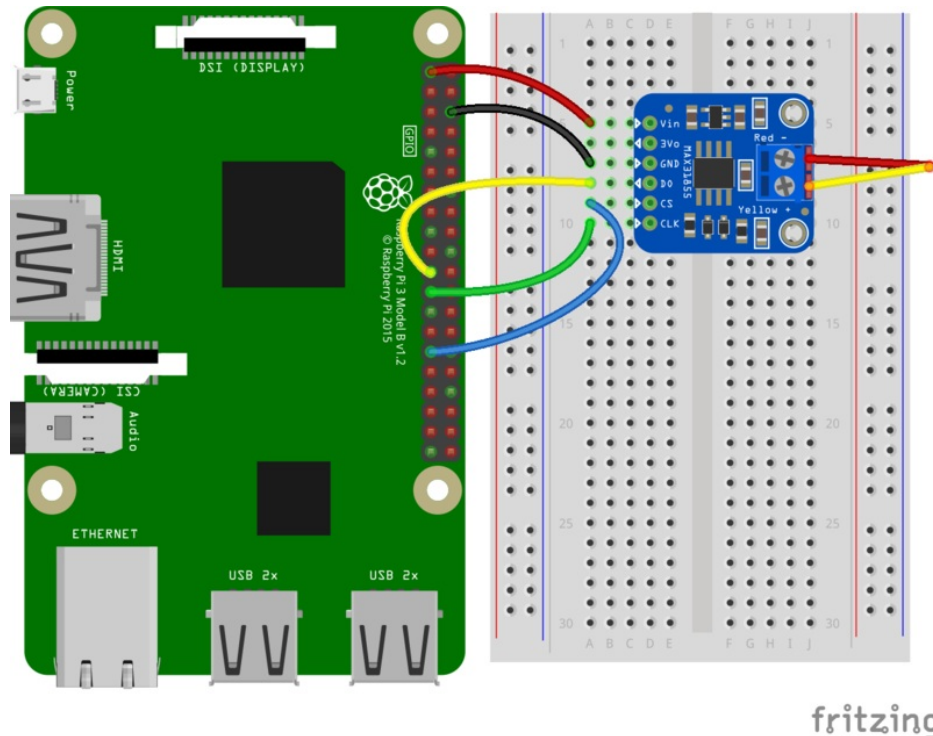
\$7.95

In Stock

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## Wiring

- Connect the Raspberry Pi **3.3V** power pin to **Vin**
- Connect the Raspberry Pi **GND** pin to **GND**
- Connect the Pi **SCLK** pin to the MAX31855 **CLK**
- Connect the Pi **MISO** pin to the MAX31855 **DO**
- Connect the Pi **GPIO 5** pin to the MAX31855 **CS**



<https://adafru.it/BKi>

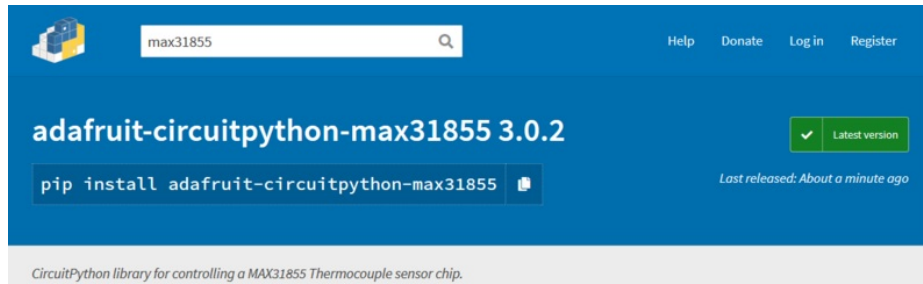
<https://adafru.it/BKi>

Double-check you have the right wires connected to the right location, it can be tough to keep track of Pi pins as there are forty of them!

## Install the CircuitPython MAX31855 Library

OK onto the good stuff, you can now install the Adafruit MAX31855 CircuitPython library.

As of this writing, not *a*ll libraries are up on PyPI so you may want to search before trying to install. Look for **circuitpython** and then the driver you want.



(If you don't see it [you can open up a github issue on circuitpython to remind us](https://adafru.it/tB7) (<https://adafru.it/tB7>)!)

Once you know the name, install it with

```
pip3 install adafruit-circuitpython-max31855
```

```
COM24 - PuTTY
pi@devpi:~$ pip3 install adafruit-circuitpython-max31855
Collecting adafruit-circuitpython-max31855
  Downloading https://files.pythonhosted.org/packages/02/bc/2f306390163e25ef8f4413ffla30dac50ebf9118413dbfa9d264b44a996a/adafruit-circuitpython-max31855-3.0.2.tar.gz
Collecting Adafruit-Blinka (from adafruit-circuitpython-max31855)
Collecting adafruit-circuitpython-busdevice (from adafruit-circuitpython-max31855)
  Cache entry deserialization failed, entry ignored
  Cache entry deserialization failed, entry ignored
  Downloading https://www.piwheels.org/simple/adafruit-circuitpython-busdevice/adafruit_circuitpython_busdevice-2.2.2-py3-none-any.whl
Collecting Adafruit-GPIO (from Adafruit-Blinka->adafruit-circuitpython-max31855)
  Using cached https://www.piwheels.org/simple/adafruit-gpio/Adafruit_GPIO-1.0.3-py3-none-any.whl
Collecting spidev (from Adafruit-GPIO->Adafruit-Blinka->adafruit-circuitpython-max31855)
  Using cached https://www.piwheels.org/simple/spidev/spidev-3.2-cp35-cp35m-linux_armv7l.whl
Collecting adafruit-pureio (from Adafruit-GPIO->Adafruit-Blinka->adafruit-circuitpython-max31855)
  Using cached https://www.piwheels.org/simple/adafruit-pureio/Adafruit_PureIO-0.2.3-py3-none-any.whl
Building wheels for collected packages: adafruit-circuitpython-max31855
  Running setup.py bdist_wheel for adafruit-circuitpython-max31855 ... done
  Stored in directory: /home/pi/.cache/pip/wheels/8b/93/a9/41c486048c873f75cf30f99669c86b5963ed8ef437e4904477
Successfully built adafruit-circuitpython-max31855
Installing collected packages: spidev, adafruit-pureio, Adafruit-GPIO, Adafruit-Blinka, adafruit-circuitpython-busdevice, adafruit-circuitpython-max31855
Successfully installed Adafruit-Blinka-0.1.8 Adafruit-GPIO-1.0.3 adafruit-circuitpython-busdevice-2.2.2 adafruit-circuitpython-max31855-3.0.2 adafruit-pureio-0.2.3 spidev-3.2
pi@devpi:~$
```

You'll notice we also installed a few other *dependancies* called **spidev**, **adafruit-pureio**, **adafruit-circuitpython-busdevice** and more. This is a great thing about pip, if you have other required libraries they'll get installed too!

