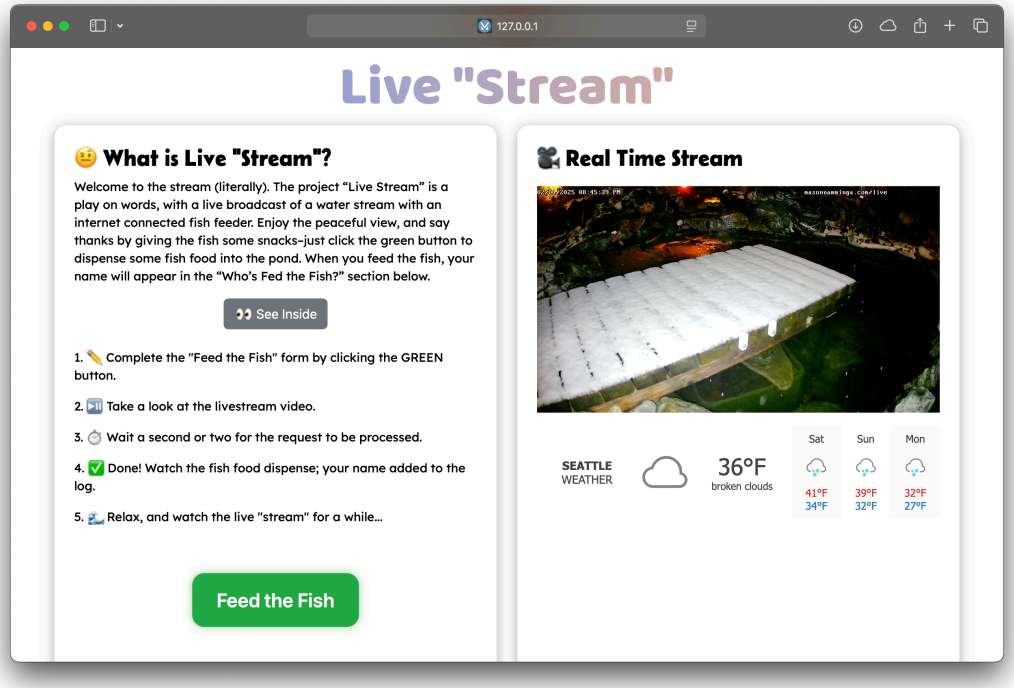
🐟 Smart Fish Feeder | Build Guide



Section One: Creating the Livestream Camera

Summary:

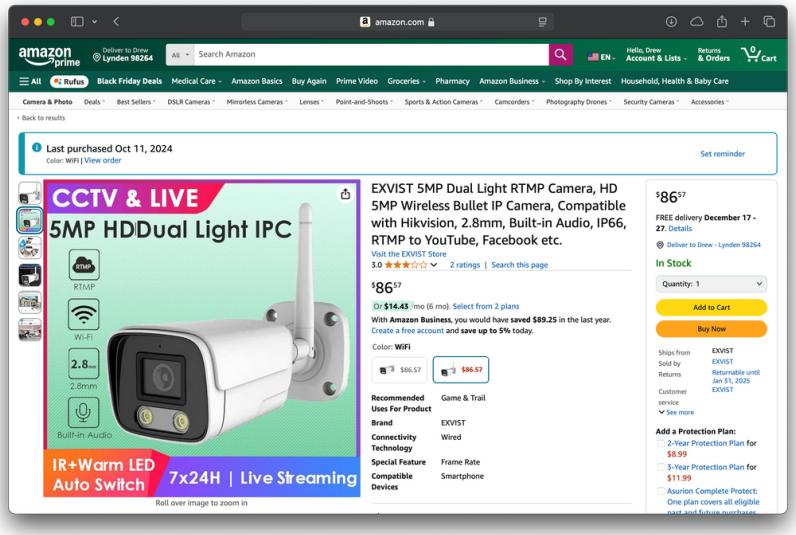
In this section, you will learn how to live stream a security camera to the internet via Twitch.

