SpecFive Strike

User Guide

Thank you for ordering your SpecFive Strike from SpecFive. Here are the instructions to get you connected to your new device and join the mesh.

WARNING: DO NOT TURN ON YOUR SPECFIVE STRIKE UNTIL YOU HAVE CONNECTED THE ANTENNA. TURNING THE SPECFIVE STRIKE ON WITHOUT THE ANTENNA CONNECTED CAN CAUSE DAMAGE TO THE LORA RADIO

Compute Module Status LEDs

The compute module status LEDs are not externally exposed on the Strike. Instead, their light diffuses through the enclosure and can also be partially seen through the gap around the USB- C port. These indicators provide quick visual feedback on system activity, charging status, and overall power state.

- **Green LED** – CM4 is powered and active; flickers to show normal Raspberry Pi activity.
- **Red LED** – Turns on whenever the main power switch is ON, even if the CM4 has been shut down.
- **White LED** (**solid**) – Battery is charging when 5V USB-C power is connected.
- **White LED** (**rapid flashing**) – 5V USB-C power is connected but no battery is
- detected.

BlueTooth Disclaimer — Strike Ready Edition

The Strike Ready Edition includes a pre-formatted SD card, and the internal Bluetooth keyboard is already paired with the compute module. In the Bluetooth settings menu, you will see the keyboard listed as a connected device. Do not disconnect or unpair this keyboard. If it is unpaired, the only way to reconnect it is to open the Strike's housing and access the internal pairing button. This process is not required during normal use and should be avoided.

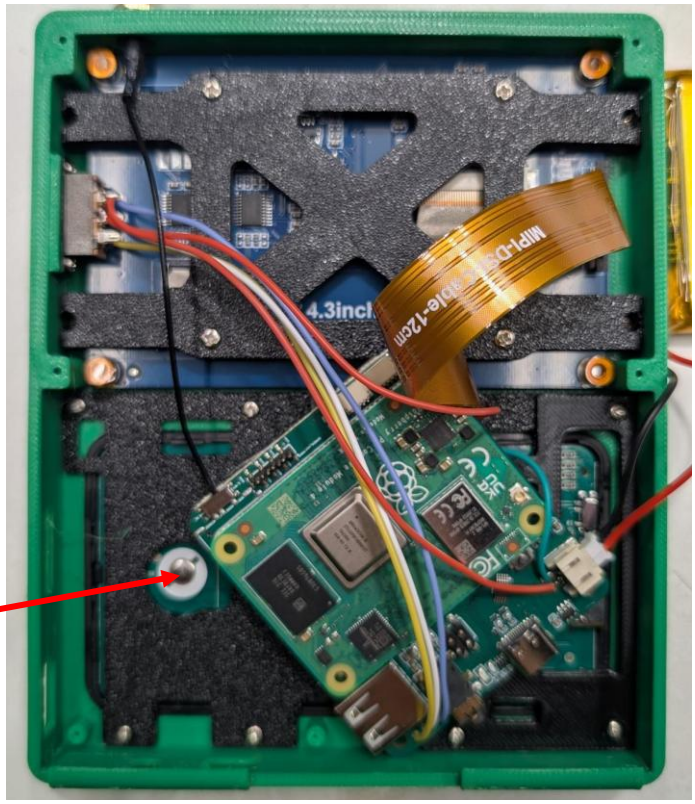
Keyboard Bluetooth Pairing Instructions

Depending on the version of the Strike you purchased, the internal Bluetooth keyboard may or may not already be paired. Units purchased as the Strike Ready Edition (with the SPEC-5– prepared SD card) come with the keyboard pre-paired to the compute module. The Base Model Strike, which requires the user to install their own SD card and set up Raspberry Pi OS, will need to have the Bluetooth keyboard paired after the SD card is configured and the CM4 has completed its first boot. The following instructions explain how to complete that pairing process.

