

Raspberry Gate Boot-Then-Settings Strategy

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Introduction

This document describes how to setup Raspberry Gate with Raspbian (2018-04-18 release version) for Raspberry Pi 3. Raspberry Gate is a security gate box based Raspberry Pi 3 platform.

Raspberry Gate has a configuration file “/opt/raspg/etc/raspg.conf” to set up itself. File “raspg.conf” will be read by Raspberry Gate boot process program to give some functions to work as Raspberry Gate. User can write “/opt/raspg/etc/raspg.conf” with display and keyboard which are connected to Raspberry Pi box. But Raspberry Gate box have no display and no keyboard when it is running because it works as a embedded network router or bridge. When you want to update Raspberry Gate’s configuration file, you can use USB storage with your own update file that named “raspg.txt”.

Configuration file from USB storage

Raspberry Pi 3 has four USB ports. One USB port will be connected with a extra Ethernet link adapter to LAN. Therefore there are 3 USB ports remains. You can use a USB storage aka USB flash drive for additional storage to Raspberry Pi 3. USB storage must be formatted as FAT (FAT16/FAT32) that is default format for USB flash drive. Create “raspg.txt” on your PC and copy it into USB storage. Insert USB storage that have “raspg.txt” into USB port of Raspberry Gate box before boot-up. “raspg.txt” will be checked by Raspberry Gate boot process and automatically copy it into “/opt/raspg/etc/raspg.conf” if “raspg.txt” was updated.

Description

“raspg.txt” is YAML¹ like format style configuration file. YAML is a human friendly data serialization.

1. YAML <http://yaml.org/>

Mode

Configuration file must have “Mode:” description. If mode description is not found in configuration file, Raspberry Pi box works as normal Raspbian. Raspberry Gate has four type of modes that are router, bridge, normal, and maintain mode. Router mode makes Raspberry Gate as a network router. Bridge mode makes it as a network bridge. Normal and Maintain not effected, it means Rasbian.

Mode: router|bridge|normal|maintain

Network Interface

Interface device will be selected by automatically. Raspberry Pi’s embedded Ethernet Rj45 port becomes always “eth0” in system and it will be assigned to WAN (Wide Area Network / Internet) connector. Another side is used for LAN (Local Area Network / Local computer side). When you use USB Ethernet adapter with Raspberry Pi box, it should be connected to LAN. If you don’t connect with USB Ethernet adapter, internal WiFi becomes LAN side if it is available. USB Ethernet adapter and WiFi cannot use at same time. USB Ethernet adapter and internal WiFi can not to use at the same time.

LAN IP address assignment

When you select router mode, Raspberry Gate works as NAT box. Default LAN network address is as 192.168.72.0/24. DHCP server is running under Raspberry Gate and assignment range of dynamic IP address is from “192.168.72.33” to “192.168.72.191”. You can use from “192.168.72.2” to “192.168.72.32” for static IP address. If you want to assign other network address, use “NetworkAddress:” option as below;

NetworkAddress: 192.168.100.0/24

This example shows that network address is “192.168.100.0/24” and assigned dynamic IP address range is between from “192.168.100.33” to “192.168.1.191”.

WiFi Setup

To use Raspberry Gate as WiFi access point, SSID and Password are required. SSID and Password are used for WiFi clients to connect to Raspberry Gate. To use WiFi connection, use “WiFi:” option. NOTICE: If USB Ethernet adopter is connected, Wifi is not available.

WiFi:

-SSID: RaspGate

-PW: 5aeb3338037m

update mode (not implemented yet)

If update mode is appeared in configuration file, Raspberry Gate checks update site, download update files, and apply update files to Raspberry Gate. “Update:” has two option “once” and “always”. Option “once” gives booting-then-update that update will run when Raspberry Gate booting. Option “always” gives running-and-update that update will run when Raspberry Gate is running. You don’t want to update, remove this option description from “raspg.txt”.

Update: once|always

EoF