PyPortal Email Display with Zapier and Adafruit IO

Created by Brent Rubell

https://learn.adafruit.com/pyportal-email-display

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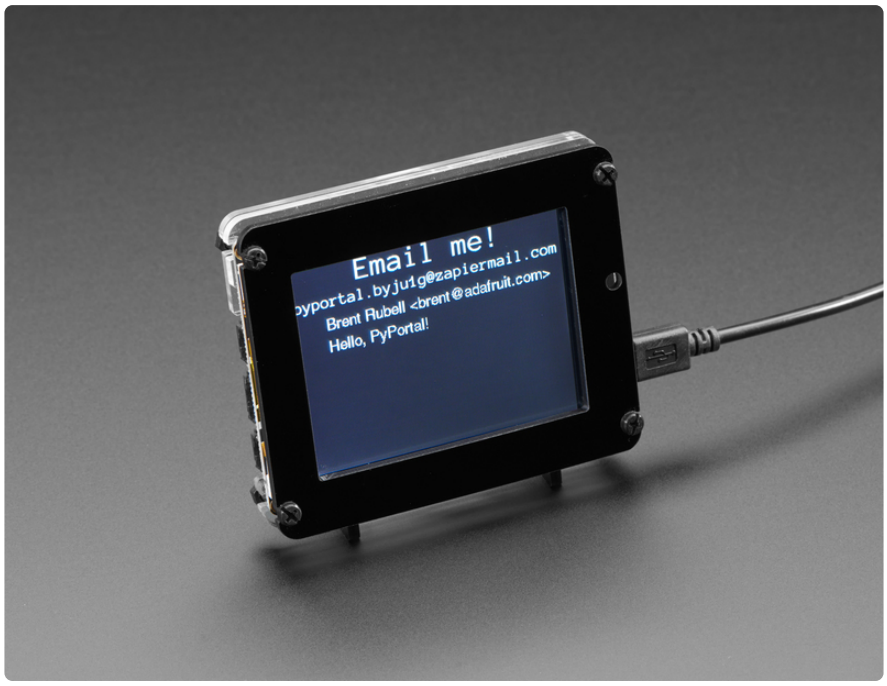
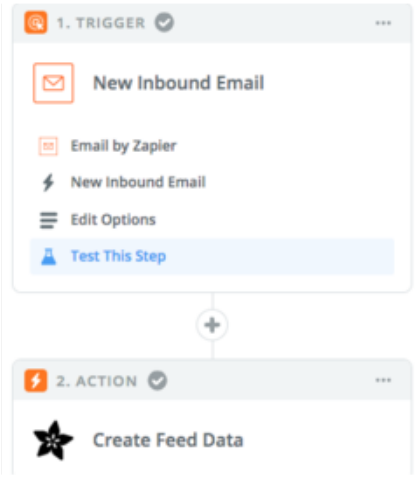
Overview



Want to write a message to your PyPortal's display? Perhaps you'd like to easily add and change text on your PyPortal's display to use it as a smart sticky-note, or have people email it directly!

Using Zapier (https://adafru.it/Eij), you will set up a Zap to receive email via a custom Zapier email address at zapiermail.com and forward it to an Adafruit IO Feed.

With some CircuitPython Code, your PyPortal will be obtaining the current value of an Adafruit IO Feed and updating the display with the email sender address and the subject line.



Adafruit IO and Zapier

Adafruit IO is the easiest way to stream, log, and interact with your data **(https://adafru.it/eIC).** It's built from the ground up to be easy to use - we do the hard stuff so you can focus on the fun stuff.

Want to automate your work by connecting Adafruit IO to the online apps you already use? Zapier (https://adafru.it/Eij) is an **Adafruit IO Connected Service** (https://adafru.it/Eik) which can receive email alerts, interact with smart devices, or publish your Adafruit IO feeds directly to Google Docs.

CircuitPython Code

CircuitPython is perfect for building Internet-of-Things projects. This project uses the PyPortal CircuitPython module, which can send web requests and display the response on the PyPortal!

You can rapidly update your code without having to compile and store WiFi and API secret keys on the device. This means that there's no editing code and re-uploading whenever you move the PyPortal to another network - just update a file and you're set.

Want to do more with IoT and your PyPortal? With the Adafruit IO CircuitPython module (https://adafru.it/Ean), you can easily send data to Adafruit IO, receive data from Adafruit IO, and easily manipulate data with the powerful Adafruit IO API (https://adafru.it/uff).

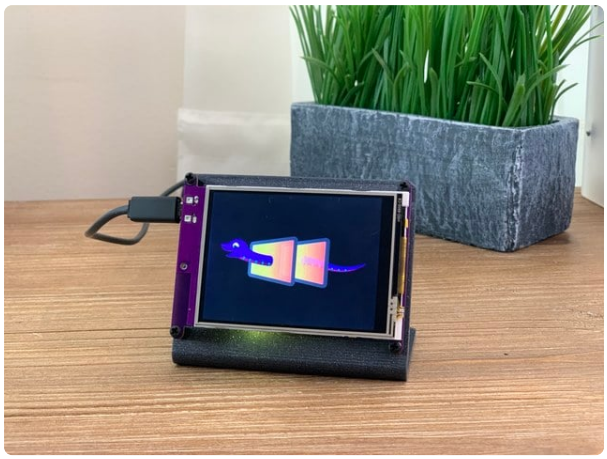
Prerequisite Guides

If you're new to Adafruit IO or CircuitPython, take a moment to walk through the following guides to get you started and up-to-speed:

- Welcome to Adafruit IO (https://adafru.it/DZd)
- Welcome to CircuitPython (https://adafru.it/cpy-welcome)

Parts

You only need a PyPortal for this guide - no other sensors or breakouts are required!



Adafruit PyPortal - CircuitPython Powered Internet Display
PyPortal, our easy-to-use IoT device that allows you to create all the things for the “Internet of Things” in minutes. Make custom touch screen interface...
https://www.adafruit.com/product/4116

USB cable - USB A to Micro-B
This here is your standard A to micro-B USB cable, for USB 1.1 or 2.0. Perfect for connecting a PC to your Metro, Feather, Raspberry Pi or other dev-board or...
https://www.adafruit.com/product/592

Install CircuitPython

CircuitPython (https://adafru.it/tB7) is a derivative of MicroPython (https://adafru.it/BeZ) designed to simplify experimentation and education on low-cost microcontrollers. It makes it easier than ever to get prototyping by requiring no upfront desktop software downloads. Simply copy and edit files on the **CIRCUITPY** "flash" drive to iterate.

The following instructions will show you how to install CircuitPython. If you've already installed CircuitPython but are looking to update it or reinstall it, the same steps work for that as well!

Set up CircuitPython Quick Start!

Follow this quick step-by-step for super-fast Python power :)

Download the latest version of CircuitPython for the PyPortal via CircuitPython.org

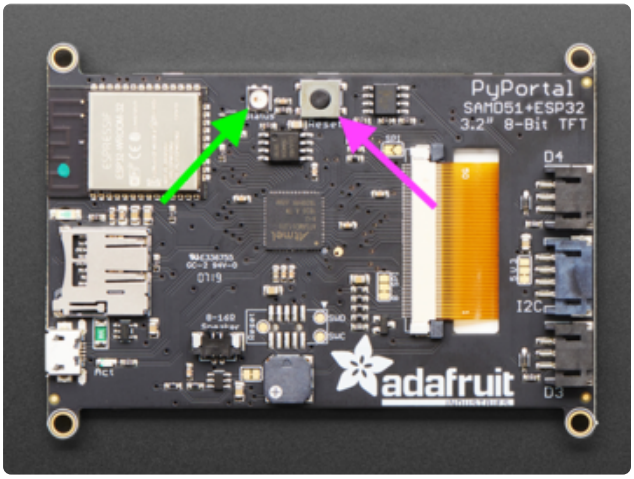
https://adafru.it/Egk

Download the latest version of CircuitPython for the PyPortal Pynt via CircuitPython.org

https://adafru.it/HFd

Click the link above to download the latest version of CircuitPython for the PyPortal.

Download and save it to your desktop (or wherever is handy).

