

Get Started with the micro:bit

Learn to Code



micro:bit

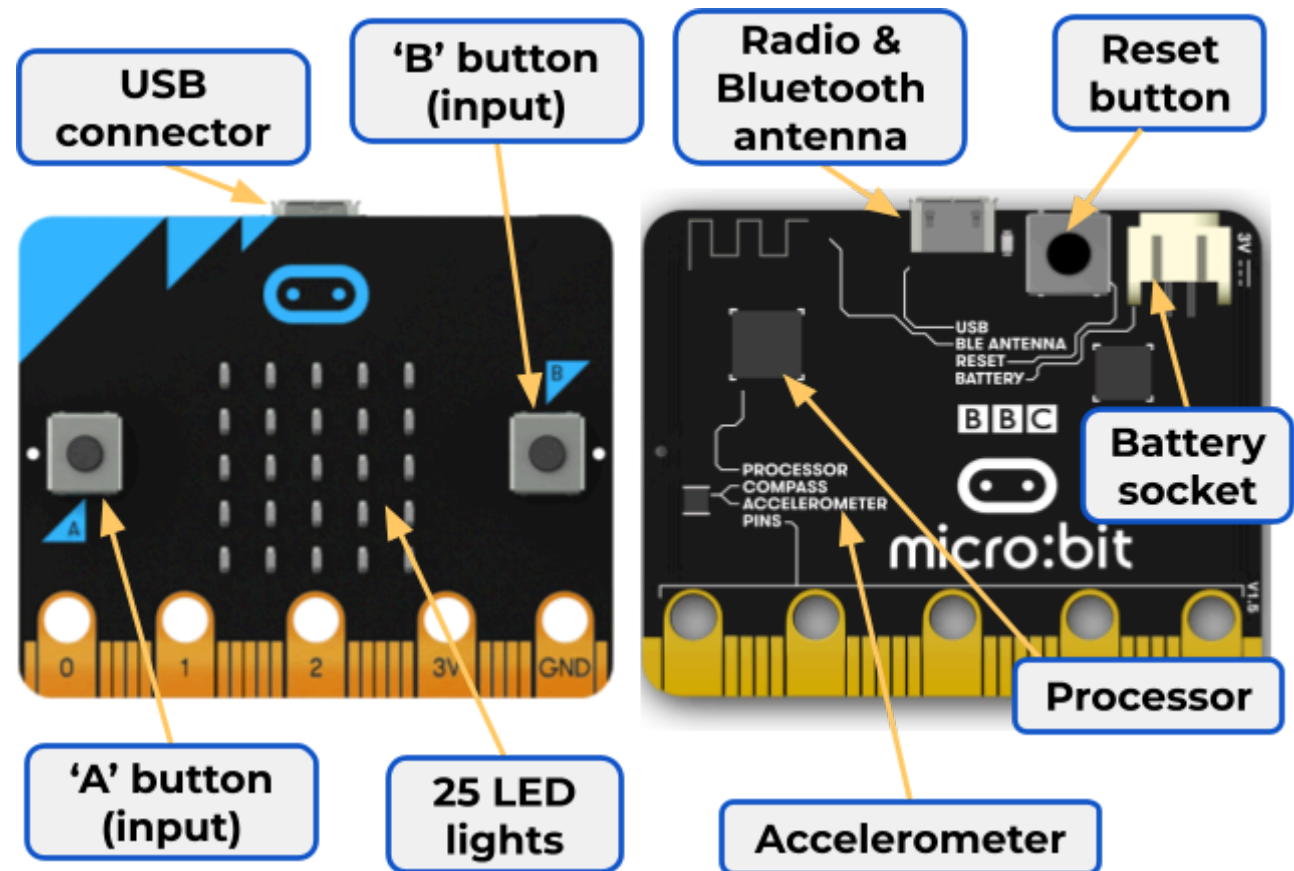
The micro:bit is a pocket-sized programmable computer that is incorporated into the Learn to Code course alongside SAM Labs Blocks.

Setting Up

To set up the micro:bit, we have produced two versions of instructions:

- The **Detailed Guide** (p2) is a comprehensive guide to the micro:bit and how to connect it. This is best followed when you set up for the first time.
- The **Quick Guide** (p5) is a one-page handout which is best followed for reference or for a reminder.

Once you've set up the micro:bit, you and your students will be equipped for Starter Lesson 4: micro:bit.

