

JQ6500 Serial Communications Protocol

COVID-19 Crisis News: If you require components for **support of essential services, including bona-fide COVID-19 response R&D** please contact me to get special purchasing access. Otherwise for the hobbiests out there, unfortunately ordering is now disabled for you until at least Christchurch NZ returns to a Level 3 Alert status. Stay home, stay safe.

The JQ6500 MP3 Player modules can be controlled over a Serial (UART) communications protocol.

If you are using an Arduino, save yourself the trouble and just grab the library already written for you – [Arduino JQ6500 MP3 Player Library](#) – the library handles everything on this page for you, so you don't need to understand any of this.

Voltage Level

Communications is UART to UART at 3.3v = HIGH.

If you are communicating from a 5v device, it is sufficient to put a 1k resistor in series between the TX on your 5v device and the RX on the JQ6500, the JQ6500 TX can be connected directly to your 5v RX, no other level conversion is necessary.

General Form Of Communication

The device (appears to) accepts commands at any time. Commands consist of 4 or more bytes,

- Each command starts with byte 0x7E
- Followed by a byte indicating the number of bytes which follow including the terminating byte (including termination)
- Followed by a byte indicating the command to execute
- Followed by an optional first argument byte
- Followed by an optional second argument byte
- Followed by the byte 0xEF as the termination byte

for example, the command "PLAY" (0x0D) is constructed with the following 4 bytes

- **0x7E** – Start Byte
- **0x02** – 2 Bytes Follow
- **0x0D** – Command Byte
- **0xEF** – Termination Byte

and the command to play a specific file (0x12) has two arguments (folder number and file number) so it looks like this

- **0x7E** – Start
- **0x04** – 4 Bytes Follow
- **0x12** – Command
- **0x02** – 1st Argument (in this case, "Folder 02")
- **0x03** – 2nd Argument (in this case, "File 003")



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