

The more "difficult" setup questions when installing the PWS_Dashboard

Live data file we will use

How do we get our live data?

Here you select the weather-program and what type of file you are using.

First select the weather-program to use from the drop-down.

When using an API, or an network such as WU or WL.com you do not need to specify the location of the file in the next question. All other weather-programs upload the file to use, you will set the location now.

Path to your **realtime** data file. Not used with an API.

You should set the **path** to that file, for our example we use clientraw.txt.

Do **not use an external link such as http://** as that will drastically increase the load on your server.

If the file is in the root of your site you should use `"../clientraw.txt"`

The `"../"` signals the webserver to go down one folder from the `pwsWD/` folder to find the file.

If the clientraw is to be found in another folder on your website use `"../anotherfolder/clientraw.txt"`

Again the `"../"` points to the root and the webserver will find the file in the folder with the name "anotherfolder"

Historical data: Use WU or your webserver

Should the graph-script use WU-data?

Or will a cron-job save your historical data on your own website?

The scripts use the new WU_API to collect your historical data for the graphs. If you do not upload to WU, you can select to store the data on the webserver. You need to run the station-cron then also.

Station/owner details & Your station location details

For longitudes **left** of Greenwich a - sign is needed.

Just the opposite as you use in WeatherDisplay. So for Germany there should be no sign. For Ireland and the US there should be a minus. PHP-webservers use the SI-standard for longitude

Menu options

Display Extra links in Menu (default false)

If you want to include extra pages in the menu, just set this to "Yes we do".

The supporting script is `_my_settings/frames.php` where you setup the links to the extra page(s) you want to use. In `_my_settings/upload_to.txt` you can set to which weather.nets you upload your data. An extra page in the menu is generated for every net you upload to.

Display theme-selection in Menu

There are three themes, if you change one theme to give your site your own "look" you switch off theme-switching. But be aware that a lot of visitors prefer the light or dark theme as they are used to those color-sets.

Optional devices to be used

Here you specify if and what type of extra stations you will use. Devices like Air-Quality sensors or a webcam f.i.

Do you want to show an official AQ station nearby?

If you want to use an official AQ station to display the AirQuality in your area, you need to obtain an API-key at this site <https://aqicn.org/data-platform/token/#/>

Options for top row with small modules

There are 5 positions possible in the top row when using the wide format of 4 large blocks / row
The normal setup of 3 large blocks give enough room for 4 small ones

Options for top row module 2 & 3

Here you select which forecast you want and how you want to get the "current conditions" for your station

Options for bottom row module 2 & 3

Select the blocks you want to sue there

Optional extra blocks

Do you want to show three extra blocks on your website

Default there are 3 rows of 3 blocks wide. You can select to use 3 extra blocks, either on the right side (often called the "wide" option) or at the bottom, the "tall" option.

API keys for data retrieval

DarkSky API Key for forecast and current conditions.

Your 2019 WU API-key for PWS

CheckWX Metar API KEY you need to sign up

Please always carefully copy the API-key as extra spaces / missing characters will make it not usable.

For your forecast you need the DarkSky API-key from <https://darksky.net/dev/register>
You can use DarkSky for your "current conditions" as most weather-programs do not supply that data.

Another option for "current conditions" is the METAR information from a nearby airport.
To get the API for that go to <https://www.checkwx.com/signup>

Check also these for lot of local languages and the units to be used in the forecast texts

DarkSky forecast Language
DarkSky API UNITS

When using WeatherLink.com you have to set the three keys to get your data

Davis [weatherlink.com](https://www.weatherlink.com) API-key as generated on your dashboard - the password - the DID