Blue-Bot User Guide

Getting started with Blue-Bot

This User Guide is designed to provide you with all the essential information you need to set up and begin using Blue-Bot in just a few simple steps. Whether you've used our robots before or you're a first-time user, our aim is to show you just how user-friendly and enjoyable to use our Blue-Bot is. In this guide you will find:

- **Identifying your Blue-Bot Model** – how to identify your version of Blue-Bot so you know how to set-up your device and what features are available.
- **Setup Instructions** – how to charge and turn on Blue-Bot.
- **Basic Features** – what Blue-Bot's buttons do and how to program Blue-Bot.
- **Basic Care Tips** – how to take care of Blue-Bot and keep it running smoothly.
- **Additional Resources** – links to other Blue-Bot documents with useful information.

Let's get started!

Identifying your Blue-Bot Model

Before we start, check to see which version of Blue-Bot you have. There will be a few differences in the set-up and available features, depending on what version you have.

- If you have an older version of Blue-Bot (pre-2019), it will have two switches on its underside, which are for POWER and SOUND.
- If you have a newer, upgraded version of Blue-Bot (2019 onwards), it will have three switches on its underside. The additional switch is a SENSOR switch which increases its functionality.

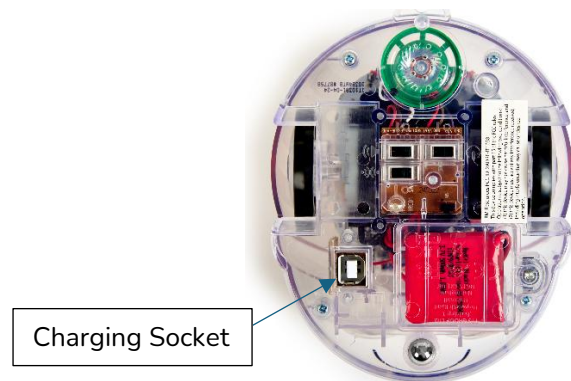The set-up and features for both versions will be explained in this guide.

Set-up Instructions

Charging Blue-Bot

- Before using your Blue-Bot, ensure that it has enough charge.
- Blue-Bot's eyes will indicate the state of charge of the battery by flashing and changing different colours.
- The table below shows what each light indicator means:

What do Blue-Bot's eye colours mean?	
Flashing red	Blue-Bot has a low battery and needs charging
Glowing solid red	Blue-Bot is charging
Glowing solid green	• Blue-Bot is fully charged and ready to use. • Blue-Bot's eyes will stop glowing green, the moment it is disconnected from the power source.

Important Charging Reminder: Please keep in mind that even if the Blue-Bot's eyes are not flashing red, it is still advisable to charge the device if you plan to use it for an extended period. This ensures optimal performance and prevents interruptions during activities.

Charging Socket

- To charge, turn the Blue-Bot's power off and use the USB cable provided. Insert the cable into the charging socket on Blue-Bot (see diagram above) and connect the other end of the cable to a USB port on a PC, laptop or USB charging plug.
- Alternatively, if you have a Blue-Bot docking station, place Blue-Bot into the docking station and connect the power cable.
- It takes approximately 1-2 hours to charge and once fully charged will run for around 6 hours, and 1.5 hours when used continuously and not turned off.
- To help preserve the life of the battery, it is advisable to remove the Blue-Bot from charge, once it is fully charged.

Low Power Sleep Mode

- If Blue-Bot is unused for 2 minutes with the sensor switch turned 'OFF', Blue-Bot will make a sound and go into sleep mode.
- If you do not have a sensor switch on your Blue-Bot, it will also go into sleep mode after 2 minutes.
- If Blue-Bot is unused for 4 minutes with the sensor switch turned 'ON', Blue-Bot will make a sound and go into sleep mode.
- Pressing any of Blue-Bot's buttons will wake Blue-Bot from sleep mode. It will make a sound and flash its eyes.

Connecting to Bluetooth

If you are using the Blue-Bot App or the Tactile Code Reader to control the robot, you must be connected via Bluetooth.

- Slide all the switches on Blue-Bot's base to 'ON' (see further information about Blue-Bot's switches below), to make it discoverable.
- Once connected, Blue-Bot's eyes will glow solid **blue**.

For information on how to use Blue-Bot with the **Tactile Code Reader** or **Blue-Bot App**, please see our Blue-Bot App Guide and Tactile Code Reader Guide.

How to switch Blue-Bot on

As the diagram shows, there are three switches located underneath Blue-Bot:

- a power slide switch
- a sound slide switch
- a sensor slide switch.

Please Note: If you have an older version of Blue-Bot (pre-2019), it will not have a sensor slide switch.

- A switch is **turned on** if it is next to the **'I' symbol** on the underneath of the Blue-Bot.
- A switch is **turned off** if it is next to the **'o' symbol** on the underneath of the Blue-Bot.

Please Note: Older models of Blue-Bot may have 'on' and 'off' written above the power slide switch and sound slide switch, rather than the 'I' and 'o' symbol.

