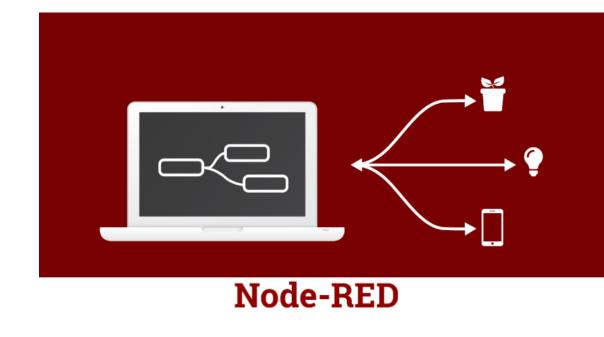


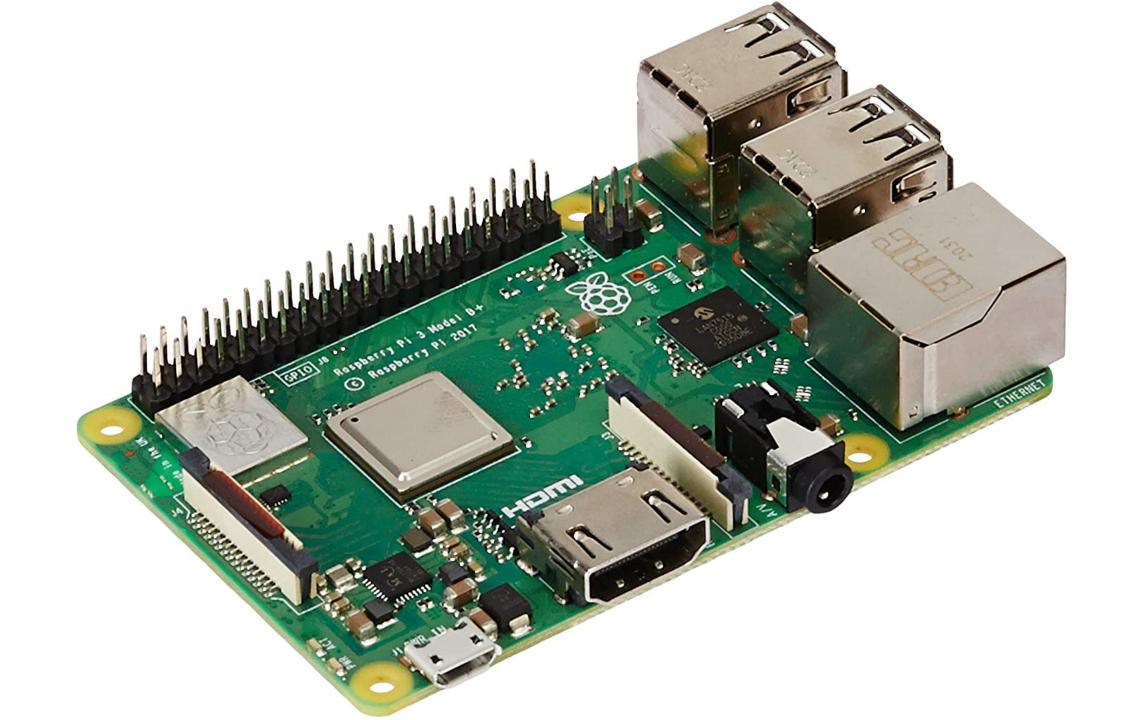
Getting Started with Node-RED on Raspberry Pi

