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**CircuitPython**  
**DisplayIO** *Dial Library Documentation*  
***Release 1.0***

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A dial gauge widget for displaying graphical information.



## DEPENDENCIES

This driver depends on:

- [Adafruit CircuitPython](#)

Please ensure all dependencies are available on the CircuitPython filesystem. This is easily achieved by downloading the [Adafruit library and driver bundle](#) or individual libraries can be installed using [circup](#).



## INSTALLING FROM PYPI

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**Note:** This library is not available on PyPI yet. Install documentation is included as a standard element. Stay tuned for PyPI availability!

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## INSTALLING TO A CONNECTED CIRCUITPYTHON DEVICE WITH CIRCUP

Make sure that you have `circup` installed in your Python environment. Install it with the following command if necessary:

```
pip3 install circup
```

With `circup` installed and your CircuitPython device connected use the following command to install:

```
circup install displayio_dial
```

Or the following command to update an existing version:

```
circup update
```



## USAGE EXAMPLE

See scripts in the examples directory of this repository.



## CONTRIBUTING

Contributions are welcome! Please read our [Code of Conduct](#) before contributing to help this project stay welcoming.



## DOCUMENTATION

For information on building library documentation, please check out [this guide](#).



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### 7.1 Simple test

Ensure your device works with this simple test.

Listing 1: examples/displayio\_dial\_simpletest.py

```
1  # SPDX-FileCopyrightText: 2021 Kevin Matocha
2  #
3  # SPDX-License-Identifier: MIT
4  #####
5  """
6  This is a basic demonstration of a Dial widget.
7  """
8
9  import time
10 import board
11 import displayio
12 import terminalio
13 from displayio_dial import Dial
14
15 # Fonts used for the Dial tick labels
16 tick_font = terminalio.FONT
17
18 display = board.DISPLAY # create the display on the PyPortal or Clue (for example)
19 # otherwise change this to setup the display
20 # for display chip driver and pinout you have (e.g. ILI9341)
21
22
23 # Define the minimum and maximum values for the dial
24 minimum_value = 0
25 maximum_value = 100
26
27 # Create a Dial widget
28 my_dial = Dial(
29     x=20, # set x-position of the dial inside of my_group
30     y=20, # set y-position of the dial inside of my_group
31     width=180, # requested width of the dial
32     height=180, # requested height of the dial
33     padding=25, # add 25 pixels around the dial to make room for labels
34     start_angle=-120, # left angle position at -120 degrees
```

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```
35     sweep_angle=240, # total sweep angle of 240 degrees
36     min_value=minimum_value, # set the minimum value shown on the dial
37     max_value=maximum_value, # set the maximum value shown on the dial
38     tick_label_font=tick_font, # the font used for the tick labels
39     tick_label_scale=2.0, # the scale factor for the tick label font
40 )
41
42 my_group = displayio.Group()
43 my_group.append(my_dial)
44
45 display.show(my_group) # add high level Group to the display
46
47 step_size = 1
48
49 while True:
50
51     # run the dial from minimum to maximum
52     for this_value in range(minimum_value, maximum_value + 1, step_size):
53         my_dial.value = this_value
54         display.refresh() # force the display to refresh
55     time.sleep(0.5)
56
57     # run the dial from maximum to minimum
58     for this_value in range(maximum_value, minimum_value - 1, -step_size):
59         my_dial.value = this_value
60         display.refresh() # force the display to refresh
61     time.sleep(0.5)
```

## 7.2 displayio\_dial

A dial gauge widget for displaying graphical information.

- Author(s): Kevin Matocha

### 7.2.1 Implementation Notes

**Hardware:**

**Software and Dependencies:**

- Adafruit CircuitPython firmware for the supported boards: <https://github.com/adafruit/circuitpython/releases>

