

How to use a fifo with mplayer

At this point, you know how to call mplayer to run videos on either the piTFT or on the monitor (in a small window). This guide shows one approach for passing commands into a running instance of mplayer.

First, create a fifo to use with mplayer:

```
mkfifo /home/pi/test_fifo
```

To control mplayer by sending commands to the fifo, use the mplayer flag `'-input file=some file'`. Here is an example:

```
mplayer -input file=/home/pi/test_fifo bunny_video.mp4
```

The above example runs mplayer to play `'bunny_video.mp4'` and will respond to commands sent to the fifo named `'test_fifo'`. Note that the `'-input file=some file'` setting is just another flag used by mplayer. This flag tells mplayer where to listen for commands.

To send a command to the `test_fifo`, which will be read by mplayer, try the following command:

```
echo "pause" > /home/pi/test_fifo
```

This guide is based on the following link:

<https://milesalan.com/notes/mplayers-fifo/>