

B - Follow the Path

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INTRODUCTION

1 line sensor is great, but we can't follow a complicated path - using two sensors however lets us do much more complex things!

Step 1

Two Line Sensors

- Assemble your robot like the picture this time, plug **both the left and right** line sensors in!
- Plug the left one in **A**, and the right into **B**.



Test Both Sensors

Step 2





- Let's **test** both sensors so we know how they work.
- Build the test program in the picture can you guess what it will do?
- On the other side of your activity mat, program your robot and slowly move the line sensor side to side across one of the lines.
- What happens to the motors? Does it do what you expected?

Using Both Sensors

- We need to write a program using the two sensors that follows the **black track.**
- Let's consider each of the possibilities in turn, as shown in the diagram:
 - A Off the track completely both sensors HI
 - B Slightly off to the left of the track left sensor
 HI, right sensor LO
 - C Slightly off to the right of the track left sensor
 LO, right sensor HI
 - D on the track, both sensors LO

Step 4

Step 3

Off the Track

Image: second	Left Right A Lift Right HI LO B Left Right LO C Left Right LO L

Left

HI

Α

Right

Left

В

Left

Right

- For case A, if the robot goes off the track we need to make it stop so it doesn't drive off forever!
- Start your line following program by building the program in the picture.
- We need to check if A is HI AND if B is HI at the same time we can do this with an AND block, which you can find in the Operators menu.



- For case **B**, we are slightly too far left, so we need to **turn right** to get back on the line.
- Add some more blocks to check the sensors, and turn right if we are slightly to the left of the track.
- There are some hint blocks if you need them!

Step 6 **Right of the track** Left Right File Program HI Programming successful HI Basic Input/Output Sparkles rol (Variables) Operat Α Left A is HI a id (B is HI) H 1 STOP 2 STOP В A is (HI) and (B is LO) Right eft 1 (FORWARD) at (75) 2 (REVERSE) at (75) and or 3 A is LO B is HI 0 to 10 1 (REVERSE) at (75) 2 (FORWARD) at (75) Π

- For case **C**, we are too far right, so need to **turn left** to get back on the track.
- Add some more blocks to your program to check the sensors and turn left if we need to!
- There are some more **hint blocks** if you need them.

The completed line

follower

Step 7



- Finally, we need to check for case **D** both sensors are **LO** so we are **on the track**, and just need to go forwards.
- And some more blocks to your program to complete it, and test your robot on the track.
- It should be able to make it all the way around on its own!
- *i* If you're robot keeps coming off the track, try **increasing the amount it turns,** or adding a **small wait** after the turn to make it turn even more.

Find the Path

- Currently, if the robot goes off the path completely (or the path ends) it just stops.
- It would be more useful if the robot tried to find the path again!
- Change your program so that instead of stopping, the robot drives so that it might find the path again. You can make this as complex as you like!
- Some ideas:

Step 8

- Reverse in a straight line
- Drive forwards whilst sweeping left and right
- Drive in increasing size squares (hard)
- Drive in an increasing size spiral (v. hard!)



Extension Challenge!