```
class displayio_dial.Dial(width=100, height=100, padding=12, sweep_angle=90, start_angle=None,
    clip_needle=False, needle_width=7, needle_color=8912896, limit_rotation=True,
    value=None, value_font=None, display_value=False, value_color=16711680,
    value_format_string=':0.0f', min_value=0.0, max_value=100.0,
    anchor_point=None, anchored_position=None, tick_color=16777215,
    major_ticks=5, major_tick_stroke=3, major_tick_length=10,
    major_tick_labels=('0', '25', '50', '75', '100'), minor_ticks=5, minor_tick_stroke=1,
    minor_tick_length=5, tick_label_font=None, tick_label_color=16777215,
    rotate_tick_labels=True, tick_label_scale=1.0, background_color=None,
    value_label_anchor_point=(0.5, -1.0), value_label_anchor_on_widget=(0.5, 0.5),
    **kwargs)
```

A dial widget. The origin is set using `x` and `y`.

### Parameters

- **`x`** (*int*) – pixel position
- **`y`** (*int*) – pixel position
- **`width`** (*int*) – requested width, in pixels
- **`height`** (*int*) – requested height, in pixels
- **`padding`** (*int*) – keep out padding amount around the border, in pixels, default is 12
- **`sweep_angle`** (*float*) – dial rotation, in degrees, maximum value is 360 degrees, default is 90 degrees
- **`start_angle`** (*float*) – starting angle, in degrees. Set to `None` for symmetry along vertical axis. Vertical is defined as 0 degrees. Negative values are counter-clockwise degrees; positive values are clockwise degrees. Defaults to `None`.
- **`min_value`** (*float*) – the minimum value displayed on the dial, default is 0.0
- **`max_value`** (*float*) – the maximum value displayed the dial, default is 100.0
- **`value`** (*float*) – the value to display (if `None`, defaults to `min_value`)
- **`display_value`** (*Boolean*) – set `True` to display a value label on the dial
- **`value_font`** (*Font*) – the font for the value label, defaults to `terminalio.FONT`
- **`value_color`** (*int*) – the color for the value label, defaults to `0xFF0000`
- **`value_format_string`** (*str*) – the format string for displaying the value label (defaults to `':0.0f'` to show the value rounded to the nearest whole number)
- **`value_label_anchor_point`** (*((float, float))*) – anchor point on the label, default value is `(0.5, -1.0)` where the y-value of `-1.0` signifies the text baseline
- **`value_label_anchor_point_on_widget`** (*((float, float))*) – anchor point on the widget where the label will be placed, default value is `(0.5, 0.5)`
- **`needle_width`** (*int*) – requested pixel width of the triangular needle, default = 7
- **`needle_color`** (*int*) – color value for the needle, defaults to red (`0xFF0000`)
