

## Arduino Esp8266 Post Data to Website

by **Khalilm** on December 27, 2015

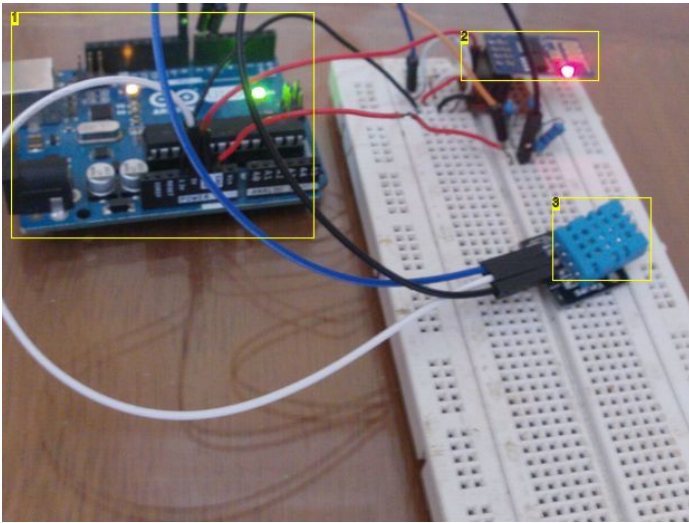
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## Intro: Arduino Esp8266 Post Data to Website

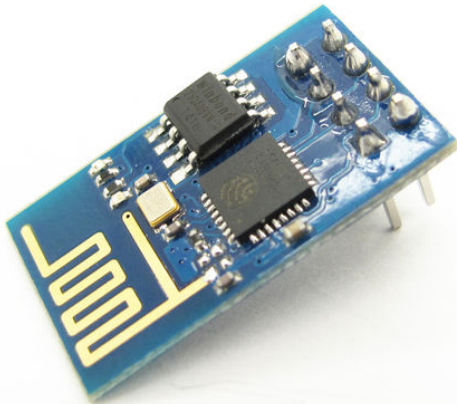
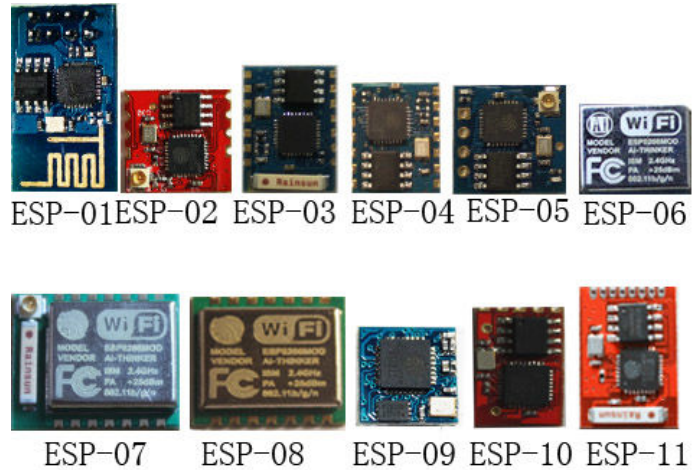
The ESP8266 WiFi Module is a self contained SOC with integrated TCP/IP protocol stack that can give any microcontroller access to your WiFi network. It offers a complete and self-contained Wi-Fi networking solution, allowing it to either host the application or to offload all Wi-Fi networking functions from another application processor. When ESP8266 hosts the application, and when it is the only application processor in the device, it is able to boot up directly from an external flash. It has integrated cache to improve the performance of the system in such applications, and to minimize the memory requirements.

For this project We are going to use The **Esp8266-01** .



### Image Notes

1. Arduino Uno
2. Esp8266
3. DHT11 Temperature and Humidity sensor



## Step 1: What you will need ??

To accomplish this simple yet amazing project you will need a few components that I personally got from **Gearbest.com** mainly thanks to their **High-Quality** products and also for their **Free-shipping WORLDWIDE**. I mean who wouldn't like that !! So the list of the components needed is down below:

- Esp8266 Module **3.32 \$** : <http://www.gearbest.com/transmitters-receivers-mod...> (Compare this to an Arduino Yun that costs around **75 \$** or a WIFI Shield that costs around **85 \$** )
- Arduino Uno (you can get the official one or other clones ,same for this project)

Official **8.00 \$** : [http://www.gearbest.com/development-boards/pp\\_4772...](http://www.gearbest.com/development-boards/pp_4772...)

