External Devices

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This guide explains how to use optional external devices.

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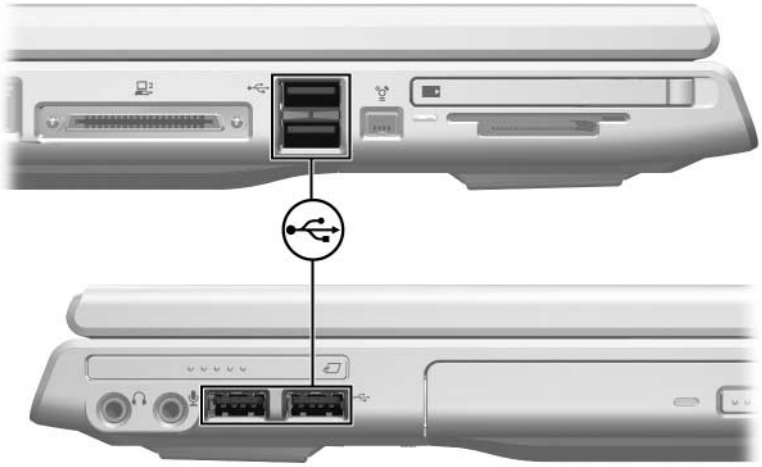
Using a USB device

Universal Serial Bus (USB) is a hardware interface that can be used to connect an optional external device, such as a USB keyboard, mouse, drive, printer, scanner, or hub, to the computer or to an optional docking device. A hub provides additional USB ports for the system and can be connected to the computer or to another hub.

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

The computer has 4 standard USB ports that support USB 2.0 and USB 1.1 devices. An optional docking device provides additional USB ports that can be used with the computer.



Connecting a USB device

CAUTION: To prevent damage to the USB connectors, use minimal force to insert a USB device.

To connect a USB device to the computer, connect the USB cable to the USB port. The operating system will issue a sound to indicate that a device has been detected.

The first time you connect a USB device, the "Found New Hardware" message is displayed in the notification area, at the far right of the taskbar.

Stopping a USB device

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

To stop a USB device:

1. 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.

2. Click the USB device listing, and then click **Stop**.

Required USB software

Some USB devices may require additional support software, which is usually included with the device. For more information and software installation instructions, refer to the documentation included with the device.

2

Using a 1394 device

IEEE 1394 is a hardware interface that can be used to connect a high-speed multimedia or data storage device to the computer. Scanners, digital cameras, and digital camcorders often require a 1394 connection.

You may have to load device-specific drivers and other software before using some 1394 devices. For information about device-specific software, refer to the device documentation or the Web site of the device manufacturer.

The 1394 port, illustrated below, also supports 1394a devices.

On models with an optional secondary hard drive (drive D), the optical drive becomes drive E. The next drive added to the system, such as a new USB or 1394 device, will be assigned the next available drive letter.

Connecting a 1394 device

CAUTION: To prevent damage to the 1394 port connectors, use minimal force to insert a 1394 device.

To connect a 1394 device to the computer, connect the 1394 cable to the 1394 port. The operating system will issue a sound to indicate that a device has been detected.

The first time you insert a 1394 device, the "Found New Hardware" message is displayed at the bottom right of the screen in the notification area.

Stopping a 1394 device

CAUTION: To prevent loss of information or an unresponsive system, stop a 1394 device before removing it.

To stop a 1394 device:

1. Double-click the **Safely Remove Hardware** icon in the notification area, at the far right of the taskbar.

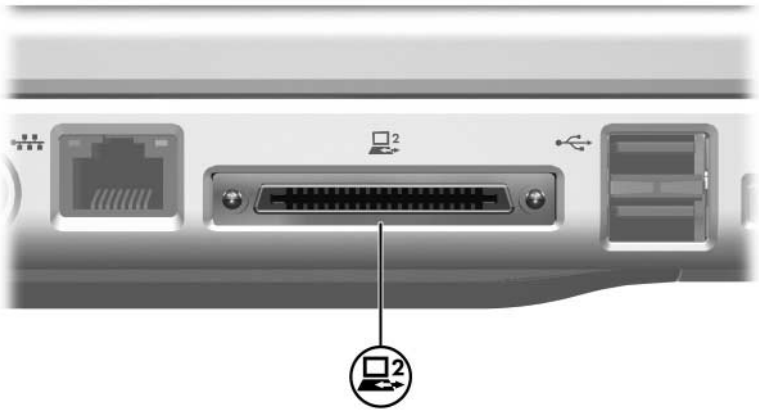
   To display the Safely Remove Hardware icon, click **Show Hidden Icons** in the notification area.

2. Click the 1394 device listing, and then click **Stop**.

3

Using the expansion port

The expansion port allows you to connect the computer to an optional docking device. An optional docking device provides additional ports and connectors that can be used with the computer.



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