

Traffic Lights

Jul 2026



Introduction

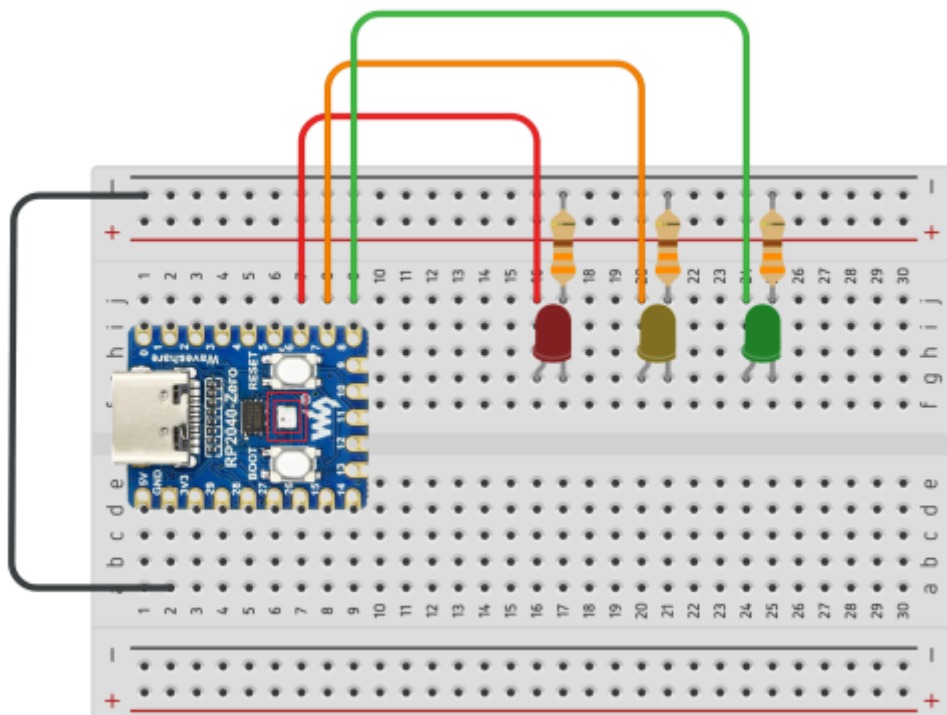
Works with:

- Raspberry Pi Pico
- RP2040 Zero Mini

The following code works with both the Raspberry Pi Pico and the RP2040 boards from Ali. The difference is that we are using different GPIO pins. On the RPi Pico, we are using Pins 2, 6 and 10. The reason for this is that the RPi Pico has a GND pin next to each of these GPIO pins, so wiring is very simple.

Wiring

For our RP2040 mini device, we will not use these pins. There is only one GND pin so we will have to wire everything to a GND rail on our breadboard.



Above we can see the wiring for the RP2040 and the LEDs.

- Pin 6 = Red LED
- Pin 7 = Amber LED
- Pin 8 = Green LED

The LEDs I used are standard 5mm LEDs.

The resistor values are 330 Ohm.

The Anode of the LEDs (the positive, normally the longer leg) goes to the GPIO pins on the RP2040. The Cathode, goes to GND via the 330 Ohm resistors.

The Traffic Light Micro Python Code

Download the code below to a new file on your device called traffic-lights.py.

[| download](#)

```
#Traffic light LEDs using an array

from machine import Pin
import time

# Define GPIO pins for the LEDs
RED = Pin(6, Pin.OUT)
AMBER = Pin(7, Pin.OUT)
GREEN = Pin(8, Pin.OUT)

# Put them in an array
lights = [RED, AMBER, GREEN]

# Helper function to turn all lights off
def all_off():
    for light in lights:
        light.off()

while True:
    # Red
    all_off()
    RED.on()
    time.sleep(3)

    # Red + Amber
    AMBER.on()
    time.sleep(1)

    # Green
    all_off()
    GREEN.on()
    time.sleep(3)

    # Amber
    all_off()
    AMBER.on()
    time.sleep(1)
```

That's it. You should now have a working set of traffic lights :)

Working Example

Here is a short video of a working example.

[rp2040-traffic-light.mp4](#)

I hope you have some fun with this project.

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