
meta-raspberrypi Documentation

Release master

meta-raspberrypi contributors

Oct 12, 2020

1	meta-raspberrypi	3
1.1	Quick links	3
1.2	Description	3
1.3	Dependencies	3
1.4	Quick Start	4
1.5	Maintainers	4
2	Layer Contents	5
2.1	Supported Machines	5
2.2	Images	5
2.3	WiFi and Bluetooth Firmware	6
3	Optional build configuration	7
3.1	Compressed deployed files	7
3.2	GPU memory	7
3.3	VC4	8
3.4	Add purchased license codecs	8
3.5	Disable overscan	8
3.6	Disable splash screen	8
3.7	Boot delay	8
3.8	Set overclocking options	9
3.9	HDMI and composite video options	9
3.10	Video camera support with V4L2 drivers	9
3.11	Enable offline compositing support	9
3.12	Enable kgdb over console support	10
3.13	Disable rpi boot logo	10
3.14	Boot to U-Boot	10
3.15	Image with Initramfs	10
3.16	Enable SPI bus	10
3.17	Enable I2C	11
3.18	Enable PiTFT support	11
3.19	Misc. display	11
3.20	Enable UART	11
3.21	Enable USB Peripheral (Gadget) support	12
3.22	Enable Openlabs 802.15.4 radio module	12
3.23	Enable CAN with Pican2	12
3.24	Manual additions to config.txt	12

4	Extra apps	13
4.1	omxplayer	13
5	Contributing	15
5.1	Mailing list	15
5.2	Formatting patches	15
5.3	Sending patches	16
5.4	GitHub issues	16
6	Indices and tables	19

Contents:

Yocto BSP layer for the Raspberry Pi boards - <http://www.raspberrypi.org/>.

[Build Status](#) [Build Status](#) [Build Status Matrix](#)

1.1 Quick links

- Git repository web frontend: <https://github.com/agherzan/meta-raspberrypi>
- Mailing list (yocto mailing list): yocto@yoctoproject.org
- Issues management (Github Issues): <https://github.com/agherzan/meta-raspberrypi/issues>
- Documentation: <http://meta-raspberrypi.readthedocs.io/en/latest/>

1.2 Description

This is the general hardware specific BSP overlay for the RaspberryPi device.

More information can be found at: <http://www.raspberrypi.org/> (Official Site)

The core BSP part of meta-raspberrypi should work with different OpenEmbedded/Yocto distributions and layer stacks, such as:

- Distro-less (only with OE-Core).
- Angstrom.
- Yocto/Poky (main focus of testing).

1.3 Dependencies

This layer depends on:

- URI: `git://git.yoctoproject.org/poky`
 - branch: master
 - revision: HEAD
- URI: `git://git.openembedded.org/meta-openembedded`
 - layers: meta-oe, meta-multimedia, meta-networking, meta-python
 - branch: master
 - revision: HEAD

1.4 Quick Start

1. source `poky/oe-init-build-env rpi-build`
2. Add this layer to `bblayers.conf` and the dependencies above
3. Set `MACHINE` in `local.conf` to one of the supported boards
4. `bitbake core-image-base`
5. `dd` to a SD card the generated `sdimg` file (use `xzcat` if `rpi-sdimg.xz` is used)
6. Boot your RPI.

1.5 Maintainers

- Andrei Gherzan <`andrei at gherzan.ro`>

2.1 Supported Machines

- raspberrypi
- raspberrypi0
- raspberrypi0-wifi
- raspberrypi2
- raspberrypi3
- raspberrypi3-64 (64 bit kernel & userspace)
- raspberrypi-cm (dummy alias for raspberrypi)
- raspberrypi-cm3

Note: The raspberrypi3 machines include support for Raspberry Pi 3B+.

2.2 Images

- rpi-test-image
 - Image based on core-image-base which includes most of the packages in this layer and some media samples.

For other uses it's recommended to base images on `core-image-minimal` or `core-image-base` as appropriate. The old image names (`rpi-hwup-image` and `rpi-basic-image`) are deprecated.

2.3 WiFi and Bluetooth Firmware

Be aware that the WiFi and Bluetooth firmware for the supported boards is not available in the base version of `linux-firmware` from OE-Core (poky). The files are added from Raspbian repositories in this layer's `bbappends` to that recipe. All machines define `MACHINE_EXTRA_RECOMMENDS` to include the required wireless firmware; `raspberrypi3` supports 3, 3B, and 3B+ and so include multiple firmware packages.

