

## Re: Do I HAVE to have a NIC card?

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*Source:*

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.basics/2005-07/msg00786.html>

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- *From:* "Shenan Stanley" <[newshelper@xxxxxxxxx](mailto:newshelper@xxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Mon, 11 Jul 2005 09:15:41 -0500
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DD wrote:

> Fine. I already connect the modem to my main computer via any USB  
> port I choose. My problem came about when I was installing the  
> software into my laptop and it told me I didn't have a network  
> interface card but I do have an IRQ available. I had assumed that  
> since I can connect via USB on my main computer, then I can also  
> connect via USB on my laptop. I think I am still correct in assuming  
> that but there is somethin amiss.

Shenan Stanley wrote:

> Thus why I stated:  
>  
>> You should contact those you will be or have gotten cable/dsl access  
>> from and ask THEM what you need. They are more likely to be able to  
>> tell you what equipment they have available to get you connected  
>> than us.

DD wrote:

> Not really any point in posting that last comment, huh smartie? If  
> you can't help, don't comment.

Just pointing out the obvious and simple solution that would have had you up and going and not asking about equipment supported by someone else in a public worldwide newsgroup.. You know – sort of like RTFM. After all – you are the only one sitting in front of your system and – obviously – the only one that cannot get it to work – or can with help. You obviously want help, but for some reason refuse to ask the ones who would be more likely to help – instead asking complete strangers?

The fact is you have a problem connecting to an Internet Service provider who either likely sold or rented or recommended a modem to use with their service. In any case they either support the modem in question or you got a manual when you bought it yourself. You are going through a lot of trouble to solve a simple issue.

My guess is you have this modem – it has a USB connection on it and likely some software that would enable it to connect to your laptop through USB. Did you follow the instructions to install the software? Did you unplug the

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modem from power for a few minutes before attempting to hook a thehine to it (some ISPs assign the single IP they give out by MAC address, so if you ever had another computer hooked in, you will need to reset the modem's "memory" of this system and allow it to think this is the "first computer" plugged in so you can get an address.)

Also – as to your very first question, "Do I have to have a NIC?" <- Only the manufacturer of the modem in question (and/or the technical support for your Internet Service provider if they provided/recommended the modem) would be able to answer that and why should we (volunteers on a newsgroup) call them up/look up the manual on the web for you when you are obviously more than capable of that yourself?

None of this is sarcasm – simple facts and suggestions to get you fixed up and – if you didn't know before – teach you how to get the help you need in a faster more reliable manner in the future. After all – it is entirely possible you didn't know you could call your ISP for assistance, or that you could look up and lkely get the manual and/or the latest software for your modem from the Internet or that your modem might remeber the last machine connected to it and you need to reset it before connecting to it in a different manner..

That whole "Teach a man to fish.." thing..

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Shenan Stanley  
MS-MVP

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How To Ask Questions The Smart Way  
<http://www.catb.org/~esr/faqs/smart-questions.html>

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• **References:**

- ◆ ***Do I HAVE to have a NIC card?***  
◇ From: DD
- ◆ ***Re: Do I HAVE to have a NIC card?***  
◇ From: Malke
- ◆ ***Re: Do I HAVE to have a NIC card?***  
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