1. Remove the four screws securing the Strike's back panel, then lift the panel off and set it aside.
2. Remove the three screws holding the compute module in place (lower left, lower right, and upper right corners as indicated by the arrows)

3. Slide the compute module upward toward the screen and carefully lift it out of the housing. Take care not to strain the wires or the display ribbon cable.
4. Locate the silver dome switch on the back of the keyboard—this is the Bluetooth pairing button.

BLE pairing button



5. Power on the Strike and allow it to fully boot.
6. Press and hold the silver dome pairing button for approximately five seconds. The keyboard's Bluetooth LED will change from a slow blink to a fast blink, indicating pairing mode.

BLE Status Light

- Keyboard Bluetooth(BLE) Status Light
- Slow Blink: Not Connected
- Fast Blink: Pairing Mode
- Solid: Connected

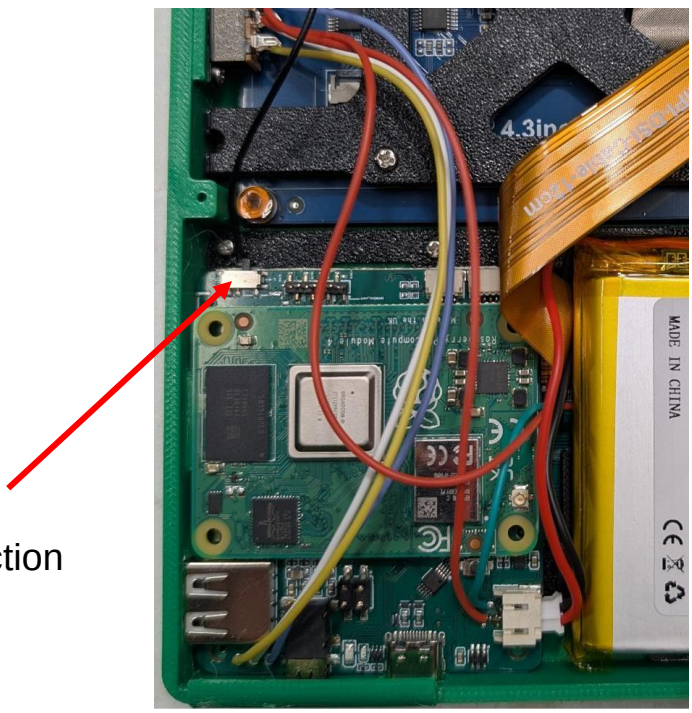
7. Open the Bluetooth menu from the taskbar, select Add Device, and choose the Bluetooth keyboard from the list.
8. Confirm that the keyboard connects successfully.

USB-A Function Switch

To access the USB-A function switch, remove the Strike's back panel to expose the compute module.

The switch changes how the Strike's USB-A port behaves.
When the switch is in the **right position**, the USB-A port operates in **Host Mode**, allowing use of a mouse, keyboard, USB drives, and other external devices.

When the switch is in the **left position**, the Strike enters **Device Mode**, allowing it to be connected to another computer that will act as the USB host. This mode is used for tasks such as updating firmware, transferring files, or accessing the CM4's file system through USB.