- **`limit_rotation`** (*Boolean*) – Set `True` to limit needle rotation to between the `min_value` and `max_value`, set to `False` for unlimited rotation, default is `True`
- **`tick_color`** (*int*) – tick line color (24-bit hex value), defaults to `0xFFFFFFFF`
- **`major_ticks`** (*int*) – number of major ticks, default = 5
- **`major_tick_stroke`** (*int*) – major tick line stroke width, in pixels, default = 3

- **major\_tick\_length** (*int*) – major tick length, in pixels, default = 10
- **major\_tick\_labels** (*str*) – array of strings for the major tick labels, default is (“0”, “25”, “50”, “75”, “100”)
- **tick\_label\_scale** (*float*) – the scaling of the tick labels, default = 1.0
- **tick\_label\_font** (*Font*) – font to be used for major tick labels, default is `terminalio.FONT`
- **tick\_label\_color** (*int*) – color for the major tick labels, default is 0xFFFFFF
- **angle\_tick\_labels** (*Boolean*) – set True to rotate the major tick labels to match the tick angle, default is True
- **minor\_ticks** (*int*) – number of minor ticks (per major tick), default = 5
- **minor\_tick\_stroke** (*int*) – minor tick line stroke width, in pixels, default = 1
- **minor\_tick\_length** (*int*) – minor tick length, in pixels, default = 5
- **background\_color** (*int*) – background color (RGB tuple or 24-bit hex value), set `None` for transparent, default is `None`
- **anchor\_point** ((*float*, *float*)) – (X,Y) values from 0.0 to 1.0 to define the dial’s anchor point relative to the dial’s bounding box
- **anchored\_position** ((*int*, *int*)) – (x,y) pixel value for the location of the *anchor\_point*

#### Simple example of dial and moving needle

See file: `examples/displayio_layout_dial_simpletest.py`

Fig. 1: This is a diagram of a dial widget with the needle moving from its minimum to maximum positions.

Create a Group of a given size and scale. Scale is in one dimension. For example, `scale=2` leads to a layer’s pixel being 2x2 pixels when in the group.

**resize**(*new\_width*, *new\_height*)

Resizes the dial dimensions to the maximum size that will fit within the requested bounding box size (*new\_width*, *new\_height*)

#### Parameters

- **new\_width** (*int*) – requested width, in pixels
- **new\_height** (*int*) – requested height, in pixels

**property value**

The dial’s value.

**property value\_font**

The font used for the value’s label.

**property value\_color**

The font color used for the value’s label.

**property dial\_center**

The (x,y) pixel location of the dial’s center of rotation.

**property dial\_radius**

The length of the dial’s radius, in pixels.

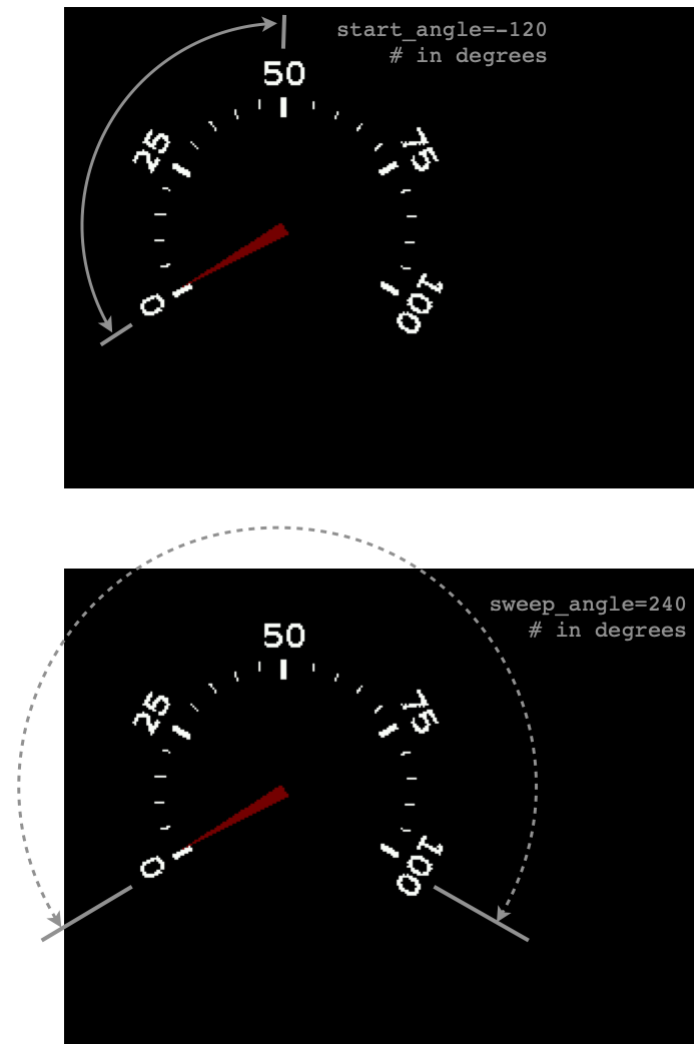


Fig. 2: Diagram showing the definition of `start_angle` and `sweep_angle`, both are in units of degrees.

