

Create your own wireless printer with Raspberry Pi

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Although it's easy to buy a new printer for less than \$ 50, the old printer may still work well and you don't want to replace it. In addition, your old printer may have a special function or a way to manage two-sided printing that makes you happy, so you can't replace it.

The solution to this problem is to turn it into wireless. There are already several solutions, but the most popular option is to use your Raspberry Pi as a wireless print server.

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Benefits of wireless printing

If you haven't enjoyed the benefits of wireless printing yet, this project is definitely a great starting point for you. Currently, you probably own a bulky printer, take up a lot of space in the office, and you don't use it too often; Or it has a bunch of messy cables.

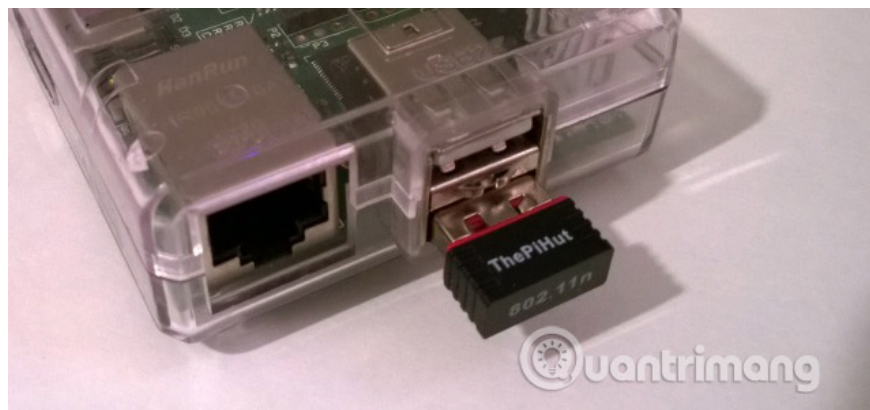


With wireless printers, you can completely transfer your print jobs to a separate room (even in your warehouse), and simply get the results when the printing is complete. In this way, the space previously used to keep your printer on the table can be used for other purposes. Using wireless technology, printing can take place through any device you have, whether it's a laptop, smartphone or tablet.

Wireless printing really makes printing more flexible. And Raspberry Pi can help with this.

Prepare for wireless printing with Raspberry Pi

To print wirelessly with the Raspberry Pi, you'll need to make sure you've connected and set up a wireless USB dongle for your Raspberry Pi. You should also use a USB printer. This can be done with a printer, combined with an adapter (adapter) parallel to the USB, but you will need to find a solution elsewhere, if you encounter any problems with that. .



You will also need a USB cable to connect from your printer to the Raspberry Pi.

Finally, set up your Raspberry Pi with your favorite operating system and make sure it's up to date (if you haven't already done so).

To update the Raspberry Pi, enter:

```
sudo apt-get update
```

then order:

```
sudo apt-get upgrade
```

This tutorial is written based on the wireless print server running on Raspbian.

Configure your Pi Raspberry as a print server with CUPS

With the device connected and set up, the first thing to do is make sure your printer can be recognized.

Open a command line (directly on your Raspberry Pi or via SSH) and enter:

```
lsusb
```

The list of USB devices will appear. Check and identify your printer.

Then you will need to install Samba, the open source file sharing software. This can be done by entering the command:

```
sudo apt-get install samba
```

Follow any instructions shown.

Next, it's time to install CUPS (Common Unix Printing System - General Unix Printing System)

Note : You must install Samba first.

```
sudo apt-get install cups
```

CUPS provides drivers for your printer. Many manufacturers already provide drivers for Linux, but in case the driver you need is not available, use CUPS.

You are now ready to add the default user to the printer admin group.

```
sudo usermod -a -Gadmin pi
```

Add your printer

Next, you'll need to set up your printer with Raspberry Pi. Boot into the GUI with **startx**, start your browser and enter **127.0.0.1:631** and switch to the **Administration** tab .

Select **Add new printer** , enter your Raspbian authentication information when requested, and then select your printer from the displayed list. Switch to the next screen, select the correct device from the list. In the following screen, confirm the details and assign the name, then select **Share This Printer** and click **Continue**.



Depending on your device manufacturer, the next page may take some time to load. This is because the entire name of the device drivers is being loaded, so if you connect to an HP printer, you may have to wait a long time. Once the list has finished loading, select the correct printer driver (selected by default) and continue. Also, click **Select Another Make / Manufacturer** and select **Raw**. You can let Windows handle the driver itself!

Click **Add Printer**, then select **Set Default Options** . A moment later, the printer will be ready to start accepting tasks. To make sure it works, click **Maintenance** and select **Print Test Page** .

Connect to your Pi Raspberry from Windows

By doing all the steps above, you need to make sure that the access from Windows to your Raspberry Pi is enabled, so you can start printing.

This is done by editing the samba configuration file in **/etc/samba/smb.conf**. You can do this in the GUI because you're still in it, although it's quite simple to boot it in bash, with a text editor.