Optional build configuration

There are a set of ways in which a user can influence different parameters of the build. We list here the ones that are closely related to this BSP or specific to it. For the rest please check: <http://www.yoctoproject.org/docs/latest/ref-manual/ref-manual.html>

3.1 Compressed deployed files

1. Overwrite IMAGE_FSTYPES in local.conf
 - IMAGE_FSTYPES = "tar.bz2 ext3.xz"
2. Overwrite SDIMG_ROOTFS_TYPE in local.conf
 - SDIMG_ROOTFS_TYPE = "ext3.xz"

Accommodate the values above to your own needs (ex: ext3 / ext4).

3.2 GPU memory

- GPU_MEM: GPU memory in megabyte. Sets the memory split between the ARM and GPU. ARM gets the remaining memory. Min 16. Default 64.
- GPU_MEM_256: GPU memory in megabyte for the 256MB Raspberry Pi. Ignored by the 512MB RP. Overrides gpu_mem. Max 192. Default not set.
- GPU_MEM_512: GPU memory in megabyte for the 512MB Raspberry Pi. Ignored by the 256MB RP. Overrides gpu_mem. Max 448. Default not set.
- GPU_MEM_1024: GPU memory in megabyte for the 1024MB Raspberry Pi. Ignored by the 256MB/512MB RP. Overrides gpu_mem. Max 944. Default not set.

See: <https://www.raspberrypi.org/documentation/configuration/config-txt/memory.md>

3.3 VC4

By default, each machine uses `vc4` for graphics. This will in turn sets `mesa` as provider for `gl` libraries. `DISABLE_VC4GRAPHICS` can be set to `1` to disable this behaviour falling back to using `userland`. Be aware that `userland` has not support for 64-bit arch. If you disable `vc4` on a 64-bit Raspberry Pi machine, expect build breakage.

3.4 Add purchased license codecs

To add you own licenses use variables `KEY_DECODE_MPG2` and `KEY_DECODE_WVC1` in `local.conf`. Example:

```
KEY_DECODE_MPG2 = "12345678"  
KEY_DECODE_WVC1 = "12345678"
```

You can supply more licenses separated by comma. Example:

```
KEY_DECODE_WVC1 = "0x12345678,0xabcdabcd,0x87654321"
```

See: <https://www.raspberrypi.org/documentation/configuration/config-txt/codecllicence.md>

3.5 Disable overscan

By default the GPU adds a black border around the video output to compensate for TVs which cut off part of the image. To disable this set this variable in `local.conf`:

```
DISABLE_OVERSCAN = "1"
```

3.6 Disable splash screen

By default a rainbow splash screen is shown after the GPU firmware is loaded. To disable this set this variable in `local.conf`:

```
DISABLE_SPLASH = "1"
```

3.7 Boot delay

The Raspberry Pi waits a number of seconds after loading the GPU firmware and before loading the kernel. By default it is one second. This is useful if your SD card needs a while to get ready before Linux is able to boot from it. To remove (or adjust) this delay set these variables in `local.conf`:

```
BOOT_DELAY = "0"  
BOOT_DELAY_MS = "0"
```

3.8 Set overclocking options

The Raspberry Pi can be overclocked. As of now overclocking up to the “Turbo Mode” is officially supported by the raspberry and does not void warranty. Check the config.txt for a detailed description of options and modes. The following variables are supported in local.conf: ARM_FREQ, GPU_FREQ, CORE_FREQ, SDRAM_FREQ and OVER_VOLTAGE.

Example official settings for Turbo Mode in Raspberry Pi 2:

```
ARM_FREQ = "1000"  
CORE_FREQ = "500"  
SDRAM_FREQ = "500"  
OVER_VOLTAGE = "6"
```

See: <https://www.raspberrypi.org/documentation/configuration/config-txt/overclocking.md>

3.9 HDMI and composite video options

The Raspberry Pi can output video over HDMI or SDTV composite (the RCA connector). By default the video mode for these is autodetected on boot: the HDMI mode is selected according to the connected monitor’s EDID information and the composite mode is defaulted to NTSC using a 4:3 aspect ratio. Check the config.txt for a detailed description of options and modes. The following variables are supported in local.conf: HDMI_FORCE_HOTPLUG, HDMI_DRIVE, HDMI_GROUP, HDMI_MODE, CONFIG_HDMI_BOOST, SDTV_MODE, SDTV_ASPECT and DISPLAY_ROTATE.

Example to force HDMI output to 720p in CEA mode:

```
HDMI_GROUP = "1"  
HDMI_MODE = "4"
```

See: <https://www.raspberrypi.org/documentation/configuration/config-txt/video.md>

3.10 Video camera support with V4L2 drivers

Set this variable to enable support for the video camera (Linux 3.12.4+ required):

```
VIDEO_CAMERA = "1"
```

3.11 Enable offline compositing support

Set this variable to enable support for dispmanx offline compositing:

```
DISPMANX_OFFLINE = "1"
```

This will enable the firmware to fall back to off-line compositing of Dispmanx elements. Normally the compositing is done on-line, during scanout, but cannot handle too many elements. With off-line enabled, an off-screen buffer is allocated for compositing. When scene complexity (number and sizes of elements) is high, compositing will happen off-line into the buffer.