We also recommend an **adafruit-blinka** update in case we've fixed bugs:

```
pip3 install --upgrade adafruit_blinka
```

## Run that code!

The finish line is right up ahead. You can now run one of the (many in some cases) example scripts we've written for you.

Check out the examples for your library by visiting the repository for the library and looking in the example folder. In this case, it would be

[https://github.com/adafruit/Adafruit\\_CircuitPython\\_MAX31855/tree/master/examples](https://github.com/adafruit/Adafruit_CircuitPython_MAX31855/tree/master/examples) (<https://adafru.it/BKj>)

As of this writing there's only one example. But that's cool, here it is:

```
# SPDX-FileCopyrightText: 2021 ladyada for Adafruit Industries
# SPDX-License-Identifier: MIT

import time
import board
import digitalio
import adafruit_max31855

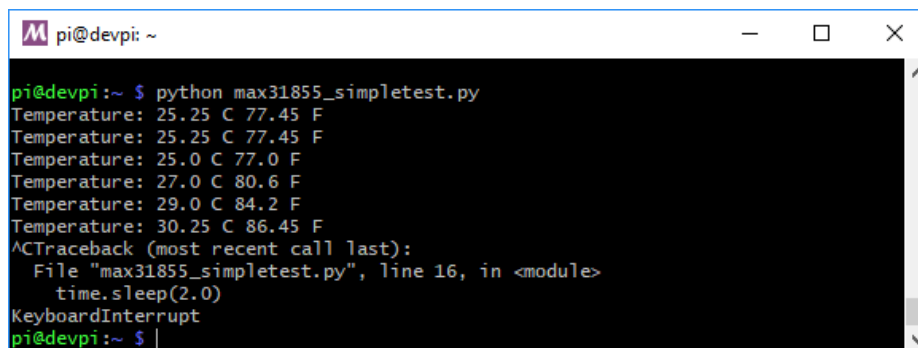
spi = board.SPI()
cs = digitalio.DigitalInOut(board.D5)

max31855 = adafruit_max31855.MAX31855(spi, cs)
while True:
    tempC = max31855.temperature
    tempF = tempC * 9 / 5 + 32
    print("Temperature: {} C {} F".format(tempC, tempF))
    time.sleep(2.0)
```

Save this code to your Pi by copying and pasting it into a text file, downloading it directly from the Pi, etc.

Then in your command line run

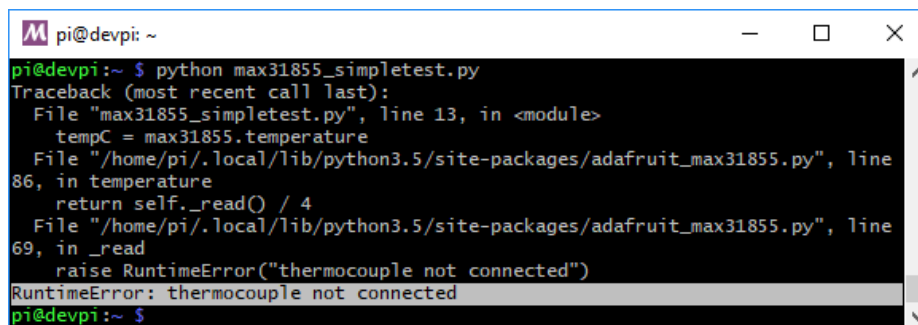
`python3 max31855_simpletest.py`



```
pi@devpi: ~
pi@devpi:~ $ python max31855_simpletest.py
Temperature: 25.25 C 77.45 F
Temperature: 25.25 C 77.45 F
Temperature: 25.0 C 77.0 F
Temperature: 27.0 C 80.6 F
Temperature: 29.0 C 84.2 F
Temperature: 30.25 C 86.45 F
^CTraceback (most recent call last):
  File "max31855_simpletest.py", line 16, in <module>
    time.sleep(2.0)
KeyboardInterrupt
pi@devpi:~ $
```

The code will loop with the sensor data until you quit with a Control-C

Make sure you have a K-type thermocouple installed into the sensor breakout or you will get an error like the one below!



```
pi@devpi: ~
pi@devpi:~ $ python max31855_simpletest.py
Traceback (most recent call last):
  File "max31855_simpletest.py", line 13, in <module>
    tempC = max31855.temperature
  File "/home/pi/.local/lib/python3.5/site-packages/adafruit_max31855.py", line 86, in temperature
    return self._read() / 4
  File "/home/pi/.local/lib/python3.5/site-packages/adafruit_max31855.py", line 69, in _read
    raise RuntimeError("thermocouple not connected")
RuntimeError: thermocouple not connected
pi@devpi:~ $
```

That's it! Now if you want to read the documentation on the library, what each function does in depth, visit our readthedocs documentation at

<https://circuitpython.readthedocs.io/projects/max31855/en/latest/> (<https://adafru.it/BKk>)



☐

†

them in order of recommendation.

The first cable is easy to use and even has little plugs that you can arrange however you like, it contains a CP2102



#### [USB to TTL Serial Cable - Debug / Console Cable for Raspberry Pi](#)

The cable is easiest way ever to connect to your microcontroller/Raspberry Pi/WiFi router serial console port. Inside the big USB plug is a USB&lt;&gt;Serial conversion chip and at...

