How to connect to Pico

Prerequisites:

1. Install homebrew on your computer, or make sure it is installed.
   1. See “Install Homebrew” section on this page: <https://brew.sh/>
   2. Newer Mac computers may need to run [these two commands](https://apple.stackexchange.com/a/430904) after installing homebrew:

echo 'eval "$(/opt/homebrew/bin/brew shellenv)"' >> ~/.zprofile

eval "$(/opt/homebrew/bin/brew shellenv)"

1. Install MicroPython on the pico (if someone hasn’t installed it on there before)
   1. [Follow these instructions](https://www.raspberrypi.com/documentation/microcontrollers/micropython.html) under “Drag and Drop Python” section

Steps to run your own programs: adapted from [page 28 of this document](https://datasheets.raspberrypi.com/pico/raspberry-pi-pico-python-sdk.pdf)

1. Install [Thonny](https://thonny.org/)
2. Switch to MicroPython interpreter by clicking in the bottom right and selecting “MicroPython”Graphical user interface, text, application

   Description automatically generated
3. Read [the reference](https://docs.micropython.org/en/latest/rp2/quickref.html)
4. Write your own programs for the pico!

Misc. Tips

* You can install micropython repeatedly without damaging the pico (i.e. it’s safe to drop the uf2 file more than once if you aren’t sure it worked)