

# NRC7292 Evaluation Kit User Guide (OpenWrt) Ultra-low power & Long-range Wi-Fi

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# NEWRACOM, Inc.

# NRC7292 Evaluation Kit User Guide (OpenWrt) Ultra-low power & Long-range Wi-Fi

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# Office

Newracom, Inc. 25361 Commercentre Drive, Lake Forest, CA 92630 USA http://www.newracom.com

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# **1** Overview

### **1.1 Introduction**

OpenWrt (OPEN Wireless RouTer) is an open source project for embedded operating systems based on Linux, primarily used on embedded devices to route network traffic. All components have been optimized to be small enough to fit into the limited storage and memory available in home routers.

OpenWrt is configured using a command-line interface (ash shell), or a web interface (LuCI). There are about 3500 optional software packages available for installation via the opkg package management system.



Figure 1.1 OpenWrt login screen

### **1.2** Device configuration

An RPi3 host is required to run OpenWrt on an NRC7292 module. The DIP switch on the module must be set to HHLLLH.



Figure 1.2 OpenWrt Device and DIP Switch Configuration

# 2 Start Guide for Image Building

#### 2.1 Dependencies

Make sure all the required dependencies are installed (on Debian/Ubuntu):

```
$ sudo apt-get update
$ sudo apt-get install subversion g++ zliblg-dev build-essential git python
python3 python3-distutils libncurses5-dev gawk gettext unzip file libss1-dev
wget libelf-dev ecj fastjar java-propose-classpath
```

For Ubuntu 18.04 or later:

\$ sudo apt-get install build-essential libncursesw5-dev python unzip gawk

### 2.2 Get the OpenWrt source code

Clone the OpenWrt repository and ckeck out the release version.

For OpenWRT 19.07.7

```
$ cd ~
$ git clone https://git.openwrt.org/openwrt/openwrt.git
$ cd openwrt
$ git tag
$ git checkout -b tag-v19.07.7 v19.07.7
```

For OpenWRT 21.02.1

```
$ cd ~
$ git clone https://git.openwrt.org/openwrt/openwrt.git
$ cd openwrt
$ git tag
$ git checkout -b tag-v21.02.1 v21.02.1
```

#### 2.3 Patch

Apply the Newracom patch files. The file "openwrt-19.07.7-patches.tar.bz2" (for 19.07.7) and "openwrt-21.02.1-patches.tar.bz2" (for 21.02.1) are located in "NRC7292\_SW\_PKG/nrc7292\_openwrt" folder.

For OpenWRT 19.07.7,

```
$ cp openwrt-19.07.7-patches.tar.bz2 ~/
$ cd ~/
$ tar -xjvf openwrt-19.07.7-patches.tar.bz2
$ cp -a openwrt-19.07.7-patches/* ~/openwrt
$ cd ~/openwrt
```

For OpenWRT 21.02.1,

```
$ cp openwrt-21.02.1-patches.tar.bz2 ~/
$ cd ~/
$ tar -xjvf openwrt-21.02.1-patches.tar.bz2
$ cp -a openwrt-21.02.1-patches/* ~/openwrt
$ cd ~/openwrt
```



Figure 2.3 Patch file lists

- dl/newracom-openwrt-19.07.7-backports-driver.tar.bz2



NRC7292 host driver sources for the Backports package.

This file is extracted into "build\_dir/target-aarch64\_cortex-a53\_musl/linuxbrcm2708\_bcm2710/backports-4.19.98-1" directory by "pacakge/kernel/mac80211/Makefile" file.