\$9.95

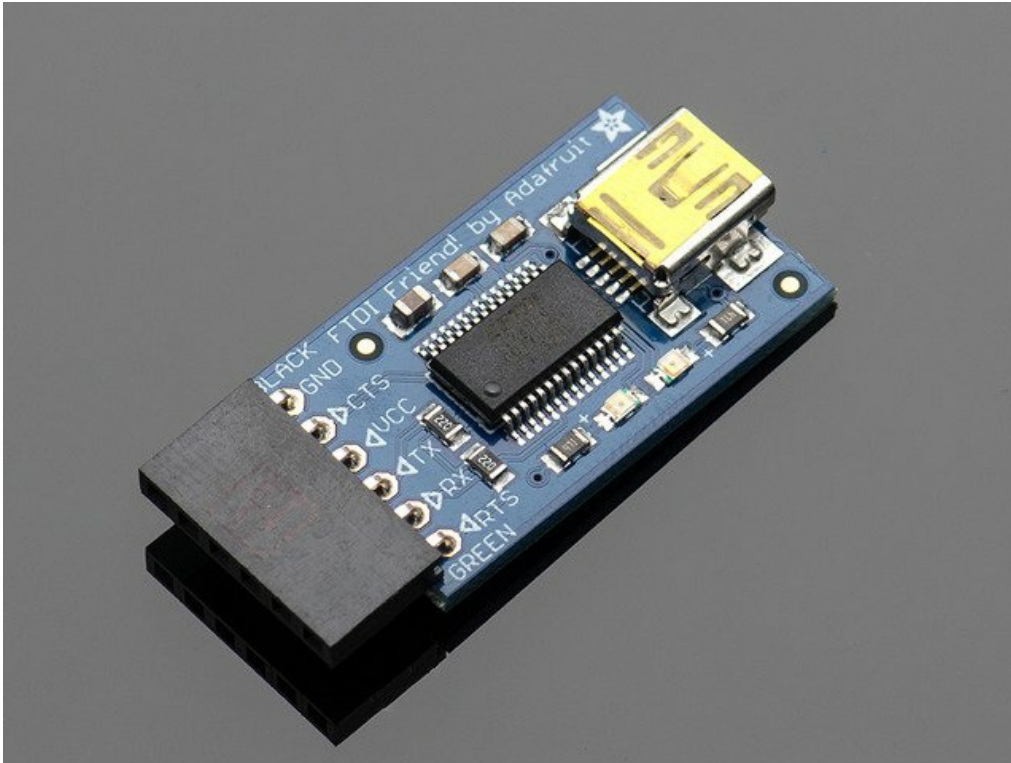
In Stock

[Add to Cart](#)

The CP2104 Friend is low cost, easy to use, but requires a little soldering, it has an '6-pin FTDI compatible' connector on the end, but all pins are broken out the sides







#### FTDI Friend + extras

Long gone are the days of parallel ports and serial ports. Now the USB port reigns supreme! But USB is hard, and you just want to transfer your every-day serial data from a...

\$14.75

In Stock

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## FTDI Serial TTL-232 USB Cable

Just about all electronics use TTL serial for debugging, bootloading, programming, serial output, etc. But it's rare for a computer to have a serial port anymore. This is a USB to...

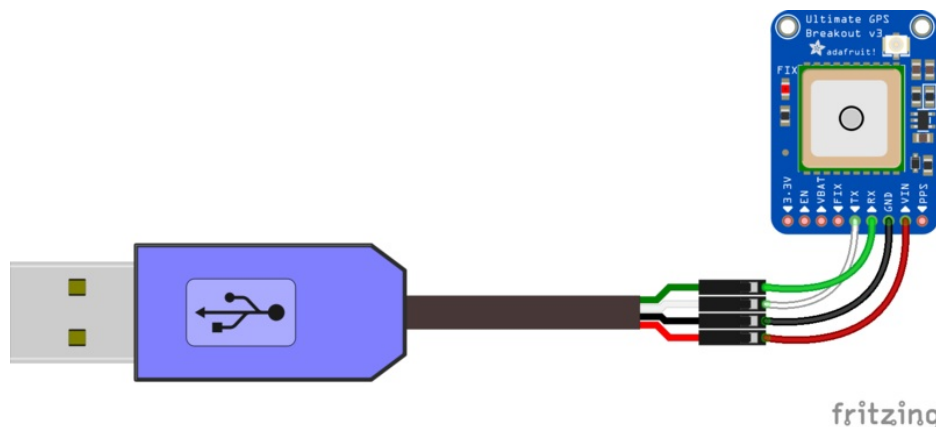
\$17.95

In Stock

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You can wire up the GPS by connecting the following

- **GPS Vin** to **USB 5V** or **3V** (red wire on USB console cable)
- **GPS Ground** to **USB Ground** (black wire)
- **GPS RX** to **USB TX** (green wire)
- **GPS TX** to **USB RX** (white wire)



Once the USB adapter is plugged in, you'll need to figure out what the serial port name is. You can figure it out by unplugging-replugging in the USB and then typing `dmesg | tail -10` (or just `dmesg`) and looking for text like this:

```
pi@devpi:~$ dmesg | tail -10
[ 601.391424] usb 1-1.2: Manufacturer: FTDI
[ 601.391432] usb 1-1.2: SerialNumber: AL00FP25
[ 601.440489] usbcore: registered new interface driver usbserial
[ 601.440554] usbcore: registered new interface driver usbserial_generic
[ 601.440609] usbserial: USB Serial support registered for generic
[ 601.455895] usbcore: registered new interface driver ftdi_sio
[ 601.455970] usbserial: USB Serial support registered for FTDI USB Serial Device
[ 601.456248] ftdi_sio 1-1.2:1.0: FTDI USB Serial Device converter detected
[ 601.456383] usb 1-1.2: Detected FT232RL
[ 601.459259] usb 1-1.2: FTDI USB Serial Device converter now attached to ttyUSB0
```

At the bottom, you'll see the 'name' of the attached device, in this case its `ttyUSB0`, that means our serial port device is available at `/dev/ttyUSB0`

## The Hard Way - Using Built-in UART

If you don't want to plug in external hardware to the Pi you *can* use the built in UART on the RX/TX pins.

**But, if you do this, you'll lose the serial console, so if you're using a PiUART or console cable or HAT that lets you connect directly to the console, that will no longer work and you'll have to use the HDMI+Keyboard or ssh method of running commands!**

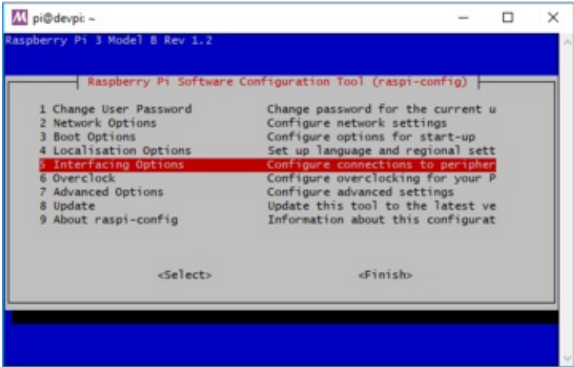
This isn't a big deal, in fact the serial login-console isn't even enabled by default on Raspbian anymore, but it's worth a warning!