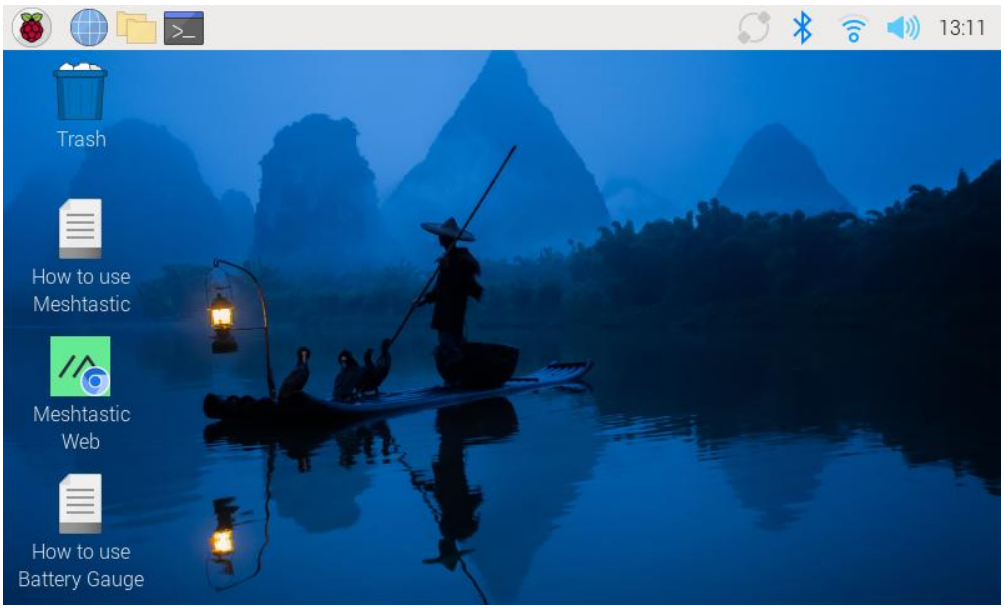


USB-A Function Switch

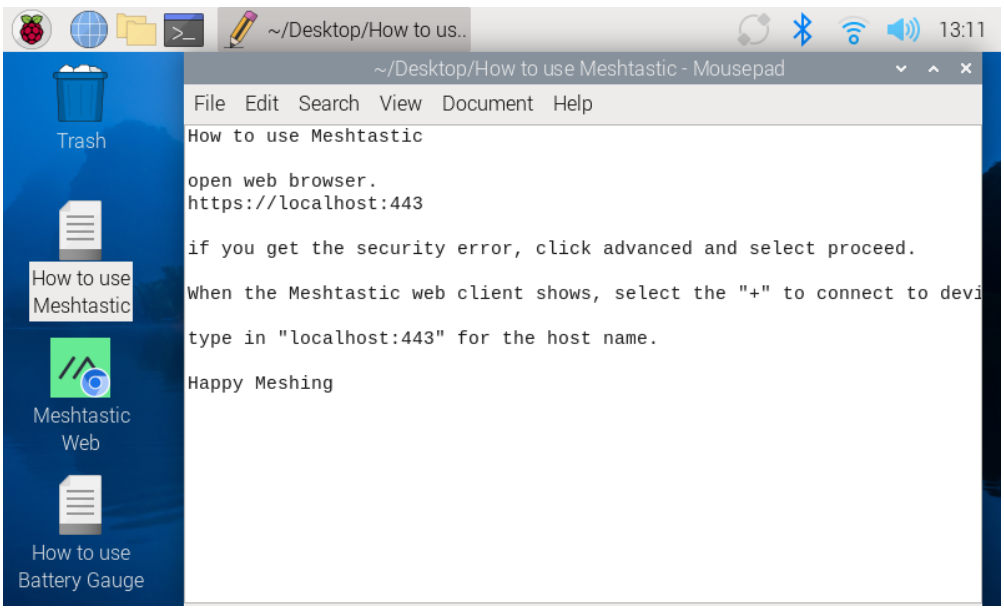
Instructions for the Ready Version with SD Card. Software Configured by SpecFive

How to use Meshtastic:

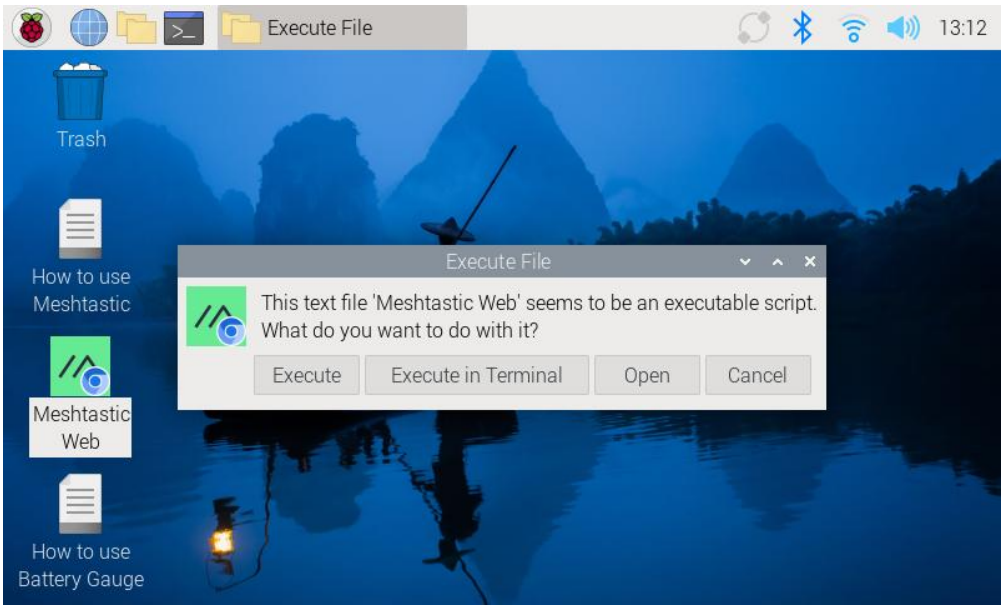
On the home screen you will find a text document named “How to use Meshtastic” which will include these same steps:



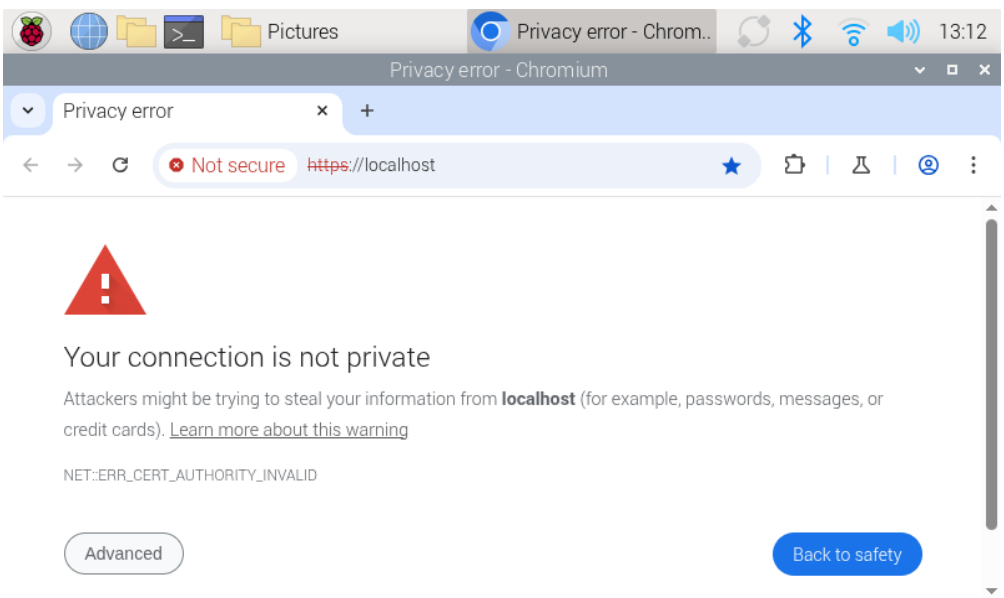
1. Open the “How to use Meshtastic” text document

