

# Ruby-Xbee

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**Praeambula** You stumbled upon something and are figuring where are you and what is this? WHAT IS THIS!?! As I started to play with Ruby-Xbee and decided to make it work for myself I thought that sooner or later someone might stumble upon it and also dig into the documentation. Well, this is **not** it. The main Ruby-Xbee gem is documented using RDoc[1] and compiled version is also included in the source code. However, I felt that although RDoc is good for documenting the source itself it's not that good for keeping up with other stuff that happens in the background and which can potentially be equally important in the long run. This article is a compilation of random things and is not meant to be read. But it can potentially be a source of good knowledge - who knows, you might even benefit reading some of this. If you are asking in your mind, why the hell L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X? Why not? Perhaps I'm up to drawing something...

## 1 Hardware for testing

Table 1: Xbees used for testing

Model	Operating Model	Function Set	Firmware
XB24-Z7WIT-004	API	Zigbee Coordinator API	21A7

## 2 Known Errors and Issues

### 2.1 No more config/xbeeconfig.rb

The config/xbeeconfig.rb was removed by Mike Ashmore and for good reason. The config had needed configuration detailing where and how to read the XBee module, but it wasn't the best solution especially as it ruined a good way to Gemify the Ruby::XBee code.

The commit code reads: *"Removed conf/xbeeconfig.rb - it's not a good way to do this. Of cours... ...e now I need to figure out what **is** a good way to do this.* However, seems there was no good solution as currently the values are hardcoded to **bin/ruby-xbee.rb**.

Find replacement solution for xbeeconfig.rb

### 2.2 Better exception handling

Currently ruby-xbee is very easily choked. Needs to be fixed.

Implement critical exception handling for proper functioning

## 3 Testing

### 3.1 Wha..?

Ruby in general is quite famous for it's Test::Unit but also for Rspec and Cucumber - in short, it's a thing to do when developing Ruby/Rails app and organizing an orchestra of good tests can keep headache away later on.

## 4 What I'm in the progress of doing

- Fixing for Bundle and Rake, integration with Travis and Awesome testing!

## 5 Memorable quotes picked up along the Journey

Practically all the software in the world is either broken or very difficult to use. So users dread software. They've been trained that whenever they try to install something, or even fill out a form online, it's not going to work. *I* dread installing stuff and I have a Ph.D. in computer science.

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Paul Graham, *Founders at Work* [2]

## Todo list

- Find replacement solution for xbeeconfig.rb . . . . . 1
- Implement critical exception handling for proper functioning . . . . . 1

## References

- [1] Rdoc - documentation from ruby source files, February 2013. URL: <http://rdoc.sourceforge.net>.
- [2] Michael Hartl. *Ruby on Rails Tutorial: Learn Web Development with Rails, Second Edition*. Addison-Wesley, 2013.