Here is what turning on each switch will do:

Power Switch	• Turning on the power switch will allow you to use the command buttons on top of Blue-Bot and make it move. • When you turn on the power switch, Blue-Bot's eyes will glow white.
Sound Switch	If you turn on the sound switch, Blue-Bot will make a sound when: • you turn the power switch on. • you press each command button. • it has completed a command or set of commands.
Sensor Switch	• Turning on the sensor switch enables Blue-Bot to detect other Blue-Bots and Bee-Bots. • Turning on the sensor also allows users to record and listen to their own sounds.

Basic Features

As you can see from the diagram above, Blue-Bot has a set of coloured, command buttons on the top of its case:

- four orange buttons
- two blue buttons
- one green button.

Each button has a symbol on it showing the function of the button.

The Green 'Go' Button:

This button is pressed when all the commands have been inputted using the orange buttons. When the green button is pressed, Blue-Bot will carry out the commands in the order that they have been inputted.

The Orange Buttons:

The orange buttons are the direction command buttons.

When pressed, the Blue-Bot is instructed to move in the direction indicated on the button.

	Forward Button	Press the forward button and Blue-Bot will be instructed to move 15cm forwards.
	Backward Button	Press the backward button and Blue-Bot will be instructed to move 15cm backwards.
	Right Turn Button	Press the right turn button and Blue-Bot will turn 90 degrees to the right.
	Left Turn Button	Press the left turn button and Blue-Bot will turn 90 degrees to the left.

Things to note:

- If you press any of the direction buttons or pause button more than once in succession, Blue-Bot will execute that command for each press. For example, if you press the forward button twice, followed by the green 'Go' button, Blue-Bot will move forward 15cm, followed by another 15cm forward.
- To move Blue-Bot to the right or left, remember to add a forward or backward step, after the turn step. For example, pressing the 'right turn' button, followed by the 'forward' button, then the 'Go' button, will instruct Blue-Bot to turn 90 degrees to the right then move forward 15cm.
- Blue-Bot is pre-programmed to always move in 15cm steps.

The Blue Buttons:

	Pause Button	Pressing the pause button will instruct Blue-Bot to pause for 1 second during a sequence of commands.
	Delete Button	Pressing the delete button will delete all the steps so a new sequence can be programmed.

Each press of an orange direction button or pause button adds that command to Blue-Bot's memory, and when the 'Go' button is pressed, Blue-Bot executes all stored commands in sequence.

Blue-Bot's Lights and Sound

The table below shows the light and sound effects that Blue-Bot makes when used:

Action	Light and Sound Effect
When a command button is pressed.	Blue-Bot flashes its eyes once and makes a short beep sound.
When a command is performed by Blue-Bot.	Blue-Bot flashes its eyes once and makes a short beep sound.
When a set of commands are performed and completed.	Blue-Bot flashes its eyes three times and makes three longer beep sounds.

Top Tips for Using Blue-Bot

- **Ensure a Flat Surface**

  Make sure the surface you are using is flat and free of raised areas. Uneven surfaces can hinder the movement of the Blue-Bot.

- **Check the Wheels**

  Inspect Blue-Bot's wheels for any debris. Foreign objects can interfere with its movement.

- **Delete Previous Commands**

  After Blue-Bot has completed a set of commands, it is essential to press the delete button (blue X button), before inputting a new set of commands. If this step is overlooked, Blue-Bot will carry out all the commands stored in its memory, which may result in it moving in an undesired direction.

Voice Recording

To record and listen to audio, follow these simple steps:

1. **Choose the button**

   Select the button you want to record audio for.

2. **Start Recording**

   Press and hold the button for **2 seconds** until you hear a **single beep**.

3. **Record Your Audio**

   Speak or make a sound close to the Blue-Bot before the **double beep** sounds.

4. **End of Recording**

   The recording time has ended once you hear the **double beep**.

5. **Playback**

   When you press the button, the audio recording will replace the usual beep sound.

6. **Repeat**

   To record audio on any other button, repeat the above steps.

Basic Care Tips

- **Cleaning:** Use a clean damp cloth to wipe the Blue-Bot gently.
- **Storage and Usage:** Keep Blue-Bot away from direct sunlight and heat sources to prevent damage.
- **Liquid Exposure:** Avoid contact with water or other liquids, as this can harm the device.
- **Static Discharge:** If the Blue-bot malfunctions due to static discharge, turn it off and then back on to reset it.
- **Battery Care and Maintenance:** Ensure the battery hatch is secured with the security screw provided, especially after replacing the battery or batteries.

Additional Resources

- For further set-up information and guidance, see our [Blue-Bot Manual](#).
- For trouble shooting tips and answers to frequently asked questions, see our [Blue-Bot FAQ document](#).
- For lesson ideas on how to use Blue-Bot to teach across the primary curriculum, see our [Blue-Bot Cross-Curricular Activity Ideas](#).

Conclusion

Thank you for taking the time to explore the Blue-Bot User Guide. We hope you found this information helpful as you begin your journey with Blue-Bot.

As you introduce Blue-Bot to your students, remember that the key to success lies in exploration and creativity. Encourage your learners to experiment with programming, debug their commands, and collaborate with their peers. By fostering a playful learning environment, you can help them develop crucial skills in problem-solving and computational thinking.

For additional supporting materials for Blue-Bot, please see the other free downloads available on our [Blue-Bot product page](#).

We hope you enjoy your adventures with Blue-Bot!