- DHT11 Temperature Humidity Sensor Module **2.68 \$** :

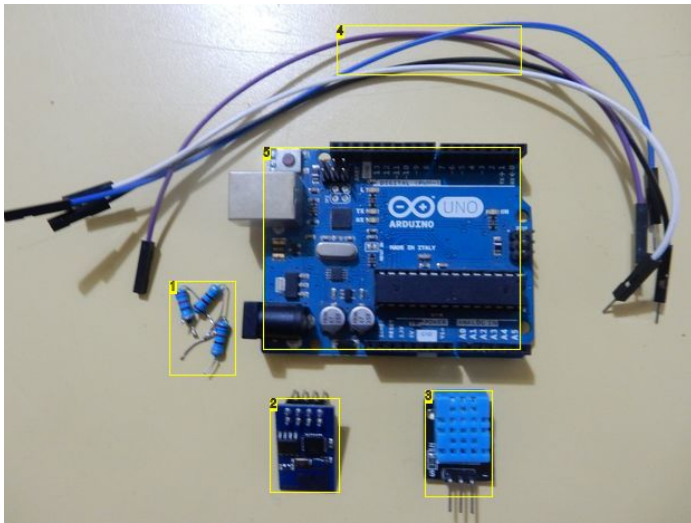
[http://www.gearbest.com/sensors/pp\\_238712.html](http://www.gearbest.com/sensors/pp_238712.html)

- 3X 220 Ohm resistors (Voltage divider, explanation in the circuit diagram below) from your local electronics-shop.
- A few Male to Female jumper Wires **1.88 \$** :

[http://www.gearbest.com/diy-parts-components/pp\\_23...](http://www.gearbest.com/diy-parts-components/pp_23...)

- A website : **0.00 \$**

Finally this project won't cost you any higher than **20 \$**. Isn't That Amazing ?!!



### Image Notes

1. 3x 220 Ohm resistors
2. ESP8266
3. DHT11 Temperature and Humidity Sensor
4. Male to Female Jumper wires
5. Arduino Uno

## Step 2: Circuit Diagram :

This project is based on a very simple Circuit that anyone can do it .

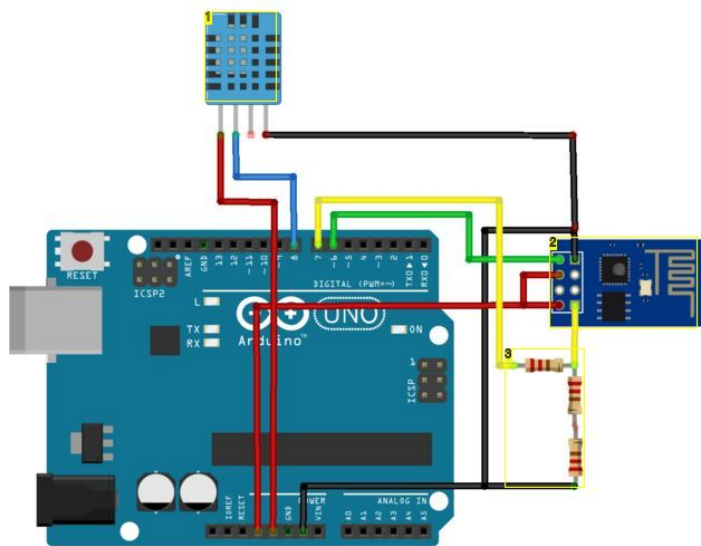
### Power Consumption:

First, you need to keep in mind that the Esp8266 runs on 3.3V , connecting it to 5V could work but it is not recommended. According to its Datasheet, the amperage needed for the Esp8266 to work correctly varies according to its state ( transmitting, receiving, deep sleep ,etc... ), and reaches its highest at around **200 mA** while the Arduino's DC Current for 3.3V Pin is **Only 50mA**, it actually works but you won't get a perfect result.