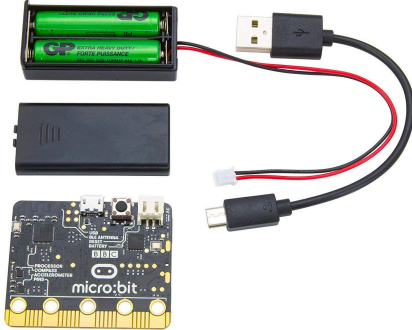
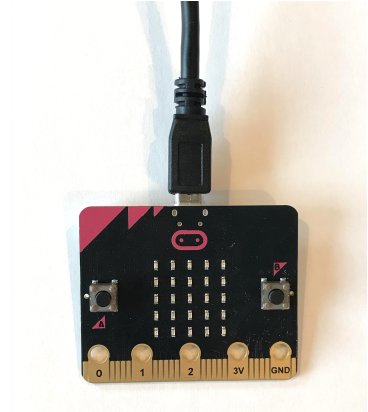

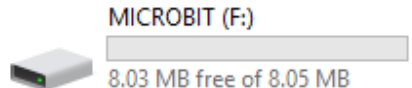


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Detailed Guide

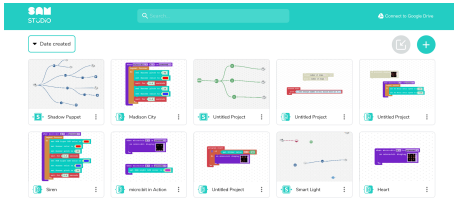
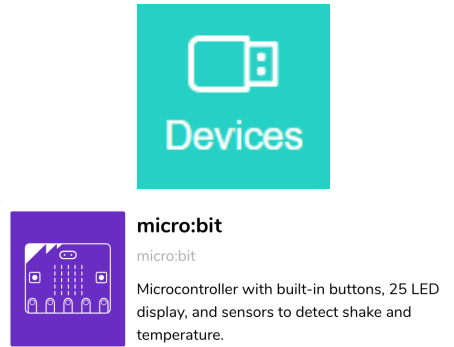
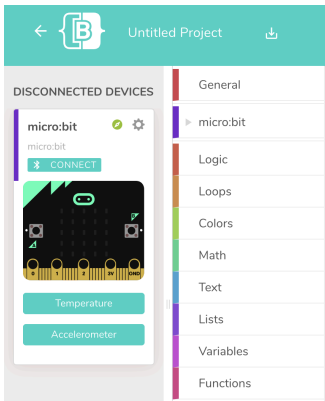
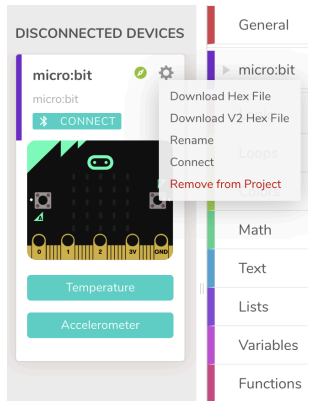
Step	Image	Step	Image
Step 1 The BBC micro:bit comes with: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1 USB data transfer cable• 1 battery pack. It requires 2 AAA batteries.	 A photograph showing the components included with the BBC micro:bit: a black battery pack with two green AAA batteries, a black USB data transfer cable with a micro-USB connector, and the micro:bit board itself.	Step 2 Connect the USB cable to the micro:bit.	 A photograph of the micro:bit board with the USB cable plugged into its top port. The board is black with gold pins and a small red LED.
Step 3 Connect the USB cable to your computing device.	 A close-up photograph of the USB cable's A-connector plugged into a black USB port on a computer.	Step 4 Open File Explorer on your computing device and locate the micro:bit drive.	 A screenshot of a Windows File Explorer window showing the 'MICROBIT (F:)' drive. A progress bar indicates that 8.03 MB is free of 8.05 MB.

Note, this guidance is based on using a PC rather than an Apple MacBook.

