Q1) What is XLR-8?

Ans) XLR-8 is a new rapid prototyping development board that hosts a ton of cool features that aid in projects incorporating Robotics, Internet of Things etc. Developed by Tweak Labs - NETRA the board is aimed at replacing regular micro-controller boards.

Q2) What makes XLR-8 better?

Ans) XLR-8 is a prototyping board based on ATMEGA2560, the same IC which adores Arduino Mega board. XLR-8 has certain special features like :

- Built-in motor driver circuitry capable of driving 4 motors at once.
- Plug and play compliancy for Bluetooth and Wifi.
- High fault tolerance. (High Voltage tolerance upto 35V).
- Provision of a micro-usb port for programming.

All these features put XLR-8 on a pedestal, making it one of the most powerful development board ever.

Q3) Why XLR-8?

Ans) The answer is simple - to overcome the shortcomings of existing development boards. We saw that our fellow tinkerers struggle with lot of mundane tasks like finding the right board and taking care of redundant but important tasks like optimum voltage supply etc. We wanted to build a board that would allow developers to concentrate more on their project objectives and less on redundant tasks. After a lot of mulling over we decided to come up with not just a board but a whole eco-system complementing the development board that will enable our fellow tinkerers in accelerated prototype development.

Q4) Where should I buy this?

Ans) We have our own e-commerce website - www.tweaklabsinc.com where you can place your order or Go to https://tweaklabs.github.io and fill out the contact form for pricing and formal quotation.

Q5) I have bought the XLR-8 development board. How should I begin?

Ans) Congratulations! On getting your very own XLR-8 development board. We have got a great community - https://xlr8community.github.io to get started for novices. The community hosts a variety of tutorials, contests and forum to meet, collaborate, discuss and develop awesome projects using XLR-8.

Q6) Should I learn special software or programming language for this?

Ans) Definitely not! XLR-8 development board is platform agnostic, meaning it doesn't depend on any specific platform to work. If you are familiar with using Arduino IDE, then working with XLR-8 is a piece of cake! XLR-8 supports all major platforms like Arduino IDE, Fritzing etc.

Q7) I don't have any idea about electronics or robotics. What should I do?

Ans) One of the primary motivation behind developing XLR-8 is to provide a higher layer of abstraction for beginners. A complete beginner with no prior experience can also start tweaking with XLR-8 and the best place to start would be to check out our great content on our website - https://xlr8community.github.io. Our dedicated team is always ready to help and address any issues our fellow tinkerers might face, get in touch with us through the contact form given in the website.

Q8) What eco-system are you talking about in Q3?

Ans) Excellent question! We are trying to create a conducive eco-system through an initiative which we call - Tinker Patrol. This initiative houses many programs that are aimed at helping individuals and/or educational institutes to arrive at their prototypes faster by accelerating the whole process by enabling and empowering them by supplementing them with hardware components and technical assistance.

Q9) Give me an example of one of the initiatives under Tinker-Patrol?

Ans) One of the most popular program under the Tinker-Patrol initiative is called MakerGarten - a maker's garden. Under this program our dedicated team :

- Will teach robotics, electronics, IoT etc to teachers/faculties.
- Will organise hackathons and other exciting competitions.
- Help setup a dedicated "MakerGarten Lab" with state-of-the-art electronic hardware.
- Provide technical support/consultation for individuals/faculties.

Q10) What if I have a question that is not answered here?

Ans) We love that you are curious. Do let us know your questions by writing to us at support@tweaklabsinc.com or by filling out a contact form at https://xlr8community.github.io