The original files in the Backports pacakge are modifiled to build the NRC7292 host driver.

drivers/net/wireless/Kconfig 41 source "drivers/net/wireless/mediatek/Kconfig" 42 source "drivers/net/wireless/newracom/Kconfig" 43 source "drivers/net/wireless/ralink/Kconfig"

drivers/net/wireless/Makefile

14 obj-\$(CPTCFG\_WLAN\_VENDOR\_MEDIATEK) += mediatek/ 15 obj-\$(CPTCFG\_WLAN\_VENDOR\_NEWRACOM) += newracom/ 16 obj-\$(CPTCFG\_WLAN\_VENDOR\_RALINK) += ralink/

- package/kernel/mac80211/Makefile

The original file in the OpenWRT is modified to build the NRC7292 host driver.

Line 35 24 PKG\_DRIVERS = 25 26 27 28 29 30 adm8211 \ airo \ hermes hermes-pci hermes-pcmcia hermes-plx\ lib80211 \ mac80211-hwsim \ mt7601u \ p54-common p54-pci p54-usb \ rsi91x rsi91x-usb rsi91x-sdio\ wlcore wl12xx wl18xx \ 31 32 33 34 zd1211rw \ 35 nrc7292

Line 82

58	config-y:= \
59	WLAN \
60	NL80211_TESTMODE \
61	CFG80211_WEXT \
62	CFG80211_CERTIFICATION_ONUS \
63	MAC80211_RC_MINSTREL \
64	MAC80211_RC_MINSTREL_HT \
65	MAC80211_RC_MINSTREL_VHT \
66	MAC80211_RC_DEFAULT_MINSTREL \
67	WLAN_VENDOR_ADMTEK \
68	WLAN_VENDOR_ATH \
69	WLAN_VENDOR_ATMEL \
70	WLAN_VENDOR_BROADCOM \
71	WLAN_VENDOR_CISCO \
72	WLAN_VENDOR_INTEL \
73	WLAN_VENDOR_INTERSIL \
74	WLAN_VENDOR_MARVELL \
75	WLAN_VENDOR_MEDIATEK \
76	WLAN_VENDOR_RALINK \
77	WLAN_VENDOR_REALTEK \
78	WLAN_VENDOR_RSI \
79	WLAN_VENDOR_ST \
80	WLAN_VENDOR_TI \
81	WLAN_VENDOR_ZYDAS \
82	WLAN_VENDOR_NEWRACOM \

Line 383 .. 389

383	define KernelPackage/nrc7292
384	<pre>\$(call KernelPackage/mac80211/Default)</pre>
385	TITLE:=Newracom 802.11ah Wi-Fi halow driver
386	<pre>DEPENDS+= @TARGET_brcm2708 +kmod-mac80211 +kmod-spi-bcm2835 +@DRIVER_11N_SUPPORT</pre>
387	<pre>FILES:=\$(PKG_BUILD_DIR)/drivers/net/wireless/newracom/nrc7292/nrc7292.ko</pre>
388	AUTOLOAD:=\$(call AutoProbe,nrc7292)
389	endef

Line 460

457	<pre>\$(TAR) -C \$(PKG_BUILD_DIR) -xzf \$(DL_DIR)/\$(IPW2100_NAME)-\$(IPW2100_VERSION).tgz</pre>
458	\$(TAR) -C \$(PKG_BUILD_DIR) -xzf \$(DL_DIR)/\$(IPW2200_NAME)-\$(IPW2200_VERSION).tgz
459	<pre>\$(TAR) -C \$(PKG_BUILD_DIR) -xjf \$(DL_DIR)/\$(ZD1211FW_NAME)-\$(ZD1211FW_VERSION).tar.bz2</pre>
460	<pre>\$(TAR) -C \$(PKG_BUILD_DIR)overwrite -xjf \$(DL_DIR)/newracom-openwrt-19.07.2-backports-driver.tar.bz2</pre>

Line 571 .. 574

571	define KernelPackage/nrc7292/install
572	<pre>\$(INSTALL_DIR) \$(1)/lib/firmware</pre>
573	<pre>\$(INSTALL_DATA) \$(PKG_BUILD_DIR)/drivers/net/wireless/newracom/nrc7292/firmware/* \$(1)/lib/firmware</pre>
574	endef

#### target/linux/brcm2708/image/config.txt

The original file in the OpenWRT is modified to disable Broadcom Wi-Fi/BT driver and User mode SPI driver.