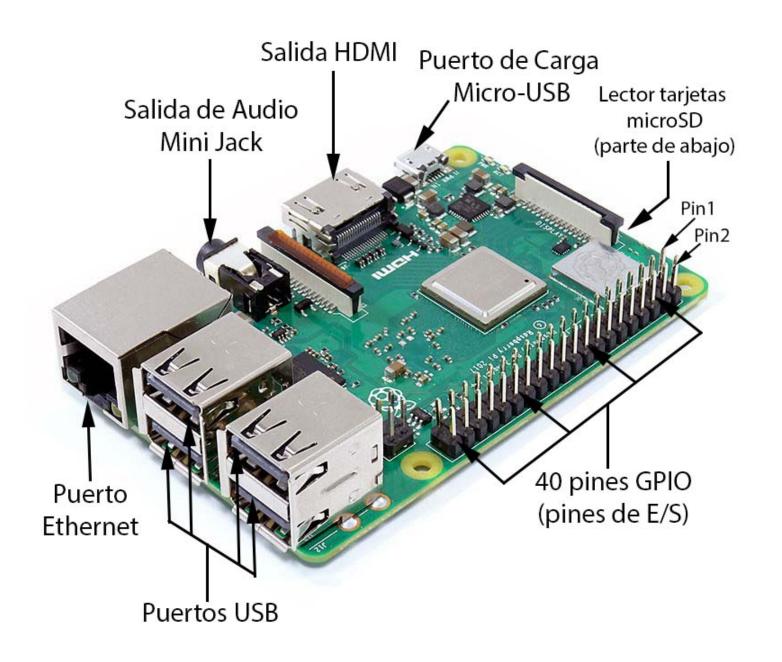
- An introductory guide to Node-RED
- What's Node-RED
- How to install it
- How to use the visual interface to create a simple flow.

