

MaxAir BOILER Setup Guide

MaxAir will initially be configured as a WiFi AP (Access Point) named MaxAirHotspot, connect to the AP using the password **1234567890** and browse to IP address **192.168.50.5** where you will be presented with the initial connection screen.

Select your local WiFi SSID from the dropdown list and enter the associated password.

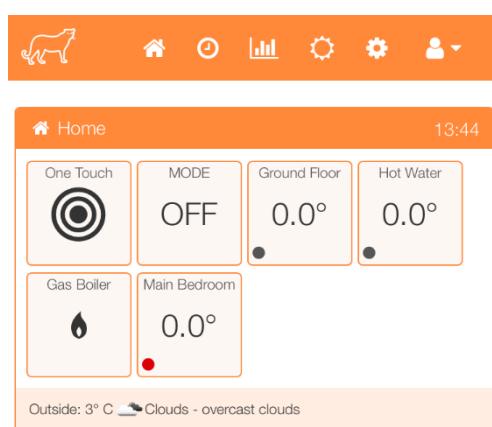
Alternatively, if you want MaxAir to operated as a 'stand-alone' AP, just click to select AP Mode.

Finally click on 'Set and Restart'.

If working in AP Mode you will be presented with the MaxAir login screen, otherwise reconnect to your local AP and browse to the IP address associated with MaxAir (if your AP is using DHCP, then access your router to determine which IP address has been allocated).

The system can be accessed from a suitable WEB browser using its IP address on the local network. The system can be configured with both a wireless and/or an Ethernet wired connection.

The default login credentials are username – **admin** and password - **pihome**



The Home screen layout will be dependent on whether the system is operating in HVAC or Boiler Mode. The example shows a system operating in Boiler Mode with two zones. Ground Floor is the central heating zone and Hot Water is the hot water zone. The example system is configured with a 'stand-alone' temperature sensor located in the Main Bedroom.

Before use the system must be configured to match the local system to be controlled.

Configuration

The system configuration follows a four-layer model: -

Schedules
Zones
Devices
Nodes

Each layer is built from the previous layer e.g. Devices are built using Nodes and Schedules are built using Zones.

Nodes

The nodes are the basic hardware devices that control the system. Some nodes are auto-detected, others must be defined manually.

Examples of auto-detected nodes are MySensors temperature sensors and MySensors relay modules, while examples of manually defined devices are GPIO connected relays, I2C relay modules and Tasmota type switches.

Devices

Devices define how the system recognises the nodes hardware, devices are either Temperature Sensors or Relays. The devices are defined manually.

Zones

The zones define the areas of the system which need to be controlled, examples are Central Heating and Hot Water zones. A further example would be a Lamp zone which includes Tasmota switch/s.

Schedules

Schedules are time related definitions which dictate when the system performs actions and the parameters associated with those actions. An example would be a schedule to control the hot water zone, with a start time of 0600 hours, a stop time of 0930 hours and a maximum temperature of 40°C.

Example Configuration

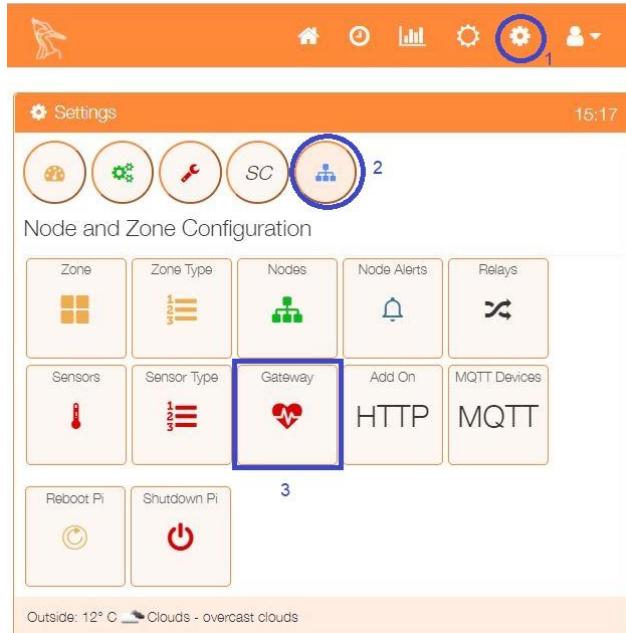
The system to be configured comprises the following elements:

1. A gas boiler, controlled by a 240volt trigger signal
2. A 240volt zone value for the central heating zone
3. A 240volt zone value for the hot water zone
4. A MySensors Temperature to control the central heating zone
5. A MySensors Temperature to control the hot water zone
6. A MySensors Temperature to measure a bedroom temperature

The above will determine the MaxAir nodes requirements as follows:

1. Three MySensors Temperature Sensors
2. Three GPIO pins for relays
3. A serial gateway device to send/receive messages to/from 1 and 2