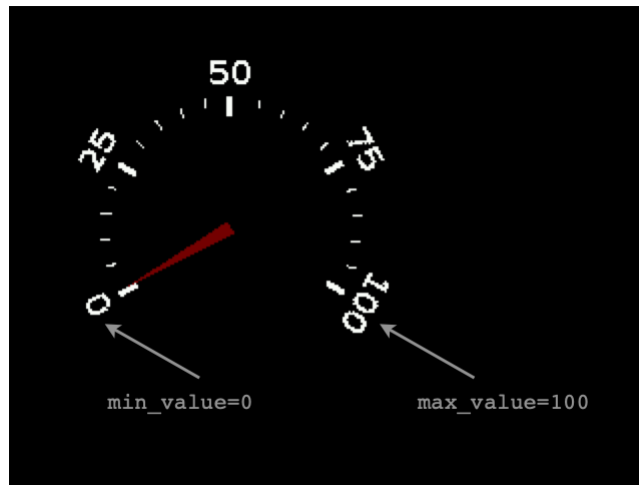


Fig. 3: Diagram showing the defintion of min\_value and max\_value.

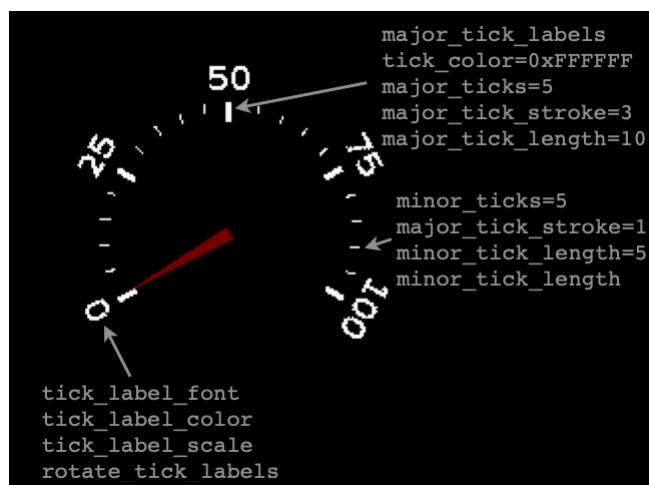


Fig. 4: Diagram showing the various parameters for setting the dial labels and major and minor tick marks.

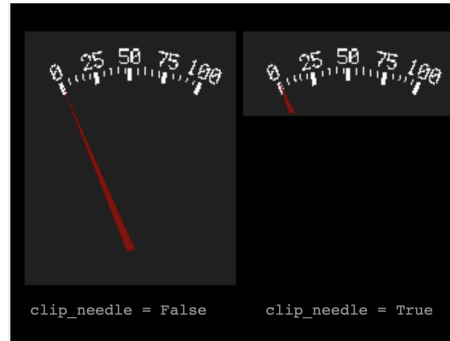


Fig. 5: Diagram showing the impact of the `clip_needle` input parameter, with the dial's boundary shown. For `sweep_angle` values less than 180 degrees, the needle can protrude a long way from the dial ticks. By setting `clip_needle = True`, the needle graphic will be clipped at the edge of the dial boundary (see comparison in the graphic above). The left dial is created with `clip_needle = False`, meaning that the dial is not clipped. The right dial is created with `clip_needle = True` and the needle is clipped at the edge of the dial. Use additional padding to expose more length of needle, even when clipped.

**property start\_angle**

The starting angle of the dial, in degrees.

**property sweep\_angle**

The sweep angle of the dial, in degrees.

**property anchor\_point**

The anchor point for positioning the widget, works in concert with [anchored\\_position](#) The relative (X,Y) position of the widget where the `anchored_position` is placed. For example (0.0, 0.0) is the Widget's upper left corner, (0.5, 0.5) is the Widget's center point, and (1.0, 1.0) is the Widget's lower right corner.

**Parameters** `anchor_point` (`Tuple[float, float]`) – In relative units of the Widget size.

**property anchored\_position**

The anchored position (in pixels) for positioning the widget, works in concert with [anchor\\_point](#). The [anchored\\_position](#) is the x,y pixel position for the placement of the Widget's [anchor\\_point](#).

**Parameters** `anchored_position` (`Tuple[int, int]`) – The (x,y) pixel position for the anchored\_position (in pixels).

**append(layer)**

Append a layer to the group. It will be drawn above other layers.

**property bounding\_box**

The boundary of the widget. [x, y, width, height] in Widget's local coordinates (in pixels). (getter only)

**Returns** `Tuple[int, int, int, int]`

**property height**

The widget height, in pixels. (getter only)

**Returns** `int`

**property hidden**

True when the Group and all of it's layers are not visible. When False, the Group's layers are visible if they haven't been hidden.

**index(layer)**

Returns the index of the first copy of layer. Raises `ValueError` if not found.

**insert**(*index, layer*)

Insert a layer into the group.

**pop**(*index=- 1*)

Remove the *i*th item and return it.

**remove**(*layer*)

Remove the first copy of *layer*. Raises `ValueError` if it is not present.