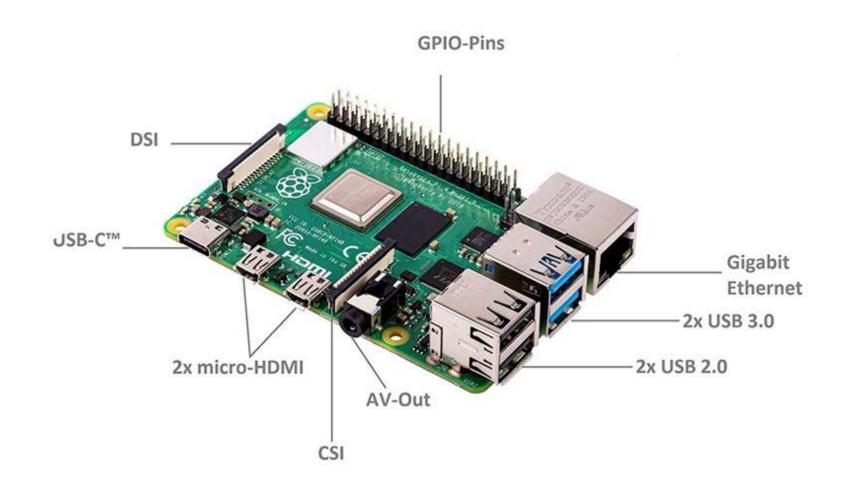




Prerequisites

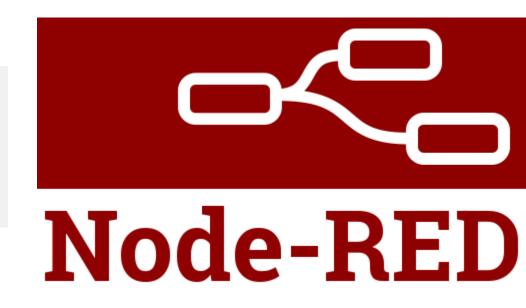




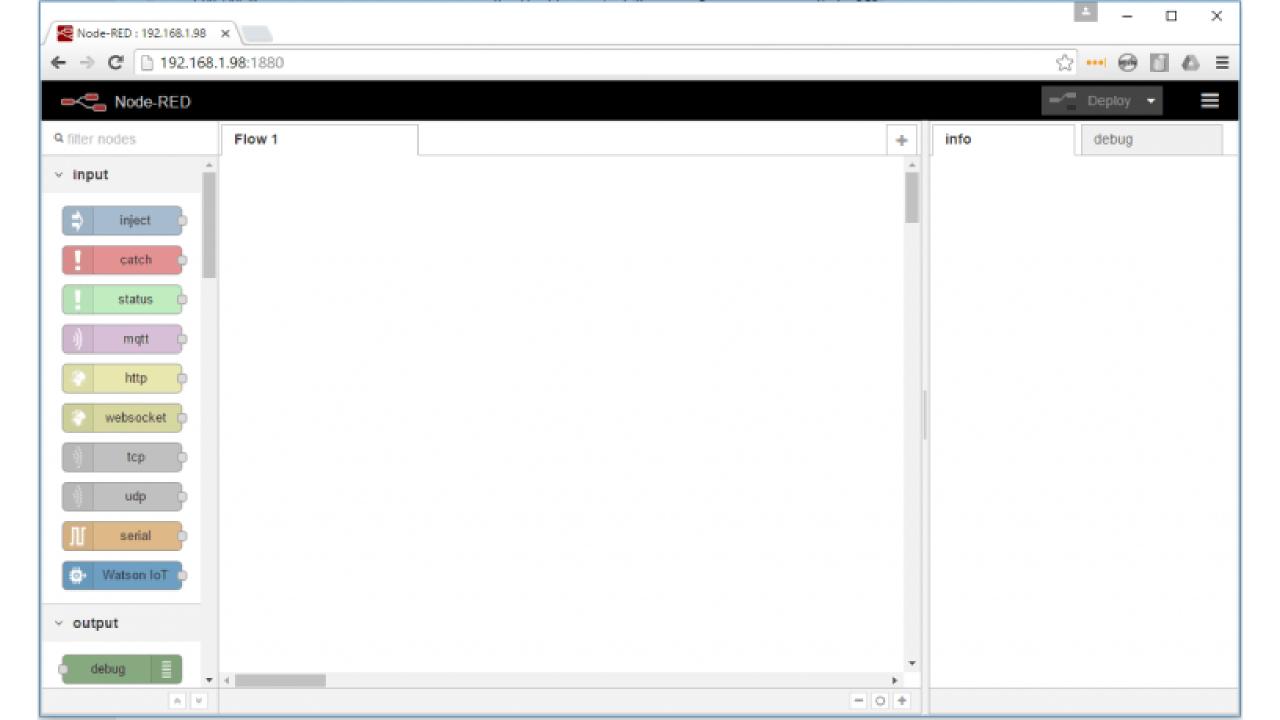


What's Node-RED?

Node-RED is a powerful open source tool for building Internet of Things (IoT) applications with the goal of simplifying the programming component.



- It uses a visual programming that allows you to connect code blocks, known as nodes, together to perform a task.
- The nodes when wired together are called flows.



Why do I think Node-RED is a great solution?

- Node-RED is open source and developed by IBM.
- The Raspberry Pi runs Node-RED perfectly.
- With Node-RED you can spend more time making cool stuff, rather than spending countless hours writing code.
- Don't get me wrong. I love programming and there is code that needs to be written throughout this course, but Node-RED allows you to prototype a complex home automation system quickly.

≡ Home







What can you do with Node-RED?

- Access your RPi GPIOs
- Establish an MQTT, CoAP, HTTP connection with other boards (Arduino, ESP8266, etc)
- Create a responsive graphical user interface for your projects
- Communicate with third-party services (Azure, Ubidots, IFTTT.com, Adafruit.io, Thing Speak, etc)
- Retrieve data from the web (weather forecast, stock prices, emails. etc)
- Create time triggered events
- Store and retrieve data from a database

Installing Node-RED

 Having an SSH connection established with your Raspberry Pi, enter the following commands to install Node-RED:

pi@raspberry:~ \$ bash <(curl -sL https://raw.githubusercontent.com/nodered/linux-installers/master/deb/update-nodejs-and-nodered) pi@raspberrypi:~ \$ bash <(curl -sL https://raw.githubusercontent.com/node-red/linux-installers/master/deb/update-nodejs-and-nodered)

This script checks the version of node.js installed is 12 or greater. It will try to install node 14 if none is found. It can optionally install node 12 LTS or 14 LTS for you.

If necessary it will then remove the old core of Node-RED, before then installing the latest version. You can also optionally specify the version required.

It also tries to run 'npm rebuild' to refresh any extra nodes you have installed that may have a native binary component. While this normally works ok, you need to check that it succeeds for your combination of installed nodes.

To do all this it runs commands as root - please satisfy yourself that this will not damage your Pi, or otherwise compromise your configuration. If in doubt please backup your SD card first.

See the optional parameters by re-running this command with --help

Are you really sure you want to do this ? [y/N] ?