- target/linux/brcm2708/image/dtoverlays

Device Tree Blob Overlay files

#### - target/linux/brcm2708/image/Makefile

The original file in the OpenWRT is modified to copy the Device Tree Blob Overlay files to /boot/overalys directory in Root File system.

39	<pre>\$(foreach dts,\$(shell echo \$(DEVICE_DTS)),mcopy -i \$@.boot \$(DTS_DIR)/\$(dts).dtb ::;)</pre>
40	mmd -i <b>\$@</b> .boot ::/overlays
41	<pre>mcopy -i \$@.boot \$(DTS_DIR)/overlays/*.dtbo ::/overlays/</pre>
42	<pre>mcopy -i \$@.boot \$(DTS_DIR)/overlays/README ::/overlays/</pre>
43	<pre>mcopy -i \$@.boot ./dtoverlays/* ::/overlays/</pre>

#### 2.4 Update

Update and install package information.

```
$ ./scripts/feeds update -a
$ ./scripts/feeds install -a
```

### 2.5 Configuration

Configure the target system.

#### \$ make menuconfig

For Openwrt 19.07.7, (Target System -> Broadcom BCM27xx) (Subtarget -> BCM2710 64 bit based boards) (Target Profile -> Raspberry pi 3B/3B+)

Target System (Broadcom BCM27xx) ---> Subtarget (BCM2710 64 bit based boards) ---> Target Profile (Raspberry Pi 3B/3B+) --->

For Openwrt 21.02.1, (Target System -> Broadcom BCM27xx) (Subtarget -> BCM2710 boards (64 bit)) (Target Profile -> Raspberry pi 3B/3B+/3CM (64bit))

```
Target System (Broadcom BCM27xx) --->
Subtarget (BCM2710 boards (64 bit)) --->
Target Profile (Raspberry Pi 3B/3B+/3CM (64bit)) --->
```

Create a ".config" file with default options from the ARCH supplied defconfig.

\$ make defconfig

#### Additional setup:

- Disable Broadcom Wi-Fi driver module
- Enable Newracom Wi-Fi Halow driver module
- Enable LuCI for WebUI
- Enable Iperf for perfomance measurment

\$ make menuconfig

(Kernel modules -> Wireless Drivers)

< >	kmod-ath9k-htc Atheros 802.11n USB device support
< >	kmod-brcmfmac Broadcom IEEE802.11n USB FullMAC WLAN driver
< >	kmod-brcmutildroadcom IEEE802.11n common driver parts
< >	kmod-carl9170 Uriver for Atheros AR9170 USB sticks
-*-	<pre>kmod-cfg80211 cfg80211 - wireless configuration API</pre>
< >	kmod-lib80211 802.11 Networking stack
< >	kmod-libertas-sdio Marvell 88W8686 Wireless Driver
< >	<pre>kmod-libertas-spi Marvell 88W8686 SPI Wireless Driver</pre>
< >	kmod-libertas-usb Marvell 88W8015 Wireless Driver
-*-	kmod-mac80211 Linux 802.11 Wireless Networking Stack.
< >	kmod-mac80211-hwsim device
< >	kmod-mt7601u MT7601U-based USB dongles Wireless Driver
< >	kmod-mt76x0u MediaTek MT76x0U wireless driver
< >	kmod-mt76x2u MediaTek MT76x2U wireless driver
< >	kmod-mwifiex-sdio
< >	<pre>kmod-net-rtl8192su RTL8192SU support (staging)</pre>
<*>	kmod-nrc7292 halow driver
< >	<pre>kmod-p54-common Prism54 Drivers (COMMON)</pre>

(LuCI -> 1. Collections)

