



Adafruit eInk Feather Friend with 32KB SRAM

PRODUCT ID: 4446

Easy e-paper finally comes to your Feather with this Adafruit Elnk Feather Friend that's designed to make it a breeze to add an elnk display. Chances are you've seen one of those new-fangled 'e-readers' like the Kindle or Nook. They have gigantic electronic paper 'static' displays – that means the image stays on the display even when power is completely disconnected. The image is also high contrast and very daylight readable. It really does look just like printed paper!

We've liked these displays for a long time, and we've got Arduino/CircuitPython drivers for all of our Feathers, so wouldn't an e-paper Feather Friend make a ton of sense? Luckily for us, just about every small-medium size Elnk display made these days has a standard 24-pin connection. This Friend will add all the power supply support circuitry and level shifting so you can attach your favorite display (up to tri-color 4.2") and wire it up to your favorite development board.

Using our CircuitPython or Arduino libraries, you can create a 'frame buffer' with what pixels you want to have activated and then write that out to the display. Most simple breakouts leave it at that. But...just about all Elnk displays are write-only and many only let you update the full display (not partial update). That means you have to buffer the full image you want to display, taking up precious RAM.

The Eink Feather Friend is much friendlier – it comes with 256 Kilobit (32 Kilobyte) SRAM chip. That means you can control up to a 4.2" 300x400 tri–color display (300*400 * 2 colors / 8 bits–per–byte = 30KB). This chip shares the SPI port the elnk display uses, so you only need one extra pin. And, no more frame–buffering! You can use the SRAM to set up whatever you want to display, then shuffle data from SRAM to elnk when you're ready. The library we wrote does all the work for you, you can just interface with it as if it were an Adafruit_GFX compatible display. If you prefer not to use the chip, our libraries will automatically use the microcontroller/microcomputer internal RAM.

We even tossed on a MicroSD socket so you can store images, text files, whatever you like to display. Comes assembled and tested, with some header. You'll need a soldering iron to attach the header for installing onto your Feather. Stacking headers will let you put another FeatherWing on top.

Does not come with an Elnk display or extension cable! For use with just about any Elnk display that has a 24-pin FPC connector. See these schematics to verify that your display matches before purchasing.

https://cdn-learn.adafruit.com/assets/assets/000/057/645/original/adafruit_products_schem.png