So, there are plenty of other ways to power the module (using diodes, using Zener diode, voltage regulator). I believe that the best solution is to make an independent 5 to 3.3V power regulator circuit, you will need the following components :

- LM1117 or LD1117 : A very common and cheap 3.3 V regulator that allows you to convert the 5V power used by the Arduino to the 3.3V needed by the Esp8266 module.
- A 10  $\mu$ F capacitor.

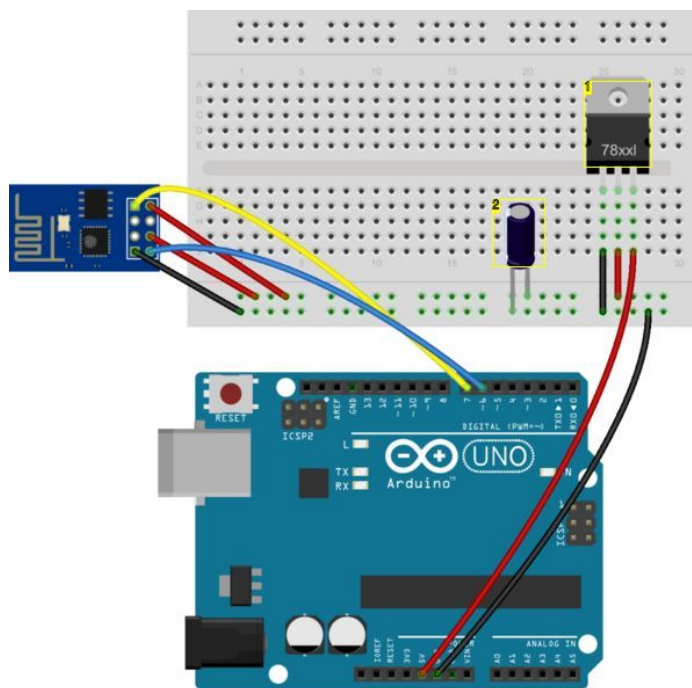
Then, when it comes to the TX and RX connections, you have to avoid connecting the TX of the Arduino directly to the RX of the Esp module since that could damage both of them, so two easy solutions you can use to solve this issue. The first one is to use a simple voltage divider with resistors (as in the diagram above) to drop down the 5V voltage from the TX Pin of the Arduino to 3.3 V or you can use a level shifter with a diode, they both do the job correctly and it's up to you to choose either one for your project.



