

Scheduling for Philips Hue using a Raspberry Pi Computer

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January, 2016

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What the scheduler can do

- Turn lights or groups of lights on/off according to predefined schedule
- Change/set characteristics of lights such as color, brightness, transition time
- Makes use of free publicly available software (plus the code I've written)
- If you can install software on a Raspberry Pi computer, you can use this program

How times can be specified

- Exact times in 24 hour format
- Times relative to local sunrise/sunset
- Times can be modified by a random value in a specified range
- Times can be different for different days of the week or days of the month
- Easy to change the schedule – e.g. you want a different schedule when you are out of town

Other features

- Sends email to specified address if errors are encountered
- Keeps logs of all actions for review
- Handles Daylight Saving Time changes automatically
- Does not interfere with control of Hue lights by other devices

Installation

- All the code and documentation is online – download from <http://tfmcbride.net/lights>
- Set up a user on the RPi to run the software (I called mine “lights”)
- Just download the code to your user’s home directory, edit three configuration files and you are essentially ready to go
- Some setup is needed to authorize sending email notes if errors are encountered