Step 1 - Configure the Gateway

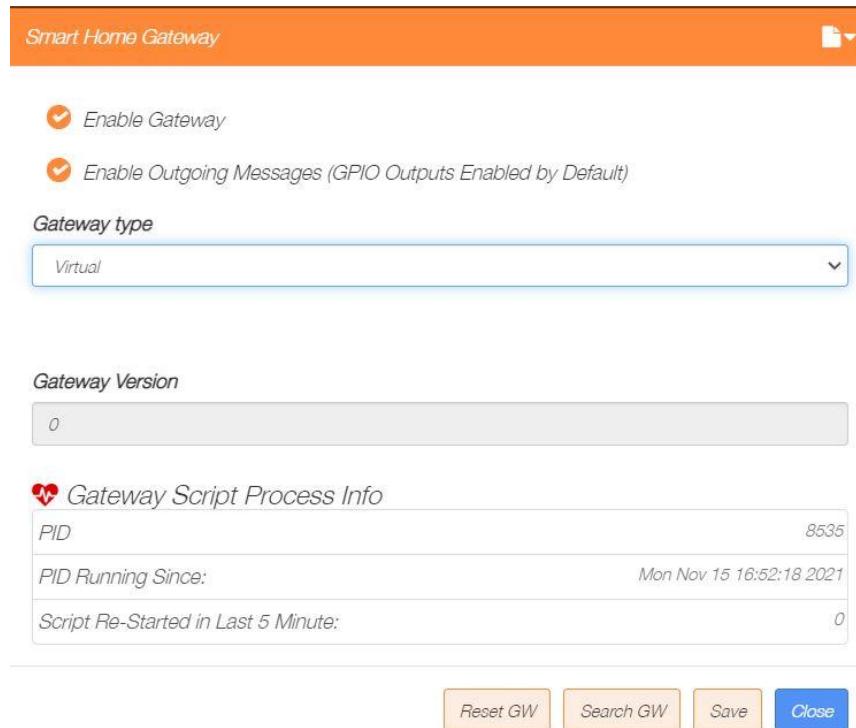


The gateway is configured using the Gateway option from the Settings/Node and Zone Configuration menu.

For this example, a MySensor gateway is required and should be configured as either Serial or WiFi.

<p>Smart Home Gateway</p> <p>Smart Home Gateway has nRF24L01 to communicate with the nodes and WiFi to connect to your home network to which controller will also be connected.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Enable Gateway</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Enable Outgoing Messages (GPIO Outputs Enabled by Default)</p> <p>Gateway type Serial</p> <p>Serial Port Location <input type="text" value="/dev/tty2"/></p> <p>Baud Rate for Serial 115200</p> <p>Timeout 3</p> <p>Gateway Version 0</p> <p>Heart Gateway Script Process Info</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 15%;">PID</td> <td style="width: 15%;">24732</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PID Running Since:</td> <td>Tue Nov 9 14:51:59 2021</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Script Re-Started in Last 5 Minute:</td> <td>0</td> </tr> </table> <p style="text-align: center;"><input type="button" value="Reset GW"/> <input type="button" value="Search GW"/> <input type="button" value="Save"/> <input type="button" value="Close"/></p>	PID	24732	PID Running Since:	Tue Nov 9 14:51:59 2021	Script Re-Started in Last 5 Minute:	0	<p>Smart Home Gateway</p> <p>Smart Home Gateway has nRF24L01 to communicate with the nodes and WiFi to connect to your home network to which controller will also be connected.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Enable Gateway</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Enable Outgoing Messages (GPIO Outputs Enabled by Default)</p> <p>Gateway type WiFi</p> <p>IP Address 192.168.0.12</p> <p>TCP/IP Port 5003</p> <p>Timeout 3</p> <p>Gateway Version 0</p> <p>Heart Gateway Script Process Info</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 15%;">PID</td> <td style="width: 15%;">24732</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PID Running Since:</td> <td>Tue Nov 9 14:51:59 2021</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Script Re-Started in Last 5 Minute:</td> <td>0</td> </tr> </table> <p style="text-align: right;"><input type="button" value="Reset GW"/> <input type="button" value="Search GW"/> <input type="button" value="Save"/> <input type="button" value="Close"/></p>	PID	24732	PID Running Since:	Tue Nov 9 14:51:59 2021	Script Re-Started in Last 5 Minute:	0
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If no MySensors gateway is required eg where both sensors and relays are connected to the GPIO port or when MQTT devices are used, then configure as a Virtual gateway (this is the initial default configuration).



Once the gateway has been configured, the script file which executes the task on a regular time interval will be executed by the 'Job Scheduler', which is configured by default. It can be accessed from Settings/System Configuration and selecting the 'Jobs' menu option.

