

# ARDUINO - OVERVIEW

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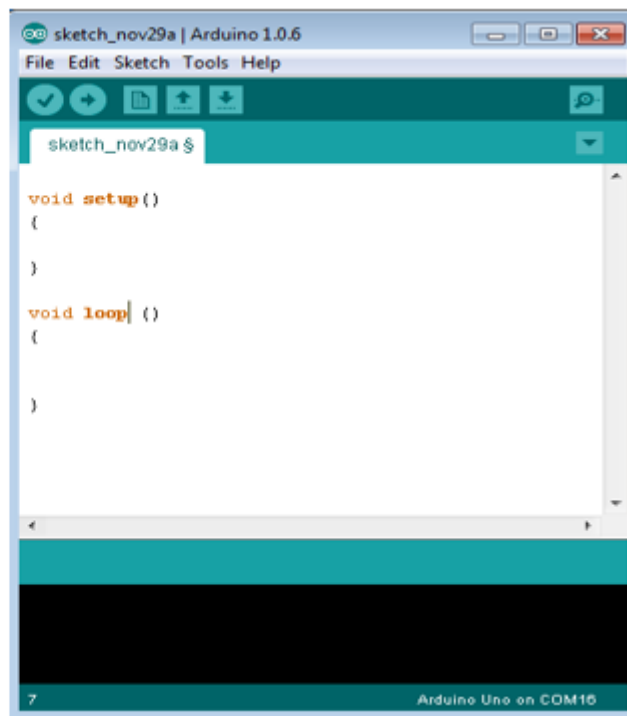
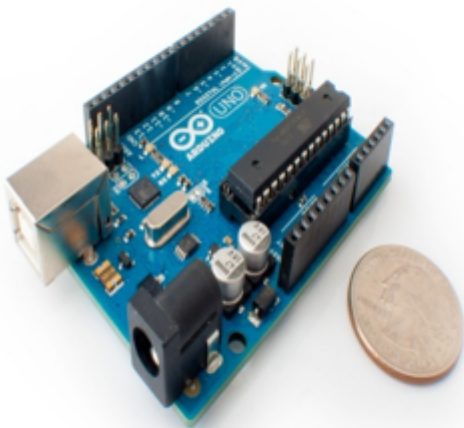
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## Advertisements

Arduino is a prototype platform *open – source* based on an easy-to-use hardware and software. It consists of a circuit board, which can be programmed *referred to as a microcontroller* and a ready-made software called *Arduino IDE Integrated Development Environment*, which is used to write and upload the computer code to the physical board.

The key features are –

- Arduino boards are able to read analog or digital input signals from different sensors and turn it into an output such as activating a motor, turning LED on/off, connect to the cloud and many other actions.
- You can control your board functions by sending a set of instructions to the microcontroller on the board via Arduino IDE *referred to as uploading software*.
- Unlike most previous programmable circuit boards, Arduino does not need an extra piece of hardware *called a programmer* in order to load a new code onto the board. You can simply use a USB cable.
- Additionally, the Arduino IDE uses a simplified version of C++, making it easier to learn to program.
- Finally, Arduino provides a standard form factor that breaks the functions of the micro-controller into a more accessible package.



## Board Types

Various kinds of Arduino boards are available depending on different microcontrollers used. However, all Arduino boards have one thing in common: they are programmed through the Arduino IDE.

The differences are based on the number of inputs and outputs *the number of sensors, LEDs, and buttons you can use on a single board*, speed, operating voltage, form factor etc.

Some boards are designed to be embedded and have no programming interface *hardware*, which you would need to buy separately. Some can run directly from a 3.7V battery, others need at least 5V.

Here is a list of different Arduino boards available.

### Arduino boards based on ATMEGA328 microcontroller

Board Name	Operating Volt	Clock Speed	Digital i/o	Analog Inputs	PWM	UART	Programming Interface
Arduino Uno R3	5V	16MHz	14	6	6	1	USB via ATmega16U2
Arduino Uno R3 SMD	5V	16MHz	14	6	6	1	USB via ATmega16U2
Red Board	5V	16MHz	14	6	6	1	USB via FTDI
Arduino Pro 3.3v/8 MHz	3.3V	8MHz	14	6	6	1	FTDI-Compatible Header
Arduino Pro 5V/16MHz	5V	16MHz	14	6	6	1	FTDI-Compatible Header
Arduino mini 05	5V	16MHz	14	8	6	1	FTDI-Compatible Header
Arduino Pro mini 3.3v/8mhz	3.3V	8MHz	14	8	6	1	FTDI-Compatible Header
Arduino Pro mini 5v/16mhz	5V	16MHz	14	8	6	1	FTDI-Compatible Header
Arduino Ethernet	5V	16MHz	14	6	6	1	FTDI-Compatible Header
Arduino Fio	3.3V	8MHz	14	8	6	1	FTDI-Compatible Header
LilyPad Arduino 328 main board	3.3V	8MHz	14	6	6	1	FTDI-Compatible Header
LilyPad Arduino simple board	3.3V	8MHz	9	4	5	0	FTDI-Compatible Header

**Arduino boards based on ATMEGA32u4 microcontroller**

Board Name	Operating Volt	Clock Speed	Digital i/o	Analog Inputs	PWM	UART	Programming Interface
Arduino Leonardo	5V	16MHz	20	12	7	1	Native USB
Pro micro 5V/16MHz	5V	16MHz	14	6	6	1	Native USB
Pro micro 3.3V/8MHz	5V	16MHz	14	6	6	1	Native USB
LilyPad Arduino USB	3.3V	8MHz	14	6	6	1	Native USB

**Arduino boards based on ATMEGA2560 microcontroller**

Board Name	Operating Volt	Clock Speed	Digital i/o	Analog Inputs	PWM	UART	Programming Interface
Arduino Mega 2560 R3	5V	16MHz	54	16	14	4	USB via ATmega16U2B
Mega Pro 3.3V	3.3V	8MHz	54	16	14	4	FTDI-Compatible Header
Mega Pro 5V	5V	16MHz	54	16	14	4	FTDI-Compatible Header
Mega Pro Mini 3.3V	3.3V	8MHz	54	16	14	4	FTDI-Compatible Header

**Arduino boards based on AT91SAM3X8E microcontroller**

Board Name	Operating Volt	Clock Speed	Digital i/o	Analog Inputs	PWM	UART	Programming Interface
Arduino Mega 2560 R3	3.3V	84MHz	54	12	12	4	USB native