## Disabling Console & Enabling Serial

Before wiring up, make sure you have disabled the console.

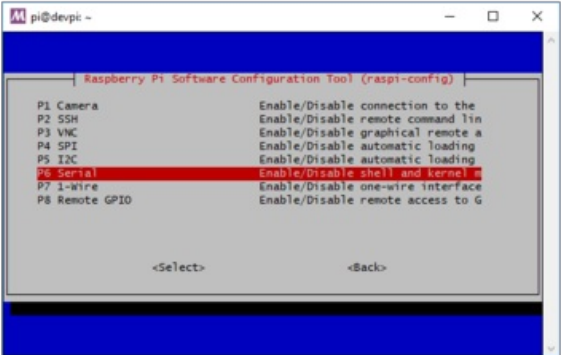
Run `sudo raspi-config` and select the following:

- 



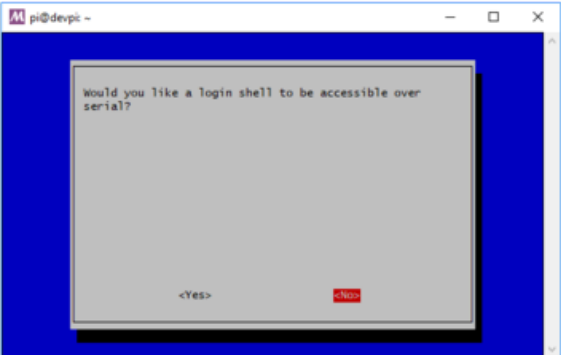
Interfacing Options

- 

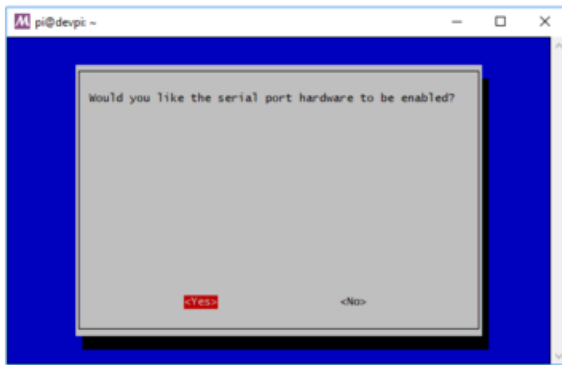


Serial

- 

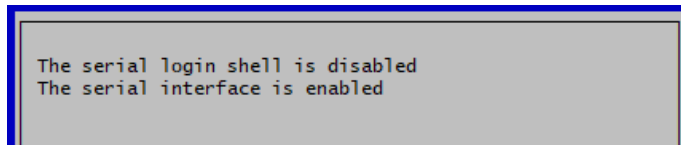


Select **No** on enabling the login shell



Select **Yes** on enabling serial port hardware

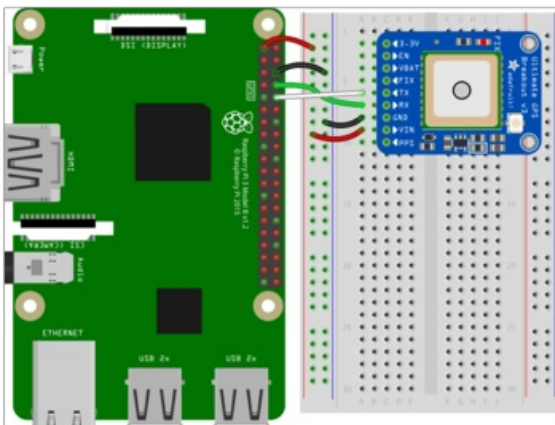
Once complete you should have no console and yes on serial interface:



Then **reboot**

Once you've rebooted, you can use the built in UART via `/dev/ttyS0`

Wire the GPS as follows:

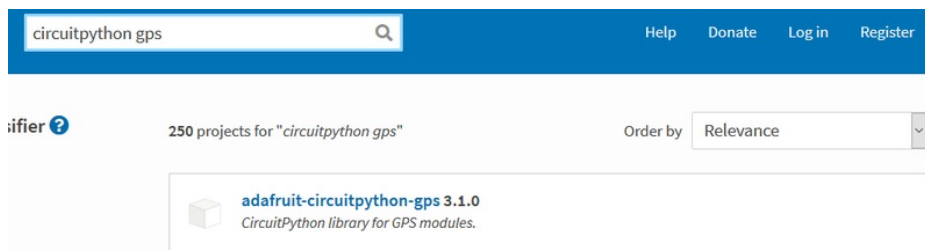


- GPS Vin to 3.3V (red wire)
- GPS Ground to Ground (black wire)
- GPS RX to TX (green wire)
- GPS TX to RX (white wire)

## Install the CircuitPython GPS Library

OK onto the good stuff, you can now install the Adafruit GPS CircuitPython library.

As of this writing, not *all* libraries are up on PyPI so you may want to search before trying to install. Look for **circuitpython** and then the driver you want.



(If you don't see it [you can open up a github issue on circuitpython to remind us \(https://adafru.it/tB7\)!](https://adafru.it/tB7))

Once you know the name, install it with

```
pip3 install adafruit-circuitpython-gps
```

You'll notice we also installed a *dependancy* called **pyserial**. This is a great thing about pip, if you have other required libraries they'll get installed too!

We also recommend an adafruit-blinka update in case we've fixed bugs:

```
pip3 install --upgrade adafruit_blinka
```

## Run that code!

The finish line is right up ahead. You can now run one of the (many in some cases) example scripts we've written for you.