fritzing

#### Image Notes

1. DHT11 Sensor
2. Esp8266 Module
3. Voltage Divider



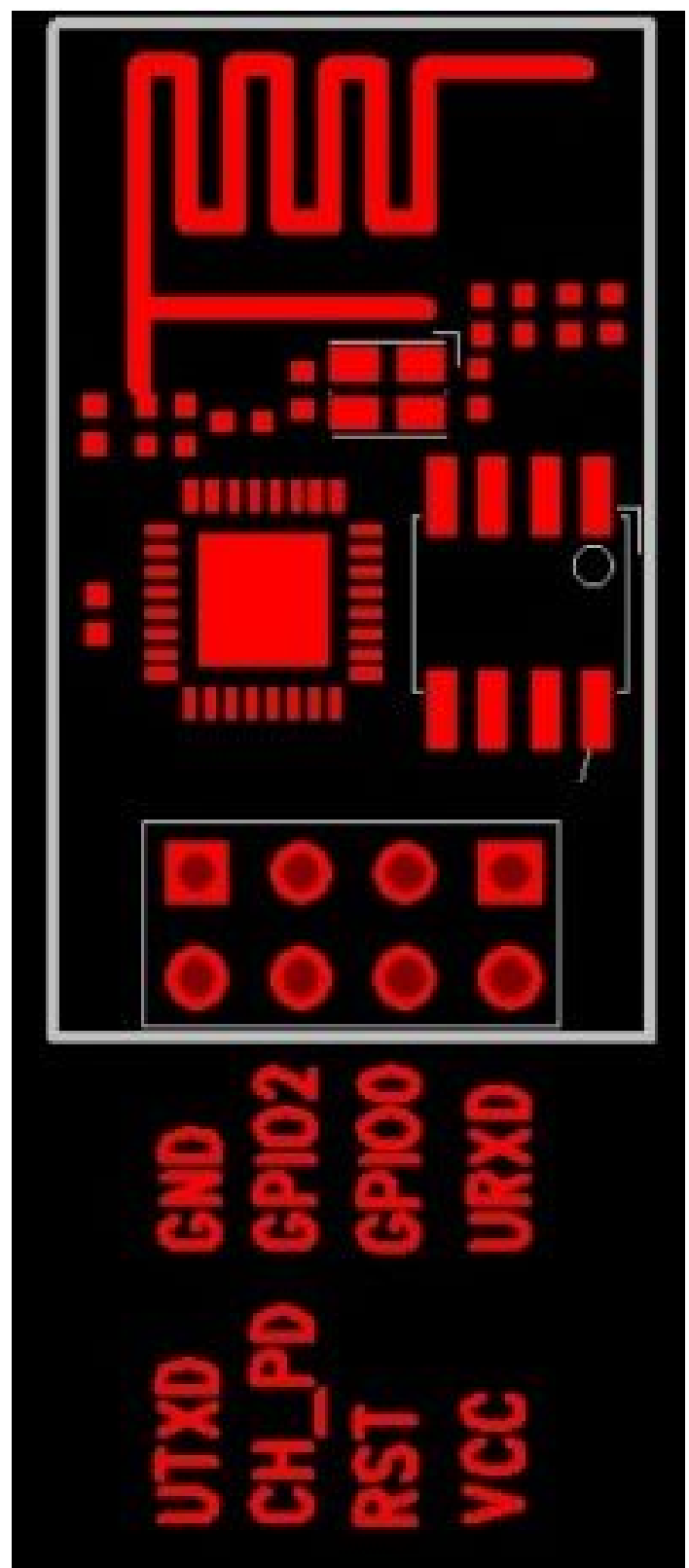
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#### Image Notes

1. LM1117 or LD1117
2. 10µF Capacitor

Mode	Min	Typ	Max	Unit
Transmit 802.11b, CCK 1Mbps, POUT=+19.5dBm		215		mA
Transmit 802.11b, CCK 11Mbps, POUT=+18.5dBm		197		mA
Transmit 802.11g, OFDM 54Mbps, POUT =+16dBm		145		mA
Transmit 802.11n, MCS7, POUT=+14dBm		135		mA
Receive 802.11b, packet length=1024 byte, -80dBm		60		mA
Receive 802.11g, packet length=1024 byte, -70dBm		60		mA
Receive 802.11n, packet length=1024 byte, -65dBm		62		mA
Standby		0.9		mA
Deep sleep		10		uA
Power save mode DTIM 1		1.2		mA
Power save mode DTIM 3		0.86		mA
Total shutdown		0.5		uA

Mode	Min	Typ	Max	Unit
Transmit 802.11b, CCK 1Mbps, POUT=+19.5dBm		215		mA
Transmit 802.11b, CCK 11Mbps, POUT=+18.5dBm		197		mA
Transmit 802.11g, OFDM 54Mbps, POUT =+16dBm		145		mA
Transmit 802.11n, MCS7, POUT=+14dBm		135		mA
Receive 802.11b, packet length=1024 byte, -80dBm		60		mA
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Receive 802.11n, packet length=1024 byte, -65dBm		62		mA
Standby		0.9		mA
Deep sleep		10		uA
Power save mode DTIM 1		1.2		mA
Power save mode DTIM 3		0.86		mA
Total shutdown		0.5		uA





### Step 3: Testing the module :

If this is the First time you use your Esp8266 module, you probably should test it first by sending AT Commands manually to it . You can do that with an FTDI USB to Serial Converter like this one [http://www.gearbest.com/other-accessories/pp\\_22726...](http://www.gearbest.com/other-accessories/pp_22726...) or you can simply use your arduino.

