Libraries

The Arduino environment can be extended through the use of libraries, just like most programming platforms. Libraries provide extra functionality for use in sketches, e.g. working with hardware or manipulating data. To use a library in a sketch, select it from Sketch > Import Library.

A number of libraries come installed with the IDE, but you can also download or create your own. See these instructions for details on installing libraries. There's also a tutorial on writing your own libraries. See the API Style Guide for information on making a good Arduino-style API for your library.

Standard Libraries

- EEPROM reading and writing to "permanent" storage
- Ethernet for connecting to the internet using the Arduino Ethernet Shield
- Firmata for communicating with applications on the computer using a standard serial protocol.
- GSM for connecting to a GSM/GRPS network with the GSM shield.
- LiquidCrystal for controlling liquid crystal displays (LCDs)
- SD for reading and writing SD cards
- Servo for controlling servo motors
- SPI for communicating with devices using the Serial Peripheral Interface (SPI) Bus
- SoftwareSerial for serial communication on any digital pins. Version 1.0 and later of Arduino incorporate Mikal Hart's NewSoftSerial library as SoftwareSerial.
- Stepper for controlling stepper motors
- TFT for drawing text, images, and shapes on the Arduino TFT screen
- WiFi for connecting to the internet using the Arduino WiFi shield
- Wire Two Wire Interface (TWI/I2C) for sending and receiving data over a net of devices or sensors.

The Matrix and Sprite libraries are no longer part of the core distribution.

Due Only Libraries

- Audio Play audio files from a SD card.
- Scheduler Manage multiple non-blocking tasks.

Due and Zero Libraries

• USBHost - Communicate with USB peripherals like mice and keyboards.

Zero Only Libraries

- AudioZero Play audio files from a SD card.
- RTC Real Time Clock to schedule events.

Esplora Only Library

 Esplora - this library enable you to easily access to various sensors and actuators mounted on the Esplora board.

Arduino Robot Library

• Robot - this library enables easy access to the functions of the Arduino Robot

Arduino Yún Bridge Library

 Bridge Library - Enables communication between the Linux processor and the Arduino on the Yún.

USB Libraries (Leonardo, Micro, Due, Zero and Esplora)

- Keyboard Send keystrokes to an attached computer.
- Mouse Control cursor movement on a connected computer.

Contributed Libraries

If you're using one of these libraries, you need to install it first. See these instructions for details on installation. There's also a tutorial on writing your own libraries.

Communication (networking and protocols):

- Messenger for processing text-based messages from the computer
- NewSoftSerial an improved version of the SoftwareSerial library
- OneWire control devices (from Dallas Semiconductor) that use the One Wire protocol.
- PS2Keyboard read characters from a PS2 keyboard.
- Simple Message System send messages between Arduino and the computer

- SSerial2Mobile send text messages or emails using a cell phone (via AT commands over software serial)
- Webduino extensible web server library (for use with the Arduino Ethernet Shield)
- X10 Sending X10 signals over AC power lines
- XBee for communicating with XBees in API mode
- SerialControl Remote control other Arduinos over a serial connection

Sensing:

- Capacitive Sensing turn two or more pins into capacitive sensors
- Debounce for reading noisy digital inputs (e.g. from buttons)

Displays and LEDs:

- GFX base class with standard graphics routines (by Adafruit Industries)
- GLCD graphics routines for LCD based on the KS0108 or equivalent chipset.
- Improved LCD library fixes LCD initialization bugs in official Arduino LCD library
- LedControl for controlling LED matrices or seven-segment displays with a MAX7221 or MAX7219.
- LedControl an alternative to the Matrix library for driving multiple LEDs with Maxim chips.
- LedDisplay control of a HCMS-29xx scrolling LED display.
- Matrix Basic LED Matrix display manipulation library
- PCD8544 for the LCD controller on Nokia 55100-like displays (by Adafruit Industries)
- Sprite Basic image sprite manipulation library for use in animations with an LED matrix
- ST7735 for the LCD controller on a 1.8", 128x160 TFT screen (by Adafruit Industries)

Audio and Waveforms:

- FFT frequency analysis of audio or other analog signals
- Tone generate audio frequency square waves in the background on any microcontroller pin

Motors and PWM:

• TLC5940 - 16 channel 12 bit PWM controller.

Timing:

- DateTime a library for keeping track of the current date and time in software.
- Metro help you time actions at regular intervals
- MsTimer2 uses the timer 2 interrupt to trigger an action every N milliseconds.

Utilities:

- PString a lightweight class for printing to buffers
- Streaming a method to simplify print statements

Reference Home

Corrections, suggestions, and new documentation should be posted to the Forum.

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