Heavily recommended for Wayland/ Weston.

See: <http://wayland.freedesktop.org/raspberrypi.html>

3.12 Enable kgdb over console support

To add the kgdb over console (kgdboc) parameter to the kernel command line, set this variable in local.conf:

```
ENABLE_KGDB = "1"
```

3.13 Disable rpi boot logo

To disable rpi boot logo, set this variable in local.conf:

```
DISABLE_RPI_BOOT_LOGO = "1"
```

3.14 Boot to U-Boot

To have u-boot load kernel image, set in your local.conf:

```
RPI_USE_U_BOOT = "1"
```

This will select the appropriate image format for use with u-boot automatically. For further customisation the `KERNEL_IMAGETYPE` and `KERNEL_BOOTCMD` variables can be overridden to select the exact kernel image type (eg. zImage) and u-boot command (eg. bootz) to be used.

3.15 Image with Iniramfs

To build an iniramfs image:

- Set this 3 kernel variables (in kernel's `do_configure_prepend` in `linux-raspberrypi.inc` after the line `kernel_configure_variable LOCALVERSION ""`)
 - `kernel_configure_variable BLK_DEV_INITRD y`
 - `kernel_configure_variable INITRAMFS_SOURCE ""`
 - `kernel_configure_variable RD_GZIP y`
- Set the yocto variables (e.g. in `local.conf`)
 - `INITRAMFS_IMAGE = "<name for your iniramfs image>"`
 - `INITRAMFS_IMAGE_BUNDLE = "1"`
 - `BOOT_SPACE = "1073741"`
 - `INITRAMFS_MAXSIZE = "315400"`
 - `IMAGE_FSTYPES_pn-${INITRAMFS_IMAGE} = "${INITRAMFS_FSTYPES}"`

3.16 Enable SPI bus

When using device tree kernels, set this variable to enable the SPI bus:

```
ENABLE_SPI_BUS = "1"
```

3.17 Enable I2C

When using device tree kernels, set this variable to enable I2C:

```
ENABLE_I2C = "1"
```

3.18 Enable PiTFT support

Basic support for using PiTFT screens can be enabled by adding below in local.conf:

- MACHINE_FEATURES += "pitft"
 - This will enable SPI bus and i2c device-trees, it will also setup framebuffer for console and x server on PiTFT.

NOTE: To get this working the overlay for the PiTFT model must be build, added and specified as well (dtoverlay= in config.txt).

Below is a list of currently supported PiTFT models in meta-raspberrypi, the modelname should be added as a MACHINE_FEATURES in local.conf like below:

```
MACHINE_FEATURES += "pitft <modelname>"
```

List of currently supported models:

- pitft22
- pitft28r
- pitft35r

3.19 Misc. display

If you would like to use the Waveshare “C” 1024×600, 7 inch Capacitive Touch Screen LCD, HDMI interface (<http://www.waveshare.com/7inch-HDMI-LCD-C.htm>) Rev 2.1, please set the following in your local.conf:

```
WAVESHARE_1024X600_C_2_1 = "1"
```

3.20 Enable UART

RaspberryPi 0, 1, 2 and CM will have UART console enabled by default.

RaspberryPi 0 WiFi and 3 does not have the UART enabled by default because this needs a fixed core frequency and enable_uart will set it to the minimum. Certain operations - 60fps h264 decode, high quality deinterlace - which aren't performed on the ARM may be affected, and we wouldn't want to do that to users who don't want to use the serial port. Users who want serial console support on RaspberryPi 0 Wifi or 3 will have to explicitly set in local.conf:

```
ENABLE_UART = "1"
```

Ref.:

- <https://github.com/raspberrypi/firmware/issues/553>
- <https://github.com/RPi-Distro/repo/issues/22>

3.21 Enable USB Peripheral (Gadget) support

The standard USB driver only supports host mode operations. Users who want to use gadget modules like `g_ether` should set the following in `local.conf`:

```
ENABLE_DWC2_PERIPHERAL = "1"
```

3.22 Enable Openlabs 802.15.4 radio module

When using device tree kernels, set this variable to enable the 802.15.4 hat:

```
ENABLE_AT86RF = "1"
```

See: <https://openlabs.co/OSHW/Raspberry-Pi-802.15.4-radio>

3.23 Enable CAN with Pican2

In order to use Pican2 CAN module, set the following variables:

```
ENABLE_SPI_BUS = "1"
ENABLE_CAN = "1"
```

See: <http://skpang.co.uk/catalog/pican2-canbus-board-for-raspberry-pi-23-p-1475.html>

3.24 Manual additions to `config.txt`

The `RPI_EXTRA_CONFIG` variable can be used to manually add additional lines to the `config.txt` file if there is not a specific option above for the configuration you need. To add multiple lines you must include `\n` separators. If double-quotes are needed in the lines you are adding you can use single quotes around the whole string.

