

DEVICE MANAGEMENT & OWNERSHIP

How do I find my device ID?

There are several ways to **find the device ID of your Photon**, but the best method depends on whether or not your Photon has already been claimed to your account. We'll cover both scenarios in the section below.

Note: You do not need to know your Photon device ID to complete setup using the Particle smartphone app or over USB! The Photon device ID is most useful for debugging with the technical support team and building interactions with your Photon through the Particle API.

1. I haven't claimed my Photon yet!

If you haven't claimed your Photon yet, there are two ways for you to figure out your Photon device ID:

1a. **Get your Photon ID using the Particle CLI** Make sure that you've got the Particle Command Line Interface (CLI) installed by typing `particle` into your terminal. You should see a help message that displays the various commands available to you. Please make sure your Photon is in [Listening Mode](#) (flashing blue), and type `particle serial identify`.

Your Photon should respond with it's Photon device ID!

1b. **Get your Photon device ID using CoolTerm, PuTTY, or screen** CoolTerm and PuTTY are programs for Mac and Windows, respectively, that allow you to communicate with your Photon using the exposed serial lines. You can find the download links for CoolTerm and PuTTY at the links attached-- [CoolTerm](#) & [PuTTY](#).

Plug your Photon into your computer over USB. When the Photon is in Listening Mode (flashing blue), open a serial port over USB using the standard settings, which should be:

- Baud rate: 9600
- Data Bits: 8
- Parity: none
- Stop Bits: 1

Once you've successfully opened a serial connection, you have two commands at your disposal by hitting either **w** or **i** on the keyboard. Here's what they do:

- **w**: Set up your Wi-Fi SSID and password
- **i**: ("i" as in identify) Read out the Photon device ID

2. I've already claimed my Photon!

If you've already claimed your Photon, finding your Photon device ID is a super simple process. You can still use either of the methods described above, but the easiest method is to look up your Photon device ID in the Particle Build IDE.

Follow these simple steps:

- Navigate your web browser to the [Particle Build IDE](#).
- Click on the "Photon" icon in the bottom of the navigation pane
- Find the Photon whose device ID you'd like to know, and click on the dropdown arrow on it's right
- The Photon ID will be displayed in a box that reads, "device ID"

Great! Go forth with your **Photon device ID** and prosper.

How do I transfer my Photon?

1. Remove the Photon.

Remove the Photon from the account it was previously registered to, using the [Particle Build IDE](#) or Particle CLI.

2. Connect the Photon

Make sure that the Photon is connected to the Particle Device Cloud (breathing or pulsing cyan).

Note that a Photon cannot be claimed unless it is connected to the Particle Device Cloud, and is breathing/pulsing cyan.

3. Claim the Photon

Claim the Photon using the Particle smartphone app, Particle Build IDE, or Particle CLI.

"Can Particle do this for me?"

Excellent question! **No.**

We take **security** extremely seriously at Particle, and that means being very sensitive to attempts to steal, hack, takeover, or misuse Photons and Particle Accounts. As a security feature for all of our customers, we require that requests to add, remove, rename, or reconfigure Photons be submitted directly by the users to whom they are registered.

If you really are the owner of your Photon, and are having trouble logging into your Particle account or configuring your Photon, send us an email at [hello @ particle dot io], and our Troubleshooting staff would be happy to help you resolve the issue.

How do I unclaim a Photon ?

There are two primary ways to remove a Photon from your account--using the Particle Build Web IDE, or using the Particle Command Line Interface (CLI).

Using Particle Build

1. Login to your Particle account at the [Particle Build IDE](#) home page
2. Click on the "Devices" icon in the bottom left-hand panel
3. Identify the Photon that you'd like to remove from your account, either by the familiar name you gave it when you added it to your account, or it's device ID.
4. Click on the arrow next to the device you'd like to remove, and click the blue "REMOVE DEVICE" button

Using the Particle CLI

1. **Install CLI.** Make sure you've got the CLI installed by typing

```
particle help
```

into your terminal. If you're presented with a list of commands, the CLI is installed correctly. If not, please see the following article:

[Installing the Particle CLI](#)

2. **Login.** Make sure you're logged into your Particle account by typing

```
particle login
```

and successfully completing the command line prompts.

3. Remove Photon. In your terminal, type

```
particle device remove <name>
```

where is either the familiar name or device ID of the Photon you'd like to remove from your account. Here's an example:

```
particle device remove 0123456789ABCDEFGHI
```

--Or--

```
particle device remove pinky_panda
```

4. Confirm Removal. Confirm that you *really* want to remove the Photon from your account by entering "yes" when prompted by the CLI.

That's it! The Photon has now been disassociated with your account, and is once again available to be claimed.

For more help join our [community forums](#) and post in the [troubleshooting section](#).

