

External Media Cards

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This guide explains how to use external media cards.

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Digital Media Slot cards

Optional digital cards provide secure data storage and convenient data sharing. These cards are often used with digital media-equipped cameras and PDAs as well as other computers.

The Digital Media Slot supports the following digital card formats:

- Secure Digital (SD) Memory Card
- Secure Digital Input/Output (SD I/O)
- MultiMediaCard
- Memory Stick
- Memory Stick Pro
- SmartMedia Card
- xD-Picture Card



CAUTION: To avoid damaging your digital card or the computer, do not insert any type of adapter into the Digital Media Slot.



On models with an optional secondary hard drive (drive D), the optical drive becomes drive E. The next device added to the system, such as a new digital card, will be assigned the next available drive letter.

Inserting an optional digital card



CAUTION: To prevent damage to the digital card connectors, use minimal force to insert a digital card.

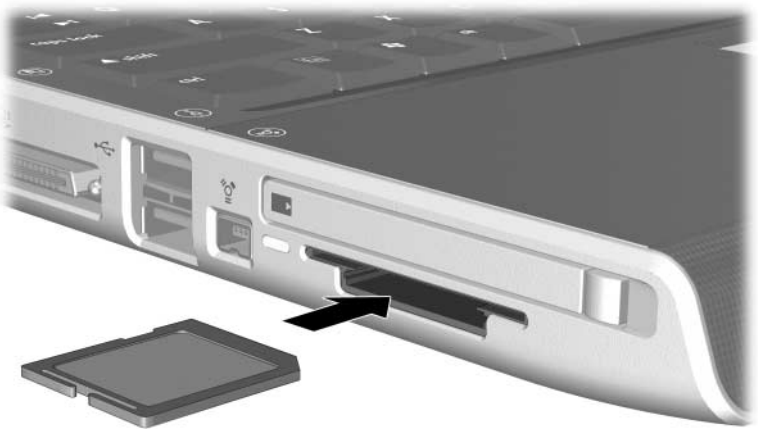
To insert a digital card:

1. Hold the digital card label-side up, with the connectors facing the computer.
2. Slide the digital card into the Digital Media Slot until the card is seated.

The operating system will issue a sound to indicate that a device has been detected.



The first time you insert a digital card, the “Found New Hardware” message is displayed in the notification area, at the far right of the taskbar.




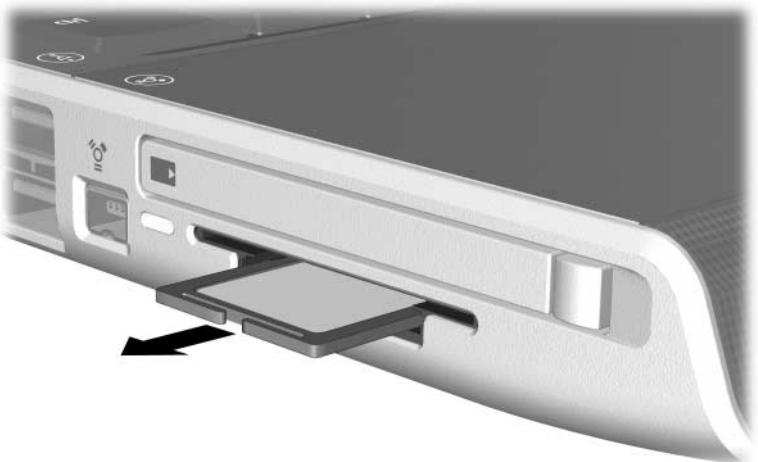
Removing an optional digital card



CAUTION: To prevent loss of information or an unresponsive system, stop the digital card before removing it.

To remove a digital card:

1. Close all files and applications that are associated with the digital card. (To stop a data transfer, click **Cancel** in the operating system Copying window.)
2. Stop the digital card:
 - a. Double-click the **Safely Remove Hardware** icon in the notification area, at the far right of the taskbar.
 To display the Safely Remove Hardware icon, click **Show Hidden Icons** in the notification area.
 - b. Click the digital card listing, and then click **Stop**.
3. Pull the digital card out of the slot.



PC Cards

A PC Card is a credit card–sized accessory designed to conform to the standard specifications of the Personal Computer Memory Card International Association (PCMCIA).

- The computer supports 32-bit (CardBus) and 16-bit PC Cards.
- The computer is equipped with a PC Card slot and supports Type I and Type II PC Cards.
- Zoomed video PC Cards are not supported.



CAUTION: To prevent loss of support for other PC Cards, install only the software required for your device. If you are instructed by the PC Card manufacturer to install device drivers:

- Install only the device drivers for your operating system.
 - Do not install any other software, such as card services, socket services, or enablers, supplied by the PC Card manufacturer.
-

Inserting a PC Card



CAUTION: To prevent damage to the computer and external media cards, do not insert a PC Card into the ExpressCard slot or an ExpressCard into the PC Card slot.

1. Hold the PC Card label-side up, with the connectors facing the computer.
2. Gently slide the card into the slot until the card is seated.

The operating system will issue a sound to indicate that a device has been detected.



The first time you insert a PC Card, the “Found New Hardware” message is displayed in the notification area, at the far right of the taskbar.