**property scale**

Scales each pixel within the Group in both directions. For example, when `scale=2` each pixel will be represented by 2x2 pixels.

**update\_transform**(*parent\_transform*)

Update the parent transform and child transforms

**property width**

The widget width, in pixels. (getter only)

**Returns** `int`

**property x**

X position of the Group in the parent.

**property y**

Y position of the Group in the parent.

`displayio_dial.draw_ticks(target_bitmap, *, dial_center, dial_radius, tick_count, tick_stroke, tick_length, start_angle, sweep_angle, tick_color_index=2)`

Helper function for drawing ticks on the dial widget. Can be used to customize the dial face.

#### Parameters

- **target\_bitmap** (*displayio.Bitmap*) – Bitmap where ticks will be drawn into
- **dial\_center** ((*int, int*)) – the (x,y) pixel location in the bitmap of the dial’s center of rotation
- **dial\_radius** (*int*) – the radius of the dial (not including padding), in pixels
- **tick\_count** (*int*) – number of ticks to be drawn
- **tick\_stroke** (*int*) – the pixel width of the line used to draw the tick
- **start\_angle** (*float*) – starting angle of the dial, in degrees
- **sweep\_angle** (*float*) – total sweep angle of the dial, in degrees
- **tick\_color\_index** (*int*) – the bitmap’s color index that should be used for drawing the tick marks

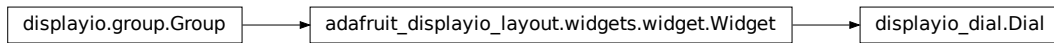
`displayio_dial.draw_labels(target_bitmap, *, font, font_height, tick_labels, dial_center, dial_radius, start_angle, sweep_angle, rotate_labels=True, tick_label_scale=1.0)`

Helper function for drawing text labels on the dial widget. Can be used to customize the dial face.

#### Parameters

- **target\_bitmap** (*displayio.Bitmap*) – Bitmap where ticks will be drawn into
- **font** (*Font*) – the font to be used to draw the tick mark text labels
- **font\_height** (*int*) – the height of the font, used for text placement
- **tick\_labels** (*List[str]*) – a list of strings for the tick text labels

- **dial\_center** ((*int*, *int*)) – the (x,y) pixel location in the bitmap of the dial’s center of rotation
- **dial\_radius** (*int*) – the radius of the dial (not including padding), in pixels
- **tick\_count** (*int*) – number of ticks to be drawn
- **tick\_stroke** (*int*) – the pixel width of the line used to draw the tick
- **start\_angle** (*float*) – starting angle of the dial, in degrees
- **sweep\_angle** (*float*) – total sweep angle of the dial, in degrees
- **rotate\_labels** (*bool*) – set to True if you want the label text to be rotated to align with the tick marks
- **tick\_label\_scale** (*float*) – scale factor for the tick text labels, default is 1.0





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