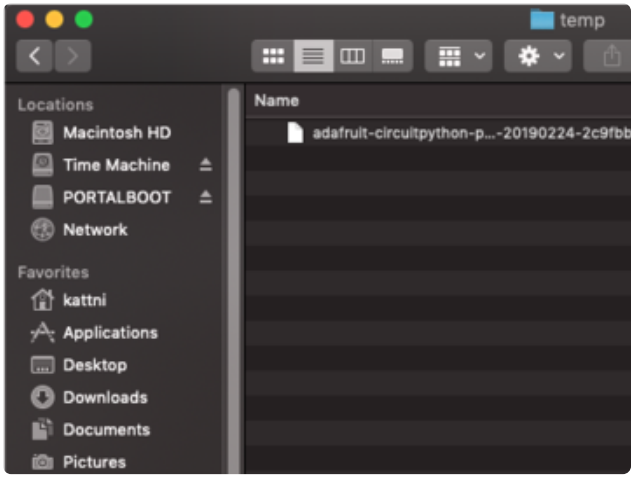


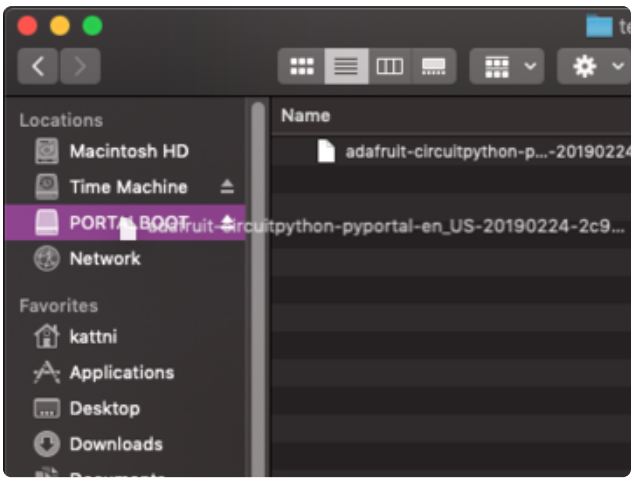
Plug your PyPortal into your computer using a known-good USB cable.

A lot of people end up using charge-only USB cables and it is very frustrating! So make sure you have a USB cable you know is good for data sync.

Double-click the **Reset** button on the top in the middle (magenta arrow) on your board, and you will see the NeoPixel RGB LED (green arrow) turn green. If it turns red, check the USB cable, try another USB port, etc. **Note:** The little red LED next to the USB connector will pulse red. That's ok!

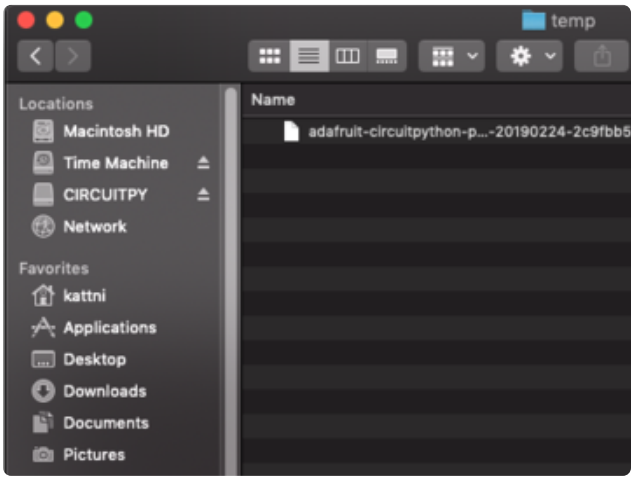
If double-clicking doesn't work the first time, try again. Sometimes it can take a few tries to get the rhythm right!





You will see a new disk drive appear called **PORTALBOOT**.

Drag the **adafruit-circuitpython-pyportal-<whatever>.uf2** file to **PORTALBOOT.**



The LED will flash. Then, the **PORTALBOOT** drive will disappear and a new disk drive called **CIRCUITPY** will appear.

If you haven't added any code to your board, the only file that will be present is **boot_out.txt**. This is absolutely normal! It's time for you to add your **code.py** and get started!

That's it, you're done! :)

PyPortal Default Files

Click below to download a zip of the files that shipped on the PyPortal or PyPortal Pynt.

PyPortal Default Files

https://adafru.it/UF-

PyPortal Pynt Default Files

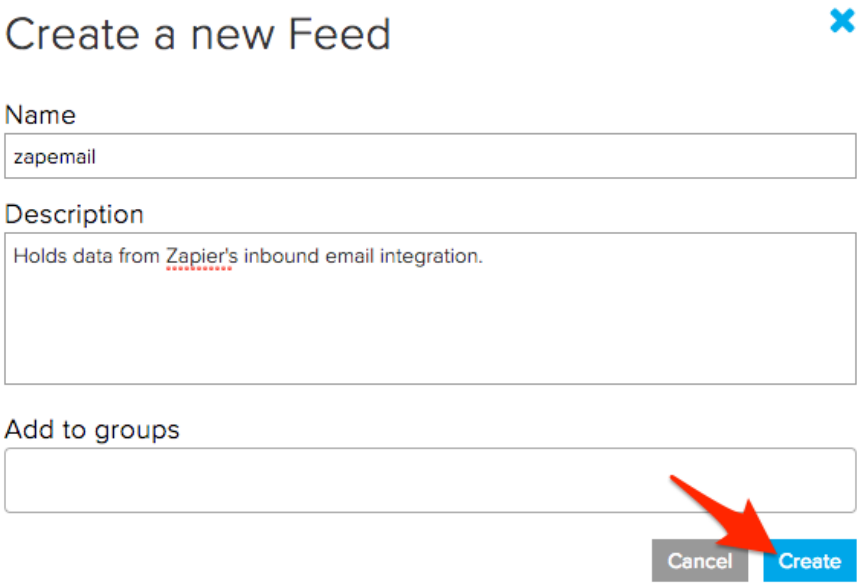
https://adafru.it/UGa

Adafruit IO Setup

If you do not already have an Adafruit IO account set up, head over to io.adafruit.com (https://adafru.it/fH9) to link your Adafruit.com account to Adafruit IO.

The first step is to create a new Adafruit IO feed to hold the data from the Zap you'll create. Navigate to the feeds page (https://adafru.it/mxC) on Adafruit IO. Then click **Actions -> Create New Feed**, and name this feed **zapemail**.

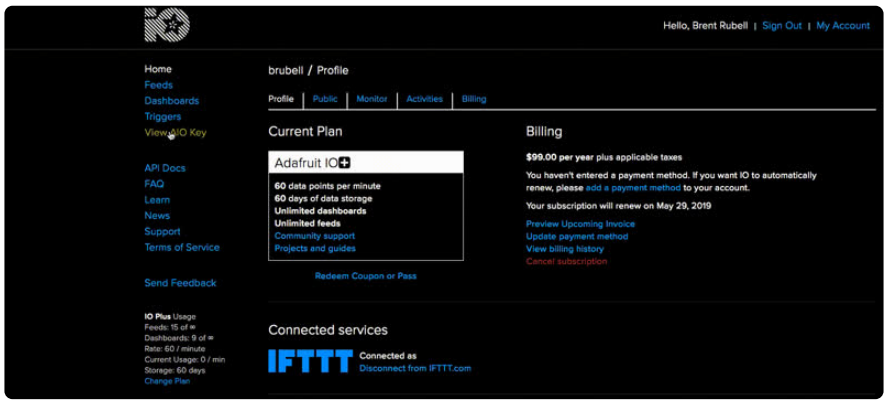
- If you do not already know how to create a feed, head over to Adafruit IO Basics: Feeds (https://adafru.it/ioA).



Obtain Secret Adafruit IO Keys

You are also going to need your Adafruit IO username and secret API key.

Navigate to your profile and click the View AIO Key button to retrieve them. Write them down in a safe place, you'll need them for later steps.



Zapier Setup

Using Zapier (https://adafru.it/Bwr) with Adafruit IO allows you to automate web tasks on the Internet. For this guide, you'll be creating a Zap using Zapier's Inbound Email integration to send data from a custom email address to an Adafruit IO feed.

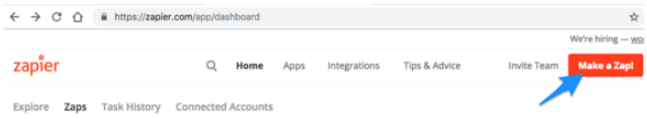
Linking Zapier with Adafruit IO

You'll want to first link Zapier with your Adafruit IO Account.

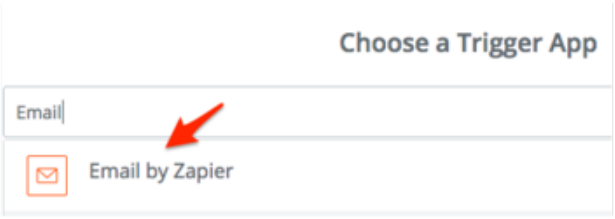
Zapier for Adafruit IO is currently not listed on the Zapier Integrations page (we need 10 active users to make it public), you can sign up for it using this invite link **(https://adafru.it/Dw6)**.

Once you have a Zapier Account, you're going create a **Zap**. A Zap is a combination of a trigger (an incoming email) and an action (sending new data to an Adafruit IO feed).