Check out the examples for your library by visiting the repository for the library and looking in the example folder. In this case, it would be

[https://github.com/adafruit/Adafruit\\_CircuitPython\\_GPS/tree/master/examples](https://github.com/adafruit/Adafruit_CircuitPython_GPS/tree/master/examples) (<https://adafru.it/Ca9>)

Lets start with the simplest, the echo example

```
# SPDX-FileCopyrightText: 2021 ladyada for Adafruit Industries
# SPDX-License-Identifier: MIT

# Simple GPS module demonstration.
# Will print NMEA sentences received from the GPS, great for testing connection
# Uses the GPS to send some commands, then reads directly from the GPS
import time
import board
import busio

import adafruit_gps

# Create a serial connection for the GPS connection using default speed and
# a slightly higher timeout (GPS modules typically update once a second).
# These are the defaults you should use for the GPS FeatherWing.
# For other boards set RX = GPS module TX, and TX = GPS module RX pins.
uart = busio.UART(board.TX, board.RX, baudrate=9600, timeout=10)

# for a computer, use the pyserial library for uart access
# import serial
# uart = serial.Serial("/dev/ttyUSB0", baudrate=9600, timeout=10)

# If using I2C, we'll create an I2C interface to talk to using default pins
# i2c = board.I2C()

# Create a GPS module instance.
gps = adafruit_gps.GPS(uart) # Use UART/pyserial
# gps = adafruit_gps.GPS_GtopI2C(i2c) # Use I2C interface

# Initialize the GPS module by changing what data it sends and at what rate.
# These are NMEA extensions for PMTK_314_SET_NMEA_OUTPUT and
# PMTK_220_SET_NMEA_UPDATERATE but you can send anything from here to adjust
# the GPS module behavior:
# https://cdn-shop.adafruit.com/datasheets/PMTK_A11.pdf

# Turn on the basic GGA and RMC info (what you typically want)
gps.send_command(b'PMTK314,0,1,0,1,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0')
# Turn on just minimum info (RMC only, location):
# gps.send_command(b'PMTK314,0,1,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0')
```

```

# Turn off everything:
# gps.send_command(b'PMTK314,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0')
# Tuen on everything (not all of it is parsed!)
# gps.send_command(b'PMTK314,1,1,1,1,1,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0')

# Set update rate to once a second (1hz) which is what you typically want.
gps.send_command(b'PMTK220,1000')
# Or decrease to once every two seconds by doubling the millisecond value.
# Be sure to also increase your UART timeout above!
# gps.send_command(b'PMTK220,2000')
# You can also speed up the rate, but don't go too fast or else you can lose
# data during parsing. This would be twice a second (2hz, 500ms delay):
# gps.send_command(b'PMTK220,500')

# Main loop runs forever printing data as it comes in
timestamp = time.monotonic()
while True:
    data = gps.read(32) # read up to 32 bytes
    # print(data) # this is a bytearray type

    if data is not None:
        # convert bytearray to string
        data_string = "".join([chr(b) for b in data])
        print(data_string, end="")

    if time.monotonic() - timestamp > 5:
        # every 5 seconds...
        gps.send_command(b'PMTK605') # request firmware version
        timestamp = time.monotonic()

```

We'll need to configure this code to work with our UART port name.

- If you're using a USB-to-serial converter, the device name is *probably* `/dev/ttyUSB0` - but check `dmesg` to make sure
- If you're using the built-in UART on a Pi, the device name is `/dev/ttyS0` - note that last character is a zero

Comment out the lines that reference `board.TX`, `board.RX` and `busio.uart` and uncomment the lines that `import serial` and define the `serial` device, like so:

```

# Define RX and TX pins for the board's serial port connected to the GPS.
# These are the defaults you should use for the GPS FeatherWing.
# For other boards set RX = GPS module TX, and TX = GPS module RX pins.
#RX = board.RX
#TX = board.TX

# Create a serial connection for the GPS connection using default speed and
# a slightly higher timeout (GPS modules typically update once a second).
#uart = busio.UART(TX, RX, baudrate=9600, timeout=3000)

# for a computer, use the pyserial library for uart access
import serial
uart = serial.Serial("/dev/ttyUSB0", baudrate=9600, timeout=3000)

```

And update the `"/dev/ttyUSB0"` device name if necessary to match your USB interface

Whichever method you use, you should see output like this, with **\$GP** "NMEA sentences" - there probably wont be actual location data because you haven't gotten a GPS fix. As long as you see those **\$GP** strings

sorta like the below, you've got it working!

```
root@orangepipc:/home/pi# python3 gpstest.py
$PMTK001,314,3*36
$PMTK001,220,3*30
$GPGGA,000013.800,,,,,0,00,,,M,,,*72
$GPRMC,000013.800,V,,,,,0.00,0.00,060180,,,N*48
$GPGGA,000014.799,,,,,0,00,,,M,,,*7A
$GPRMC,000014.799,V,,,,,0.00,0.00,060180,,,N*40
$GPGGA,000015.799,,,,,0,00,,,M,,,*7B
$GPRMC,000015.799,V,,,,,0.00,0.00,060180,,,N*41
$GPGGA,000016.799,,,,,0,00,,,M,,,*78
$GPRMC,000016.799,V,,,,,0.00,0.00,060180,,,N*42
$GPGGA,000017.799,,,,,0,00,,,M,,,*79
```



# PWM Outputs & Servos

Adafruit Blinka supports PWMOut! This means you can easily pulse LEDs and control servos from your Raspberry Pi using any GPIO pin! This page will walk you through wiring up an LED and a servo, and provide an example for each.

## Update Adafruit Blinka

Before getting started, make sure you're running the latest version of Adafruit Blinka. If you have not already installed it, run the following:

```
pip3 install adafruit-blinka
```

If you've previously installed it, you should run a pip3 update:

```
pip3 install --upgrade adafruit-blinka
```

Once you're certain that you are running the latest version of Adafruit Blinka, you can continue!

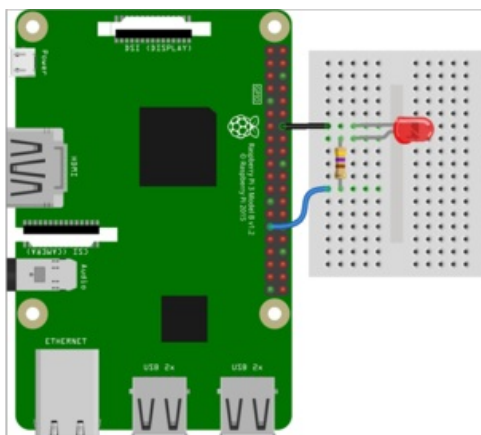
## Supported Pins

PWMOut is supported on all GPIO pins on the Raspberry Pi! They are independent, and each can have a different frequency and duty cycle.

## PWM - LEDs

This example will show you how to use PWM to pulse fade an LED.

First, wire up the LED to the Raspberry Pi.



- LED - (negative) to Pi GND
- LED + (positive) to 470Ω resistor
- 470Ω resistor to Pi GPIO5

Double-check you have the right wires connected to the right location, it can be tough to keep track of pins as there are forty of them!