Are you really sure you want to do this ? [y/N] ? y
Would you like to install the Pi-specific nodes ? [y/N] ? y

Autostart Node-RED on boot

To automatically run Node-RED when the Pi boots up, you need to enter the following command:

pi@raspberry:~ \$ sudo systemctl enable nodered.service

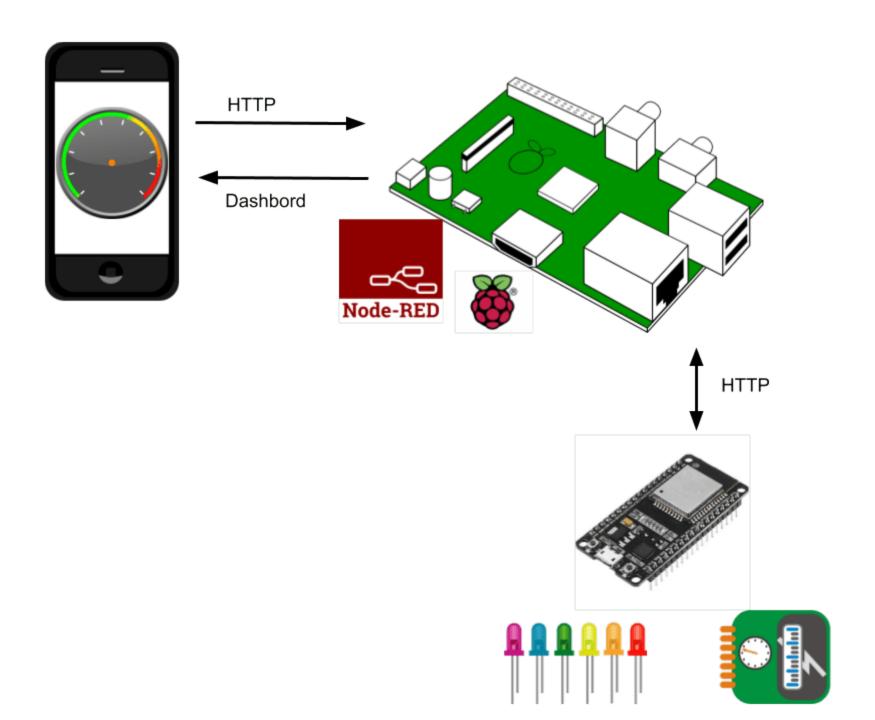
Now, restart your Pi so the autostart takes effect:

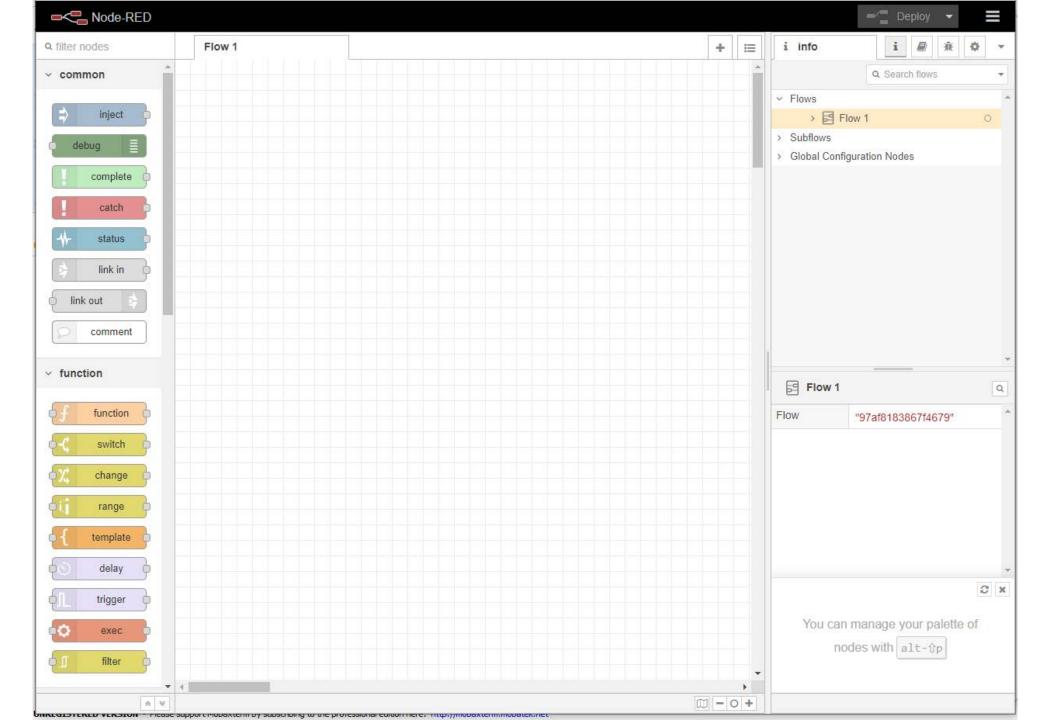
pi@raspberry:~ \$ sudo reboot

Testing the Installation

When your Pi is back on, you can test the installation by entering the IP address of your Pi in a web browser followed by the 1880 port number:

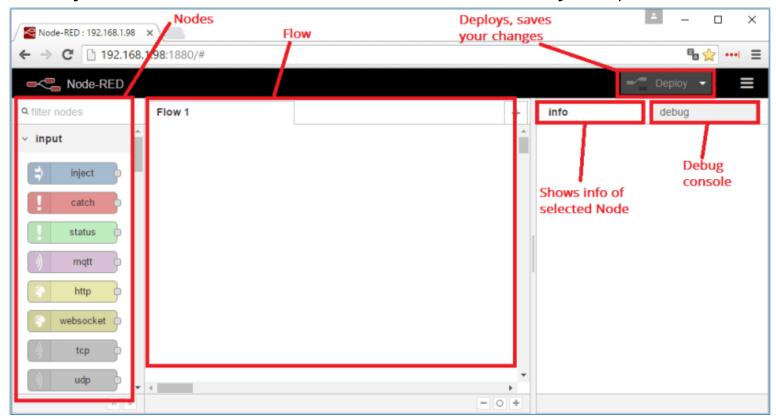






Main sections

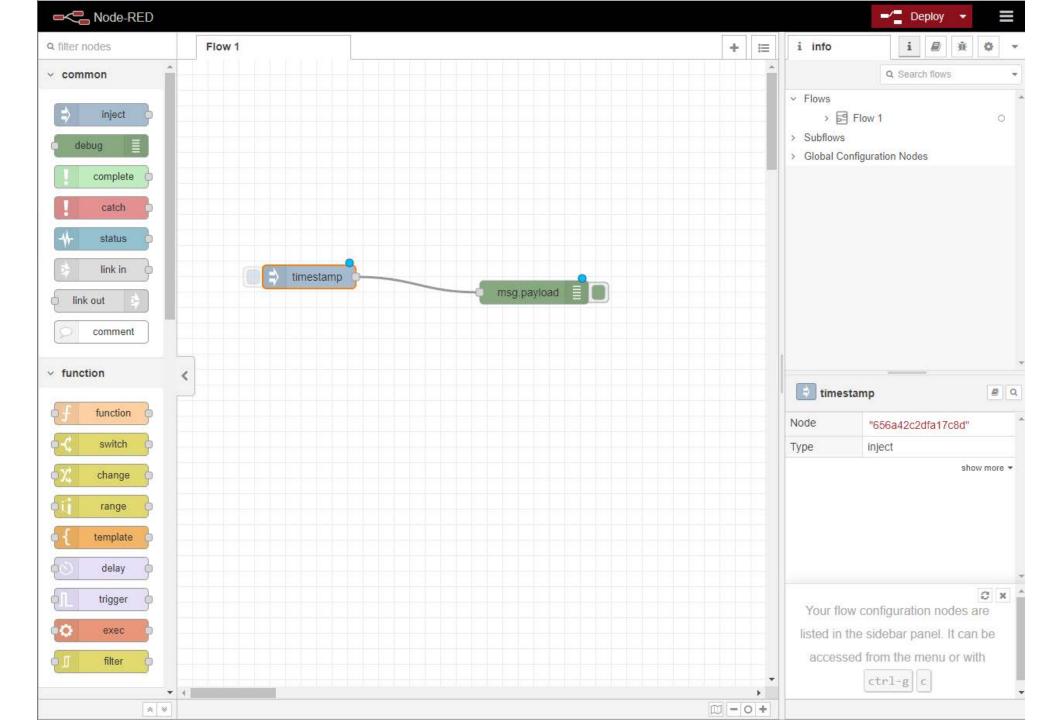
- On the left-side, you can see a list with a bunch of blocks. These blocks are called nodes and they are separated by their functionality. If you select a node, you can see how it works in the info tab.
- In the center, you have the Flow and this is where you place the nodes.