<*	>	luci	LUCI	inter	face 1	with	Uhttp	d as	Webs	егче	г	(default)
<	>	luci-nginx			LUCI	inte	erface	with	Ngi	nx a	S	Webserver
<	>	luci-ssl	LUC	I with	HTTP	s sup	pport	(mbed	TLS	as S	SL	backend)
<	>	luci-ssl-nginx. LuCI wit	h HT	TPS su	pport	on I	Nginx	(Open	SSL	as S	SL	backend)
<	>	luci-ssl-openssl	LUC	I with	HTTP	s sup	pport	(Open	SSL	as S	SL	backend)

(Network)

<*>	lperf	Internet	Protocol	bandwidth	measuring	tool
<*>	iperf3	Internet	Protocol	bandwidth	measuring	tool

### 2.6 Build

\$ make download

\$ make

Package and patch files are saved in 'dl' directory **Build image path:** bin/targets/brcm2708/bcm2710 (for 19.07.7) **Build image path:** bin/targets/bcm27xx/bcm2710 (for 21.02.1) **Name:** openwrt-brcm2708-bcm2710-rpi-3-ext4-factory.img.gz

	config.buildinfo
	feeds.buildinfo
<u> </u>	openwrt-brcm2708-bcm2710-device-rpi-3.manifest
	openwrt-brcm2708-bcm2710-rpi-3-ext4-factory.img.gz
	openwrt-brcm2708-bcm2710-rpi-3-ext4-sysupgrade.img.gz
	openwrt-brcm2708-bcm2710-rpi-3-squashfs-factory.img.gz
	openwrt-brcm2708-bcm2710-rpi-3-squashfs-sysupgrade.img.gz
	packages
	sha256sums
	version.buildinfo

Figure 2.4 Build images

### 2.7 Cloning the SD card

Launch Win32DiskImager and provide the path to the image file. Click the "Write" button to start writing the image to the SD card.

👒 Win32 Disk Imager - 1.0	—		$\times$
Image File		Device	
_image/openwrt-brcm2708-bcm2710-rpi-3-ext4-factory,img	2		•
Hash			
None - Generate Copy			
Read Only Allocated Dartitions			
Progress			
Cancel Read Write Verify Only	1	Exit	t

Figure 2.5 Cloning the image

#### 2.8 Run

The Newracom Wi-Fi Halow driver module (wlan0) will be loaded during kernel loading.

```
$ ifconfig -a
```

br-lan	Link encap:Ethernet HWaddr B8:27:EB:EB:60:AA inet addr:192.168.123.24 Bcast:192.168.123.255 Mask:255.255.255.0 inet6 addr: fe80::ba27:ebff:feeb:60aa/64 Scope:Link inet6 addr: fd7b:14ab:8b12::1/60 Scope:Global UP BROADCAST RUNNING MULTICAST MTU:1500 Metric:1 RX packets:483 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 frame:0 TX packets:121 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 carrier:0 collisions:0 txqueuelen:1000 RX bytes:201230 (196.5 KiB) TX bytes:31632 (30.8 KiB)
eth0	Link encap:Ethernet HWaddr B8:27:EB:EB:60:AA UP BROADCAST RUNNING MULTICAST MTU:1500 Metric:1 RX packets:494 errors:0 dropped:1 overruns:0 frame:0 TX packets:137 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 carrier:0 collisions:0 txqueuelen:1000 RX bytes:212170 (207.1 KiB) TX bytes:33712 (32.9 KiB)
lo	Link encap:Local Loopback inet addr:127.0.0.1 Mask:255.0.0.0 inet6 addr: ::1/128 Scope:Host UP LOOPBACK RUNNING MTU:65536 Metric:1 RX packets:88 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 frame:0 TX packets:88 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 carrier:0 collisions:0 txqueuelen:1000 RX bytes:6517 (6.3 KiB) TX bytes:6517 (6.3 KiB)
wlan0	Link encap:Ethernet HWaddr 02:00:EB:EB:60:AB BROADCAST MULTICAST MTU:1500 Metric:1 RX packets:0 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 frame:0 TX packets:0 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 carrier:0 collisions:0 txqueuelen:1000 RX bytes:0 (0.0 B) TX bytes:0 (0.0 B)