If you're going to use your arduino you have to arrange your connection as in the image above :

Pin 0 Arduino (Rx pin) ---->> Rx Pin Module

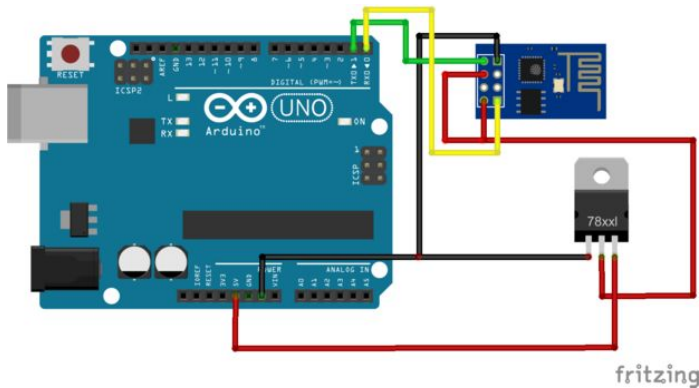
Pin 1 Arduino (Tx pin) ---->> Tx Pin Module

And for the power supply use the power regulator circuit as described in the previous step of this article.

Then, you will have to upload into the arduino an empty code means ( void setup() { } void loop () { } ) and open the Serial monitor window to type the commands just remember that newer versions of the esp module use **9600 baud rate** while older ones use **57600 or 115200 baud rates**. The Esp8266 responds to a few commands called AT Commands, this is a list of the most basic ones to help you get going and you can find more complex ones just google it.

<http://www.pridopia.co.uk/pi-doc/ESP8266ATCommands...>

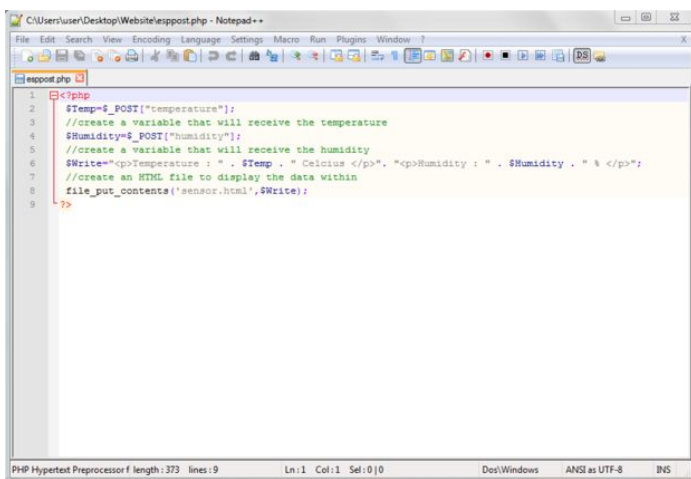
After checking out that your module is working correctly by responding positively to the commands sent you can finally move to the next step and start your HTTP post project.



### Step 4: Create a website First

So first we need to create our own website and to do that there are plenty of free domain and hosting websites. I personally chose <https://www.000webhost.com/> which sounds pretty much convenient for our simple task.

You can create a free website using their free subdomain service then just follow their instructions and you should receive an email that lists your FTP Username and FTP Password and your website will be fully functional within **24 hours**. After you will actually need a software that allows you to send the files (php, HTML , images ...) from your computer to the host servers and to do that I used **FileZilla** you can download it from [here](#). Before sending any file we need to make a file, so in this example we need to make a php file that we will name httpstest.php using **Notepad ++**, which you can download from [here](#), (check the image above for the code and a little explanation). After creating your php server file you are going to actually send that file to the servers that host your website and this is where FileZilla comes in, to accomplish that we first need to establish a connection between your computer and the host servers then you right-click on the file that you wish to send , in this case esp8266.php, and then transfer.



## Step 5: Sending the data

First you need to understand the basics of an HTTP. The Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP) is designed to enable communications between clients and servers.

HTTP works as a request-response protocol between a client and server. A web browser may be the client, and an application on a computer that hosts a web site may be the server. Example: A client (browser) submits an HTTP request to the server; then the server returns a response to the client. The response contains status information about the request and may also contain the requested content. On our example the esp8266 is the client and the server that is hosting our website is the server.