Parts, Materials, & Software:

An RTMP-compatible camera is required to stream from the camera directly to the internet without a dedicated computer.

💡 Note: *RTMP is different than RTSP*

- Exvist RTMP Camera (https://a.co/d/iKmvdlX)
- Camera Software (https://support.exvist.com/portal/en/kb/network-camera/device-manager/articles/ipc-device-manager#Download_Device_Manager)



Part One: Connecting the Camera to WiFi:

🚨 Warning: *Disregard the instructions in the box, they don't work. The companion software for this camera is AWFUL; be patient and keep trying. There is NO user documentation for this camera, but it is the most cost-effective streaming camera that could stream to Twitch directly without a computer. (That I could find...)*

Download the IPC Camera manager software (link above)

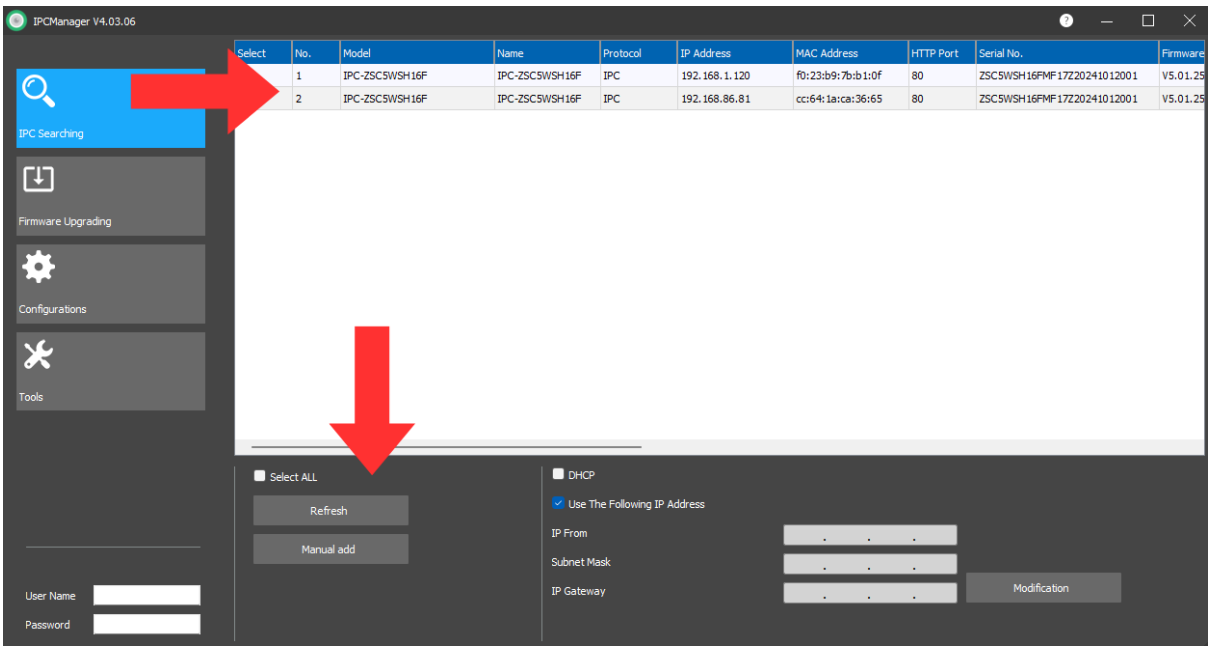
Connect the camera to power

Connect your computer to the camera's WiFi hotspot

- WiFi Name: "HSIPC-XXXXXX"
- Password "12345678"

