

# **\$10 Raspberry Pi Zero W is new Raspberry Pi Zero variant with wireless WAN and Bluetooth**

March 1 2017, by Nancy Owano

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(Tech Xplore)—Raspberry Pi had a Tuesday announcement that put many a Raspberry Pi supporter in a birthday kind of mood.

"Today is Raspberry Pi's fifth birthday: it's five years since we launched

the original Raspberry Pi."

They announced the Pi Zero W, which in essence means that the little Raspberry Pi Zero is going [wireless](#), now with WiFi and Bluetooth capability.

A video was posted of the announcement of the Pi Zero W: wireless LAN and Bluetooth for only \$10.

Adnan Farooqui in *Ubergizmo* remarked that "Raspberry is keeping the original Zero board at \$5 but since the Zero W has [additional](#) functionality, it's going to cost \$10. The Foundation is also selling new injection molded cases with interchangeable lids."

The group launched the Raspberry Pi Zero in 2015, but this Raspberry Pi Zero W, [said](#) Jon Brodtkin in *Ars Technica*, is a newer version that, yes, lacks "some niceties" such as Ethernet and full-sized USB-A ports but is cheaper than the flagship.

Brodtkin said the new Pi Zero W "is almost identical to the original, but doubles the price to \$10 and adds a [wireless chip](#) that supports 802.11b/g/n Wi-Fi (2.4GHz-only) and Bluetooth 4.0."

According to the Raspberry Pi [announcers](#), the Raspberry Pi Zero, since its launch, had found its way "into everything from miniature arcade cabinets to electric skateboards."

The Raspberry Pi Zero W was called a new variant of the \$5 Raspberry Pi Zero, priced now at \$10.

Zero W uses the same Cypress CYW43438 wireless chip as Raspberry Pi 3 Model B to provide 802.11n wireless LAN and Bluetooth 4.0 connectivity.

What could you do with a Zero W? The blog post said, "We imagine you'll find all sorts of uses for Zero W."

"It makes a better general-purpose computer because you're less likely to need a hub: if you're using Bluetooth peripherals you might well end up with nothing at all plugged into the USB port. And of course it's a great platform for experimenting with IoT applications."

They said that Raspberry Pi Zero W was available from Zero distributors as of Tuesday—and if you are not sure of a distributor location near you, then they provide icons on their page to find the stockist in your area.

Summing up, Nick Heath, chief reporter for *TechRepublic*, wrote: "Despite the price bump, the Pi Zero W remains one of the cheapest computers you can buy, and by adding Wi-Fi and Bluetooth support, the Pi Zero is now easier to use than ever. Providing you're realistic in your [expectations](#) of what a \$10 computer can do, it's unlikely you'll be disappointed."

**More information:** [www.raspberrypi.org/blog/raspb ... zero-w-joins-family/](http://www.raspberrypi.org/blog/raspb...zero-w-joins-family/)

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