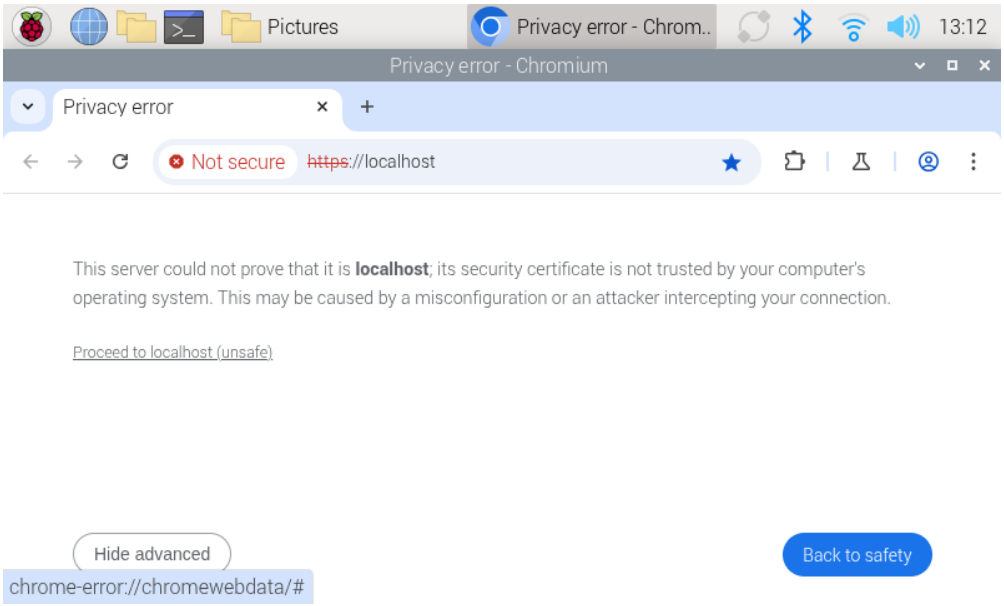


2. Open the Web Browser Link labeled “Meshtastic Web”, select “Execute” in the pop up window.

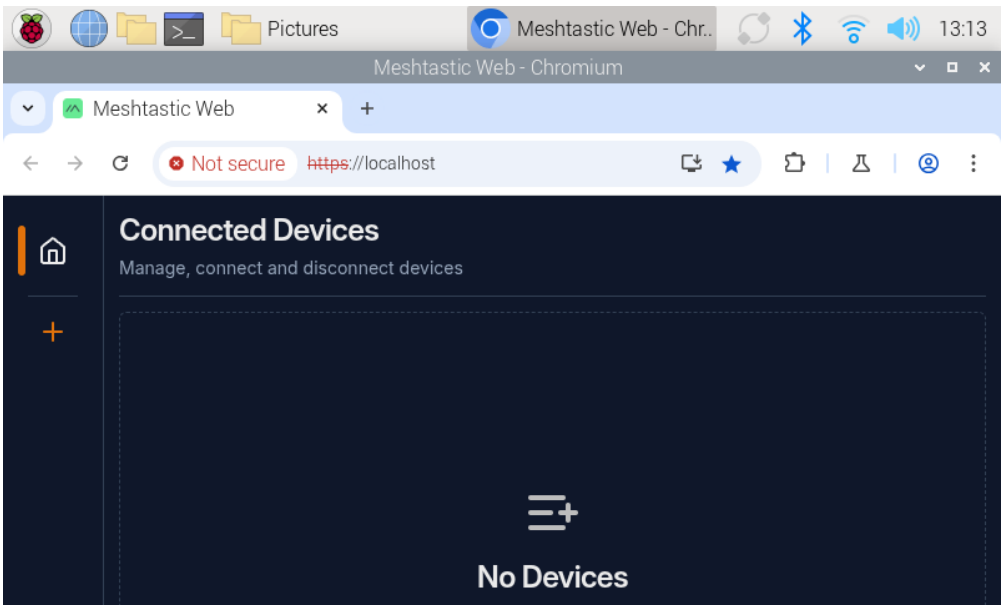