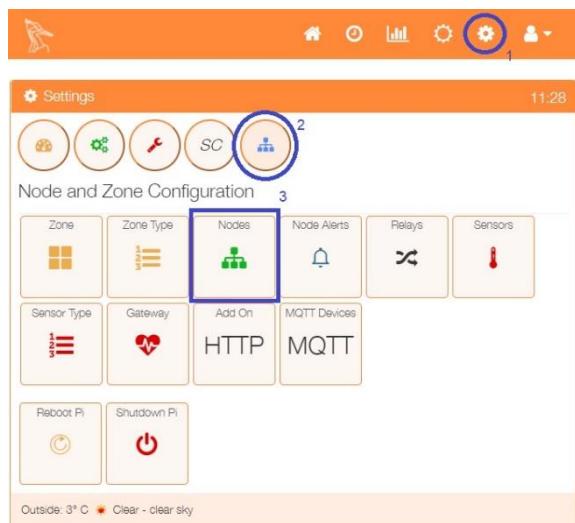
The screenshot shows the main 'Smart Home Gateway' interface. On the left, there's a navigation bar with icons for Home, Power, Graphs, Settings (circled in blue), SC (System Configuration), and User. Below this is a 'System Configuration' panel with various options like Mode, Jobs (highlighted with a blue box and circled in blue), Network, Units, Language, Time Zone, OpenWeather, Enable Graphs, Select Graphs, E-Mail, MQTT, Set Buttons, Reboot Pi, and Shutdown Pi. At the bottom of this panel, it says 'Outside: 3° C Clear - clear sky'. To the right, a 'Schedule Jobs' table lists scheduled tasks:

Job Name	Script Name	Enabled	Log Job	Run Every
controller	/var/www/cron/control	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	60
db_cleanup	/var/www/cron/db_cle	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	02:00
check_gw	/var/www/cron/check_	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	60
system_c	/var/www/cron/system	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	300
weather_update	/var/www/cron/weathe	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1800
reboot_wifi	/var/www/cron/reboot,	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	120
check_ds18b20	/var/www/cron/check_	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	60
sw_install	/var/www/cron/sw_ins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	10
update_code	/var/www/cron/update	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	00:00
check_gpio_sw1	/var/www/cron/check_	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	60

At the bottom right of the 'Schedule Jobs' panel are three buttons: 'Add Job', 'Apply', and a blue 'Close' button.

Step 2 – Layer 1 Configuration - Connect the Nodes

Once the gateway is running, connect the MySensors Temperature Sensor devices, so that they can be detected.



To show the nodes currently available select the Nodes menu item from the Settings/Node and Zone Configuration menu.

The example configuration uses relays connected via GPIO pins, the GPIO node is created by default as part of the initial setup process.

The Nodes menu option will show the default GPIO node plus the 3 autodetected MySensor nodes.

List Nodes			
List of all Nodes and the maximum number of associated Child IDs			
Node ID	Max Number of Child IDs	Name	Type
0	0	GPIO Controller	GPIO
21	0	Temperature Sensor	MySensor
28	0	Temperature Sensor	MySensor
34	0	Temperature Sensor	MySensor

Close Add Node

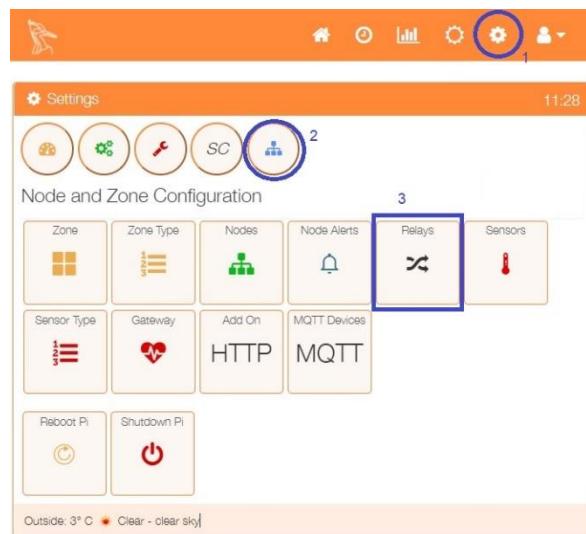
This completes the Layer 1 configuration.

Step 3 – Layer 2 Configuration - Add Devices

This step will add the Relay and Temperature Sensor devices.