So performing an HTTP Post request has to be under a certain form:

**POST /esppost.php HTTP/1.0**

**Host: serverconnect.site88.net**

**Accept: \*/\***

**Content-Length: "name1=value1&name2=value2".Length**

**Content-Type: application/x-www-form-urlencoded**

**name1=value1&name2=value2**

You can find more explanation and informations in the Arduino sketch below. After uploading the Sketch, wait for a few seconds then refresh your webpage.

```
#include "SoftwareSerial.h"
String ssid ="yourSSID";

String password="yourPassword";

SoftwareSerial esp(6, 7);// RX, TX

String data;

String server = "yourServer"; // www.example.com

String uri = "yourURI";// our example is /esppost.php

int DHpin = 8;//sensor pin

byte dat [5];

String temp ,hum;

void setup() {

  pinMode (DHpin, OUTPUT);

  esp.begin(9600);

  Serial.begin(9600);

  reset();

  connectWifi();

}

//reset the esp8266 module

void reset() {

  esp.println("AT+RST");

  delay(1000);

  if(esp.find("OK") ) Serial.println("Module Reset");

}

//connect to your wifi network

void connectWifi() {

  String cmd = "AT+CWJAP=\"" +ssid+"\", \"\" + password + \"\"";

  esp.println(cmd);

  delay(4000);

  if(esp.find("OK")) {

    Serial.println("Connected!");

  }

  else {

    connectWifi();

  }

}
```

<http://www.instructables.com/id/Arduino-Esp8266-Post-Data-to-Website/>

```

Serial.println("Cannot connect to wifi"); }

}

byte read_data () {

byte data;

for (int i = 0; i < 8; i ++) {

if (digitalRead (DHpin) == LOW) {

while (digitalRead (DHpin) == LOW); // wait for 50us

delayMicroseconds (30); // determine the duration of the high level to determine the data is '0' or '1'

if (digitalRead (DHpin) == HIGH)

data |= (1 << (7-i)); // high front and low in the post

while (digitalRead (DHpin) == HIGH);

// data '1 ', wait for the next one receiver

}

} return data; }

void start_test () {

digitalWrite (DHpin, LOW); // bus down, send start signal

delay (30); // delay greater than 18ms, so DHT11 start signal can be detected

digitalWrite (DHpin, HIGH);

delayMicroseconds (40); // Wait for DHT11 response

pinMode (DHpin, INPUT);

while (digitalRead (DHpin) == HIGH);

delayMicroseconds (80);

// DHT11 response, pulled the bus 80us

if (digitalRead (DHpin) == LOW);

delayMicroseconds (80);

// DHT11 80us after the bus pulled to start sending data

for (int i = 0; i < 4; i ++)

// receive temperature and humidity data, the parity bit is not considered

dat[i] = read_data ();

pinMode (DHpin, OUTPUT);

digitalWrite (DHpin, HIGH);

// send data once after releasing the bus, wait for the host to open the next Start signal

}

void loop () {

start_test ();

// convert the bit data to string form

hum = String(dat[0]);

temp= String(dat[2]);

data = "temperature=" + temp + "&humidity=" + hum;// data sent must be under this form //name1=value1&name2=value2.

httppost();

delay(1000);

}

void httppost () {

esp.println("AT+CIPSTART=\"TCP\", \"\" + server + "\",80");//start a TCP connection.

if( esp.find("OK")) {

http://www.instructables.com/id/Arduino-Esp8266-Post-Data-to-Website/

```



```

Serial.println("TCP connection ready");

} delay(1000);

String postRequest =

"POST " + uri + " HTTP/1.0\r\n" +

"Host: " + server + "\r\n" +

"Accept: *" + "/" + "*" + "\r\n" +

"Content-Length: " + data.length() + "\r\n" +

"Content-Type: application/x-www-form-urlencoded\r\n" +

"\r\n" + data;

String sendCmd = "AT+CIPSEND=";//determine the number of characters to be sent.

esp.print(sendCmd);

esp.println(postRequest.length() );

delay(500);

if(esp.find(">")) { Serial.println("Sending.."); esp.print(postRequest);

if( esp.find("SEND OK")) { Serial.println("Packet sent");

while (esp.available()) {

String tmpResp = esp.readString();

Serial.println(tmpResp);

}

// close the connection

esp.println("AT+CIPCLOSE");

}

}}

```

If everything went well you should see a result similar to the image above if not unplug then replug your Arduino and wait for a few seconds.

