

Fix Raspberry Pi 3 Bluetooth Issues

Now that the Raspberry Pi 3 comes with Bluetooth and WiFi built-in, people (including me) were excited at the increased flexibility this offers. I was already thinking about using the Pi 3 in my [Raspberry PiStation build](#) so that I could do away with the extra dongles. Setting up the WiFi was straight forward - it was the same process when using USB WiFi adapters, but getting the Bluetooth module to work properly was a little more complex and I found it a little frustrating. Hopefully my guide will help you fix Raspberry Pi 3 Bluetooth issues!

Fix Raspberry Pi 3 Bluetooth Issues

There are many guides on how to get Bluetooth working on Raspberry Pi 3 already, but again I found that some crucial steps were missing in order for mine to work properly, so I have combined everything into one post here.

On the latest version of [Raspbian Jessie](#) (2016-02-26 at the time of writing), there were some additional modules that needed installing to fix Bluetooth on Raspberry Pi 3. If you are on an earlier version of Jessie, then you will more than likely need to run:

```
sudo apt-get update  sudo apt-get upgrade -y  sudo apt-get dist-  
upgrade -y  sudo apt-get install pi-bluetooth
```

You may then need to update the firmware used in the Bluetooth module, which is done by running the following:

```
sudo apt-get install bluez bluez-firmware
```

And then to install the user interface, which is very handy if you are running your Raspberry Pi 3 in desktop mode:

```
sudo apt-get install blueman
```

Now at this point, many guides I read stated that a quick reboot and then Bluetooth would be working and accessible through **Bluetooth Manager** in **Menu -> Preferences -> Bluetooth Manager**, but I found that whilst this was an option, selecting Bluetooth Manager did absolutely

nothing.

After an hour or so of frustrated searches online, [I stumbled across a page](#) that stated *"this happens because when Raspbian installs Blueman and the other Bluetooth software, it does not automatically add ordinary users to the "bluetooth" group. This group gives users permissions to access D-Bus, which Bluetooth uses for communication in Raspbian. This causes a "Permission Denied" error whenever a Bluetooth process initiated by the unprivileged user attempts to access Blueman."*

So to fix Raspberry Pi 3 Bluetooth issues, you need to run the following code in your terminal:

```
sudo usermod -G bluetooth -a pi
```

And to check this has worked, type:

```
cat /etc/group | grep bluetooth
```

If this has worked, you should now see the following:

Then after a quick reboot:

```
sudo reboot
```

You should now be greeted with the Bluetooth Manager icon on your taskbar, which means everything has worked!

If Bluetooth Manager has loaded, you should now see it on your taskbar!

And there we go - hopefully you can now access Bluetooth Manager and pair with your devices and get cracking!