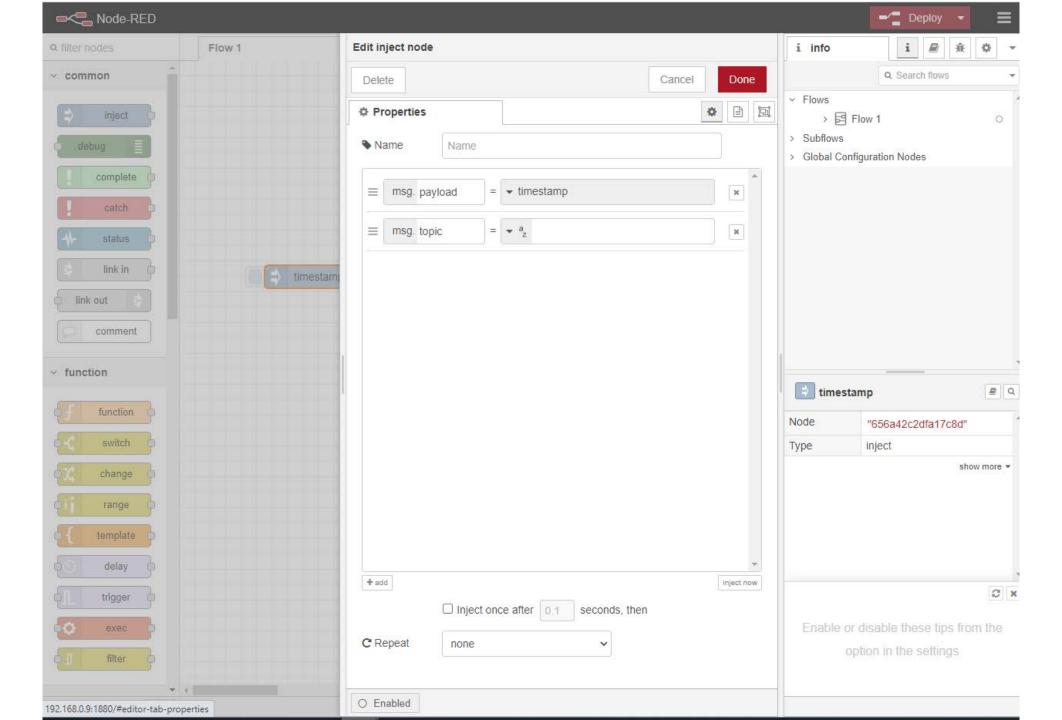


Creating a simple flow

 Let's test a simple example of a flow. Start by dragging an Inject node to your flow. Then, also drag a Debug node.