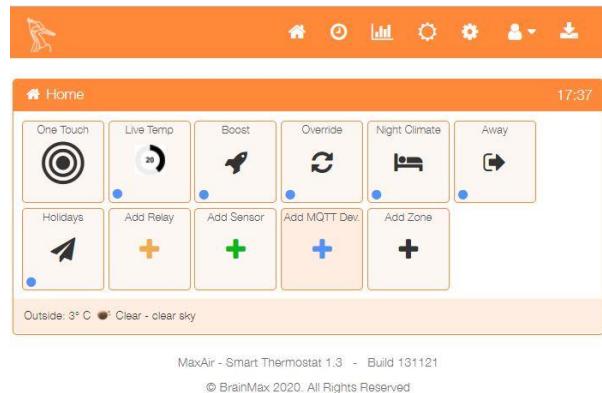
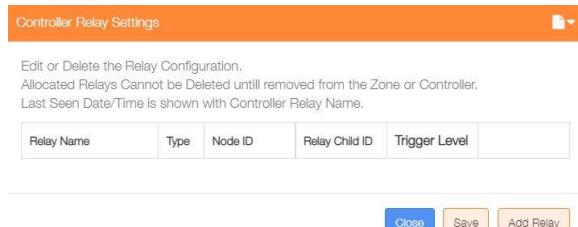
Relays

The example system will require 2 zone relays and 1 boiler relay.



Select the Relays menu item from the Settings/Node and Zone Configuration menu to display a list of any currently configured relays.

Click on the 'Add Relay' button to configure the first relay



An alternative method to go directly to the Add Relay dialogue, is from the Home screen click on the 'One Touch' button then select the 'Add Relay' menu item.

Select the Controller Type e.g. Boiler

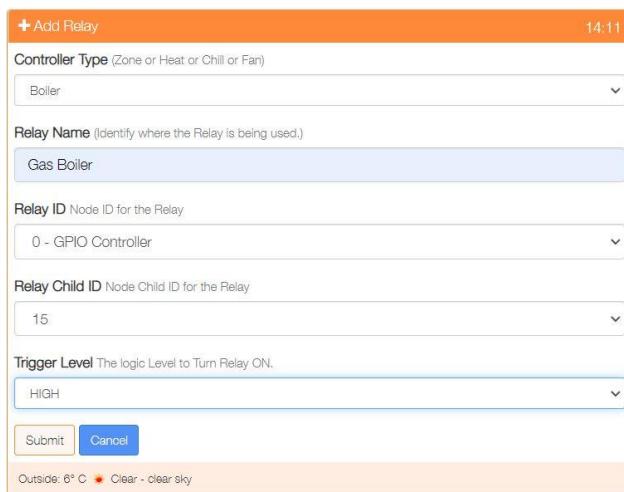
Provide a name for this relay device

Select the Relay ID from the dropdown list of available Nodes

Choose the Child ID from the dropdown list, in the case of a GPIO controller, the GPIO pin.

Select the level to trigger relay ON.

Click on 'Submit' to add the device.



Repeat the process to add the two Zone Controller relays.

Re-selecting the Relays menu item from the Settings/Node and Zone Configuration menu will display the updated list of currently configured relays.

This dialogue can be used to Add/Delete/Edit the relay configurations.

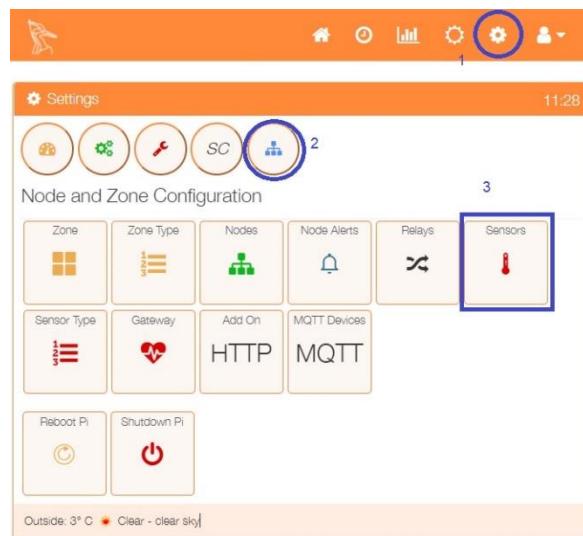
Controller Relay Settings

Edit or Delete the Relay Configuration.
Allocated Relays Cannot be Deleted until removed from the Zone or Controller.
Last Seen Date/Time is shown with Controller Relay Name.

Relay Name	Type	Node ID	Relay Child ID	Trigger Level	
Hot Water (2021-11-23 13:43:24)	Zone	0	11	HIGH	
Central Heating (2021-11-23 13:43:24)	Zone	0	13	HIGH	
Gas Boiler (2021-11-23 13:43:24)	Boiler	0	15	HIGH	

Temperature Sensors

The example system will use 3 temperature sensors, one for the Central Heating, one for the Hot Water and a third to monitor a bedroom temperature. The configuration process is very similar to that used to configure the relay devices.