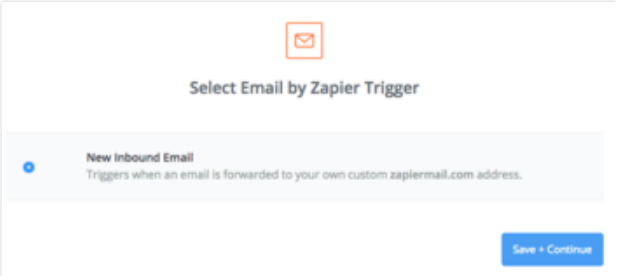
To do this, **navigate to the Zapier Dashboard** (https://adafru.it/DCk) and **click Make a Zap!**



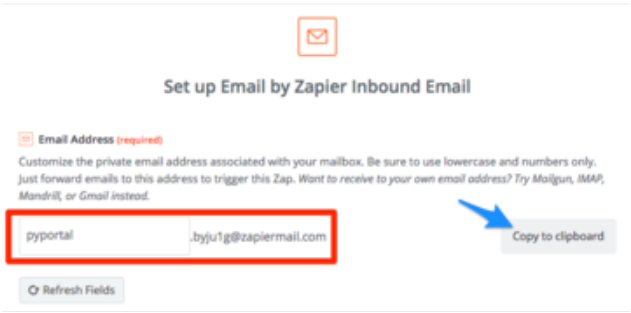
Add a Zapier Trigger



You'll be prompted to choose a trigger app. From the dropdown, **select Email by Zapier**.

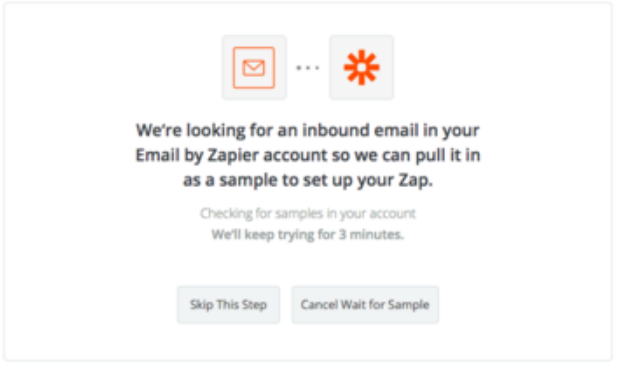


Next, you'll want to select a trigger. **Click New Inbound Email.** This trigger will fire when an email is forwarded to your custom zapiermail.com email address



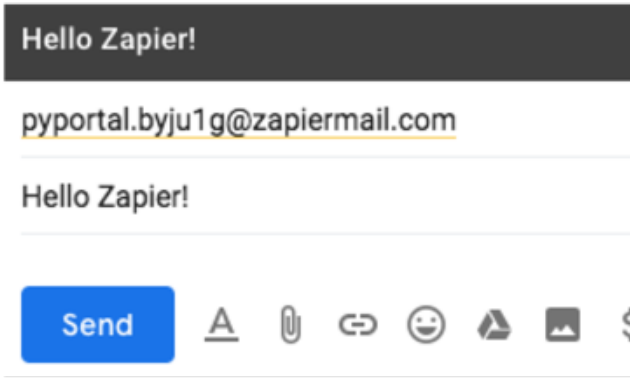
Customize the name of the email address associated with this zap. Be sure to use lowercase letters and numbers only.

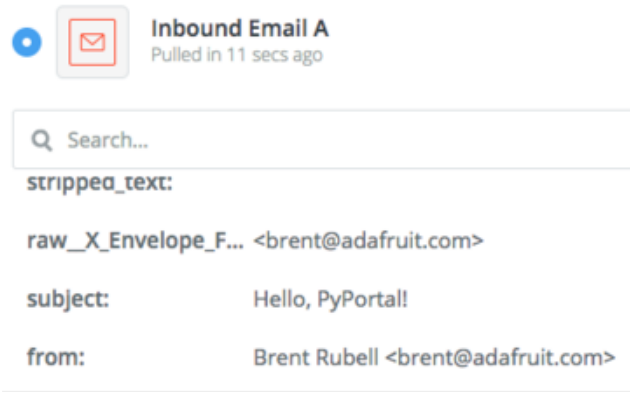
Then, **click Copy to Clipboard**. Save the email address somewhere safe (like a text file on your desktop), you'll need it later.



Zapier needs an email sent to the address you created to act as a sample.

Send an email to the zapier email address you created with some text in the subject line - a simple Hello Zapier works.

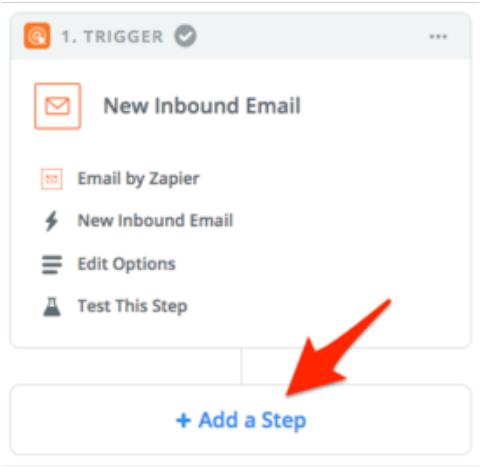




Zapier will check for a new email in the inbox. Once an email shows up, you can check out the raw data Zapier received as part of the sample.

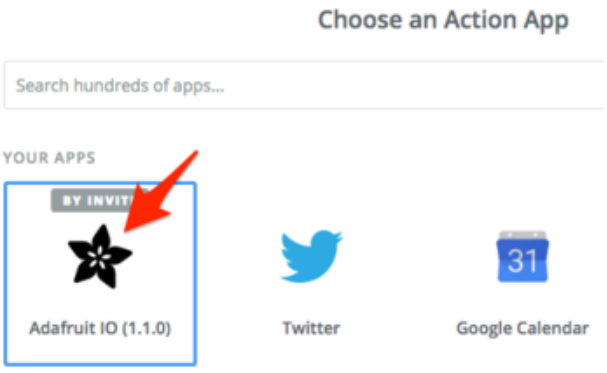
You're going to be sending some of this data, such as the email address (`from`) and the `subject`, to an Adafruit IO feed.

Add a Zapier Action



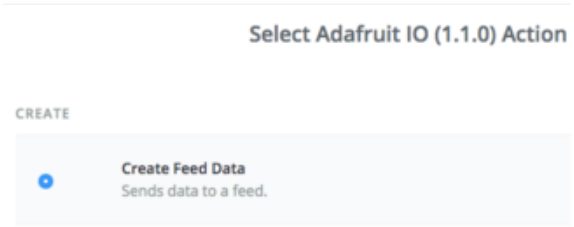
Now that you have a trigger, it's time to add an Action. Once Zapier receives a new inbound email, it needs something to do with it. This is an action, in Zapier terms.

Click Add a Step

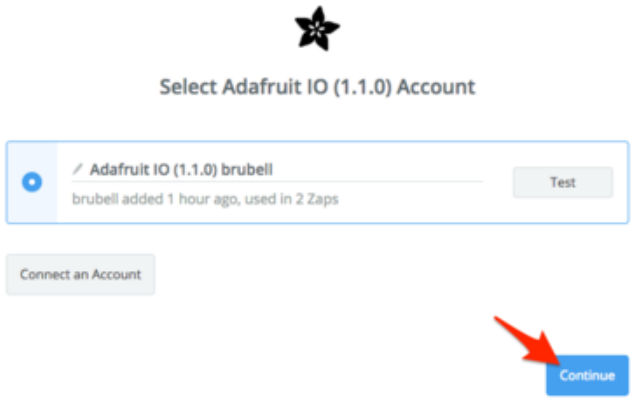


Zapier integrates with hundreds of apps, but you'll want to add Adafruit IO as an Action App

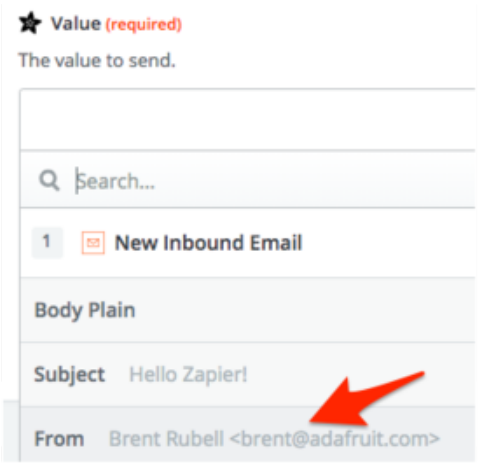
Using the search bar - **search for Adafruit IO.**



Select **Create Feed Data** as an Adafruit IO Action.