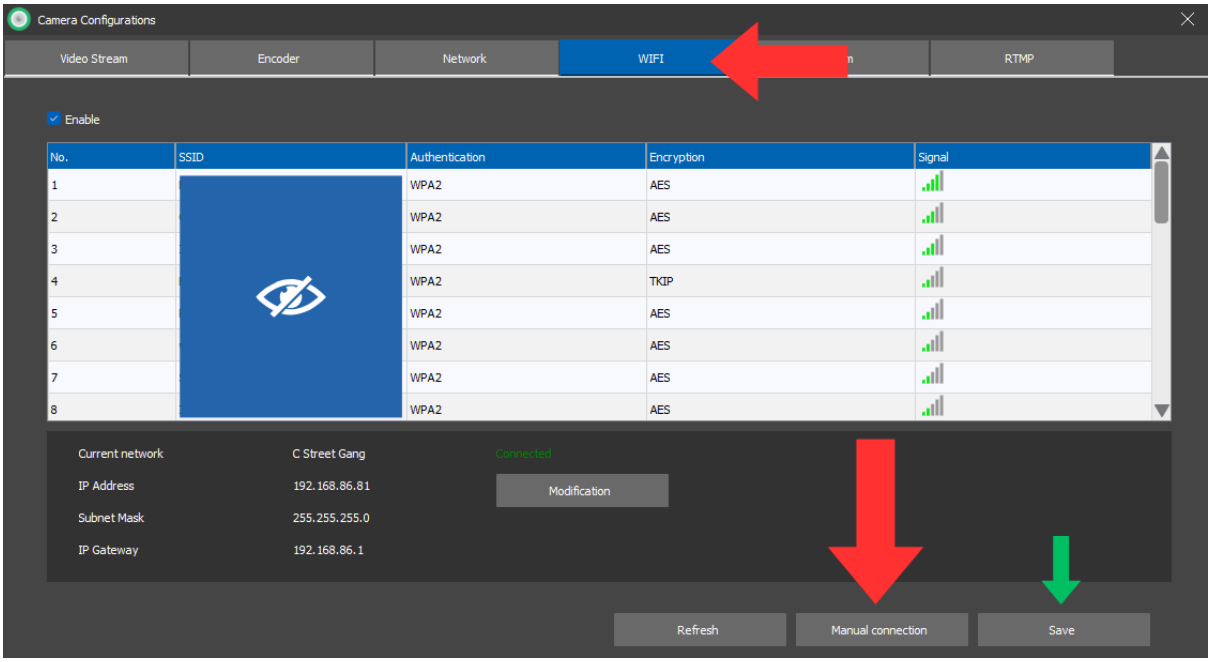
Once you are connected, open the camera manager software and click refresh, two camera options should appear; try each. (One always says "incorrect login")

- User: admin
- Password: 12345



Now, once you have logged in, connect the camera to your home internet so you can connect without the camera's built-in hotspot.

💡 Note: *Use the manual connection method, enter your network name and password, and submit. There is no "connection successful message." CLICK SAVE AFTER EVERY CHANGE*



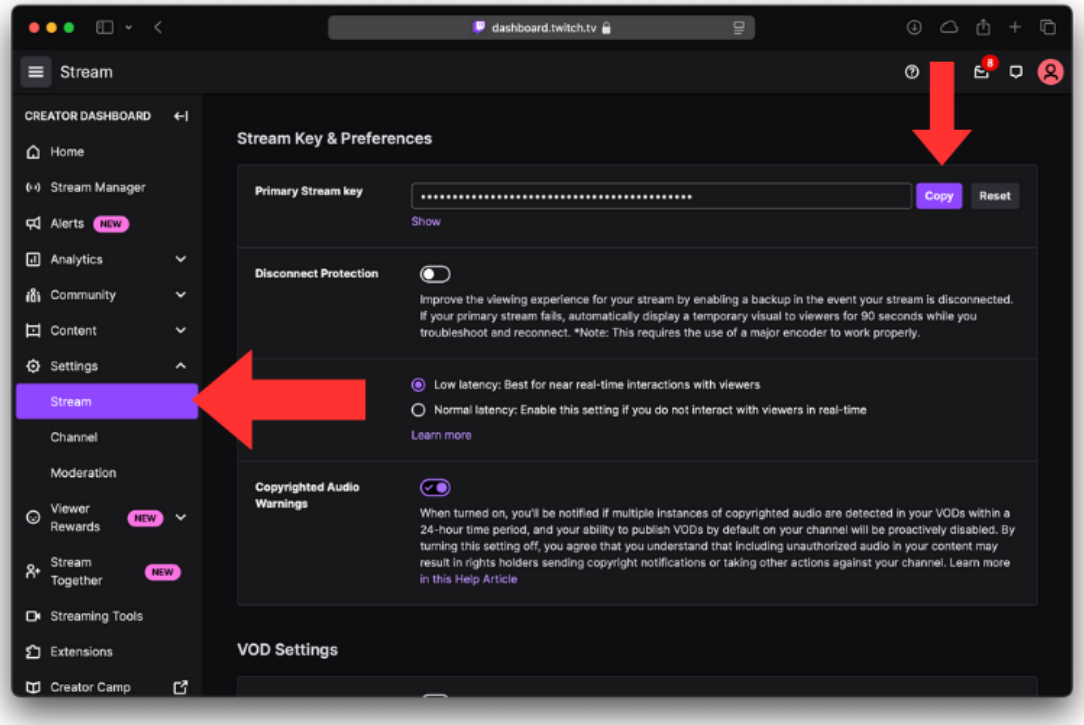
⏯️ Pause: Verify your camera is connected to the internet by disconnecting from the hotspot, connecting to your home wifi, and connecting to the camera.