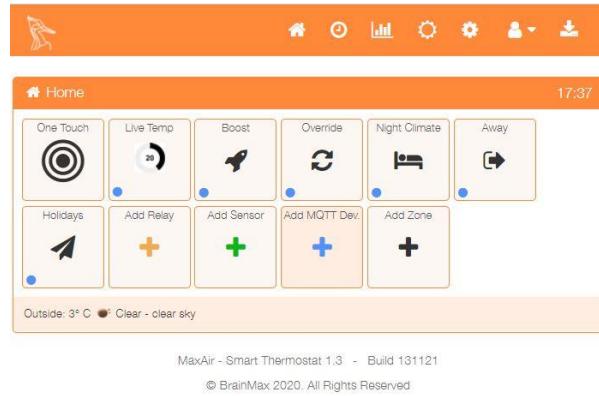
Select the Sensors menu item from the Settings/Node and Zone Configuration menu to display a list of any currently configured sensors.

Click on the 'Add Sensor' button to configure the first sensor

Sensor Settings

Edit or Delete the Sensor's Configuration.
Sensors Allocated to a Zone Cannot be Deleted.
Last Seen Date/Time is shown with Sensor Name.

Sensor Name	Node ID	Sensor Child ID	Correction Factor	Zone Name	Show	
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An alternative method to go directly to the Add Sensor dialogue, is from the Home screen click on the 'One Touch' button then select the 'Add Sensor' menu item.

+ Add Sensor 11:58

Before System Controller When Sensor is NOT Allocated to a Zone, Locate Tile either Before or After the System Controller Tile on the Home Screen

Index Number In the List of sensors where you want to place this sensor on home screen
1

Sensor Type Temperature, Humidity, etc
Temperature

Sensor Name
Central Heating

Sensor ID Node ID for the Sensor
21 - Temperature Sensor

Sensor Child ID Node Child ID for the Sensor
0

Sensor Correction Factor Positive or Negative Correction Factor
0.00

Frost Protection The System will protect itself against frost. To Disable protection you can set the temperature to 0
3

Frost Controller The zone controller to be activated when frost protection is triggered by this temperature sensor.
Central Heating

Submit **Cancel**

Outside: 17° C Clouds - overcast clouds

Show either before or after the system controller on the Home screen

Used to order where on the Home screen the sensor is displayed

Either Temperature or Humidity

Provide a name for this sensor device

Select the Sensor ID from the dropdown list of available Nodes

Choose the Child ID from the dropdown list, for nodes with only 1 sensor, this will be 0

Positive or Negative correction to be applied to the sensor reading. correction factor

Select the frost protection temperature or 0 to disable this feature

If frost protection is enabled, then select the zone to be activated on protection

Click on 'Submit' to add the device.

Repeat the process to add any other temperature sensors.

Re-selecting the Sensors menu item from the Settings/Node and Zone Configuration menu will display the updated list of currently configured temperature sensors.

This dialogue can be used to Add/Delete/Edit the sensor configurations.

The 'Show' tickbox can be used suppress displaying a sensor on the Home screen, with the exception of any sensors allocated to a zone.

This example shows one unallocated and two allocated sensors.

Sensor Settings

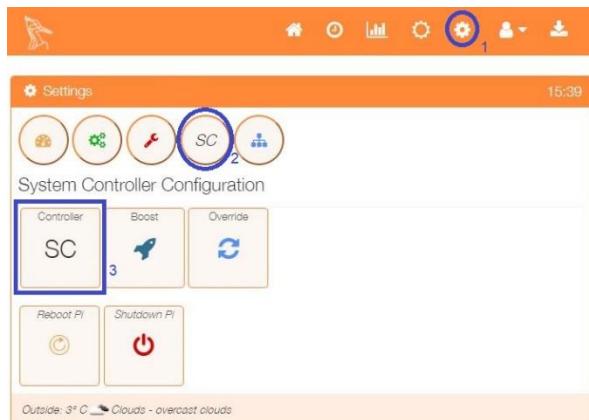
Edit or Delete the Sensor's Configuration. Sensors Allocated to a Zone Cannot be Deleted. Last Seen Date/Time is shown with Sensor Name.

Sensor Name	Node ID	Sensor Child ID	Correction Factor	Zone Name	Show	
Bedroom 1 (2021-11-23 13:44:55)	34	0	0	Not Allocated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	 
Central Heating (2020-10-20 16:45:28)	21	0	0	Central Heating	<input type="checkbox"/>	 
Hot Water (2021-11-23 13:44:50)	28	0	0	Hot Water	<input type="checkbox"/>	 

Close **Save** **Add Sensor**

System Controller Configuration

A relay is used as a trigger for activating the boiler, this relay was added as a relay device above and now need to be associated with the ‘System Controller’.



Select the SC menu item from the Settings/System Controller Configuration menu to display the configuration screen.

System Controller Settings

System Controller Settings and how it interacts with the System, i.e. Wireless Controller or Connected to GPIO Pins.