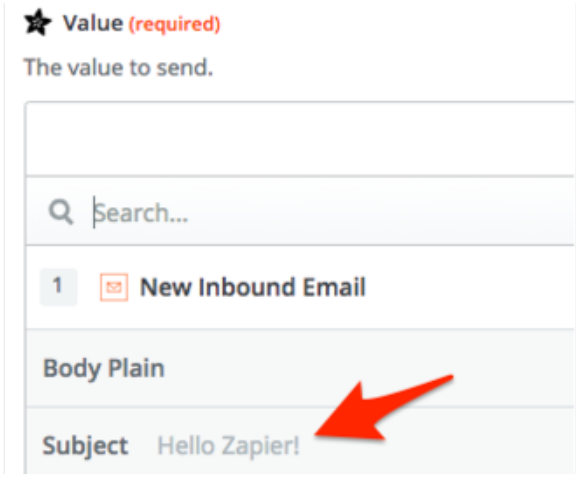
Next, **select your Adafruit IO Account** (or connect your account if you have not done so already).



Select zapemail as the **feed key**.

The Value field is be the data sent from Zapier to the Adafruit IO feed you created earlier.

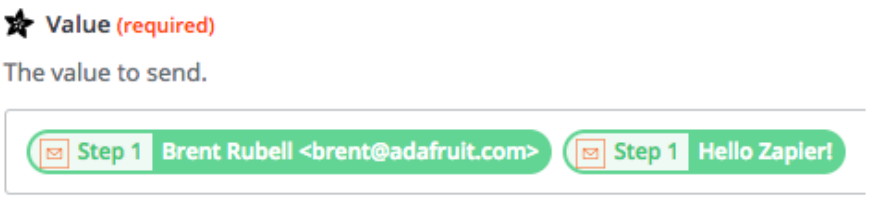
First, **Select From** as the first value.

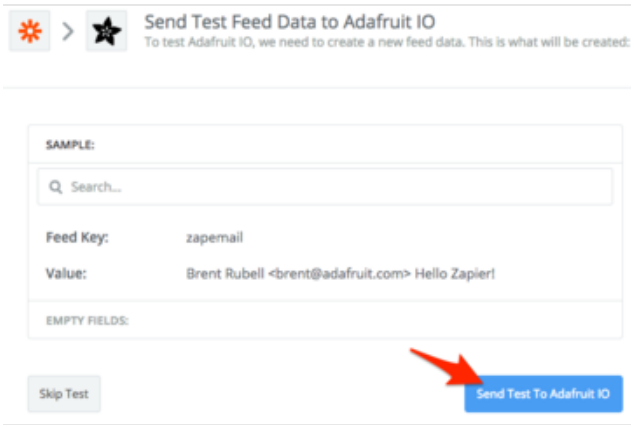


To add separation between the email address and the text, **press the space bar once in the value field**.

Next, **Select Subject** as the second value.

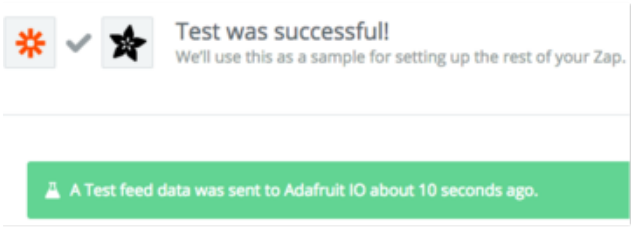
The Value field should look like the following





Zapier will allow you to test out the Zap by sending a test Zap to Adafruit IO. To do this, **click Send Test to Adafruit IO**.

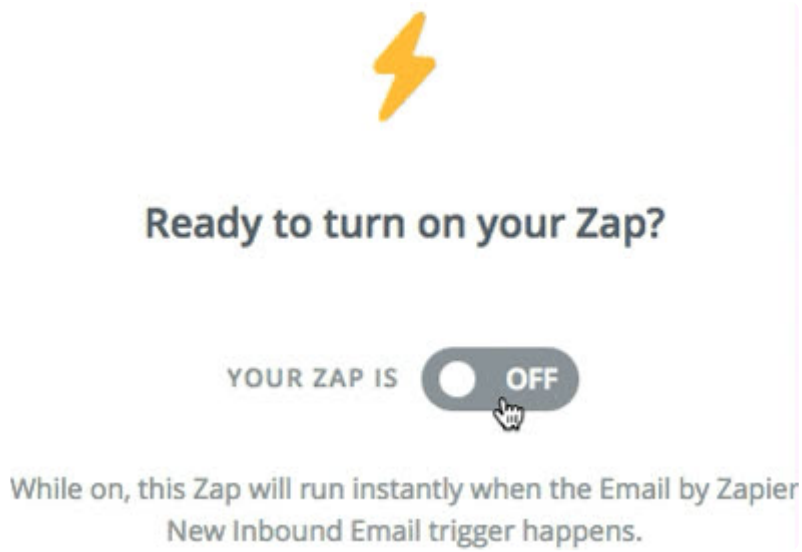
If Zapier and Adafruit IO are integrated correctly, Zapier will display that the test was successful.



But - how do you know if Adafruit IO received the message from Zapier?

Navigate to your Adafruit IO zapemail feed. You should see the sender and subject from the email you sent earlier appear on the feed.

Lastly, you'll want to **turn on the Zap** so it runs continuously.



PyPortal CircuitPython Setup

To use all the amazing features of your PyPortal with CircuitPython, you must first install a number of libraries. This page covers that process.

Adafruit CircuitPython Bundle

Download the Adafruit CircuitPython Library Bundle. You can find the latest release here:

Latest Adafruit CircuitPython Library Bundle

https://adafru.it/ENC

Download the **adafruit-circuitpython-bundle-*.x-mpy-*.zip** bundle zip file where ***.x MATCHES THE VERSION OF CIRCUITPYTHON YOU INSTALLED**, and unzip a folder of the same name. Inside you'll find a **lib** folder. You have two options:

- You can add the **lib** folder to your **CIRCUITPY** drive. This will ensure you have all the drivers. But it will take a bunch of space on the 8 MB disk
- Add each library as you need it, this will reduce the space usage but you'll need to put in a little more effort.

At a minimum we recommend the following libraries, in fact we more than recommend. They're basically required. So grab them and install them into **CIRCUITPY/lib** now!

- **adafruit_esp32spi** - This is the library that gives you internet access via the ESP32 using (you guessed it!) SPI transport. You need this for anything Internet
- **adafruit_requests** - This library allows us to perform HTTP requests and get responses back from servers. GET/POST/PUT/PATCH - they're all in here!
- adafruit_connection_manager - used by adafruit_requests.
- **adafruit_pyportal** - This is our friendly wrapper library that does a lot of our projects, displays graphics and text, fetches data from the internet. Nearly all of our projects depend on it!
- **adafruit_portalbase** - This library is the base library that adafruit_pyportal library is built on top of.
- **adafruit_touchscreen** - a library for reading touches from the resistive touchscreen. Handles all the analog noodling, rotation and calibration for you.
- **adafruit_io** - this library helps connect the PyPortal to our free datalogging and viewing service
- **adafruit_imageload** - an image display helper, required for any graphics!
- **adafruit_display_text** - not surprisingly, it displays text on the screen
- **adafruit_bitmap_font** - we have fancy font support, and its easy to make new fonts. This library reads and parses font files.
- **adafruit_slideshow** - for making image slideshows - handy for quick display of graphics and sound
- **neopixel** - for controlling the onboard neopixel
- **adafruit_adt7410** - library to read the temperature from the on-board Analog Devices ADT7410 precision temperature sensor (not necessary for Titano or Pynt)
- **adafruit_bus_device** - low level support for I2C/SPI
- **adafruit_fakerequests** - This library allows you to create fake HTTP requests by using local files.

Create Your settings.toml File

CircuitPython works with WiFi-capable boards to enable you to make projects that have network connectivity. This means working with various passwords and API keys. As of CircuitPython 8 (https://adafru.it/Em8), there is support for a **settings.toml** file. This is a file that is stored on your **CIRCUITPY** drive, that contains all of your secret network information, such as your SSID, SSID password and any API keys for IoT services. It is designed to separate your sensitive information from your **code.py** file so you are able to share your code without sharing your credentials.

CircuitPython previously used a **secrets.py** file for this purpose. The **settings.toml** file is quite similar.

Your settings.toml file should be stored in the main directory of your CIRCUITPY drive. It should not be in a folder.

CircuitPython **settings.toml** File

This section will provide a couple of examples of what your **settings.toml** file should look like, specifically for CircuitPython WiFi projects in general.