Part Two: Creating your Twitch Channel

Next, you need a Twitch streaming URL that you can have the camera send the video feed to. Create a Twitch account if you don't have one already.

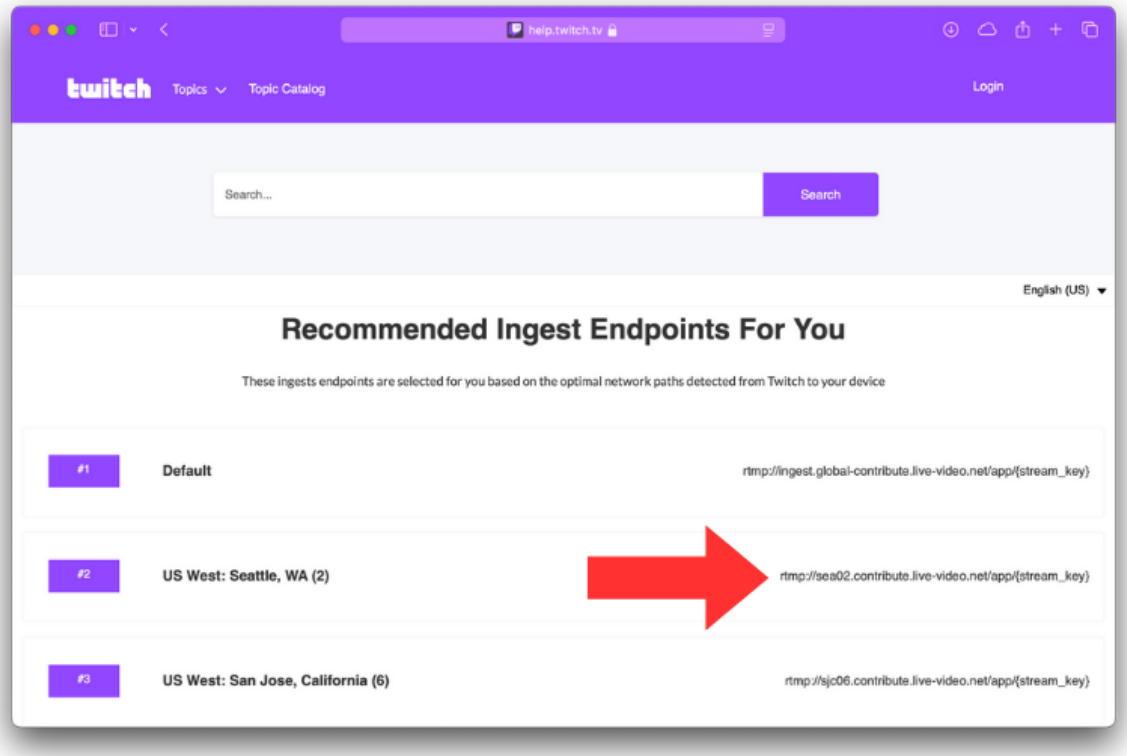
Create a Twitch account and navigate to: https://dashboard.twitch.tv.