3. If the Privacy error appears, please select Advanced and then Proceed to Localhost

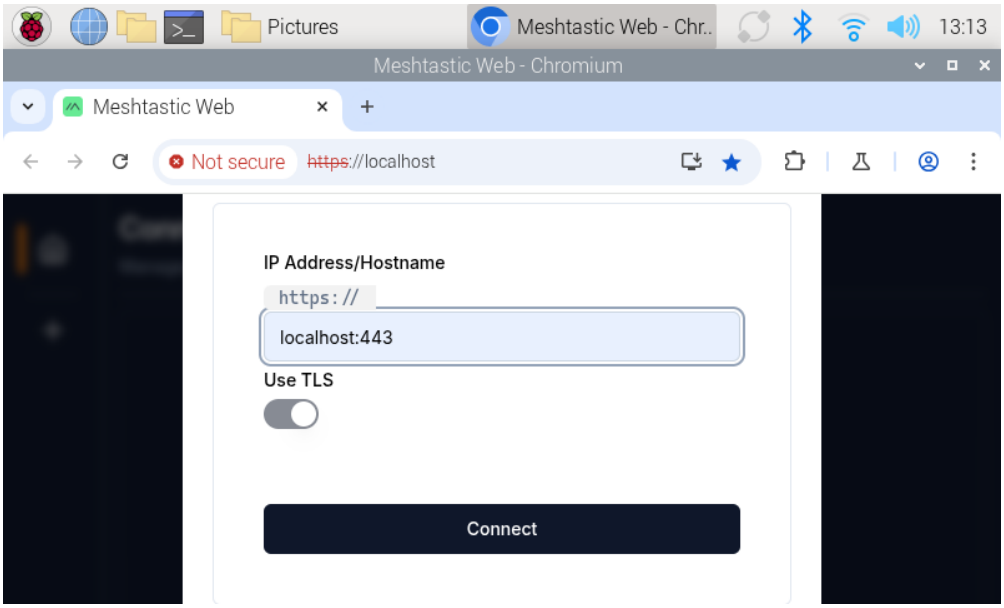


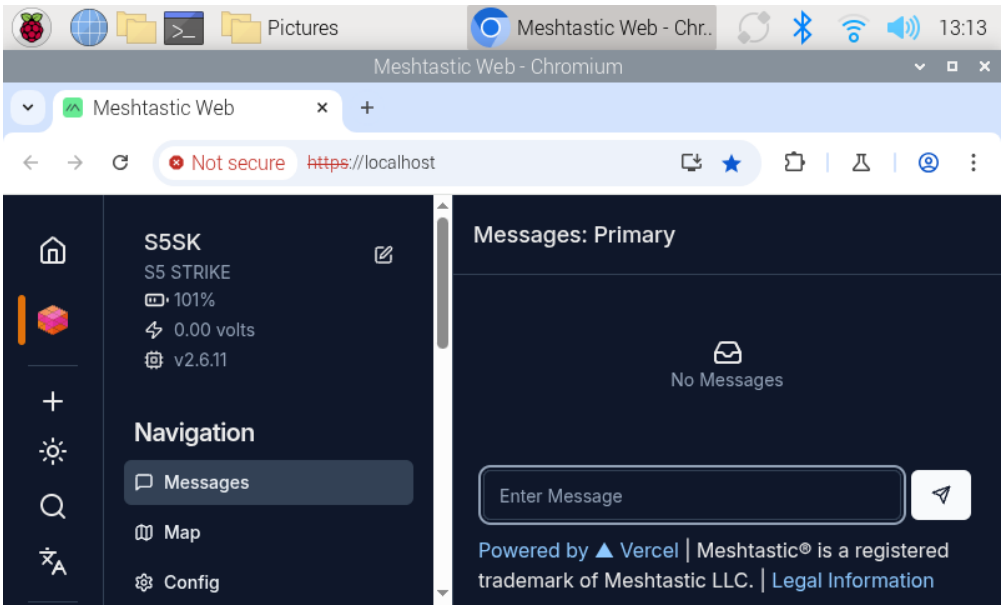