The most minimal **settings.toml** file must contain your WiFi SSID and password, as that is the minimum required to connect to WiFi. Copy this example, paste it into your **settings.toml**, and update:

- `your_wifi_ssid`
- `your_wifi_password`

```
CIRCUITPY_WIFI_SSID = "your_wifi_ssid"
CIRCUITPY_WIFI_PASSWORD = "your_wifi_password"
```

Many CircuitPython network-connected projects on the Adafruit Learn System involve using Adafruit IO. For these projects, you must also include your Adafruit IO username and key. Copy the following example, paste it into your settings.toml file, and update:

- `your_wifi_ssid`
- `your_wifi_password`
- `your_aio_username`
- `your_aio_key`

```
CIRCUITPY_WIFI_SSID = "your_wifi_ssid"
CIRCUITPY_WIFI_PASSWORD = "your_wifi_password"
ADAFRUIT_AIO_USERNAME = "your_aio_username"
ADAFRUIT_AIO_KEY = "your_aio_key"
```

Some projects use different variable names for the entries in the **settings.toml** file. For example, a project might use `ADAFRUIT_AIO_ID` in the place of `ADAFRUIT_AIO_USERNAME`. **If you run into connectivity issues, one of the first things to check is that the names in the settings.toml file match the names in the code.**

Not every project uses the same variable name for each entry in the settings.toml file! Always verify it matches the code.

settings.toml File Tips

Here is an example **settings.toml** file.

```
# Comments are supported
CIRCUITPY_WIFI_SSID = "guest wifi"
CIRCUITPY_WIFI_PASSWORD = "guessable"
CIRCUITPY_WEB_API_PORT = 80
CIRCUITPY_WEB_API_PASSWORD = "passw0rd"
test_variable = "this is a test"
thumbs_up = "\U0001f44d"
```

In a **settings.toml** file, it's important to keep these factors in mind:

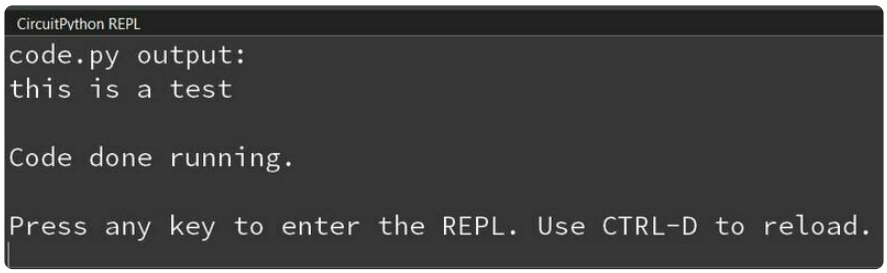
- Strings are wrapped in double quotes; ex: `"your-string-here"`
- Integers are **not** quoted and may be written in decimal with optional sign (`+1`, `-1`, `1000`) or hexadecimal (`0xabcd`).
    - Floats, octal (`0o567`) and binary (`0b11011`) are not supported.
- Use `\u` escapes for weird characters, `\x` and `\ooo` escapes are not available in **.toml** files
    - Example: `\U0001f44d` for (thumbs up emoji) and `\u20ac` for € (EUR sign)
- Unicode emoji, and non-ASCII characters, stand for themselves as long as you're careful to save in "UTF-8 without BOM" format

When your **settings.toml** file is ready, you can save it in your text editor with the **.toml** extension.

Accessing Your **settings.toml** Information in **code.py**

In your **code.py** file, you'll need to `import` the `os` library to access the **settings.toml** file. Your settings are accessed with the `os.getenv()` function. You'll pass your settings entry to the function to import it into the **code.py** file.

```
import os

print(os.getenv("test_variable"))
```



In the upcoming CircuitPython WiFi examples, you'll see how the **settings.toml** file is used for connecting to your SSID and accessing your API keys.

Internet Connect!

Connect to WiFi

OK, now that you have your **settings.toml** file set up - you can connect to the Internet.

To do this, you need to first install a few libraries, into the lib folder on your **CIRCUITPY** drive. Then you need to update **code.py** with the example script.

Thankfully, we can do this in one go. In the example below, click the **Download Project Bundle** button below to download the necessary libraries and the **code.py** file in a zip file. Extract the contents of the zip file, open the directory **examples/** and then click on the directory that matches the version of CircuitPython you're using and copy the contents of that directory to your **CIRCUITPY** drive.

Your **CIRCUITPY** drive should now look similar to the following image:

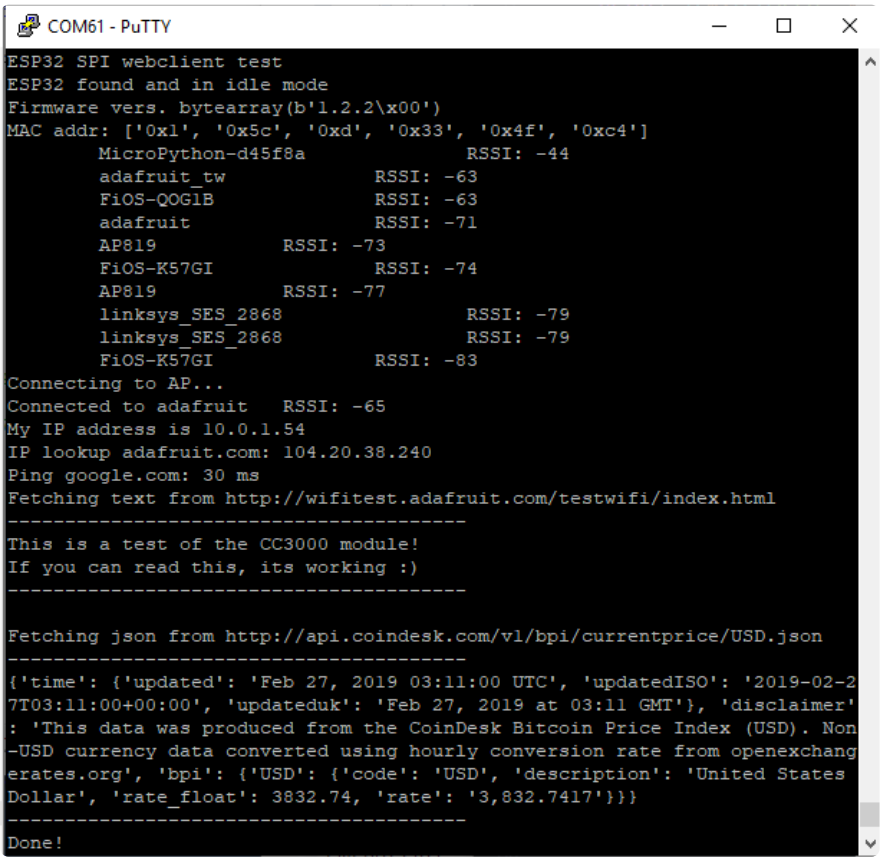

```
# SPDX-FileCopyrightText: 2019 ladyada for Adafruit Industries
# SPDX-License-Identifier: MIT

from os import getenv
import board
import busio
from digitalio import DigitalInOut
import adafruit_connection_manager
import adafruit_requests
from adafruit_esp32spi import adafruit_esp32spi

# Get wifi details and more from a settings.toml file
# tokens used by this Demo: CIRCUITPY_WIFI_SSID, CIRCUITPY_WIFI_PASSWORD
secrets = {
    "ssid": getenv("CIRCUITPY_WIFI_SSID"),
    "password": getenv("CIRCUITPY_WIFI_PASSWORD"),
}
if secrets == {"ssid": None, "password": None}:
    try:
        # Fallback on secrets.py until depreciation is over and option is removed
        from secrets import secrets
    except ImportError:
        print("WiFi secrets are kept in settings.toml, please add them there!")
        raise

print("ESP32 SPI webclient test")

TEXT_URL = "http://wifitest.adafruit.com/testwifi/index.html"
JSON_URL = "http://api.coindesk.com/v1/bpi/currentprice/USD.json"


# If you are using a board with pre-defined ESP32 Pins:
esp32_cs = DigitalInOut(board.ESP_CS)
esp32_ready = DigitalInOut(board.ESP_BUSY)
esp32_reset = DigitalInOut(board.ESP_RESET)

# If you have an AirLift Shield:
# esp32_cs = DigitalInOut(board.D10)
# esp32_ready = DigitalInOut(board.D7)
# esp32_reset = DigitalInOut(board.D5)

# If you have an AirLift Featherwing or ItsyBitsy Airlift:
# esp32_cs = DigitalInOut(board.D13)
# esp32_ready = DigitalInOut(board.D11)
# esp32_reset = DigitalInOut(board.D12)
```

```
# If you have an externally connected ESP32:
# NOTE: You may need to change the pins to reflect your wiring
# esp32_cs = DigitalInOut(board.D9)
# esp32_ready = DigitalInOut(board.D10)
# esp32_reset = DigitalInOut(board.D5)

# Secondary (SCK1) SPI used to connect to WiFi board on Arduino Nano Connect RP2040
if "SCK1" in dir(board):
    spi = busio.SPI(board.SCK1, board.MOSI1, board.MISO1)
else:
    spi = busio.SPI(board.SCK, board.MOSI, board.MISO)
esp = adafruit_esp32spi.ESP_SPIcontrol(spi, esp32_cs, esp32_ready, esp32_reset)

pool = adafruit_connection_manager.get_radio_socketpool(esp)
ssl_context = adafruit_connection_manager.get_radio_ssl_context(esp)
requests = adafruit_requests.Session(pool, ssl_context)

if esp.status == adafruit_esp32spi.WL_IDLE_STATUS:
    print("ESP32 found and in idle mode")
print("Firmware vers.", esp.firmware_version.decode("utf-8"))
print("MAC addr:", ":".join("%02X" % byte for byte in esp.MAC_address))

for ap in esp.scan_networks():
    print("\t%-23s RSSI: %d" % (str(ap["ssid"], "utf-8"), ap["rssi"]))

print("Connecting to AP...")
while not esp.is_connected:
    try:
        esp.connect_AP(secrets["ssid"], secrets["password"])
    except OSError as e:
        print("could not connect to AP, retrying: ", e)
        continue
print("Connected to", str(esp.ssid, "utf-8"), "\tRSSI:", esp.rssi)
print("My IP address is", esp.pretty_ip(esp.ip_address))
print(
    "IP lookup adafruit.com: %s" %
esp.pretty_ip(esp.get_host_by_name("adafruit.com"))
)
print("Ping google.com: %d ms" % esp.ping("google.com"))

# esp._debug = True
print("Fetching text from", TEXT_URL)
r = requests.get(TEXT_URL)
print("-" * 40)
print(r.text)
print("-" * 40)
r.close()

print()
print("Fetching json from", JSON_URL)
r = requests.get(JSON_URL)
print("-" * 40)
print(r.json())
print("-" * 40)
r.close()

print("Done!")
```