Click on settings, then stream, and copy your stream key.



Now, you need to find your local ingest server, essentially, this takes the video from your camera and sends it to Twitch.

Copy the URL of the recommended server: https://help.twitch.tv/s/twitch-ingest-recommendation



Create your Stream URL by adding your stream key copied from the Twitch dashboard to the end of the URL.

Part Three: Connecting the Camera & Twitch

Copy your stream URL result into the “Push URL” field on the camera software, save it, and close the program. After a few minutes, check your Twitch stream and verify that it was successful.

⏯️ Pause: Verify your camera is working by checking your Twitch stream before mounting.

Part Four: Mounting the Camera

Mount the camera in a space with a GREAT WiFi connection; this will reduce buffering on Twitch. I mounted mine outside, far away from my router, and the connection is not great

Section Two: Creating The Brain

Summary:

In this section, you will learn how to use the microcontroller (WEMOS D1) to control a stepper motor over the internet via the Blynk service.

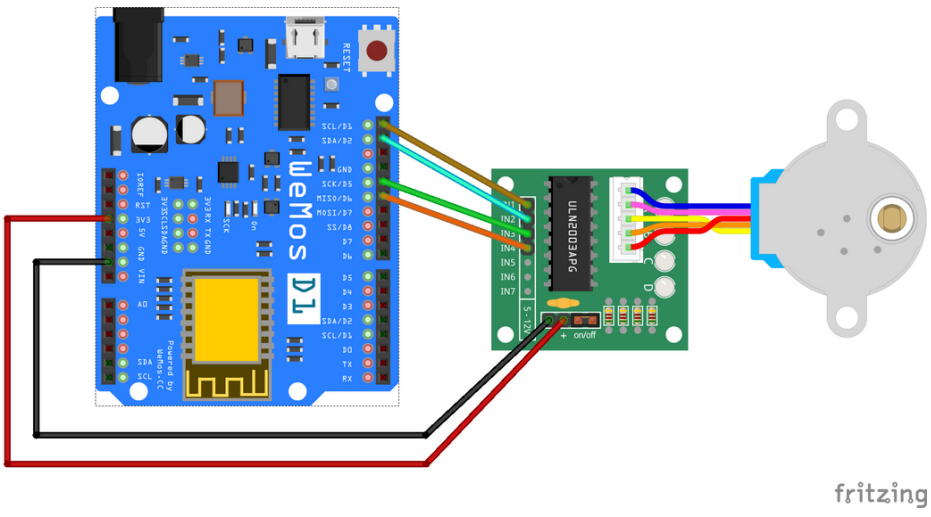
Video:

Blynk With ESP32: https://youtu.be/T45r2ZldTZo?si=352IuRWdBJe7BgUN

Parts, Materials, & Software:

- Arduino IDE (https://www.arduino.cc/en/software)
  - Code: (https://github.com/Tech-Trends-Shameer/Blynk-2.0-Projects/blob/main/Control-Stepper-Motor-Using-ESP-8266-and-Blynk-IoT/control-stepper-motor-using-esp8266-and-blynk-iot.ino)
- Blynk Account (https://blynk.cloud)
- Wemos D1 or D1 Mini (https://a.co/d/fKpZDha)
- 28BYJ-48 Stepper Motor & Driver (https://a.co/d/f08uF1a)
- Micro USB Cord and Wall Adaptor