Enable System Controller

System Controller Display Name
Gas Boiler

HEATING Relay ID System Controller Heating Switching Relay
Boiler

Hysteresis Time Delay Between Stop and Start of the System in minutes, Default is 3 minutes.
3

Max Operation Time Continuous Max Running Time of the System in minutes, Set to 0 to disable.
60

Overrun Time for Boiler to circulate the water to dissipate residual heat.
3

Weather Factoring Apply a weather temperature related factor to the zone control sensor reading.
Enabled

Weather Sensor Sensor Name to be used for Weather Factoring
OpenWeather

Enable the Controller

Enter a name for this controller

Select the relay from the dropdown list

Enter a hysteresis value in minutes

Enter a maximum running time in minutes

Enter overrun time in minutes

Enable or Disable Weather Factoring

Choose which sensor to use for Weather Factoring, can be OpenWeather

Click on ‘Save’ to update

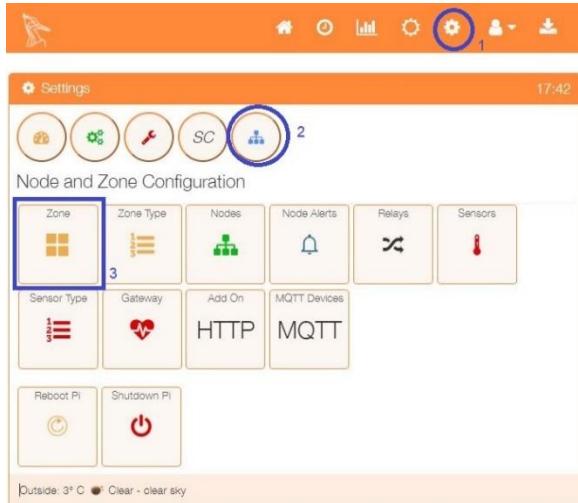
Note: Weather Factoring will be subtracted from the Zone Target temperature. The factors are 0.3 for temperature <= 5°C, 0.4 for temperatures 6°C to 10°C, 0.5 for temperatures 11°C to 15°C, 0.6 for temperatures 16°C to 20°C and 0.7 for temperatures 21°C to 30°C.

This completes the Layer 2 configuration.

Layers 1 and 2 define the basic hardware configuration of the system.

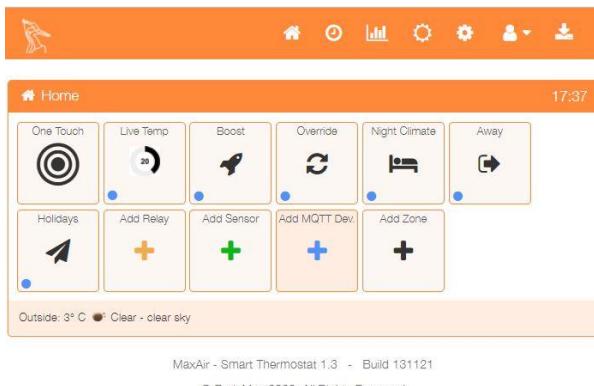
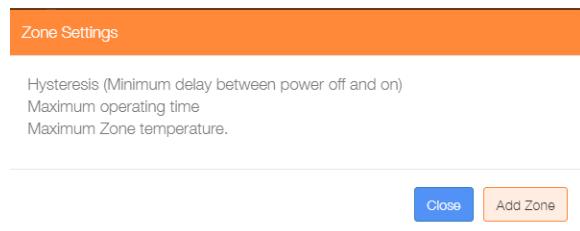
Step 4 – Layer 3 Configuration - Add Zones

The example configuration will have two zones, one for the Central Heating and a second for the Hot Water.



Select the Zone menu item from the Settings/Node and Zone Configuration menu to display a list of any currently configured sensors.

Click on the 'Add Zone' button to configure the first zone.



An alternative method to go directly to the Add Zone dialogue, is from the Home screen click on the 'One Touch' button then select the 'Add Zone' menu item.

There are currently seven types of zone, Heating, Water, Immersion, Switch, HVAC, Humidity and Binary. The format of the Add Zone dialogue will depend on the type of zone selected, for example Immersion type zones will disable 'System Controller' selection, while Switch type zones will disable all temperature sensor related selections, together with the 'System Controller' selection, as these parameters do not apply to these zone types.

The example below shows a typical Heating zone configuration. A similar configuration would be used for the Hot Water zone, with the exception that the 'Zone Type' selected would be 'Water'. Once the parameters have been entered, click on the 'Submit' button.

+ Add Zone

11:38

 Enable Zone Enable this Zone if you want this Zone to be controlled**Index Number** In the List of Zones where you want to place this Zone on the home screen

1

Zone Name Zone display name

Central Heating

Zone Type Zone type i.e. Heating, Hot Water or Electrical Immersion

Heating

Default Temperature Default temperature this Zone, used when no scheduled temperature is active.

