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Welcome to the **Cinemate** documentation.

Edit `docs/index.md` and hit save – the site updates automatically when running `mkdocs serve`.

🕐 July 7, 2025

Overview

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CineMate scripts is a way for users to implement and customize manual controls for their cinepi-raw build.

Project aims at offering an easy way to build a custom camera. For basic operation and experimentation, Raspberry Pi, camera board and monitor is needed. For practical use, buttons and switches can easily be added.

A ready made disk image can be found here.

Join the CinePi Discord here.

Hardware requirements

- Rasberry Pi 4/5 or CM4 module
- Official HQ or GS camera
- HDMI monitor or device (phone or tablet) for monitoring

For recording, use a high speed NVME drive or CFE Hat by Will Whang. Drive needs to be formatted as ext4 and named "RAW".

CineMate is also compatible with OneInchEye (Sony IMX 283) and StarlightEye (Sony IMX 585) by Will Whang. Works with CM4 module and Pi 5B.

Quickstart guide

1) Burn image to ssd card. 16 GB or larger.

2) Connect Pi and camera sensor board

> ❗ **When connecting the camera module to the Pi, make sure it is the Pi is not powered. It is not advised to hot-swap the camera cable.**

3) Boot up the Pi. CineMate should autostart.

7.3 CineMate "Pseudo-CLI"

CineMate doesn't use a real command-line parser or shell. Instead, it implements a "pseudo-CLI" inside the running Python process to let you type or send simple, human-readable commands over and SSH session and USB/serial Here's how it works:

Available Commands

Command	Argument(s)	What it does
`rec` / `stop`	*none*	Toggle recording on/off
`set iso <100–3200>`	`int`	Set ISO (clamps to nearest valid step)
`inc iso` / `dec iso`	*none*	Step ISO up/down
`set shutter a <float>`	`float`	Set shutter angle (snaps unless in free/sync mode)
`inc shutter a /` `dec shutter a`	*none*	Step shutter angle through dynamic list
`set shutter a nom <float>`	`float`	Set nominal shutter (motion-blur target)
`inc shutter a nom` / `dec shutter a nom`	*none*	Step nominal shutter angle
`set fps <float>`	`float`	Set frames-per-second (snaps or free)
`inc fps` / `dec fps`	*none*	Step FPS up/down
`set wb [<Kelvin>]`	`int` or *none*	Set or cycle white balance
`inc wb` / `dec wb`	*none*	Cycle WB up/down
`set resolution [<mode>]`	`int` or *none*	

How "inverse" (1-0-1) buttons are auto-detected

Many latching push-buttons are wired closed = logic 1 at rest and open = 0 when pressed. At start-up each SmartButton performs:

```python
if self.button.is_pressed:        # high at rest → treat as "inverse"
    self.inverse = True
```

If so, the framework swaps the handlers:

```
when_pressed  ← on_release
when_released ← on_press
```

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`settings.json` Cheat Sheet

A quick-reference table of every setting in `settings.json`, what it does, and its allowed values.

```json
{
  "pin": 27,
  "state_on_action": {"method": "set_all_lock", "args": [1]},
  "state_off_action": {"method": "set_all_lock", "args": [0]}
},
```

```python
if self.button.is_pressed:      # high at rest → treat as "inverse"
    self.inverse = True
```

Geometry

JSON Path	Description	Values
`geometry.camX.rotate_180`	Rotate image 180° on startup	`true` / `false`
`geometry.camX.horizontal_flip`	Flip image horizontally on startup	`true` / `false`
`geometry.camX.vertical_flip`	Flip image vertically on startup	`true` / `false`

Output

JSON Path	Description	Values
`output.camX.hdmi_port`	Select DRM connector for HDMI output (`cinepi-raw --hdmi-port`)	`0`, `1`, or `-1` (auto)