

ChatterBox Proximity Sensing/Switch Node Assembly

Based on Lilygo T-Beam Supreme

WARNING: Do not attempt unless you have a good understanding of electricity, wiring, and batteries. LiPo batteries can be dangerous and cause fires!



You can create a proximity sensing node by slightly modifying a T-Beam supreme. You do not have to add a relay, but the instructions below cover adding both a mmWave radar and relay.

3D Print Relay Enclosure



This case is based on an original design from [AlleyCat](#). I modified it to add a small enclosure for housing a relay module.

STL Files

[Enclosure Back](#)

[Enclosure Front](#)

[Relay Cover](#)

[Enclosure Buttons](#)

Gather Components



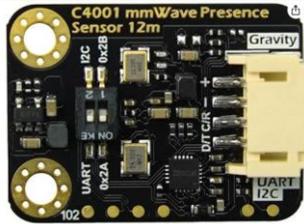
In order to signal the relay, the ChatterBox node sends a HIGH signal to the pin. So, in theory, any relay switch that can be signaled with a HIGH could be used. Here, I use an Adafruit non-latching relay.

The T-Beam has pins to support both 5V and 3.3V, but I have only personally used the 3.3V pin.

Buy from Adafruit (unless you can find elsewhere):

[Adafruit Non-Latching Relay](#)

Amazon Buy Links

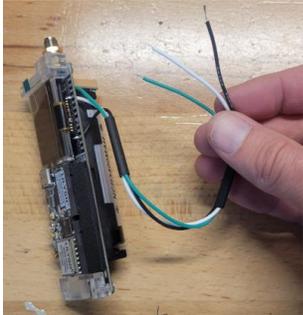
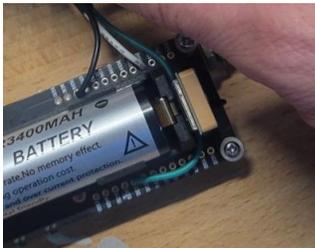


[T-Beam Supreme](#)
[DFRobot mmWave Radar](#)
[SD Card](#)
[Battery \(18650 flat\)](#)
[Heat Inset Nuts](#)
[M3 Screws](#)

AliExpress Product Links:

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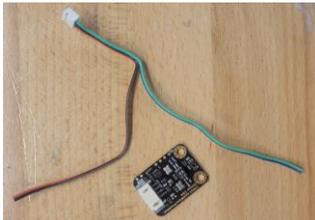
**Solder
VCC/GND/Signal
Wires to T-Beam**



I typically use white for voltage, black for ground, and green for signal. As shown here, you'd connect:

Green -> Pin 46
White -> DC1 (3.3v 500mAh)
Black -> GND

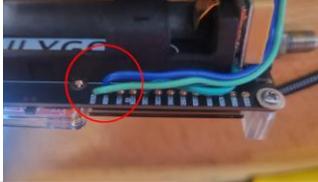
**Prepare DFRobot
Wires for Soldering**



We will be using the white plug end of the DFRobot-included wires, but need to cut the black dupont adapters from the other end.

You'll also want to separate the blue/green wires from the red/black, as shown in the image.

NOTE: Route the DFRobot blue/green wires *through* the relay housing (as shown a few steps down) *before* soldering. The DFRobot white plug will be sitting in the relay housing.



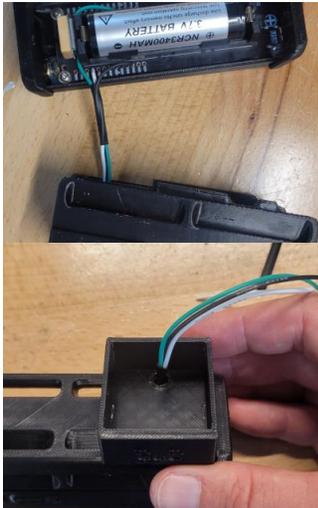
In the wires provided with the DFRobot sensor:
Green (Data) goes to SDA
Blue (Clock) goes to SCL

Add Heat Inserts



Using a soldering pin with an inset adapter or a heat gun and light pressure from a screwdriver, carefully press the inserts into the T-Beam back.

Route Wires To the Relay Housing



In addition to the 2 DFRobot wires that have been routed through the relay housing, route all relay wires through the back of the case into the housing where the relay will sit (the hollowed out square area).

The image to the left only shows 3 wires, you should have 5 wires routed through here, and be left with the DFRobot's red/black wires waiting to be connected to something.

Connect VCC/GND/Signal to Relay



You may choose to use a plug. I soldered the wires, but either way...

- Green -> Sig**
- White -> Vin**
- Black -> Gnd**

<p>Connect the Circuit Wires</p> 	<p>Here is where you choose to connect Normal Open (NO), Normally Closed (NC), or both. I'm using normally open.</p> <p>This is pretty self-explanatory, but if you don't know what those mean, I'm not going to explain it here (you should learn more about circuits before completing this project, or you could easily get injured or cause damage if you don't know what you're doing).</p>
<p>Insert the Relay Module and Route Wires</p> 	<p>Insert the relay module into the housing and route the circuit wires out, so you can connect them to your circuit</p>
<p>Set DFR to use I2C</p> 	<p>The DFRobot sensor has two switches.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Controls the device's I2C address. Leave it at 0x2A 2) Controls UART vs I2C. Switch this to I2C
<p>Connect the DFRobot Power/Ground to the Relay's Power/Ground.</p> 	<p>Connect the DFR's 3v/Gnd wires as shown to the left.</p> <p>You will need to cut the relay's white and black wires, to splice them back together along with the DFR's +/-Gnd.</p> <p>You may want to do the wiring differently than what I've done here, but essentially both the DFRobot sensor and relay will be powered from the same connections on the T-Beam.</p> <p>I simply twisted and soldered the wires as shown, and then slid/shrunk a heat shrink insulator over each set of wires.</p>
<p>Tuck the Components</p>	<p>Tuck the Relay and DFRobot sensor into the relay housing as shown. It will be a tight fit.</p>



Attach Relay Housing Cover



Complete "Node" Setup

The rest of the setup is essentially the same as a GPS Node / [T-Beam Supreme node](#), starting with the *insert SD card* step.

Test your Remote Switch

Once your switch/node is onboarded, use any Communicator to test flipping the remote switch.



The Node/Remote Switch

- * Power on your node/switch and wait for it to initialize.
- * Attach the switch wires to a simple circuit, such as a continuity tester that beeps or otherwise indicates whether a circuit is open or closed.

Any Communicator

Within a few minutes of being onboarded to your cluster, communicators should start to become aware of this new node, and should show it (on the devices screen) as a motion sensor.

- * Go to the Devices screen and select this device
- * Open the commands menu, by touching the game controller button
- * Scroll to the *Switch 5 Sec* item, and choose it

Within a couple of seconds, you should see the switch opened or closed for 5 seconds, depending on how you wired it.

You can also use the *Last Motion* command to test whether the sensor is working. If you are anywhere near the node, you should get a response of a time near the current time.