CAUTION: To prevent damage to the connectors:



- Use minimal force to insert a PC Card.
 - Do not move or transport the computer when a PC Card is in use.
-

Stopping or removing a PC Card

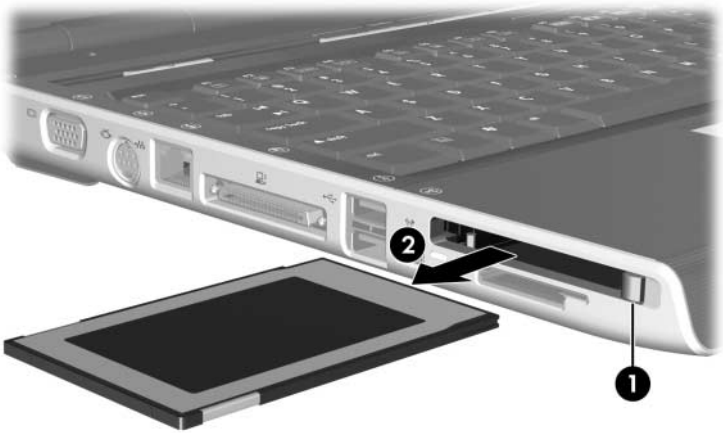


CAUTION: To prevent loss of information or an unresponsive system, stop a PC Card before removing it.

To stop or remove a PC Card:

1. Close all applications and complete all activities that are associated with the PC Card.
2. To stop a PC Card:
 - a. Double-click the **Safely Remove Hardware** icon in the notification area, at the far right of the taskbar.
 To display the Safely Remove Hardware icon, click **Show Hidden Icons** in the notification area.
 - b. Click the PC Card listing, and then click **Stop**.
3. To remove a PC Card:
 - a. Press the PC Card slot eject button . (This action extends the button into position for releasing the PC Card.)
 - b. Press the eject button again to release the PC Card.

c. Gently pull the card ❷ out of the slot.



An inserted PC Card uses power even when idle. To conserve power, stop or remove a PC Card when it is not in use.

ExpressCards

An ExpressCard is a next-generation, high-performance PC Card, which must be inserted in the ExpressCard slot.

Like standard PC Cards, ExpressCards are designed to conform to the standard specifications of the Personal Computer Memory Card International Association (PCMCIA).



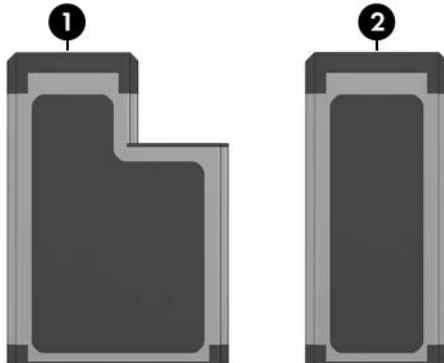
An ExpressCard can add TV tuner functionality to the computer. On models with a TV tuner ExpressCard, refer to the TV tuner or Media Center documentation for details.

Selecting an ExpressCard

ExpressCards use one of 2 interfaces and are available in 2 sizes. The ExpressCard slot on the computer supports both interfaces and both sizes. For example, you can use

- An ExpressCard with either a USB interface or a PCI Express interface.
- A full-size ExpressCard, called *ExpressCard/54* ❶, or a smaller ExpressCard, called *ExpressCard/34* ❷.

The ExpressCard procedures described in the following sections are the same for both interfaces and both sizes.



Configuring an ExpressCard



CAUTION: To prevent loss of support for other ExpressCards, install only the software required for your device. If you are instructed by the ExpressCard manufacturer to install device drivers:

- Install only the device drivers for your operating system.
 - Do not install any other software, such as card services, socket services, or enablers, supplied by the ExpressCard manufacturer.
-

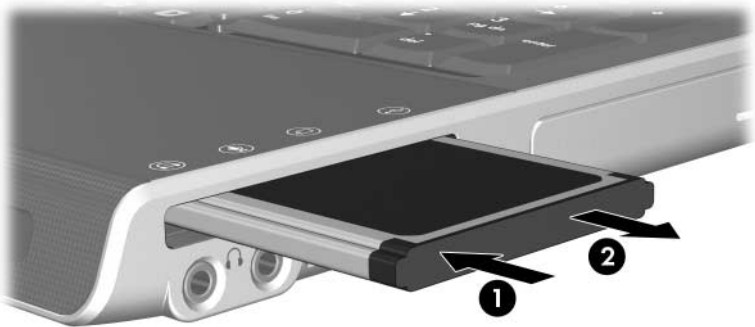
Inserting an ExpressCard



CAUTION: To prevent damage to the computer and external media cards, do not insert a PC Card into the ExpressCard slot or an ExpressCard into the PC Card slot.

The ExpressCard slot may contain a protective insert. The insert must be released and then removed before you can insert an ExpressCard.

1. To release and remove the ExpressCard slot insert:
 - a. Press the insert **1** in, and then quickly release it.
 - b. Pull the insert out of the slot **2**.




CAUTION: To prevent damage to the connectors:

- Use minimal force to insert an ExpressCard.
 - Do not move or transport the computer when an ExpressCard is in use.
-

2. To insert an ExpressCard:

- a. Position the card label-side up, with the connectors facing the computer.
- b. Gently slide the card into the slot until the card is seated.

The operating system will issue a sound to indicate that a device has been detected.

-  The first time you insert an ExpressCard, the “Found New Hardware” message is displayed in the notification area, at the far right of the taskbar.




Stopping or removing an ExpressCard



CAUTION: To prevent loss of information or an unresponsive system, stop an ExpressCard before removing it.

To stop or remove an ExpressCard:

1. Close all applications and complete all activities that are associated with the ExpressCard.
2. To stop an ExpressCard:
 - a. Double-click the **Safely Remove Hardware** icon in the notification area, at the far right of the taskbar.
 To display the Safely Remove Hardware icon, click **Show Hidden Icons** in the notification area.
 - b. Click the ExpressCard listing, and then click **Stop**.
3. To remove an ExpressCard:
 - a. Press the ExpressCard **1** in, and then quickly release it.
 - b. Gently pull the ExpressCard out of the slot **2**.



An inserted ExpressCard uses power even when idle. To conserve power, stop or remove an ExpressCard when it is not in use.

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