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Thread: [Alfa Wifi Card In Laptop, Linux Mint 15 - Driver Issues](#)

2Wolves - February 25, 2014, 7:51 pm

I have an Alfa USB adapter hooked into my laptop running linux mint 15. I am having driver issues - the wifi adapter only works for 15 minutes, more or less, before it crashes and my local wifi SSID disappears (and I can't connect to anything else).

I have tried following many fixes to no avail such as:

Following : "Jim said you have to blacklist rt2800usb in /etc/modprobe.d/blacklist.conf"

More info: <http://ubuntuforums.org/showthread.php?t=1453549>

I have tried installing the driver I downloaded online as well as the driver that came on the installation CD only to receive make errors which I believe boils down to having a kernel too modern for the driver.

The actual model is AWUS036H

ndiswrapper -l shows "netrtuw : invalid driver!"

I have tried other drivers such as bcmwl5 which came as the standard configuration which also had an invalid driver error.

If the drivers I downloaded for this card can't be installed due to complications in the install process, or compability with my kernel, how do I get this card working? I heard there are preinstalled drivers which should work with this card - can anyone point me in the right direction as to which default driver I can use and how to configure the system to automatically use it?

bluehat_ - February 26, 2014, 6:35 am

I would be interested in the output of "dmesg" at the point in time that the driver falls over, it may point us to what is causing this in the kernel...

2Wolves - February 26, 2014, 6:48 am

lsusb -v shows the Kernel driver in use is still iwlmwifi (the driver for the internal card). I just upgraded my Kernel in attempt to fix this, because nothing else has, but I may have undone the blacklist of the iwlmwifi driver. I will blacklist it again now.

Here is the dmesg output of grep rtl8187 while the adapter is online

```
Code [ 77.463387] rtl8187: Customer ID is 0xFF
```

```
[ 77.464070] rtl8187: wireless switch is on
```

```
[ 77.464107] usbcore: registered new interface driver rtl8187
```

```
[ 451.333981] rtl8187: Customer ID is 0xFF
```

```
[ 451.334584] rtl8187: wireless switch is on
```

```
[ 832.585710] rtl8187: Customer ID is 0xFF
```

```
[ 832.586565] rtl8187: wireless switch is on
```

Here is the full contents of dmesg just after it falls off:

```
Code [ 1159.540217] ieee80211 phy2: wlan1: No probe response from AP cc:35:40:35:ab:19 after 500ms, disconnecting.
```

```
[ 1159.544208] cfg80211: Calling CRDA to update world regulatory domain
```

[1159.549271] cfg80211: World regulatory domain updated:
[1159.549274] cfg80211: (start_freq - end_freq @ bandwidth), (max_antenna_gain, max_eirp)
[1159.549276] cfg80211: (2402000 KHz - 2472000 KHz @ 40000 KHz), (300 mBi, 2000 mBm)
[1159.549278] cfg80211: (2457000 KHz - 2482000 KHz @ 20000 KHz), (300 mBi, 2000 mBm)
[1159.549280] cfg80211: (2474000 KHz - 2494000 KHz @ 20000 KHz), (300 mBi, 2000 mBm)
[1159.549282] cfg80211: (5170000 KHz - 5250000 KHz @ 40000 KHz), (300 mBi, 2000 mBm)
[1159.549283] cfg80211: (5735000 KHz - 5835000 KHz @ 40000 KHz), (300 mBi, 2000 mBm)
[1161.467953] wlan1: authenticate with cc:35:40:35:ab:19
[1161.526228] wlan1: send auth to cc:35:40:35:ab:19 (try 1/3)
[1161.726683] wlan1: send auth to cc:35:40:35:ab:19 (try 2/3)
[1161.930195] wlan1: send auth to cc:35:40:35:ab:19 (try 3/3)
[1162.133692] wlan1: authentication with cc:35:40:35:ab:19 timed out
[1175.446820] IPv6: ADDRCONF(NETDEV_UP): wlan1: link is not ready
Annnd once I unplug and replug it.
Code [1261.017444] usb 1-1.2: USB disconnect, device number 6
[1265.558751] usb 1-1.1: new high-speed USB device number 7 using ehci-pci
[1265.656827] usb 1-1.1: New USB device found, idVendor=0bda, idProduct=8187
[1265.656835] usb 1-1.1: New USB device strings: Mfr=1, Product=2, SerialNumber=3
[1265.656839] usb 1-1.1: Product: RTL8187_Wireless
[1265.656843] usb 1-1.1: Manufacturer: Manufacturer_Realtek_RTL8187_
[1265.656847] usb 1-1.1: SerialNumber: 00C0CA527838
[1265.898440] ieee80211 phy3: Selected rate control algorithm 'minstrel_ht'
[1265.898913] ieee80211 phy3: hwaddr 00:c0:ca:52:78:38, RTL8187vB (default) V1 + rtl8225z2,
rfkill mask 2
[1265.916521] rtl8187: Customer ID is 0xFF
[1265.917255] rtl8187: wireless switch is on
[1268.176838] IPv6: ADDRCONF(NETDEV_UP): wlan1: link is not ready
[1268.177596] IPv6: ADDRCONF(NETDEV_UP): wlan1: link is not ready
[1271.992496] wlan1: authenticate with cc:35:40:35:ab:19
[1272.049106] wlan1: send auth to cc:35:40:35:ab:19 (try 1/3)
[1272.051882] wlan1: authenticated
[1272.054145] wlan1: associate with cc:35:40:35:ab:19 (try 1/3)
[1272.057490] wlan1: RX AssocResp from cc:35:40:35:ab:19 (capab=0x411 status=0 aid=2)
[1272.058642] wlan1: associated
[1272.058682] IPv6: ADDRCONF(NETDEV_CHANGE): wlan1: link becomes ready
Edit: I realize it looks like the AP has issues - this is not the case. It is confirmed good on other devices, and this wifi adapter does this with every AP.