Figure 2.6 interface after kernel loading

Default IP of the bridge network is 192.168.1.1 A dynamic Ethernet IP can be allocated by enabling the DHCP client:

```
$ uci set network.lan.proto=dhcp
```

- \$ uci commit
- \$ /etc/init.d/network restart

#### 2.9 Configuration via Web UI

Open a browser and navigate to the web server (default address: <u>http://192.168.1.1</u>). The default Username is "root", and the default Password is blank.

OpenWrt	
No password set! There is no password set on this	router. Please configure a root password to protect the web interface.
Authorization Rev Please enter your username and p	quired password.
Username Password	root
	Login

Powered by LuCl openwrt-19.07 branch (git-21.044.30835-34e0d65) / OpenWrt 19.07.7 r11306-c4a6851c72

#### Move the "Network -> Wireless" page.

OpenWrt	Status - System - Network -	Logout				REFRESHING
No password There is no passw	<b>set!</b> rord set on this router. Please config	jure a root password	to protect the web	interface.		
Wireless Ove	rview					
👷 radio(	Generic 802.11abg Device is not active	In		Restart	Scan	Add
disable	d SSID: OpenWrt   Mode Wireless is disabled	: Master		Enable	Edit	Remove
Associated S	tations					
Network	MAC-Address	Host	Signal / Noi	se	RX Rate / TX Rate	
No information available						
					Save & Apply -	Save Reset
Powered by LuCl o	penwrt-19.07 branch (git-21.044.30	835-34e0d65) / Oper	nWrt 19.07.7 r1130	6-c4a6851c72		

Press the "Enable" button to enable the wireless network.

OpenWrt	Status <del>-</del>	System <del>-</del>	Network -	Logout				REFRESHING
No passwor There is no pas	r <b>d set!</b> sword set on t	his router. P	Please configu	re a root password	to protect the web interface.			
Wireless Ov	verview							
Image: Second system         Generic 802.11abgn           Channel: 36 (5.180 GHz)   Bitrate: ? Mbit/s				Restart	Scan	Add		
di/-92	SSID: OpenWrt   Mode: Master BSSID: 8C:0F:FA:00:27:D0   Encryption: None				Disable	Edit	Remove	
Associated	Stations							
Network	MAG	C-Address		Host	Signal / Noise	RX Ra	te / TX Rate	
No information available								
						Save &	Apply - Sa	ave Reset

Powered by LuCl openwrt-19.07 branch (git-21.044.30835-34e0d65) / OpenWrt 19.07.7 r11306-c4a6851c72

#### On the same page, press the "Edit" button to configure the wireless network.

Device Con	figuration											
General Setup	Advanced Settin	ngs										
	Status	7/-92 dBm	Mode: Ma BSSID: 80 Encryptio Channel: Tx-Power Signal: 7 Bitrate: 6	aster   <b>SSID:</b> Ope C:0F:FA:00:27:D0 <b>on:</b> None 36 (5.180 GHz) : 30 dBm dBm   <b>Noise:</b> -92 .0 Mbit/s   Count	nWrt ) 2 dBm r <b>y:</b> 00							
Wireless netw	vork is enabled	Disable										
		Mode	Band	Channel		Width						
Opera	ating frequency	N 🗸	5 GHz	✓ 36 (5180 Mł	nz) 🗸	20 MHz 🗸	·					
Maximum	transmit power	driver defa	ault	✓ - Current pow	er: 30	dBm						
		Specifi wireles	es the max s usage, th	kimum transmit p ne actual transmi	ower th t powe	ie wireless ra r may be red	adio may luced by f	use. Depe the driver.	ending on I	regulatory re	equirements	s and

