

Level 3: Advanced (instructions only, no code)

Goal

Build Breakout by splitting responsibilities into 5 parts:

1. Pins/constants
2. Input (debounce + joystick repeat)
3. Game logic (state updates)
4. Render (drawing + score digits)
5. `.ino` glue (setup/loop scheduling)

Step-by-step instructions

1. Create a sketch folder and add:

- `Pins.h` constants
- `Input.*` for debounced inputs and joystick repeat
- `Game.*` for state updates and rules
- `Render.*` for drawing
- `.ino` for setup/loop glue

2. In `Pins.h`:

- Put every pin define (LED=2, buttons 3/4/9/10, joystick 5/6/7/8)
- Put grid size (10x20), paddle settings, timing settings (frame, ball step, brick drop), repeat tuning.

3. In `Input`:

- Implement a debounced button struct with edge detection.
- Provide:
 - init for all pins
 - update once per frame
 - latch once per frame
 - function returning "serve pressed this frame"
 - function returning paddle step (-1/0/+1) with repeat while held.

4. In `Game`:

- Store all game state (bricks array, ball, paddle, score, timers).
- Provide:
 - `reset()` that fills first 8 brick rows and resets everything
 - `serve()` that unsticks ball
 - `movePaddle(dx)` that clamps and drags ball if stuck
 - `brickDropTick()` that shifts down and creates a new top row; if bottom occupied -> game over

- `stepBallOnce()` that does bounces, brick hits, paddle hits, miss -> game over.

5. In `Render`:

- Own the `strip/pixelGrid/lcdPanel` objects and initialise them.
- Provide:
 - `updateScoreDigits(score)`
 - `wheelColor(pos)` for brick rows
 - `renderFrame()` that draws background, bricks, paddle, ball, or game-over screen.

6. In `Breakout.ino`:

- In `setup()` call: render init, input init, game reset.
- In `loop()`:
 - limit frame rate (every 16ms)
 - update inputs
 - if game over and serve pressed -> reset
 - else if serve pressed -> serve
 - every 15s do brick drop tick
 - apply joystick repeat steps to paddle
 - every `ballStepMs` do one ball step
 - render frame
 - latch inputs

After it works, extend it

- Add lives (don't end on first miss)
- Add multiple balls
- Add angled bounces (more than -1/0/+1)
- Add brick types (strong bricks, power-ups)
- Add levels (clear all bricks to speed up or change paddle size)