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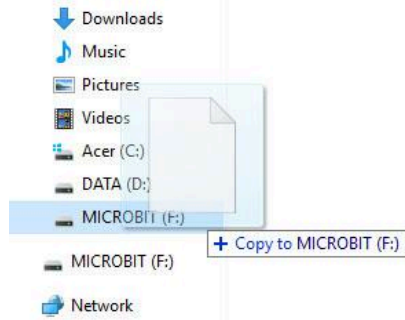
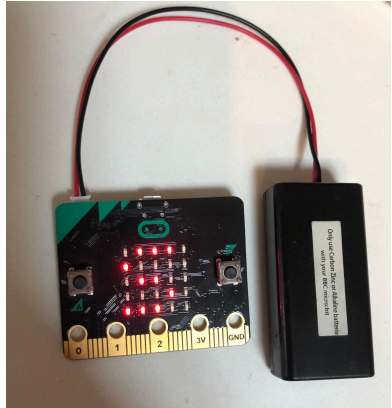
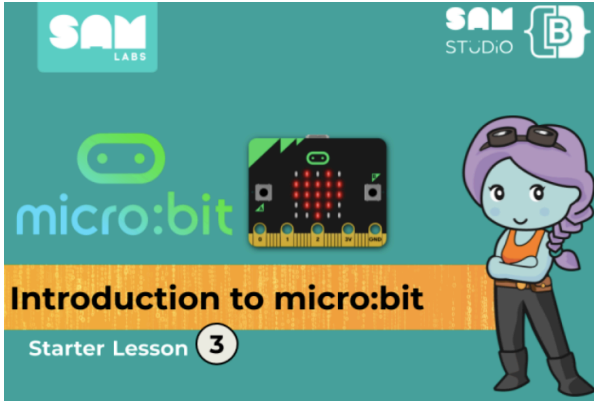
Step	Image	Step	Image
<p>Step 5 Open SAM Studio (https://studio.samlabs.com/)</p> <p>Create a new SAM Blockly Project by clicking the plus sign in the top right corner.</p>		<p>Step 6 Click 'ADD DEVICE' and select 'micro:bit'.</p> <p>This button is located on the top blue bar. Click it to open a list of available devices. Click on the micro:bit.</p>	
<p>Step 7 The micro:bit will appear in the 'Devices' panel on the left hand side (under 'DISCONNECTED DEVICES').</p> <p>The micro:bit you are viewing is the virtual micro:bit available on the platform.</p>		<p>Step 8 Click the settings icon on the micro:bit tile and select 'Download Hex File' from the drop-down.</p> <p>The downloaded hex file will appear in the 'Downloads' folder on your computing device.</p> <p>*If you have the V2 micro:bit make sure to download the V2 Hex File</p>	

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Step	Image	Step	Image
Step 9 Re-open File Explorer and drag the file from 'Downloads' and drop it into the micro:bit drive. This will copy the hex file to the micro:bit, enabling the micro:bit to connect through Bluetooth to the computing device.		Step 10 Once the hex file has been copied successfully onto the micro:bit, and the battery pack is connected, the word 'SAM Labs' will scroll across the micro:bit LED display.	
		You are now ready to complete Starter Lesson 3: micro:bit!	

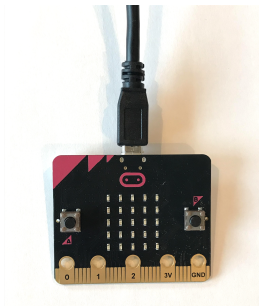

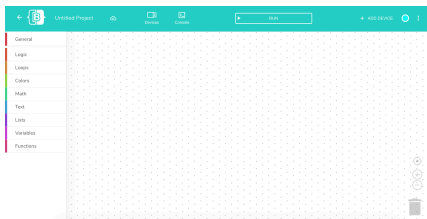

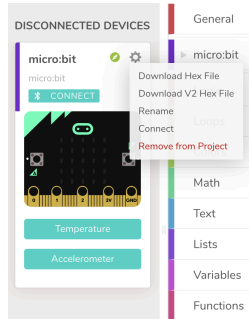
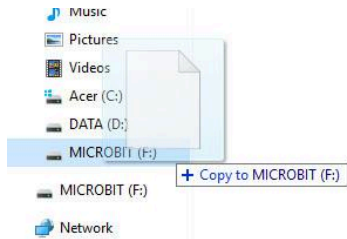
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Quick Guide

Step	Image	Step	Image
Step 1 Connect the USB cable to the micro:bit.		Step 2 Connect the USB cable to your computing device.	
Step 3 Open a new SAM Blockly project in SAM Studio. studio.samlabs.com		Step 4 Click 'ADD DEVICE' and select 'micro:bit'.	
Step 5 Click the settings icon on the microbit tile in Devices and select 'Download Hex File'.		Step 6 Open File Explorer and drag the hex file from 'Downloads' to the micro:bit drive. Connect the battery, then the word 'SAM Labs' will scroll across the micro:bit LED display.	

Note, this guidance is based on using a PC rather than an Apple MacBook.