Part One: Connecting the Wires



WeMos	Driver
3V3	+
GND	–
D1	IN1
D2	IN2
D5	IN3
D6	IN4

Connect the wires from the stepper driver to the WeMos board using the schematic

Part Two: Set Up Blynk

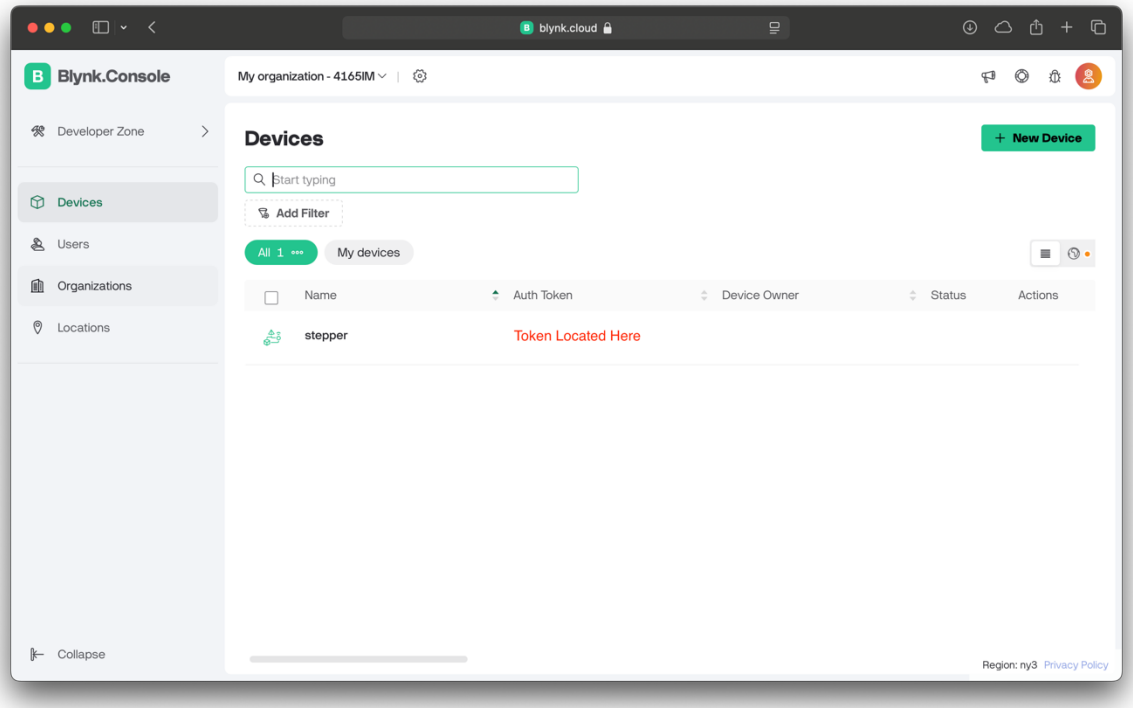
Following the steps in the attached video, create a Blynk account, configure the virtual pins, and create a dashboard to test the fish feeder.

Once your dashboard has been created, create a webhook to control the motor connected to the fish feeder.

Using the webhook template below, update the RED with your own token. *Save this URL for later.*

https://ny3.blynk.cloud/external/api/update?token=yld7fSxKoKs8WQrOjDyk4iAJbUitL250&v1=1