No additional libraries are needed, so we can go straight on to the example code.

Run the following code:

```
import time
import board
import pwmio

led = pwmio.PWMOut(board.D5, frequency=5000, duty_cycle=0)

while True:
    for i in range(100):
        # PWM LED up and down
        if i < 50:
            led.duty_cycle = int(i * 2 * 65535 / 100) # Up
        else:
            led.duty_cycle = 65535 - int((i - 50) * 2 * 65535 / 100) # Down
        time.sleep(0.01)
```

Verify that the LED is pulsing. If not, check that it's wired to GPIO #5, the resistor is installed correctly, and you have a ground wire to the Raspberry Pi.

Type control-C to quit.

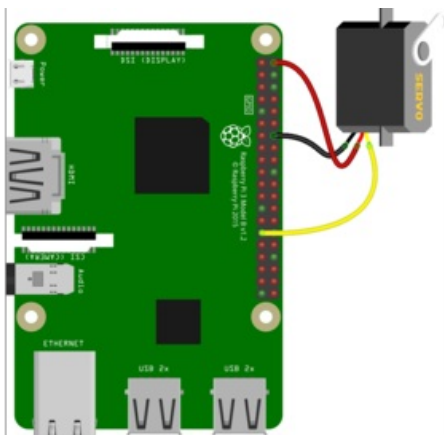
## Servo Control

In order to use servos, we take advantage of `pulseio`. You have two options. You can use the raw `pulseio` calls to set the frequency to 50 Hz and then set the pulse widths. Or, you can use `adafruit_motor` which manages servos for you quite nicely.

This section will cover both options.

Install `adafruit_motor` by running `pip3 install adafruit-circuitpython-motor`

First, wire up a servo to your Raspberry Pi:



- Servo power (red wire) to Raspberry Pi 5V
- Servo ground (black/brown wire) to Raspberry Pi ground
- Servo signal (yellow/white wire) to Raspberry Pi GPIO5

### `pulseio` Servo Control

Run the following code:

```

import time
import board
import pwmio

# Initialize PWM output for the servo (on pin D5):
servo = pwmio.PWMOut(board.D5, frequency=50)

# Create a function to simplify setting PWM duty cycle for the servo:
def servo_duty_cycle(pulse_ms, frequency=50):
    period_ms = 1.0 / frequency * 1000.0
    duty_cycle = int(pulse_ms / (period_ms / 65535.0))
    return duty_cycle

# Main loop will run forever moving between 1.0 and 2.0 mS long pulses:
while True:
    servo.duty_cycle = servo_duty_cycle(1.0)
    time.sleep(1.0)
    servo.duty_cycle = servo_duty_cycle(2.0)
    time.sleep(1.0)

```

The servo should sweep back and forth repeatedly. If it does not, verify your wiring matches the diagram above.

Type control-C to quit.

## adafruit\_motor Servo Control

Run the following code:

```

import time
import board
import pwmio
from adafruit_motor import servo

# create a PWMOut object on Pin D5.
pwm = pwmio.PWMOut(board.D5, duty_cycle=2 ** 15, frequency=50)

# Create a servo object.
servo = servo.Servo(pwm)

while True:
    for angle in range(0, 180, 5): # 0 - 180 degrees, 5 degrees at a time.
        servo.angle = angle
        time.sleep(0.05)
    for angle in range(180, 0, -5): # 180 - 0 degrees, 5 degrees at a time.
        servo.angle = angle
        time.sleep(0.05)

```

The servo should sweep back and forth in steps. If it does not, verify your wiring matches the diagram above.

Type control-C to quit.

# More To Come!

That's just a taste of what we've got working so far

We're adding more support constantly, so please hold tight and [visit the adafruit\\_blinka github repo \(https://adafru.it/BJX\)](#) to share your feedback and perhaps even submit some improvements!

If you'd like to contribute, but aren't sure where to start, check out the following guides:

- [Adding a Single Board Computer to PlatformDetect for Blinka \(https://adafru.it/JFy\)](#)
- [Adding a Single Board Computer to Blinka \(https://adafru.it/KEF\)](#)

# CircuitPython & OrangePi

CircuitPython & OrangePi (<https://adafru.it/DbB>)



# FAQ & Troubleshooting

There's a few oddities when running Blinka/CircuitPython on linux. Here's a list of stuff to watch for that we know of!

This FAQ covers all the various platforms and hardware setups you can run Blinka on. Therefore, some of the information may not apply to your specific setup.

## Update Blinka/Platform Libraries

Most issues can be solved by forcing Python to upgrade to the latest **blinka** / **platform-detect** libraries.

Try running

```
sudo python3 -m pip install --upgrade --force-reinstall adafruit-blinkaAdafruit-PlatformDetect
```

## Getting an error message about "board" not found or "board" has no attribute

Somehow you have ended up with either the wrong **board** module or no **board** module at all.

**DO NOT** try to fix this by manually installing a library named **board**. There is [one out there \(https://adafru.it/NCE\)](https://adafru.it/NCE) and it has nothing to do with Blinka. You will break things if you install that library!

The easiest way to recover is to simply force a reinstall of Blinka with:

```
python3 -m pip install --upgrade --force-reinstall adafruit-blinka
```

## Mixed SPI mode devices

Due to the way we share an SPI peripheral, you cannot have two SPI devices with different 'mode/polarity' on the same SPI bus - you'll get weird data

95% of SPI devices are mode 0, check the driver to see mode or polarity settings. For example:

- **LSM9DS1** is mode 1 (<https://adafru.it/NCF>), please use in I2C mode instead of SPI
- **MAX31865** is phase 1 (<https://adafru.it/NCG>), try using this on a separate SPI device, or read data twice.

## Why am I getting AttributeError: 'SpiDev' object has no attribute 'writebytes2'?

This is due to having an older version of **spidev** (<https://adafru.it/JEI>). You need at least version 3.4. This should have been [taken care of \(https://adafru.it/NCH\)](https://adafru.it/NCH) when you installed Blinka, but in some cases it does not seem to happen.

To check what version of spidev Python is using:

```
$ python3
```



```
Python 3.6.8 (default, Oct 7 2019, 12:59:55)
[GCC 8.3.0] on linux
Type "help", "copyright", "credits" or "license" for more information.
>>> import spidev
>>> spidev.__version__
'3.4'
>>>
```

If you see a version lower than 3.4 reported, then try a force upgrade of spidev with (back at command line):

```
sudo python3 -m pip install --upgrade --force-reinstall spidev
```

## No Pullup/Pulldown support on some linux boards or MCP2221

Some linux boards, for example, AllWinner-based, do not have support to set pull up or pull down on their GPIO. Use an external resistor instead!

