

Getting Prolific USB cord to work on windows 7/8

- 1) Plug in the Prolific USB-Serial device, and it'll not work.
- 2) Launch Device Manager (Control Panel -> System -> Device Manager), scroll down to the COM items in the tree. There should be your Prolific USB entry standing out, already expanded and highlighted with an ! meaning it's not working.
- 3) Right-click on the Prolific USB node, and choose "Properties". In the Driver tab, choose "Uninstall" to uninstall the latest/most updated driver that appears to have been installed by default by Windows 8 (v 3.44.8.272).
- 4) This uninstall for me didn't really seem to work for some reason, maybe I needed to physically unplug my Prolific USB-serial device BEFORE doing step 1 here. Not sure. Worth trying, saves some hassle.
- 5) Reboot
- 6) Unplug your Prolific USB-serial dongle.
- 7) Install the older, Vista-based, driver (ver 3.3.2.102) as found in either/both of the links from the previous poster, copied here for convenience.

To do this, download then unzip the old driver file and install by simply double-clicking on the .exe file. Nothing fancy or difficult.

<https://docs.google.com/file/d/0B7FildjsrNkILWhYVHYwanJLS3c/edit?usp=sharing>
<http://mir.cr/1R5ACC0L>

- 8) Reboot again.
- 9) Plug in your Prolific device, access Device Manager again. Scroll down to the COM ports, to see what driver is being used, and what do you find? It's still not working as it's still using the latest/incompatible/non-functioning driver despite supposedly uninstalling it way back in step 1. At least, that was the case with me.

Yours might be working just fine (you know it is if/when you open Device Manager, and the Prolific USB device isn't being opened/highlighted as non-functioning). If you're lucky, and you don't see your device highlighted/opened then you're done with these instructions. Just open up the COM items to double-check that you see your Prolific Serial dongle there without any exclamation/error signs.

- 10) If you're like me, you now need to right-click on the Prolific USB-to-Serial list item, highlighted in all its error-notifying glory, and choose "Properties", then in the "Driver" tab, you'll see something magical.
- 11) Choose "Roll Back Driver" and it'll give some warning asking if you want to do that and remove the later/current driver and instead use an older one. Yes, you do. Click on the "yes" button or whatever button comes up to confirm you want to do so.
- 12) Windows will then ask you to reboot. Or not. Either way, do so. Leave the Prolific dongle in this time.
- 13) Open up Device Manager again, and you should be able to go to the COM items, and you shouldn't see any errors on your "Prolific USB-to-Serial Port" item. To double-check, right-click on that item again, go to Properties, in the Driver tab, you should see "Driver Version" 3.3.2.102.
- 14) You're done. (Or maybe you should just get a Web Bridge and go straight to the web!)