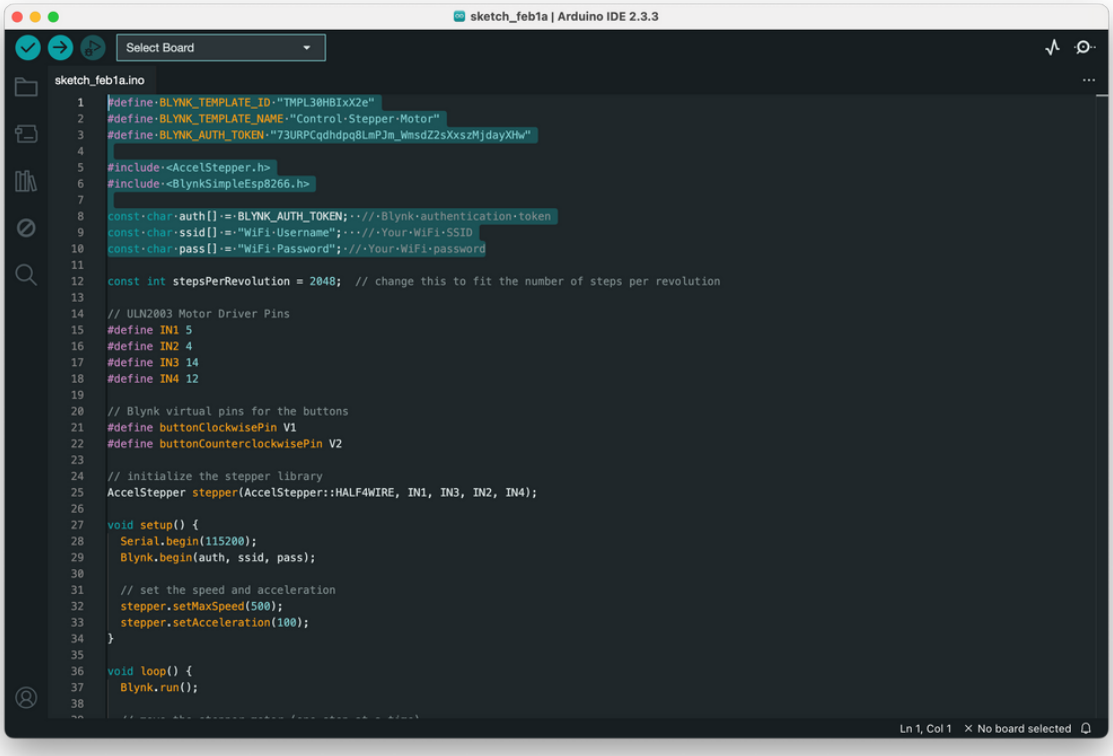
- v1=1 is when the stepper motor is ON
- v1=0 is when the stepper motor is OFF



💡 A webhook is a URL that your code “looks up” on your behalf that can trigger an action on your hardware. In this case, we have a link that turns the motor off and one that turns the motor on.

Part Three: Upload the Code

Open the Arduino IDE and copy the code from the provided GitHub repository.



Update the highlighted text with the information provided from the Blynk online dashboard.

⏯️ Pause: Verify that the code will compile correctly by clicking the checkmark in the top right of the screen. You may need to download additional Arduino libraries to your computer.

Plug the board into your computer, select the board name, and click the arrow to send the code.

Unplug the board from your computer and monitor the Blynk dashboard for a successful connection.

Section Three: Creating the Weatherproof Housing

Summary:

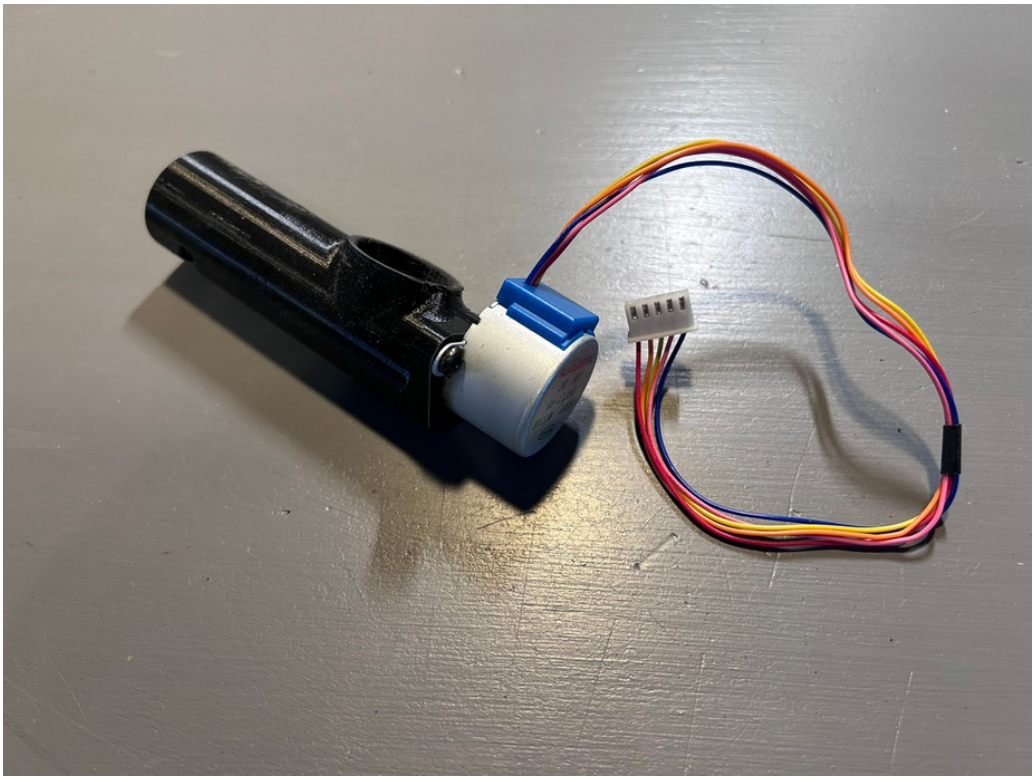
In this section, you will learn how to 3D print the fish food augar, and waterproof the computer.

