Note: I have included all the instructions and the guide below. If you still face any issues, feel free to reach out—I'd be happy to help!

### ESP8266 RC Car - Step-by-Step Setup Guide

This guide will help you set up a WiFi-controlled RC car using an ESP8266, an L298N motor driver, and an Xbox controller. The ESP8266 receives steering and throttle inputs via WebSockets and controls the motor and servo accordingly.

# **K** Hardware Requirements

- ESP8266 (NodeMCU / Wemos D1 Mini)
- L298N Motor Driver
- DC Motor(s)
- Servo Motor (for steering)
- **Xbox Controller** (or any game controller supported by Pygame)
- 12V Battery or Power Supply
- Capacitors (1000μF 2200μF) (optional, for power stability)

### **Wiring Connections**

#### ESP8266 to L298N

ESP8266 Pin	L298N Pin	Function
D1 (GPIO5)	IN1	Motor Direction 1
D2 (GPIO4)	IN2	Motor Direction 2
D5 (GPIO14)	ENA	Motor Speed (PWM)

#### ESP8266 to Servo

ESP8266 Pin	Servo Pin	Function
D4 (GPIO2)	Signal	Steering Control
5V	VCC	Power
GND	GND	Ground

<u>↑ Important:</u> Ensure that the ESP8266 and L298N share a common ground (GND) for proper operation.

### **Setting Up Arduino IDE**

#### **Install ESP8266 Board Support**

- 1. Open Arduino IDE.
- 2. Go to File > Preferences.
- 3. In "Additional Board Manager URLs," add:
- 4. http://arduino.esp8266.com/stable/package\_esp8266com\_index.json
- 5. Go to **Tools > Board > Boards Manager** and search for **ESP8266**.
- 6. Install the latest version.

#### **Install Required Libraries**

Go to **Sketch > Include Library > Manage Libraries** and install:

- ESP8266WiFi
- WebSocketsServer
- Servo

#### **Arduino IDE Settings**

- Board: "NodeMCU 1.0 (ESP-12E Module)" (or your ESP8266 variant)
- Flash Size: 4MB (Default)
- Upload Speed: 115200
- **CPU Frequency:** 80MHz
- Port: Select the correct COM port

#### **Upload ESP8266 Code**

- 1. Open esp8266\_code.txt (rename to esp8266\_code.ino in Arduino IDE).
- 2. Connect your ESP8266 to the computer.
- 3. Click Upload.

### **Setting Up Xbox Controller (Python Script)**

#### **Install Python & Pygame**

- 1. Install Python 3.8+ from python.org.
- 2. Open **Command Prompt** and install dependencies: (Run the following command in cmd as administrator)

pip install pygame websocket-client

#### **Run the Xbox Controller Script**

- 1. Open xbox\_control.py in a text editor.
- 2. Update the WebSocket IP (default: ws://192.168.4.1:81/).
- 3. Run the script:
- 4. python xbox\_control.py

### **Connecting & Driving**

- 1. Power up the ESP8266 and L298N.
- 2. Connect your **PC to the ESP8266 WiFi** (ESP\_RC\_Car, password: 12345678).
- 3. Run the Python script to control the car with your Xbox controller!

## **Troubleshooting**

- No connection? Check if ESP8266's IP is 192.168.4.1.
- Car not moving? Ensure L298N wiring is correct.
- Laggy control? Increase WebSocket update rate.

Enjoy your DIY ESP8266 RC Car!