4. This will load the Meshtastic Web Client. Select the + button to connect to the device.



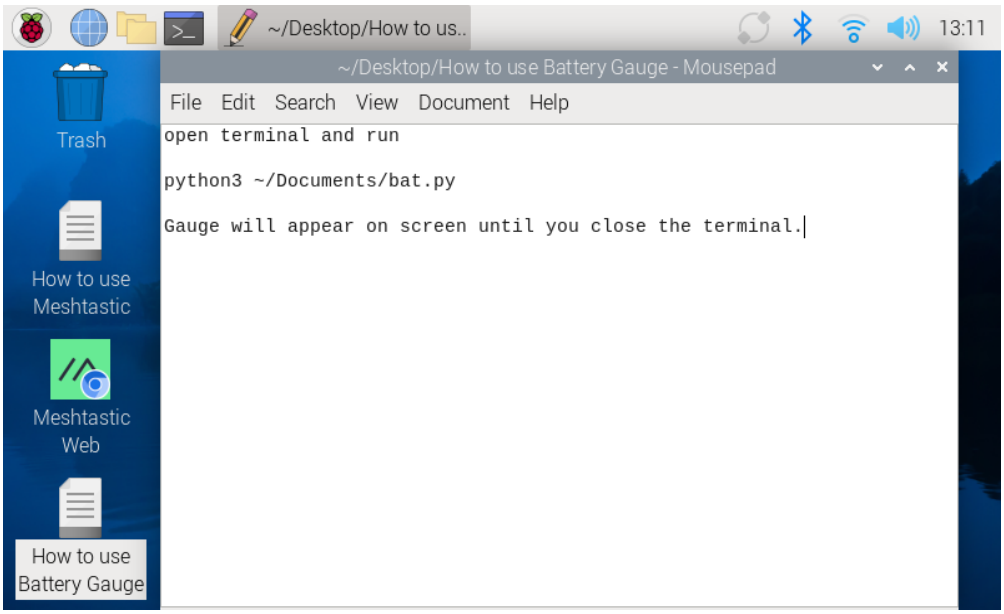
5. Input the address: **localhost:443** and Click **Connect**