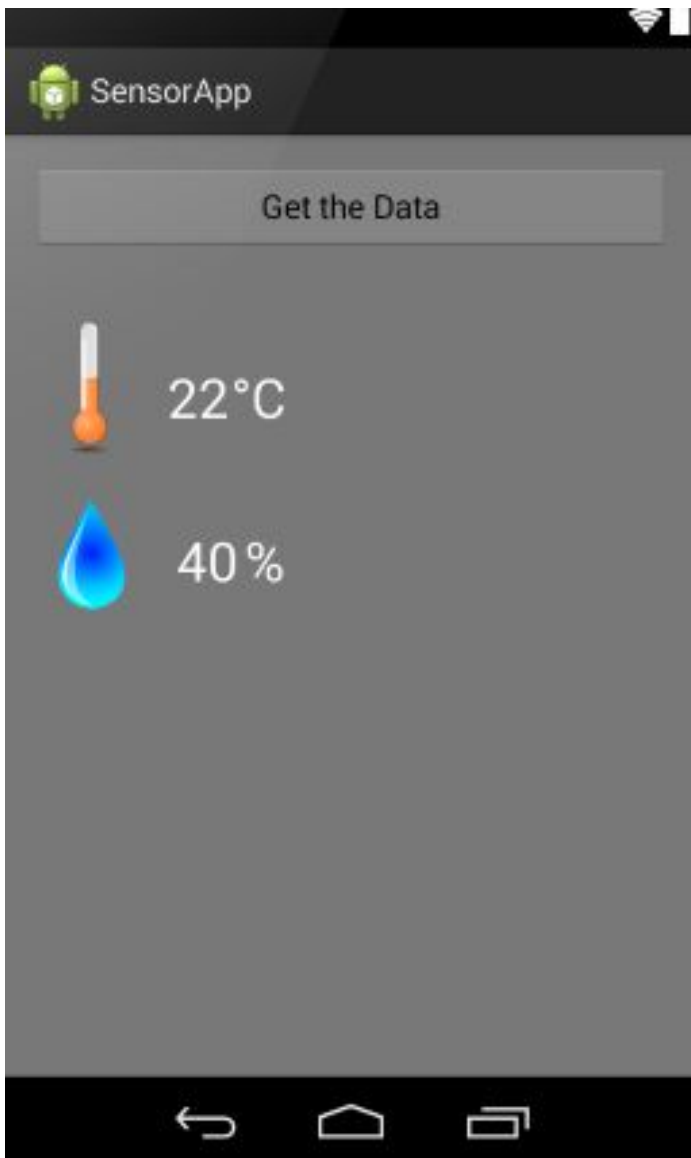


## Step 6: You can go even further

This isn't the end of this project ,there are plenty of other stuff you can do like for example I made an **Android App** that will display the data instead of displaying it on a website which is a little bit boring. So to do so the app send an HTTP Get request to the website, retrieve its HTML code as string then get both the Temperature and Humidity.You can find more explanation about HTTP POST and GET from an Android App in this [Instructables article](#) that I made a while ago .You can download the App's source code down below.

The ESP8266 is just a very awesome device !! . you can perform a lot of other stuff with it like (**Home automation system , Mesh network, IP cameras streaming ,etc...**)

Thanks for reading my article, if you have any questions about anything just leave them in the comment section below or email me at : **Khalilmerchaoui@gmail.com :D :D**



## File Downloads



**SensorApp.rar** (5 MB)

[NOTE: When saving, if you see .tmp as the file ext, rename it to 'SensorApp.rar']

## Related Instructables



**Programming ESP8266- ESP-201 stand alone with Arduino IDE** by natak



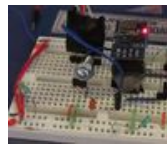
**ESP8266 ESP-12(Standalone)+ Blynk 101** by Rahul27



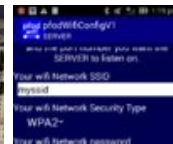
**Get Started with ESP8266 Using AT Commands, NodeMCU, or Arduino (ESP-12E)** by acrobotic



**ESP8266 DS18B20 temperature sensor, Arduino IDE, EasyIoT Cloud** by EasyIoT



**ESP8266 as Arduino** by msuzuki777



**ESP8266 Wifi Add on for Arduino Made Simple** by drmpf

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