

# Recommended Usage Pattern

More information on the mentioned steps can be found in [Functions of the Packet Dispatcher](#)

## Typical Usage Model

### Intended setup

1. Define one [handler function](#) per packet type
2. define one [packet\\_handler\\_config\\_t](#) entry per packet type (using the [macros](#))
3. provide queue storage buffers  
(When using the [macros](#), you do not need to do this manually)
4. call [PacketDispatcherInit\(...\)](#)
5. whenever a frame arrives, call [DispatchPacket\(\)](#)

### Flow after setup

1. Ethernet/UDP receives raw frame
2. networking code builds `receive_frame`
3. `DispatchPacket()` decodes it
4. payload type is matched
5. decoded payload is copied into target queue
6. matching handler task wakes
7. the callback processes typed payload

## IMPORTANT configuration rules

This module is heavily configuration-driven. Several things must match exactly.

## I. `packet_type` must match the protobuf discriminator

Each handler's `packet_type` must be the exact value used by `PBEnvelope.which_payload`. If this is wrong, packets will never reach that handler.

## II. `item_size` must match the decoded payload type

The queue copies bytes from `&DecodingEnvelopeCurrent.payload` into a queue item of size `item_size`.

If `item_size` is:

- too small -> payload will be truncated
- too large -> copied data may include unrelated union bytes or layout assumptions
- wrong type entirely -> handler sees garbage with confidence

## III. `queue_buffer` must be sized correctly

The backing storage must be at least: `queue_length * item_size`. **If not, queue creation or runtime behavior is invalid.**

## IV. Handler must cast `void *` correctly

The callback receives a raw buffer pointer. It must cast to the correct generated protobuf type.

## V. Handlers array must be an array of structs

The current `PacketDispatcherInit()` API expects:

```
packet_handler_config_t* handlers
```

meaning a contiguous array of structs, not an array of pointers.

So with the current implementation, the final array should actually be:

```
static packet_handler_config_t* handlers[] = {
    drive_handler_cfg,
    sensor_diag_handler_cfg,
};
```

NOT an array of pointers.

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# Examples

# 1) Using macros

```
//Imports
#include "packet_dispatcher.h"
#include "packet_dispatcher_macros.h"

/*Define handler callbacks*/
//Callback for protobuf of type ArmBoardMovementFeedback
static result_t Callback_ArmBoardMovementFeedback(void *buffer) {
    if (buffer == NULL) {
        return RESULT_ERR_INVALID_ARG;
    }

    ArmBoardMovementFeedback* pkt = (ArmBoardMovementFeedback *)buffer; //Retrieve the packet
    pkt->arm_error; //Get fields of protobuf
    //Do something...

    return RESULT_OK;
}

//Config using most basic macro
PACKET_HANDLER_CONFIG_STATIC(Handler_ArmBoardMovementFeedback, PBEnvelope_arm_feedback_tag,
arm_feedback, Callback_ArmBoardMovementFeedback);

//Callback for protobuf of type ArmBoardControlSignals
static result_t Callback_ArmBoardControlSignals(void *buffer) {
    if (buffer == NULL) {
        return RESULT_ERR_INVALID_ARG;
    }

    ArmBoardControlSignals* pkt = (ArmBoardControlSignals *)buffer;
    pkt->control_base; //Get fields of protobuf
    pkt->control_gripper_pitch;
    //... etc etc
    //Do something...

    return RESULT_OK;
}

//Config using most basic macro
```

```

PACKET_HANDLER_CONFIG_STATIC(Handler_ArmBoardControlSignals, PBEnvelope_arm_ctrl_tag,
arm_ctrl, Callback_ArmBoardControlSignals);

//Add configs to the list of configs
static packet_handler_config_t* handlers[] = {Handler_ArmBoardMovementFeedback,
Handler_ArmBoardControlSignals};

//HERE WE PUT ETH_init(...) and the creation of queues from the networking board
//See respective documentation

PacketDispatcherInit(handlers, 2);
ETH_udp_init(2, queues, DispatchPacket); //Passing DispatchPacket to ETH_udp_init makes sure
it gets called upon receiving msgs

//Once again, after this we can use networking and do ETH_add_arp(...) and ETH_udp_send(...)

```

## 2) Manual configuration

```

//Imports
#include "packet_dispatcher.h"

static result_t handle_drive_cmd(void* buffer) {
    PBDriveCommand* msg = (PBDriveCommand*)buffer;
    return drive_process(msg);
}

static result_t handle_arm_cmd(void* buffer) {
    PBArmCommand* msg = (PBArmCommand*)buffer;
    return arm_process(msg);
}

static uint8_t drive_queue_storage[8 * sizeof(PBDriveCommand)];
static uint8_t arm_queue_storage[4 * sizeof(PBArmCommand)];

static packet_handler_config_t handlers[] = {
    {
        .handler = handle_drive_cmd,

```

```
.task_name = "drive_pkt",
.packet_type = PBEnvelope_drive_cmd_tag,
.task_priority = 3,
.task_stack_depth = 512,
.item_size = sizeof(PBDriveCommand),
.queue_length = 8,
.queue_buffer = drive_queue_storage,
},
{
.handler = handle_arm_cmd,
.task_name = "arm_pkt",
.packet_type = PBEnvelope_arm_cmd_tag,
.task_priority = 3,
.task_stack_depth = 512,
.item_size = sizeof(PBArmCommand),
.queue_length = 4,
.queue_buffer = arm_queue_storage,
},
};
```

Then during startup:

```
result_t res = PacketDispatcherInit(handlers, ARRAY_LEN(handlers));
```

And during frame reception:

```
DispatchPacket(&rx_frame);
```

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