And save it to your board, with the name **code.py**.

Don't forget you'll also need to create the **settings.toml** file as seen above, with your WiFi ssid and password.

In a serial console, you should see something like the following. For more information about connecting with a serial console, view the guide Connecting to the Serial Console (https://adafru.it/Bec).



In order, the example code...

Initializes the ESP32 over SPI using the SPI port and 3 control pins:

```
esp32_cs = DigitalInOut(board.ESP_CS)
esp32_ready = DigitalInOut(board.ESP_BUSY)
esp32_reset = DigitalInOut(board.ESP_RESET)

spi = busio.SPI(board.SCK, board.MOSI, board.MISO)
esp = adafruit_esp32spi.ESP_SPIcontrol(spi, esp32_cs, esp32_ready, esp32_reset)
```

Tells our `requests` library the type of socket we're using (socket type varies by connectivity type - we'll be using the `adafruit_esp32spi_socket` for this example). We'll also set the interface to an `esp` object. This is a little bit of a hack, but it lets us use `requests` like CPython does.

```
requests.set_socket(socket, esp)
```

Verifies an ESP32 is found, checks the firmware and MAC address

```
if esp.status == adafruit_esp32spi.WL_IDLE_STATUS:
    print("ESP32 found and in idle mode")
print("Firmware vers.", esp.firmware_version)
print("MAC addr:", [hex(i) for i in esp.MAC_address])
```

Performs a scan of all access points it can see and prints out the name and signal strength:

```
for ap in esp.scan_networks():
    print("\t%s\t\tRSSI: %d" % (str(ap['ssid'], 'utf-8'), ap['rssi']))
```

Connects to the AP we've defined here, then prints out the local IP address, attempts to do a domain name lookup and ping google.com to check network connectivity (note sometimes the ping fails or takes a while, this isn't a big deal)

```
print("Connecting to AP...")
while not esp.is_connected:
    try:
        esp.connect_AP(secrets["ssid"], secrets["password"])
    except RuntimeError as e:
        print("could not connect to AP, retrying: ", e)
        continue
print("Connected to", str(esp.ssid, "utf-8"), "\tRSSI:", esp.rssi)
print("My IP address is", esp.pretty_ip(esp.ip_address))
print(
    "IP lookup adafruit.com: %s" %
esp.pretty_ip(esp.get_host_by_name("adafruit.com"))
```

OK now we're getting to the really interesting part. With a SAMD51 or other large-RAM (well, over 32 KB) device, we can do a lot of neat tricks. Like for example we can implement an interface a lot like requests (https://adafru.it/E9o) - which makes getting data really really easy

To read in all the text from a web URL call `requests.get` - you can pass in `https` URLs for SSL connectivity

```
TEXT_URL = "http://wifitest.adafruit.com/testwifi/index.html"
print("Fetching text from", TEXT_URL)
r = requests.get(TEXT_URL)
print('-'*40)
print(r.text)
print('-'*40)
r.close()
```

Or, if the data is in structured JSON, you can get the json pre-parsed into a Python dictionary that can be easily queried or traversed. (Again, only for nRF52840, M4 and other high-RAM boards)

```
JSON_URL = "http://api.coindesk.com/v1/bpi/currentprice/USD.json"
print("Fetching json from", JSON_URL)
r = requests.get(JSON_URL)
print('-'*40)
```

```
print(r.json())
print('-'*40)
r.close()
```

Requests

We've written a requests-like (https://adafru.it/Kpa) library for web interfacing named Adafruit_CircuitPython_Requests (https://adafru.it/FpW). This library allows you to send HTTP/1.1 requests without "crafting" them and provides helpful methods for parsing the response from the server.

To use with CircuitPython, you need to first install a few libraries, into the lib folder on your **CIRCUITPY** drive. Then you need to update **code.py** with the example script.

Thankfully, we can do this in one go. In the example below, click the **Download Project Bundle** button below to download the necessary libraries and the **code.py** file in a zip file. Extract the contents of the zip file, open the directory **examples/** and then click on the directory that matches the version of CircuitPython you're using and copy the contents of that directory to your **CIRCUITPY** drive.

Your **CIRCUITPY** drive should now look similar to the following image:

CIRCUITPY

```
Temporarily unable to load content:
```

The code first sets up the ESP32SPI interface. Then, it initializes a `request` object using an ESP32 `socket` and the `esp` object.

```
import board
import busio
from digitalio import DigitalInOut
import adafruit_esp32spi.adafruit_esp32spi_socket as socket
from adafruit_esp32spi import adafruit_esp32spi
import adafruit_requests as requests

# If you are using a board with pre-defined ESP32 Pins:
esp32_cs = DigitalInOut(board.ESP_CS)
esp32_ready = DigitalInOut(board.ESP_BUSY)
esp32_reset = DigitalInOut(board.ESP_RESET)

# If you have an externally connected ESP32:
# esp32_cs = DigitalInOut(board.D9)
# esp32_ready = DigitalInOut(board.D10)
# esp32_reset = DigitalInOut(board.D5)

spi = busio.SPI(board.SCK, board.MOSI, board.MISO)
esp = adafruit_esp32spi.ESP_SPIcontrol(spi, esp32_cs, esp32_ready, esp32_reset)

print("Connecting to AP...")
while not esp.is_connected:
```

```
    try:
        esp.connect_AP(b'MY_SSID_NAME', b'MY_SSID_PASSWORD')
    except RuntimeError as e:
        print("could not connect to AP, retrying: ",e)
        continue
print("Connected to", str(esp.ssid, 'utf-8'), "\tRSSI:", esp.rssi)

# Initialize a requests object with a socket and esp32spi interface
requests.set_socket(socket, esp)
```

HTTP GET with Requests

The code makes a HTTP GET request to Adafruit's WiFi testing website - http://wifitest.adafruit.com/testwifi/index.html (https://adafru.it/Fp-).

To do this, we'll pass the URL into `requests.get()`. We're also going to save the response from the server into a variable named `response`.

Having requested data from the server, we'd now like to see what the server responded with. Since we already saved the server's `response`, we can read it back. Luckily for us, **requests automatically decodes the server's response into human-readable text,** you can read it back by calling `response.text`.

Lastly, we'll perform a bit of cleanup by calling `response.close()`. This closes, deletes, and collect's the response's data.

```
print("Fetching text from %s"%TEXT_URL)
response = requests.get(TEXT_URL)
print('-'*40)

print("Text Response: ", response.text)
print('-'*40)
response.close()
```

While some servers respond with text, some respond with json-formatted data consisting of attribute–value pairs.

CircuitPython_Requests can convert a JSON-formatted response from a server into a CPython `dict.` object.

We can also fetch and parse **json** data. We'll send a HTTP get to a url we know returns a json-formatted response (instead of text data).

