



# Meshtastic Python CLI installation

## Meshtastic Python Library

This library provides a command-line interface (CLI) for managing the user settings of Meshtastic nodes and provides an easy API for sending and receiving messages over mesh radios. Events are delivered using a publish-subscribe model, and you can subscribe to only the message types you are interested in.

The [Meshtastic-python repo](#) is an excellent source of information. If you wish to view the code or contribute to the development of the Python library or the command-line interface, please visit the Meshtastic Python [GitHub page](#).

## Prerequisites

Before installing, ensure that your system meets the following requirements:

- **Serial Drivers:** Your computer should have the required serial drivers installed for the [CP210X USB to UART bridge](#) or the [CH9102](#) (for some newer boards).
- **Python:** Python 3 should be installed on your system. Check with `python3 -V` and install it if necessary.
- **pip:** The Python package installer pip should be installed. Check with `pip3 -V` and install it if necessary.

After ensuring the requirements are met, follow the installation instructions for your operating system in the tabbed section below.

## Installation Instructions

To install the Meshtastic CLI, select the tab for your operating system and follow the step-by-step instructions for installing via [pip](#). For Ubuntu only, you can alternatively install the [Standalone version](#) if you prefer.

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### macOS

- Check that your computer has the required serial drivers installed
  - Connect your Meshtastic device to your USB port
  - Navigate to [Apple Menu ⌘ > About This Mac > System Report... > Hardware > USB](#)
  - You should see something like [CP210X USB to UART Bridge Controller](#)
    - If there is no serial device shown that matches the device you are using, please review our [Install Serial Drivers](#) page before proceeding.

- Check that your computer has Python 3 installed.

- Use the command

```
python3 -V
```

- If this does not return a version, install [python](#)
  - The following uses Homebrew to install [python3](#) which includes [pip3](#).
  - Check if you have Homebrew installed with the following command

```
brew -v
```

If it's not installed, follow the instructions on the [Homebrew website](#) before continuing.

- Install Python3

```
brew install python3
```

- Pip is typically installed if you are using python 3 version >= 3.4

- Check that pip is installed using this command

```
pip3 -V
```

- If this does not return a version, install [pip](#)

- Install pipx

```
brew install pipx  
pipx ensurepath
```

- Install meshtastic:

```
pipx install "meshtastic[cli]"
```

(the [\[cli\]](#) suffix installs a few optional dependencies that match older versions of the CLI)

You may need to close and re-open the CLI. The path variables may or may not update for the current session when installing.

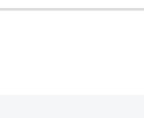
## Standalone Installation (Ubuntu only)

1. Download the [meshtastic\\_ubuntu](#) executable from the [Releases](#) page.
2. Run the following command to make the file executable and rename it [meshtastic](#):

```
chmod +x meshtastic_ubuntu && mv meshtastic_ubuntu meshtastic
```

3. To run the CLI:

```
./meshtastic
```



Copy (or move) this binary somewhere in your path.

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