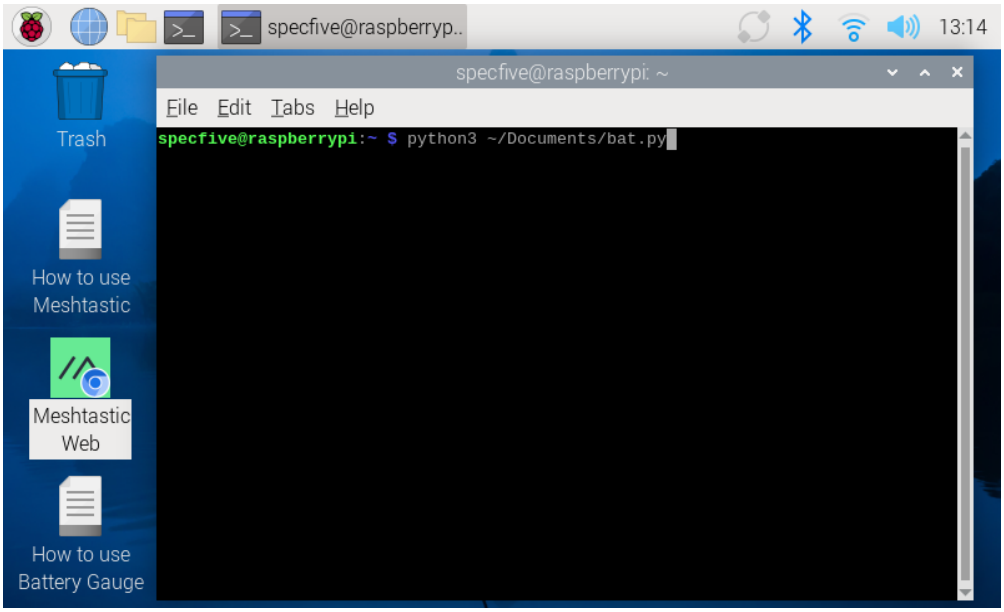


6. Now you are connected to the Device.
    a. The Left panel is your navigation for Messaging, Maps, viewing the Nodes list and changing configuration settings.
    b. The right panel will be the working panel for the function you are working in.

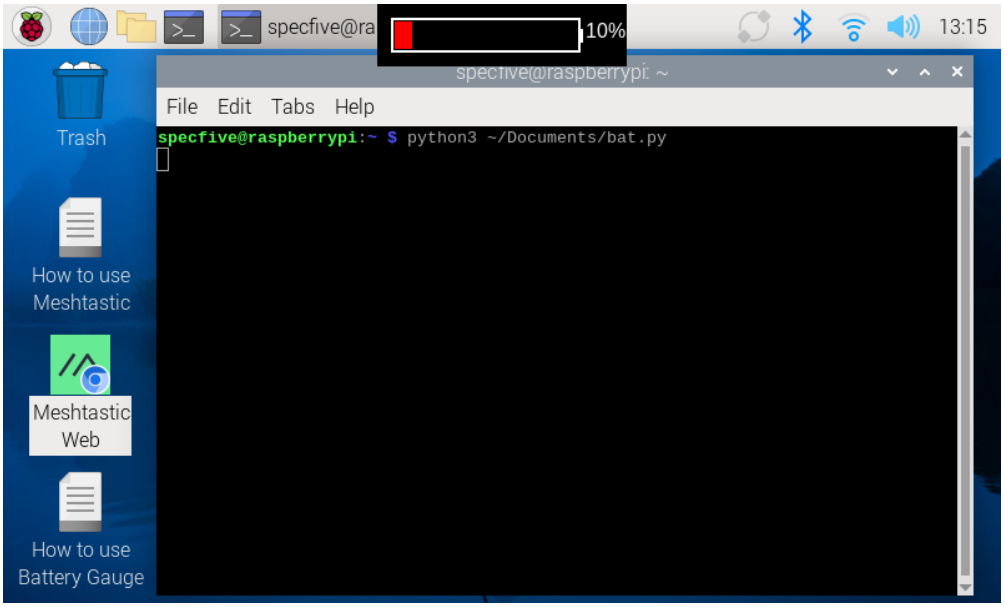
How to Use the Battery Gauge



1. Open the text document labeled “How to use Battery Gauge”
2. Copy the second line in the text document: python3 ~/Documents/bat.py
3. Open the Terminal by selecting the Icon (>_) on the Task Bar or by pressing Ctrl + Alt + T on the keyboard.



4. Paste the command into the terminal and press Enter the keyboard. The program will run and the battery gauge will appear on the top of the screen.



5. To stop the battery gauge you can either press Ctrl + C on the keyboard or close the terminal.

Configuration Files Overview(For Base Models)

The Strike requires two SPEC-5–provided configuration files, both downloadable from our website. These files ensure that the compute module, screen, audio, and LoRa radio all operate correctly.

The first file is **config.txt,** the primary Raspberry Pi configuration file. It must be placed in the following location: **/boot/firmware/config.txt** This file enables the Strike's display, audio jack, and USB port functionality.

The second file is the Meshtastic-D configuration file (**config.yaml**), used when running Meshtastic firmware on the Strike. It configures communication with the integrated LoRa radio module and must be placed in the following directory: **/boot/etc/meshtasticd/config.yaml**

These two files complete the initial setup required for proper hardware and firmware operation. Both of these files can be downloaded from: https://specfive.com/pages/instructions