Then, the code calls `response.json()` to convert the response to a CPython `dict`.

```
print("Fetching JSON data from %s"%JSON_GET_URL)
response = requests.get(JSON_GET_URL)
print('-'*40)

print("JSON Response: ", response.json())
print('-'*40)
response.close()
```

HTTP POST with Requests

Requests can also **POST data to a server by calling the `requests.post` method, passing it a `data` value.**

```
data = '31F'
print("POSTing data to {0}: {1}".format(JSON_POST_URL, data))
response = requests.post(JSON_POST_URL, data=data)
print('-'*40)

json_resp = response.json()
# Parse out the 'data' key from json_resp dict.
print("Data received from server:", json_resp['data'])
print('-'*40)
response.close()
```

You can also post json-formatted data to a server by passing `json_data` into the `requests.post` method.

```
    json_data = {"Date" : "July 25, 2019"}
print("POSTing data to {0}: {1}".format(JSON_POST_URL, json_data))
response = requests.post(JSON_POST_URL, json=json_data)
print('-'*40)

json_resp = response.json()
# Parse out the 'json' key from json_resp dict.
print("JSON Data received from server:", json_resp['json'])
print('-'*40)
response.close()
```

Advanced Requests Usage

Want to send custom HTTP headers, parse the response as raw bytes, or handle a response's http status code in your CircuitPython code?

We've written an example to show advanced usage of the requests module below.

To use with CircuitPython, you need to first install a few libraries, into the lib folder on your **CIRCUITPY** drive. Then you need to update **code.py** with the example script.

Thankfully, we can do this in one go. In the example below, click the **Download Project Bundle** button below to download the necessary libraries and the **code.py** file in a zip file. Extract the contents of the zip file, open the directory **examples/** and then click on the directory that matches the version of CircuitPython you're using and copy the contents of that directory to your **CIRCUITPY** drive.

Your **CIRCUITPY** drive should now look similar to the following image:

CIRCUITPY

```
Temporarily unable to load content:
```

WiFi Manager

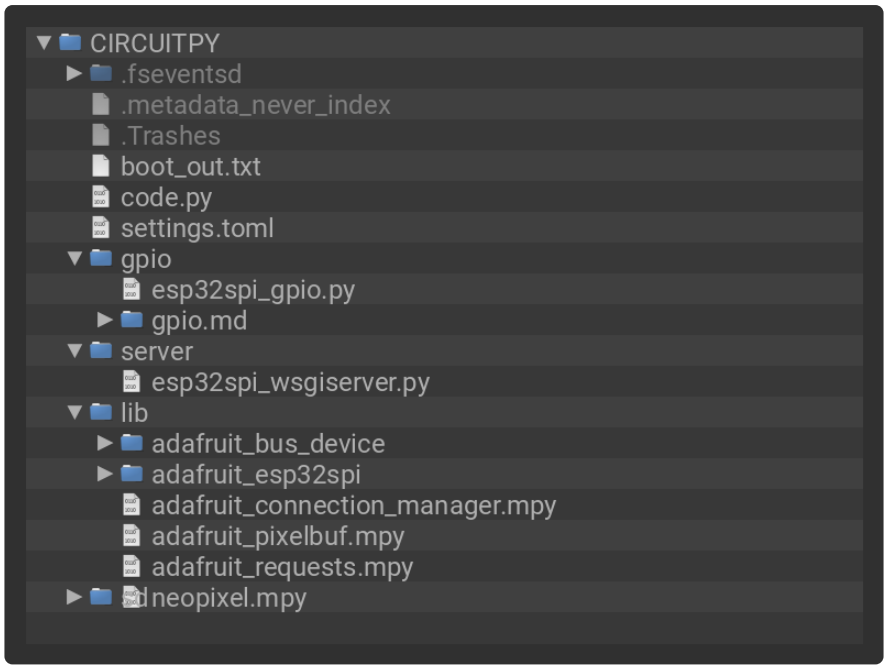
That simpletest example works but it's a little finicky - you need to constantly check WiFi status and have many loops to manage connections and disconnections. For more advanced uses, we recommend using the WiFiManager object. It will wrap the connection/status/requests loop for you - reconnecting if WiFi drops, resetting the ESP32 if it gets into a bad state, etc.

Here's a more advanced example that shows the WiFi manager and also how to POST data with some extra headers:

To use with CircuitPython, you need to first install a few libraries, into the lib folder on your **CIRCUITPY** drive. Then you need to update **code.py** with the example script.

Thankfully, we can do this in one go. In the example below, click the **Download Project Bundle** button below to download the necessary libraries and the **code.py** file in a zip file. Extract the contents of the zip file, open the directory **examples/** and then click on the directory that matches the version of CircuitPython you're using and copy the contents of that directory to your **CIRCUITPY** drive.

Your **CIRCUITPY** drive should now look similar to the following image:




```
# SPDX-FileCopyrightText: 2019 ladyada for Adafruit Industries
# SPDX-License-Identifier: MIT

import time
from os import getenv
import board
import busio
from digitalio import DigitalInOut
import neopixel
from adafruit_esp32spi import adafruit_esp32spi
from adafruit_esp32spi import adafruit_esp32spi_wifimanager

print("ESP32 SPI webclient test")

# Get wifi details and more from a settings.toml file
# tokens used by this Demo: CIRCUITPY_WIFI_SSID, CIRCUITPY_WIFI_PASSWORD
#                           CIRCUITPY_AIO_USERNAME, CIRCUITPY_AIO_KEY
secrets = {}
for token in ["ssid", "password"]:
    if getenv("CIRCUITPY_WIFI_" + token.upper()):
        secrets[token] = getenv("CIRCUITPY_WIFI_" + token.upper())
for token in ["aio_username", "aio_key"]:
    if getenv("CIRCUITPY_" + token.upper()):
        secrets[token] = getenv("CIRCUITPY_" + token.upper())

if not secrets:
    try:
        # Fallback on secrets.py until depreciation is over and option is removed
        from secrets import secrets
    except ImportError:
        print("WiFi secrets are kept in settings.toml, please add them there!")
        raise

# If you are using a board with pre-defined ESP32 Pins:
esp32_cs = DigitalInOut(board.ESP_CS)
esp32_ready = DigitalInOut(board.ESP_BUSY)
esp32_reset = DigitalInOut(board.ESP_RESET)

# If you have an externally connected ESP32:
# esp32_cs = DigitalInOut(board.D9)
# esp32_ready = DigitalInOut(board.D10)
# esp32_reset = DigitalInOut(board.D5)
```

```
# Secondary (SCK1) SPI used to connect to WiFi board on Arduino Nano Connect RP2040
if "SCK1" in dir(board):
    spi = busio.SPI(board.SCK1, board.MOSI1, board.MISO1)
else:
    spi = busio.SPI(board.SCK, board.MOSI, board.MISO)
esp = adafruit_esp32spi.ESP_SPIcontrol(spi, esp32_cs, esp32_ready, esp32_reset)
"""Use below for Most Boards"""
status_light = neopixel.NeoPixel(board.NEOPIXEL, 1, brightness=0.2)
"""Uncomment below for ItsyBitsy M4"""
# status_light = dotstar.DotStar(board.APA102_SCK, board.APA102_MOSI, 1,
brightness=0.2)
"""Uncomment below for an externally defined RGB LED (including Arduino Nano
Connect)"""
# import adafruit_rgbled
# from adafruit_esp32spi import PWMOut
# RED_LED = PWMOut.PWMOut(esp, 26)
# GREEN_LED = PWMOut.PWMOut(esp, 27)
# BLUE_LED = PWMOut.PWMOut(esp, 25)
# status_light = adafruit_rgbled.RGBLED(RED_LED, BLUE_LED, GREEN_LED)

wifi = adafruit_esp32spi_wifimanager.ESPSPI_WiFiManager(esp, secrets, status_light)

counter = 0

while True:
    try:
        print("Posting data...", end="")
        data = counter
        feed = "test"
        payload = {"value": data}
        response = wifi.post(
            "https://io.adafruit.com/api/v2/"
            + secrets["aio_username"]
            + "/feeds/"
            + feed
            + "/data",
            json=payload,
            headers={"X-AIO-KEY": secrets["aio_key"]},
        )
        print(response.json())
        response.close()
        counter = counter + 1
        print("OK")
    except OSError as e:
        print("Failed to get data, retrying\n", e)
        wifi.reset()
        continue
    response = None
    time.sleep(15)
```

You'll note here we use a secrets.py file to manage our SSID info. The wifimanager is given the ESP32 object, secrets and a neopixel for status indication.

