

Background:

I have 2 cats and I recently bought a used Litter Robot 3 automated litter box. I placed it next to the current litter box and setup a Blink camera with motion detection so I could see if both cats were using the new litter box.

I wanted to create a home assistant automation using the Blink integration and the Litter Robot automation. When the state of the litter robot indicates that a cat is present I want to snap a picture from the blink camera and send it as a notification to the home assistant app on my iPhone.

Here's the results after couple days of frustration trying to get the image to show on the companion app.

1. Your attachment must be available to the internet. The easiest way to do this is to place it in the 'www' directory which is in the 'config' directory of Home Assistant.

The screenshot shows the Home Assistant Cloud web interface. On the left, there's a 'Thank you' message. The main area is divided into two sections: 'Nabu Casa Account' and 'Integrations'. The 'Nabu Casa Account' section shows the user's email (mat***@mac.com), their status as an active user, and the cloud connection status as 'Connected'. There are 'SIGN OUT' and 'MANAGE ACCOUNT' buttons. The 'Integrations' section has a heading and a description about connecting services. Below this, there's a 'Remote access' section with a toggle switch turned on. It explains that Home Assistant Cloud provides secure remote access. A URL is displayed: 'https://.....ui.nabu.casa', which is circled in red. To the right of the URL is a 'COPY LINK' button. Below the URL is a 'Security options' dropdown menu.

2. I added this to my home assistant configuration.yaml file. It might not be necessary, but I didn't try without it:

```
homeassistant:
  media_dirs:
    media: /media
  allowlist_external_dirs:
    - "/media"
```

3. Now write your file to the config/www folder. I used an automation to get an image from my blink camera.

When

When litter robot Status code changes to Cat detected

Entity

Status code
Dining Room ▶ litter robot

Select an entity

Attribute (optional)

From (optional)

To (optional)
Cat detected

For

Then do

Camera 'Take snapshot' on Litter Box

Takes a snapshot from a camera.

Litter Box

Targets
What should this action use as targeted areas, devices or entities.

+ Choose area + Choose device + Choose entity
+ Choose label

Filename
Full path to filename.

```
1 /config/www/litter_box_{{now().day}}_{{now().month}}_{{now().year}}_{{now().hour}}.jpg
```

Notifications 'Send a notification via mobile_app_matts_iphone_14'

Sends a notification message using the mobile_app_matts_iphone_14 integration.

message 1 `{{states('sensor.litter_robot_status_text')}}`

☒ title Litter Robot Status Changed

☐ target 1

☒ data 1 `url: >-`
 2 `https://ga5vidhf74zphjqhspcnnjhgzrrdrsd6.ui.nabu.casa/local/litter_box_{{now().day}}_{{now().month}}_{{now().year}}.jpg`
 3

Here's the complete yaml file: substitute your remote access url for

```
"{{home_assistant_cloud_url}}"; or setup a variable
alias: Notification - Litter Robot with picture
description: ""
triggers:
  - trigger: state
    entity_id:
      - sensor.condo_status_code
    to: cd
conditions: []
actions:
  - action: camera.snapshot
    metadata: {}
    data:
      filename: >-
        /config/www/litter_box_{{now().day}}_{{now().month}}_{{now().year}}_{{now().hour}}.jpg
      target:
        device_id: 57c4fc6900a71d172e5cc7e15ffe03fe
  - action: notify.mobile_app_matts_iphone_14
    metadata: {}
    data:
      title: Litter Robot Status Changed
      message: "{{states('sensor.litter_robot_status_text')}}"
      data:
        url: >-
```

```
https://{home_assistant_cloud_url}/local/  
litter_box_{{now().day}}_{{now().month}}_{{now().year}}  
_{{now().hour}}.jpg  
mode: single
```