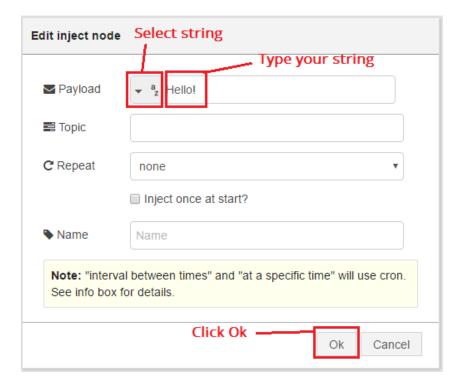


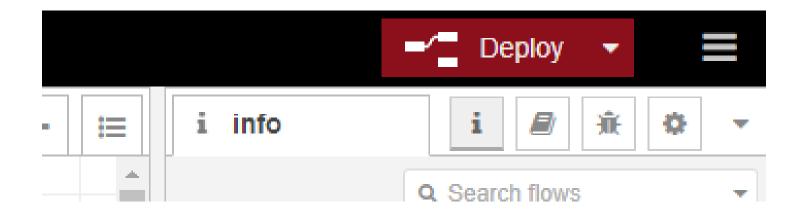




Creating a simple flow

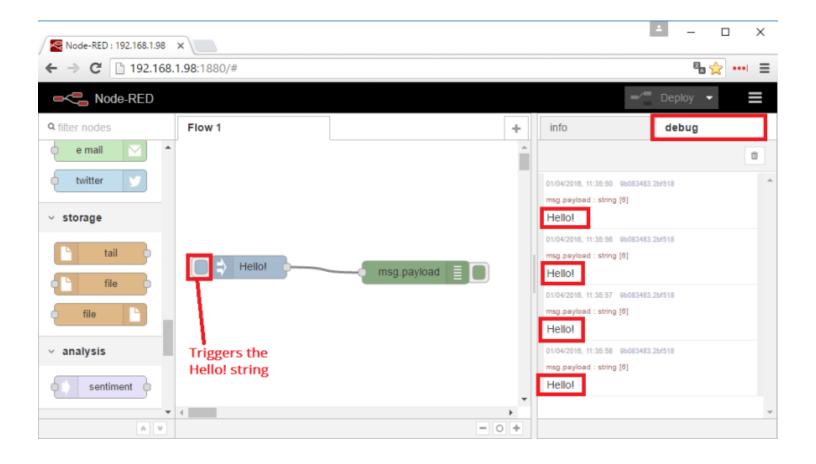
- Now, let's edit the inject node. Double-click the node. In the figure below you can see different settings you can change.
- Select string and type Hello!.

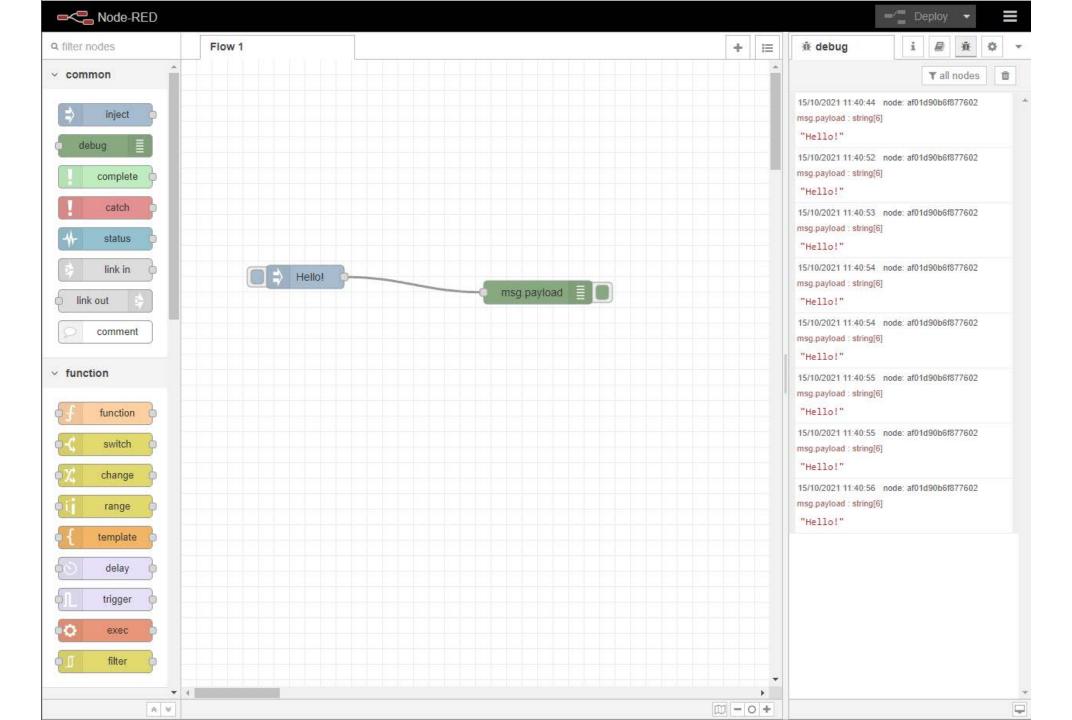




Testing the flow

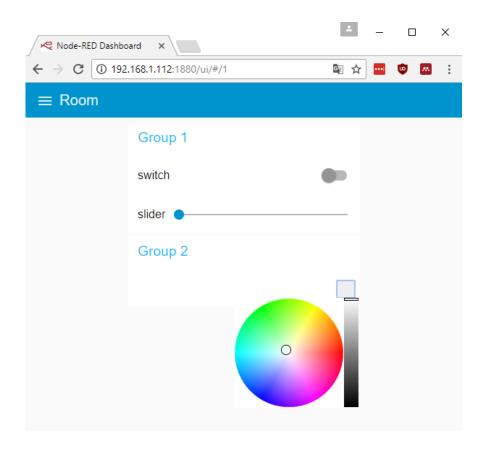
 Let's test our simple flow. Open the debug window and click the Inject node to trigger the "Hello!" string.





