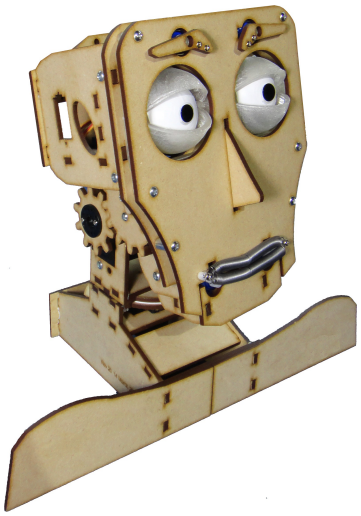
Press Release: From XYZbot LLC in Denver, USA

31 March 2013

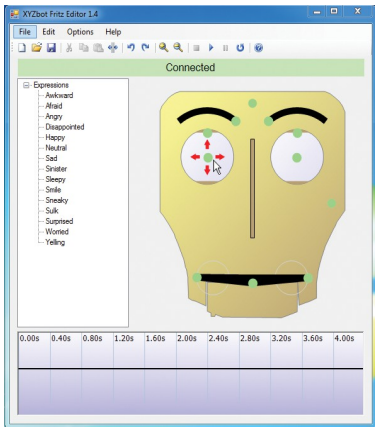
Introducing Fritz: A Robotic Puppet



Fritz is a robot head with human like facial features that you can control, much like a puppet or marionette. Fritz is currently a project on kickstarter.com at

http://www.kickstarter.com/projects/1591853389/fritz-a-robotic-puppet

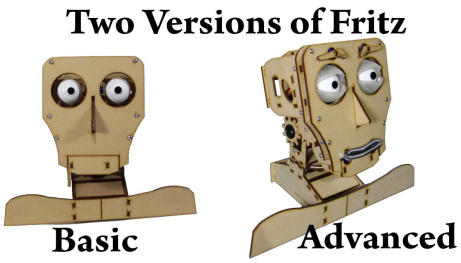
He has moving eyes and jaw, and (on the advanced version) eyelids, eyebrows, lips and a moving neck joint. Control is easy with the PC app which shows a picture of Fritz's face.



Just click and drag on a part and watch Fritz's actual robot part move at the same time. With the app, you can record a sequence of motions and then play back. Fritz's text to speech feature, you can type in some message and Fritz will "speak", moving his jaw and lips in sync.

Fritz comes as a kit of precision, laser cut parts in MDF (medium density fiberboard), or white acrylic plastic. The kit is recommended for ages 12 and up. This is a great project for kids and adults alike to get started in robotics. No robotics experience is necessary.

Fritz is available in two versions: Basic and Advanced. The Basic version of Fritz has moving eyes and a jaw. His eyes can move in unison, or independently. Advanced Fritz adds more expression by building on the Basic model and adding eyelids, eyebrows, lips and a movable neck joint.



XYZbot LLC in Denver, USA is launching Fritz as a campaign on kickstarter.com, the popular crowdfunding platform. On the kickstarter project, Fritz is available for $140 for the Basic model, and $215 for Advanced.

For more information and photos, you can visit

www.xyzbot.com

Main Features

- Humaniod Dimensions
- 13 Moveable Facial Parts
- Open Source Hardware and Software
- Arduino Microcontroller Based
- Control Fritz using GUI Drag and Drop Interface
- Included Audio and Motion editor
- Generate Speech from Text
- Control Fritz Using Keyboard or a Joystick

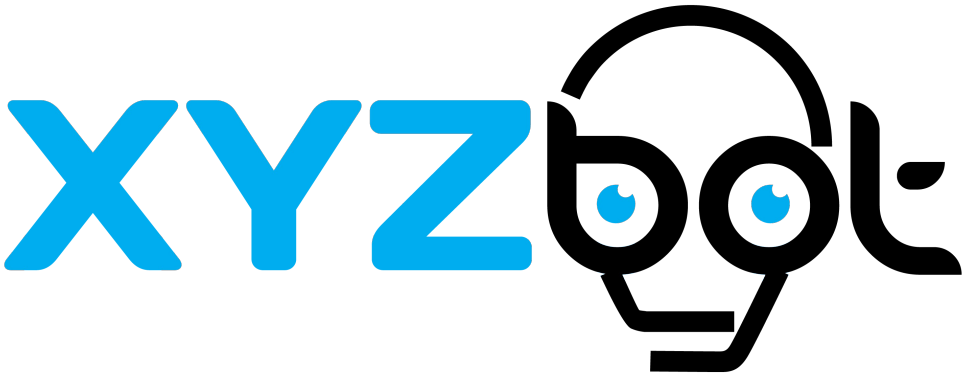
About XYZbot LLC: We are a startup company in Denver, Colorado specializing in interactive robotics. The company's founders are Steven Gentner, inventor of the robot vision software RoboRealm (www.roborealm.com), and Kerwin Lumpkins, an electrical and software engineer with 10 years experience in robotics design. Steven and Kerwin are passionate about the field of robotics and the potential that this exciting field holds.

Contact info: If you have questions about Fritz or XYZbot LLC, please send email to:

contact@xyzbot.com

High Res photos: Additional photos (high resolution) are available if desired at

http://www.xyzbot.com/downloads/PressKit.zip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