## Getting OSError: read error with MCP2221

If you are getting a stack trace that ends with something like:

```
return self._hid.read(64)
File "hid.pyx", line 122, in hid.device.read
OSError: read error
```

Try setting an environment variable named **BLINKA\_MCP2221\_RESET\_DELAY** to a value of **0.5** or higher.

Windows:

```
set BLINKA_MCP2221_RESET_DELAY=0.5
```

Linux:

```
export BLINKA_MCP2221_RESET_DELAY=0.5
```

This is a value in seconds to wait between resetting the MCP2221 and the attempt to reopen it. The reset is seen by the operating system as a hardware disconnect/reconnect. Different operating systems can need different amounts of time to wait after the reconnect before the attempt to reopen. Setting the above environment variable will override the default reset delay time, allowing it to be increased as needed for different setups.

## Using FT232H with other FTDI devices.

Blinka uses the libusbk driver to talk to the FT232H directly. If you have other FTDI devices installed that are using the FTDI VCP drivers, you may run into issues. See here for a possible workaround:

<https://forums.adafruit.com/viewtopic.php?f=19&t=166999> (<https://adafru.it/doW>)

## I can't get neopixel, analogio, audioio, rotaryio, displayio or pulseio to work!

Some CircuitPython modules like may not be supported.

- Most SBCs do not have analog inputs so there is no `analogio`
- Few SBCs have `neopixel` support so that is only available on Raspberry Pi (and any others that have low level neopixel protocol writing)
- Rotary encoders ( `rotaryio` ) is handled by interrupts on microcontrollers, and is not supported on SBCs at this time
- Likewise `pulseio` PWM support is not supported on many SBCs, and if it is, it will not support a carrier wave (Infrared transmission)
- For display usage, we suggest using python `Pillow` library or `Pygame` , we do not have `displayio` support

We aim to have, at a minimum, `digitalio` and `busio` (I2C/SPI). This lets you use the vast number of driver libraries

For analog inputs, [the MCP3xxx library \(https://adafru.it/CPN\)](https://adafru.it/CPN) will give you `AnalogIn` objects. For PWM outputs, [try the PCA9685 \(https://adafru.it/tZF\)](https://adafru.it/tZF). For audio, use pygame or other Python3 libraries to play audio.

Some libraries, like [Adafruit\\_CircuitPython\\_DHT \(https://adafru.it/Beq\)](https://adafru.it/Beq) will try to bit-bang if pulsein isn't available. Slow linux boards (<700MHz) may not be able to read the pins fast enough), you'll just have to try!

## Help, I'm getting the message "error while loading shared libraries: libgpiod.so.2: cannot open shared object file: No such file or directory"

It looks like `libgpiod` may not be installed on your board.

Try running the command: `sudo apt-get install libgpiod2`

## When running the libgpiod script, I see the message: configure: error: "libgpiod needs linux headers version >= v5.5.0"

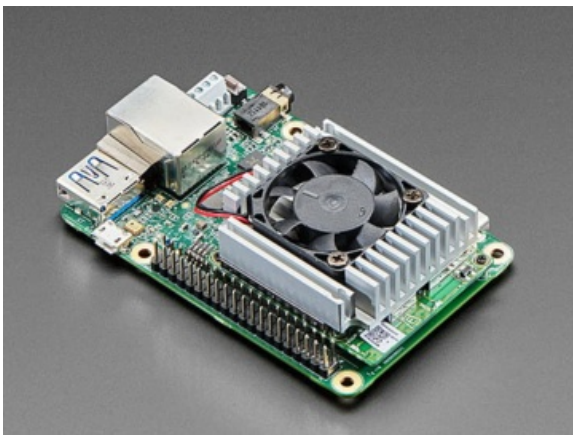
Be sure you have the latest libgpiod.sh script and run it with the `-l` or `--legacy` flag:

```
./libgpiod.sh --legacy
```

All Raspberry Pi Computers Have:

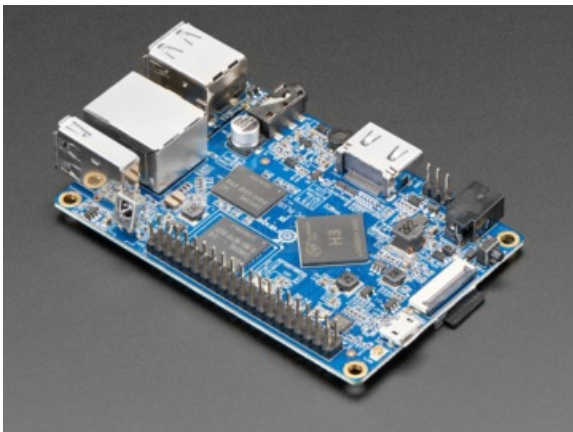


- 1 x I2C port with **busio** (but clock stretching is not supported in hardware, so you must set the I2C bus speed to 10KHz to 'fix it')
- 2 x SPI ports with **busio**
- 1 x UART port with **serial** - note this is shared with the hardware console
- **pulseio.pulsein** using gpiod
- **neopixel** support on a few pins
- No AnalogIn support (Use an MCP3008 or similar to add ADC)
- No PWM support (Use a PCA9685 or similar to add PWM)



Google Coral TPU Dev Boards Have:

- 1 x I2C port with **busio**
- 1 x SPI ports with **busio**
- 1 x UART port with **serial** - note this is shared with the hardware console
- 3 x PWMOut support
- **pulseio.pulsein** using gpiod
- No NeoPixel support
- No AnalogIn support (Use an MCP3008 or similar to add ADC)



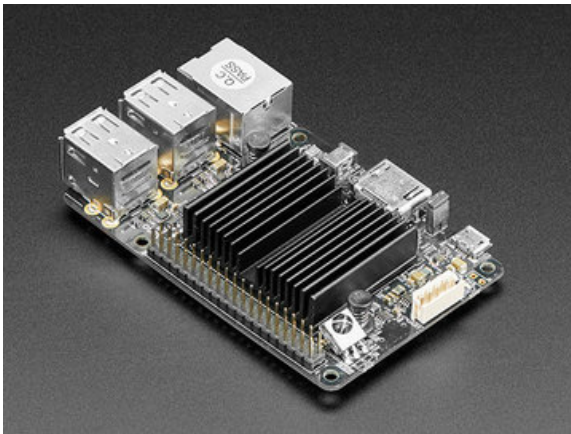
Orange Pi PC Plus Boards Have:

- 1 x I2C port with **busio**
- 1 x SPI ports with **busio**
- 1 x UART port with **serial**
- **pulseio.pulsein** using gpiod
- No NeoPixel support
- No AnalogIn support (Use an MCP3008 or similar to add ADC)
- No PWM support (Use a PCA9685 or similar to add PWM)



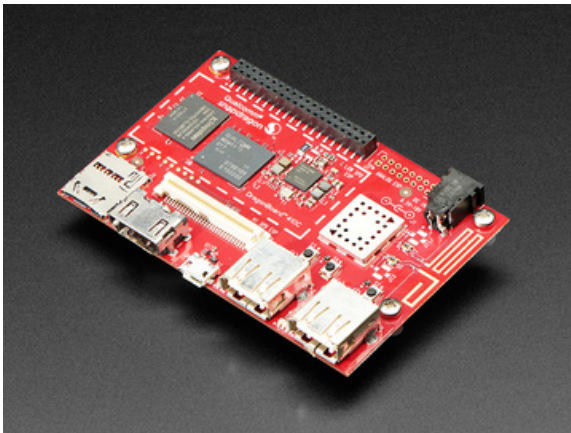
Orange Pi R1 Boards Have:

- 1 x I2C port with **busio**
- 1 x SPI port with **busio**
- 1 x UART port with **serial**
- No NeoPixel support
- No AnalogIn support (Use an MCP3008 or similar to add ADC)
- No PWM support (Use a PCA9685 or similar to add PWM)



Odroid C2 Boards Have:

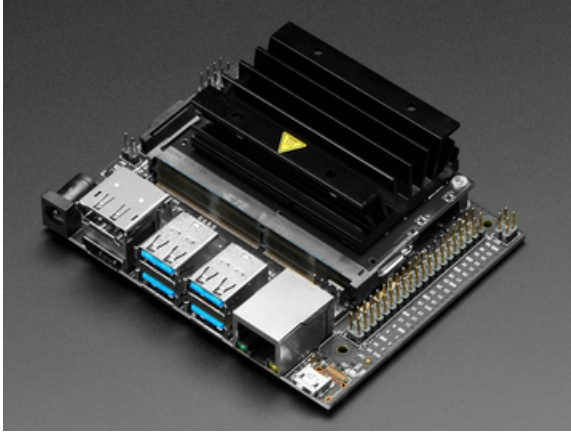
- 1 x I2C port with **busio**
- No SPI support
- 1 x UART port with **serial** - note this is shared with the hardware console
- No NeoPixel support
- No AnalogIn support (Use an MCP3008 or similar to add ADC)
- No PWM support (Use a PCA9685 or similar to add PWM)



DragonBoard 410c Boards Have:

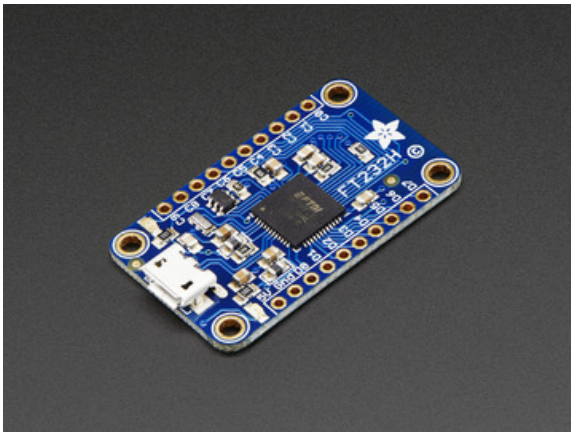
- 2 x I2C port with **busio**
- 1 x SPI port with **busio**
- 1 x UART port with **serial**
- No NeoPixel support
- No AnalogIn support (Use an MCP3008 or similar to add ADC)
- No PWM support (Use a PCA9685 or similar to add PWM)





NVIDIA Jetson Nano Boards Have:

- 2 x I2C port with **busio**
- 2 x SPI ports with **busio**
- 2 x UART port with **serial** - note one of these is shared with the hardware console
- No NeoPixel support
- No AnalogIn support (Use an MCP3008 or similar to add ADC)
- No PWM support (Use a PCA9685 or similar to add PWM)

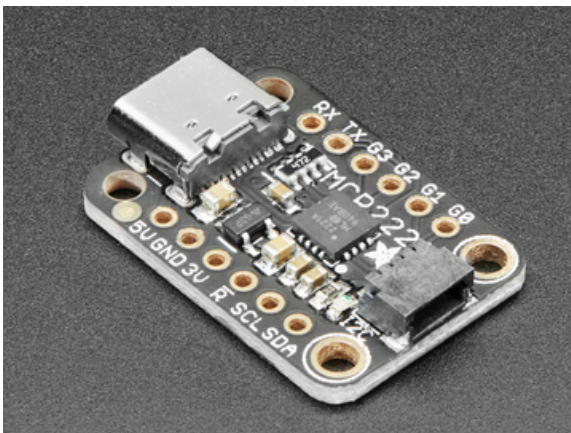


FT232H Breakouts Have:

- 1x I2C port OR SPI port with **busio**
- 12x GPIO pins with **digitalio**
- No UART
- No AnalogIn support
- No AnalogOut support
- No PWM support

If you are using **Blinka in FT232H mode** (<https://adafru.it/FWD>), then keep in mind these basic limitations.

- SPI and I2C can not be used at the same time since they share the same pins.
- GPIO speed is not super fast, so trying to do arbitrary bit bang like things may run into speed issues.
- There are no ADCs.
- There are no DACs.
- UART is not available (its a different FTDI mode)



MCP2221 Breakouts Have:

- 1x I2C port with **busio**
- 4x GPIO pins with **digitalio**
- 3x AnalogIn with **analogio**
- 1x AnalogOut with **analogio**
- 1x UART with **pyserial**
- No PWM support
- No hardware SPI support

If you are using Blinka in MCP2221 mode, then keep in mind these basic limitations.

- GPIO speed is not super fast, so trying to do arbitrary bit bang like things may run into speed issues.
- UART is available via **pyserial**, the serial COM port shows up as a second USB device during enumeration