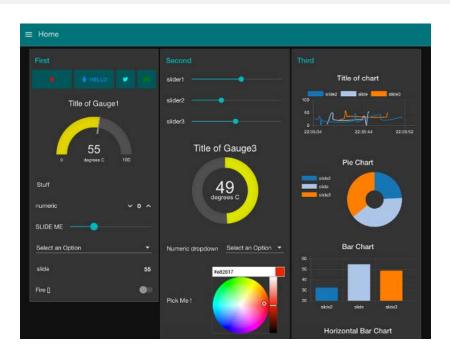
Getting Started with Node-RED Dashboard

- Introduction to Node-RED dashboard with Raspberry Pi.
- How to install Node-RED Dashboard
- How to build a graphical user interface.



What's Node-RED Dashboard?

Node-RED Dashboard is a module that provides a set of nodes in Node-RED to quickly create a live data dashboard.





- Node-RED site: http://flows.nodered.org/node/node-red-dashboard
- GitHub: https://github.com/node-red/node-red-dashboard

Installing Node-RED Dashboard

To install the Node-RED Dashboard run the following commands:

```
pi@raspberry:~ $ node-red-stop
pi@raspberry:~ $ cd ~/.node-re
pi@raspberry:~/.node-red $ npm install node-red-dashboard
```

Then, reboot your Pi to ensure that all changes take effect on Node-RED software:

pi@raspberry:~ \$ sudo reboot

```
pi@raspberrypi:~ $ node-red-stop

Stop Node-RED

Use node-red-start to start Node-RED again

pi@raspberrypi:~ $ cd ~/.node-red

pi@raspberrypi:~/.node-red $ npm install node-red-dashboard

npm notice created a lockfile as package-lock.json. You should commit this file.

+ node-red-dashboard@3.0.4

added 56 packages from 101 contributors and audited 56 packages in 8.565s

found 0 vulnerabilities

pi@raspberrypi:~/.node-red $ ■
```

Testing the Installation

To open the Node-RED UI, type your Raspberry Pi IP address in a web browser followed by :1880/ui as shown below:





Welcome to the Node-RED Dashboard

Please add some UI nodes to your flow and redeploy.

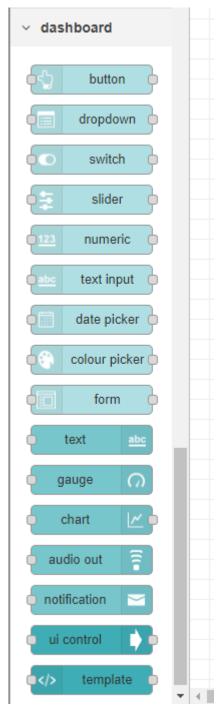
Creating a UI (User Interface)

The Dashboard Layout

Open another tab in your browser to access Node-RED with:

```
http://Your_RPi_IP_address:1880
```

Scroll down on the nodes section. You'll see you have a set of nodes called dashboard as shown in the following figure:



Creating a UI (User Interface)

The Dashboard Layout

- Nodes from the dashboard section provide widgets that show up in your application user interface (UI).
- The user interface is organized in tabs and groups.
 - Tabs are different pages on your user interface, like several tabs in a browser.
 - Inside each tab you have groups that divide the tabs in different sections so that you can organize your widgets.
- Every widget should have an associated group that determines where the widget should appear on the user interface.

Creating a UI (User Interface)

The Dashboard Layout

To create a tab and a group follow the following instructions:

- On top right corner of the Node-RED window you have a tab called dashboard.
- Select that tab. To add a tab to the user interface, click on the +tab button
- Once created, you can edit the tab by clicking on the edit button

You can edit the tab's name and change its icon:

- Name: you can call it whatever you want
- Icon: you should use a name accordingly to the icon's names in this link: https://klarsys.github.io/angular-material-icons