Add the following code:

```
# CUPS printing. See also the cupsaddsmb (8) manpage in the
# cupsys-client package.
printing = cups
printcap name = cups
[printers]
comment = All Printers
browseable = no
path = / var / spool / samba
printable = yes
guest ok = yes
read only = yes
```

```
create mask = 0700
```

```
# Windows clients look cho share này tên là m?t ngu?n downloadable  
# printer drivers  
[print $]  
comment = Printer Drivers  
path = /usr/share/cups/drivers  
browseable = yes  
read only = yes  
guest ok = no
```

Next, press **CTRL + W** to search for **'workgroup'** and set it as follows (replace **your_workgroup_name** if needed, but usually keep it as **Workgroup**):

```
workgroup = your_workgroup_name  
wins support = yes
```

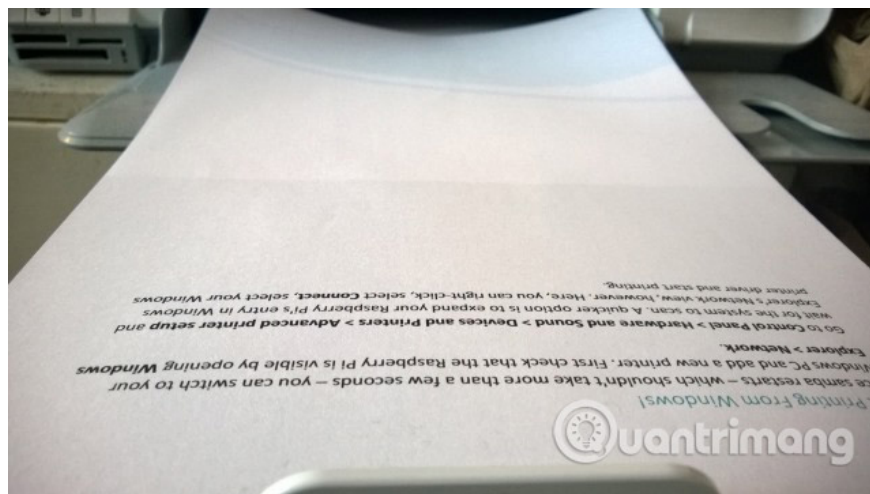
After saving, exit the GUI and restart samba:

```
sudo /etc/init.d/samba restart
```

Start printing from Windows & Mac OS X

When samba restarts (this process will only take a few seconds), you can switch to a Windows computer and add a new printer. First check if Raspberry Pi is displayed by opening **Windows Explorer > Network**.

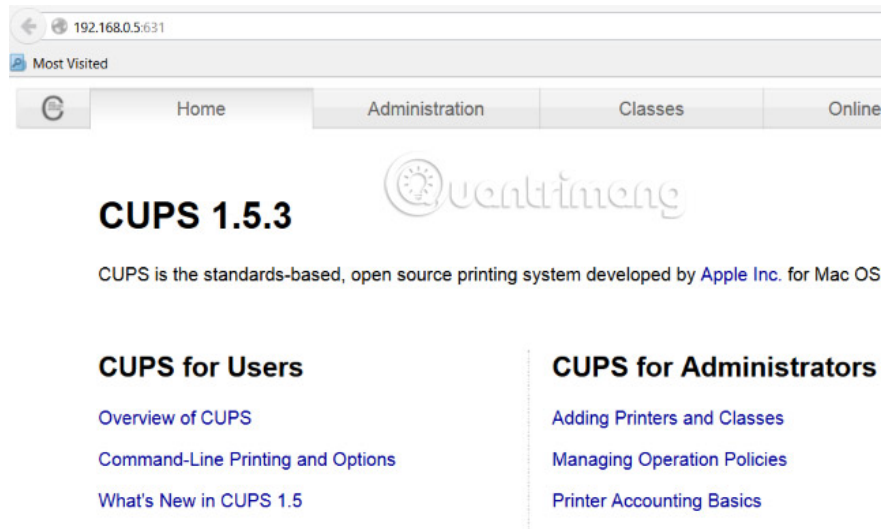
Go to **Control Panel > Hardware and Sound > Devices and Printers > Advanced printer setup** and wait for the scan system. Another faster way is to expand your Raspberry Pi entry in the **Network** view of Windows Explorer, from which you can right-click on the printer, select **Connect**, select your Windows printer driver and get started. print.



Meanwhile, Mac users can add a new printer in the usual way.

Any necessary administrative actions of the print server can be done by opening **http://[RPI.IP.ADDRESS.HERE]: 631**, to display the CUPS printer administration web interface, above. any

networked computer.



Have you tried turning your old printer into a wireless printer with Raspberry Pi? If you have any questions, please leave a comment in the comment section below!

Good luck!

See more:

1. [How to share a printer via LAN](#)
2. [How to fix Windows errors not connected to the printer](#)
3. [Instructions for renaming the printer on Windows 10](#)

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