Interface Co	onfiguration						
General Setup	Wireless Securit	ty MAC-Filter Advanced Settings					
	Mode	Access Point 🗸					
	ESSID	OpenWrt					
	Network	Ian: Image: I					
	Hide ESSID						
	WMM Mode						
Next, select a	nd contigure	as follows:					
Country Code : Device Configuration -> Advanced Settings							

×

US - United States

Operation frequency : Device Configuration -> General Setup

	Mode	Band	Channel	Width
Operating frequency	N 🗸	5 GHz 🗸	165 (5825 Mhz) 🗸	20 MHz 🗸

#### ESSID : Interface Configuration -> General Setup

ESSID

Country Code

OpenWrt

Encryption/Cypher/Key : Interface Configuration -> Wireless Security

Encryption	WPA2-PSK (strong security)	•	
Cipher	auto	~	
Key		*	

Save and apply the changes.

OpenWrt Status	s - System - Networ	k <del>-</del> Logout			REFRESHING	
No password set! There is no password set	et on this router. Please co	nfigure a root password to	protect the web interface	9.		
	Generic 802.11abg	IN		Destant	A 44	
w radiou	Channel: 165 (5.825 G	Hz)   Bitrate: ? Mbit/s	Restart	Add		
/-92 dBm	SSID: OpenWrt   Mode: Master BSSID: 80:0F:FA:00:27:D0   Encryption: WPA2 PSK (CCMP)			Disable	Remove	
Associated Stations						
Network	MAC-Address	Host	Signal / Noise	RX Rate / TX Rate		
No information available						
				Save & Apply - Save	Reset	

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# 3 Channel Table (US)

The current release supports additional US channels. Table 3.1 lists supported US channels and their corresponding channel indices.

Available frequency band index	Bandwidth (MHz)	Sub-1GHz frequency	2.4 / 5G frequency
1	1	902.5	2412
3	1	903.5	2422
5	1	904.5	2432
7	1	905.5	2442
9	1	906.5	2452
11	1	907.5	2462
36	1	908.5	5180
37	1	909.5	5185
38	1	910.5	5190
39	1	911.5	5195
40	1	912.5	5200
41	1	913.5	5205
42	1	914.5	5210
43	1	915.5	5215
44	1	916.5	5220
45	1	917.5	5225
46	1	918.5	5230
47	1	919.5	5235
48	1	920.5	5240
149	1	921.5	5745
150	1	922.5	5750
151	1	923.5	5755
152	1	924.5	5760
100	1	925.5	5500
104	1	926.5	5520
108	1	927.5	5540
2	2	903	2417
6	2	905	2437
10	2	907	2457
153	2	909	5765
154	2	911	5770
155	2	913	5775
156	2	915	5780

Table 3.1 Available frequency band and corresponding channel for US

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157	2	917	5785
158	2	919	5790
159	2	921	5795
160	2	923	5800
161 (Default)	2	925	5805
112	2	927	5560
8	4	906	2447
162	4	910	5810
163	4	914	5815
164	4	918	5820
165	4	922	5825
116	4	926	5580

4 Reference

OpenWRT Build system: https://openwrt.org/docs/guide-developer/build-system/start

- Install: https://openwrt.org/docs/guide-developer/build-system/install-buildsystem
- Usage: <u>https://openwrt.org/docs/guide-developer/build-system/use-buildsystem</u>

OpenWRT Wiki: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/OpenWrt

# **5** Revision history

<b>Revision No</b>	Date	Comments
Ver 1.0	5/1/2020	Initial version for customer release created
Ver 1.1	8/2/2021	OpenWrt version changed (19.07.2 -> 19.07.7)
Ver 1.2	10/29/2021	nrc7292 F/W update to 1.3.4. Added support for OpenWRT version 21.02.1