Parts, Materials, & Tools:

- Augar Feeder STL: https://www.thingiverse.com/thing:2959685
- 3D Printer
- Waterproof Box (https://a.co/d/3iuaJoK)
- Moisture Absorption Bag (https://a.co/d/eVfFtRL)

Part One: Print the Feeding Mechanism

Using a 3D printer, print the fish feeder mechanism and assemble it by attaching the servo and adding a ball bearing. Printing the funnel is optional.



Part Two: Assemble the Box

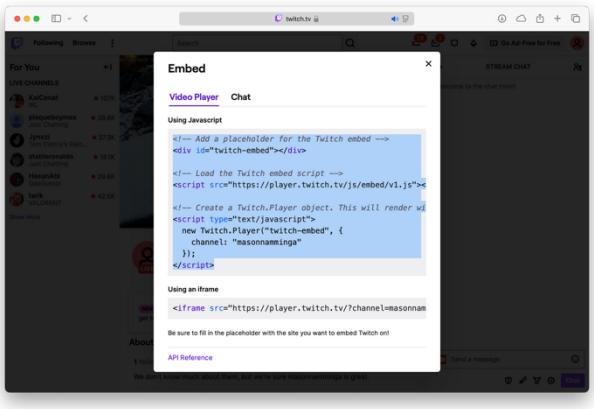
Take the fish feeder mechanism, controller, and moisture absorber pouch and mount it inside the waterproof box.

Ensure that there is a hole cut for the food to dispense. Place the box in a location with a good WiFi signal. The project box in the example has a pegboard back that allows for easy mounting of components.

Section Four: Building the Webpage

Summary:

In this section, you will learn how to create an HTML skeleton with an embedded Twitch stream and a button to dispense the fish food.



Software:

- Visual Studio Code IDE
- GitHub

Part One: Creating an HTML page

Create a new HTML file in Visual Studio and embed the Twitch stream using the embed code from the Twitch share sheet.

Part Two: Creating a Trigger Button

Now you want a way for users to control the fish feeder, using the on and off webhooks previously created, we can create a button in HTML, as well as a JavaScript function that calls the on webhook, waits five seconds, and then calls the off webhook when the user clicks the feed the fish button.

```
function feedthem() {
  var xhr1 = new XMLHttpRequest();
  xhr1.open('GET', 'ADD ON WEBHOOK HERE', true);
  xhr1.onreadystatechange = function() {
    if (xhr1.readyState === 4 && xhr1.status === 200) {
      console.log('First request successful');
      setTimeout(function() {
        var xhr2 = new XMLHttpRequest();
        xhr2.open('GET', 'ADD OFF WEBHOOK HERE', true);
        xhr2.onreadystatechange = function() {
          if (xhr2.readyState === 4 && xhr2.status === 200) {
            console.log('Second request successful');
          }
        };
        xhr2.send();
      }, 5000);
    }
  };
  xhr1.send();
}
```

*This code was created by generative AI.

Part Three: Publish the Site

Using GitHub pages, publish the site and share it with friends so others can enjoy your creation!