Note, you'll need to add a some additional information to your secrets file so that the code can query the Adafruit IO API:

- `aio_username`
- `aio_key`

You can go to your adafruit.io View AIO Key link to get those two values and add them to the secrets file, which will now look something like this:

```
# This file is where you keep secret settings, passwords, and tokens!
# If you put them in the code you risk committing that info or sharing it

secrets = {
    'ssid' : '_your_ssid_',
    'password' : '_your_wifi_password_',
    'timezone' : "America/Los_Angeles", # http://worldtimeapi.org/timezones
    'aio_username' : '_your_aio_username_',
    'aio_key' : '_your_aio_key_',
    }
```

Next, **set up an Adafruit IO feed named `test`**

- If you do not know how to set up a feed, follow this page and come back when you've set up a feed named `test`. (https://adafru.it/f5k)

We can then have a simple loop for posting data to Adafruit IO without having to deal with connecting or initializing the hardware!

Take a look at your **test** feed on Adafruit.io and you'll see the value increase each time the CircuitPython board posts data to it!

Code PyPortal with CircuitPython

If you have not yet set up a **settings.toml** file in your **CIRCUITPY** drive and connected to the internet using it, follow the directions in the Create Your settings.toml

File (https://adafru.it/19QA) and Internet Connect! (https://adafru.it/19QB) pages in this guide.

You will need your Adafruit IO username, and Adafruit IO key. Head to io.adafruit.com (https://adafru.it/fsU) and simply click the View AIO Key link on the left hand side of the Adafruit IO page to get this information.

Then, add them to the **settings.toml** file:

```
CIRCUITPY_WIFI_SSID = "your_wifi_ssid"
CIRCUITPY_WIFI_PASSWORD = "your_wifi_password"
AIO_USERNAME = "your_aio_username"
AIO_KEY = "your_aio_key"
```

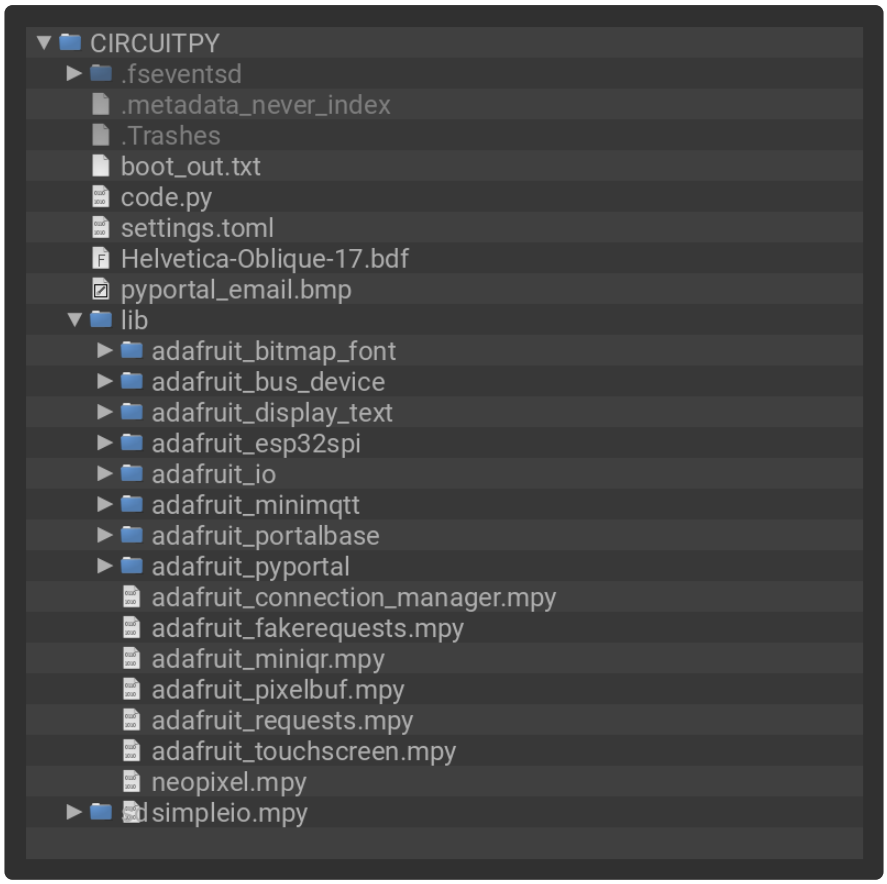
Add CircuitPython Code and Project Assets

In the embedded code element below, click on the **Download Project Bundle** button, and save the .zip archive file to your computer.

Then, **uncompress the .zip file**, it will unpack to a folder named **PyPortal_Email_Display**.

Copy the contents of the **PyPortal_Email_Display** directory to your PyPortal's **CIRCUITPY** drive. Make sure to **save the font (Helvetica-Oblique-17.bdf) into the fonts folder** on the **CIRCUITPY** drive.

This is what the final contents of the **CIRCUITPY** drive will look like:

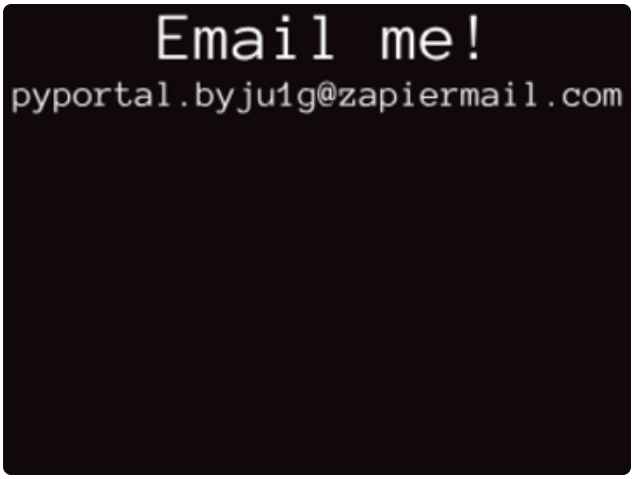



```
# SPDX-FileCopyrightText: 2019 Brent Rubell for Adafruit Industries
#
# SPDX-License-Identifier: MIT

"""
PyPortal Adafruit IO Feed Display

Displays an Adafruit IO Feed on a PyPortal.
"""
import time
import board
from adafruit_pyportal import PyPortal

# Get Adafruit IO details and more from a secrets.py file
try:
    from secrets import secrets
except ImportError:
    print("Adafruit IO secrets are kept in secrets.py, please add them there!")
    raise

# Adafruit IO Account
IO_USER = secrets['aio_username']
IO_KEY = secrets['aio_key']
# Adafruit IO Feed
IO_FEED = 'zapemail'

DATA_SOURCE = "https://io.adafruit.com/api/v2/{0}/feeds/{1}?X-AIO-
Key={2}".format(IO_USER,

IO_FEED, IO_KEY)
FEED_VALUE_LOCATION = ['last_value']

cwd = ("/"+__file__).rsplit('/', 1)[0]
pyportal = PyPortal(url=DATA_SOURCE,
                    json_path=FEED_VALUE_LOCATION,
                    status_neopixel=board.NEOPIXEL,
```

```
                    default_bg=cwd+"/pyportal_email.bmp",
                    text_font=cwd+"/fonts/Helvetica-Oblique-17.bdf",
                    text_position=(30, 65),
                    text_color=0xFFFFFF,
                    text_wrap=35, # wrap feed after 35 chars
                    text_maxlen=160)

# speed up projects with lots of text by preloading the font!
pyportal.preload_font()

while True:
    try:
        print('Fetching Adafruit IO Feed Value..')
        value = pyportal.fetch()
        print("Response is", value)
    except RuntimeError as e:
        print("Some error occured, retrying! -", e)
    time.sleep(10)
```

If you run into any errors, such as "ImportError: no module named `adafruit_display_text.label`" be sure to update your libraries to the latest release bundle!

Code Usage



After the PyPortal loads up (it will display a startup image and sound), it will display an image called `email_background.bmp` as the screen's background. This is a 320 x 240 pixel RGB 16-bit raster graphic in **.bmp** format.

Then, it requests the value of the Adafruit IO feed (`IO_FEED` in the code) and displays the value with bitmapped fonts on top of the background.

Want to use your own fonts? Learn more about PyPortal fonts in this guide (https://adafru.it/E7E).

When the custom inbox is emailed, Zapier will immediately send the data to an Adafruit IO feed.

Customization

Now that you have your PyPortal displaying incoming emails, you add some customization to the PyPortal to give your personal flair!

Change the background

You can customize the background to add (or remove) information, by making a 320x240 16-bit RGB color .bmp file.

Display more text

Want to show more text on the display? While our code limits the maximum length of the feed value being displayed to 160 characters, you can change it in the code by increasing the length of the variable `text_maxlen` to any amount of characters which can fit reasonably on the display.

If you want to display more text, switch to a smaller font size.

Change the text color

You can also change the color of the display by changing the line `text_color=0xFFFFFF` in the code to your color of choice.

Visit https://www.color-hex.com (https://adafru.it/Eil) to pick your color, and then adjust the `text_color` value.

For example, if you'd like to change the text from white to black, you'd adjust the text_color from `text_color=0xFFFFFF` to `text_color=#000000`