25

Maximum Temperature Maximum temperature this Zone can reach before Zone heating will shut-off for safety

25

Maximum Operation Time Maximum operation time in minutes of any continuous time

60

Hysteresis Time Minimum delay between Zone off and on

3

Temperature Setpoint Deadband Check link for Deadband

0.5

Temperature Sensor Node ID for the Sensor

Central Heating

Zone Controller ID Select Zone Controller Type and Number

Central Heating

**Boost Button ID** Boost console if you have any

N/A

Boost Button's Child ID Boost button number if you have any

N/A

System Controller

48-Gas Boiler Controller Relay Node ID: 53

Submit**Cancel**

Outside: 3° C Clouds - overcast clouds

Repeat the process to add any other zones.

The screenshot shows the 'Zone Settings' dialog box. It includes sections for Hysteresis (Minimum delay between power off and on), Maximum operating time, and Maximum Zone temperature. Two zones are listed: 'Central Heating' (Max 25° - Sensor: 21 - GPIO: 53-13) and 'Hot Water' (Max 42° - Sensor: 28 - GPIO: 53-15). Each zone has edit and delete icons. At the bottom are 'Close' and 'Add Zone' buttons.

This dialogue can be used to Add/Delete/Edit the zone configurations.

This completes the Layer 3 configuration.

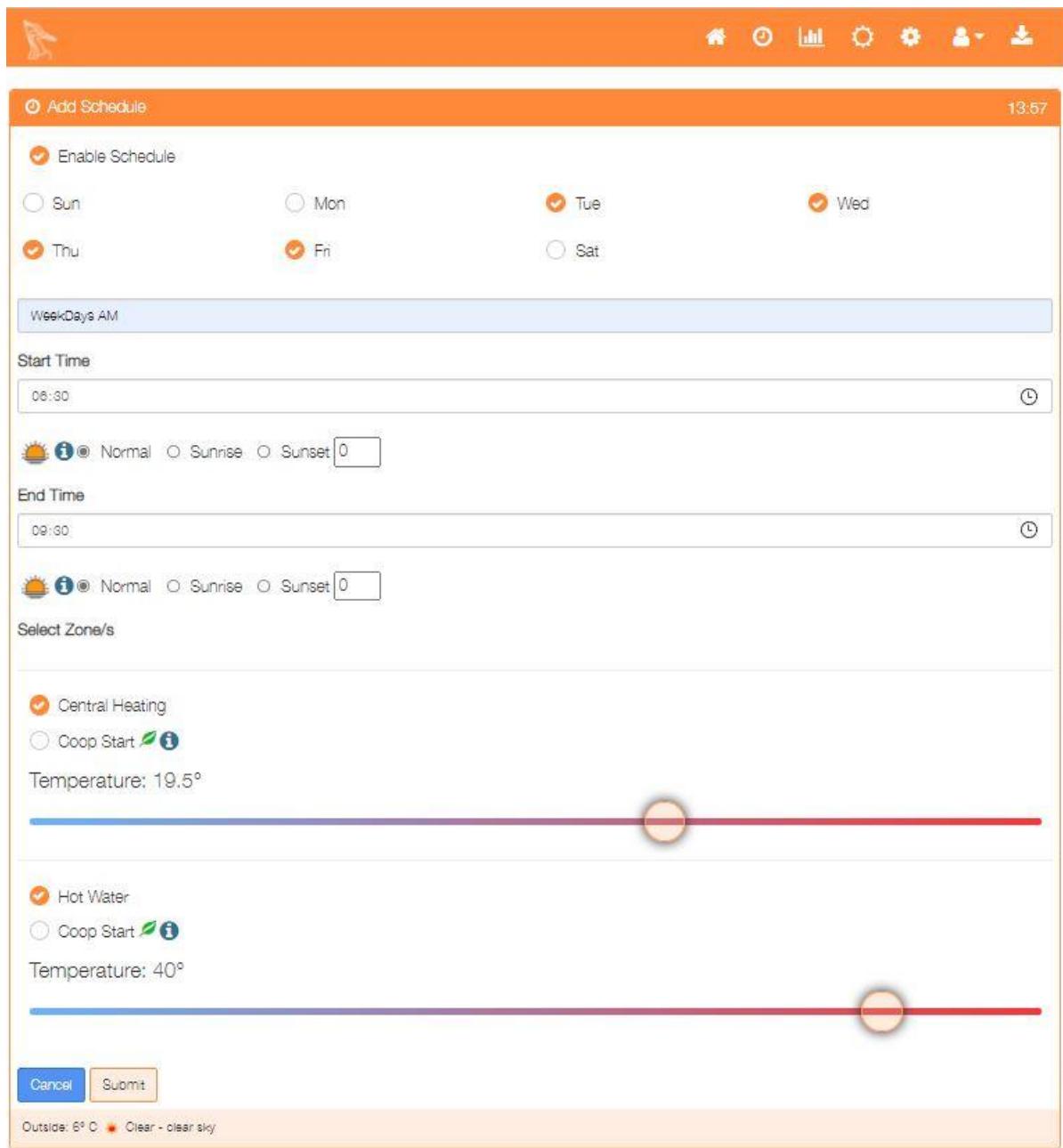
Step 5 – Layer 4 Configuration - Add Schedules

The example configuration will have a single schedule to control the Central Heating and Hot Water zones.