For example, to add a comment containing a double-quote and a configuration option:

```
RPI_EXTRA_CONFIG = ' \n \
# Raspberry Pi 7\" display/touch screen \n \
lcd_rotate=2 \n \
'
```


4.1 omxplayer

omxplayer depends on libav which has a commercial license. So in order to be able to compile omxplayer you will need to whitelist the commercial license in your local.conf:

```
LICENSE_FLAGS_WHITELIST = "commercial"
```


5.1 Mailing list

The main communication tool in use is the Yocto Project mailing list:

- yocto@yoctoproject.org
- <https://lists.yoctoproject.org/listinfo/yocto>

Feel free to ask any kind of questions but please always prepend your email subject with `[meta-raspberrypi]` as this is the global *Yocto* mailing list and not a dedicated *meta-raspberrypi* mailing list.

5.2 Formatting patches

First and foremost, all of the contributions to the layer must be compliant with the standard openembedded patch guidelines:

- http://www.openembedded.org/wiki/Commit_Patch_Message_Guidelines

In summary, your commit log messages should be formatted as follows:

```
<layer-component>: <short log/statement of what needed to be changed>

(Optional pointers to external resources, such as defect tracking)

The intent of your change.

(Optional: if it's not clear from above, how your change resolves
the issues in the first part)

Signed-off-by: Your Name <yourname@youremail.com>
```

The `<layer-component>` is the layer component name that your changes affect. It is important that you choose it correctly. A simple guide for selecting a good component name is the following:

- For changes that affect *layer recipes*, please just use the **base names** of the affected recipes, separated by commas (,), as the component name. For example: use `omxplayer` instead of `omxplayer_git.bb`. If you are adding new recipe(s), just use the new recipe(s) base name(s). An example for changes to multiple recipes would be `userland,vc-graphics,wayland`.
- For changes that affect the *layer documentation*, please just use `docs` as the component name.
- For changes that affect *other files*, i.e. under the `conf` directory, please use the full path as the component name, e.g. `conf/layer.conf`.
- For changes that affect the *layer itself* and do not fall into any of the above cases, please use `meta-raspberrypi` as the component name.

A full example of a suitable commit log message is below:

```
foobar: Adjusted the foo setting in bar

When using foobar on systems with less than a gigabyte of RAM common
usage patterns often result in an Out-of-memory condition causing
slowdowns and unexpected application termination.

Low-memory systems should continue to function without running into
memory-starvation conditions with minimal cost to systems with more
available memory. High-memory systems will be less able to use the
full extent of the system, a dynamically tunable option may be best,
long-term.

The foo setting in bar was decreased from X to X-50% in order to
ensure we don't exhaust all system memory with foobar threads.

Signed-off-by: Joe Developer <joe.developer@example.com>
```

A common issue during patch reviewing is commit log formatting, please review the above formatting guidelines carefully before sending your patches.

5.3 Sending patches

The preferred method to contribute to this project is to send pull requests to the GitHub mirror of the layer:

- <https://github.com/agherzan/meta-raspberrypi>

In addition, you may send patches for review to the above specified mailing list. In this case, when creating patches using `git` please make sure to use the following formatting for the message subject:

```
git format-patch -s --subject-prefix='meta-raspberrypi' [PATCH] origin
```

Then, for sending patches to the mailing list, you may use this command:

```
git send-email --to yocto@yoctoproject.org <generated patch>
```

5.4 GitHub issues

In order to manage and track the layer issues more efficiently, the GitHub issues facility is used by this project:

- <https://github.com/agherzan/meta-raspberrypi/issues>

If you submit patches that have a GitHub issue associated, please make sure to use standard GitHub keywords, e.g. closes, resolves or fixes, before the “Signed-off-by” tag to close the relevant issues automatically:

```
foobar: Adjusted the foo setting in bar  
Fixes: #324  
Signed-off-by: Joe Developer <joe.developer@example.com>
```

More information on the available GitHub close keywords can be found here:

- <https://help.github.com/articles/closing-issues-using-keywords>

CHAPTER 6

Indices and tables

- `genindex`
- `modindex`
- `search`