The top screenshot shows the MaxAir app's main 'Home' screen. It features a toolbar with icons for Home, Sensors, Graphs, Settings, and User. Below the toolbar are six control cards: 'One Touch' (target icon), 'MODE OFF' (OFF icon), 'Central Heating' (0.0°), 'Hot Water' (0.0°), 'Gas Boiler' (flame icon), and 'Bedroom 1' (0.0°). The bottom of the screen displays weather information: 'Outside: 3° C Clouds - overcast clouds'. The time is 12:21. The bottom screenshot shows the 'Schedule' screen. It has a toolbar with a clock icon and a plus sign. A blue box highlights the 'Add Schedule >' button. The bottom of the screen shows weather information: 'Outside: 3° C Clouds - overcast clouds' and a 'All Schedule:' button. The time is 12:10.

The Add schedule screen will be presented, the example below shows:

- An enabled schedule
- Operated Monday to Friday
- Titled Weekdays AM
- Operated between 0630 hours and 0930 hours
- Controls both the Central Heating and Hot Water Zones
- Uses 40°C as the Hot Water Zone cut-off temperature
- Uses 19.5°C as the Central Heating Zone cut-off temperature



The screenshot shows the 'Add Schedule' configuration screen for a smart thermostat. At the top, there are icons for Home, History, Settings, and User. The time is displayed as 13:57.

Enable Schedule

Sun Mon Tue Wed
 Thu Fri Sat

WeekDays AM

Start Time: 06:30

   Normal Sunrise Sunset

End Time: 09:00

   Normal Sunrise Sunset

Select Zone/s:

Central Heating
 Coop Start  

Temperature: 19.5° 

Hot Water
 Coop Start  

Temperature: 40° 

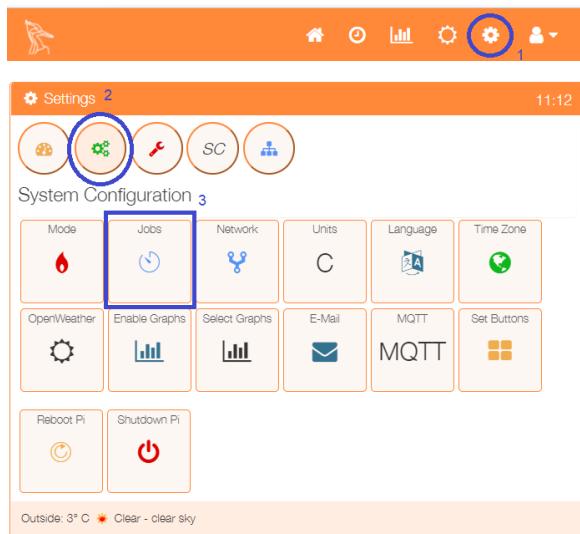
Outside: 6° C  Clear - clear sky

Once configured, click on the 'Submit' button to add the schedule.

Add any other schedules as required.

This completes the Layer 4 configuration.

Step 6 – Scheduled Jobs



In order for the system to function a number of tasks need to operate at pre-determined time intervals. These tasks are configured as part of the initial setup process and can be displayed from the Settings/System Configuration/Jobs menu option. The default configuration is as shown below and for example, as can be seen the 'check_ds18b20' is not enabled, this job is only required if 1-Wire temperature sensors are connected to the GPIO bus.

Schedule Jobs

Configure Jobs to run every set interval and enable creation of a Log file if required.

Job Name	Script Name	Enabled	Log Job	Run Every	Action
controller	/var/www/cron/control	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	60	
db_cleanup	/var/www/cron/db_clean	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	02:00	
check_gw	/var/www/cron/check_gw	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	60	
system_c	/var/www/cron/system_c	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	300	
weather_update	/var/www/cron/weather_update	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1800	
reboot_wifi	/var/www/cron/reboot_wifi	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	120	
check_ds18b20	/var/www/cron/check_ds18b20	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	60	
sw_install	/var/www/cron/sw_install	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	10	
update_code	/var/www/cron/update_code	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	00:00	
check_gpio_swit	/var/www/cron/check_gpio_swit	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	60	

Add New Scheduled Job

Add New Job Name, Script Name, Log On/Off and run Interval.

Enabled

Job Name Descriptive name for the Scheduled Job.

controller

Script Name Full Path Name for the executable Job Script.

/var/www/cron/controller.php

Run Every Run the Jobs Script Every x Seconds.

60

Log Job

Close

Save

THIS COMPLETES THE BASIC SETUP

This configuration is available as an example database at:

/var/www/MySQL_Database/eu_example_231121.sql

New scheduled tasks can be added by clicking on the 'Add Job' button.