

ALDL 16-pin USB Instructions

This package includes an ALDL 16-pin USB Cable, a CD ROM with drivers and ALDL software, and this instruction sheet.. This cable is intended to be used with cars and trucks using GM ECM/PCM's originally equipped with 16 pin OBD2-style ALDL connectors in the 1994 to 1995 era that actually have an OBD1 system. For more detailed information on any aspect of this cable, you can read information from our website at www.aldlcable.com

Quick Start Instructions:

1. Boot up your PC or Laptop and insert the provided CD-ROM
2. Plug the ALDL-USB cable into one of the open USB ports on your PC
3. At this point Windows will detect the new device and ask you to browse the CD-ROM drive for the driver. The drivers are located in the FT232R directory. Choose the correct operating system folder for your computer and click OK, then allow the system to completely install the drivers.
4. After driver installation, open your Windows System Control Panel and choose the Hardware Device Manager. Expand the Ports (COM & LPT) item and look at the Properties for the USB Serial port and note which COM port has been assigned to the unit. You will need to tell the diagnostic software package you select which COM port is being used by the ALDL-USB
5. Plug the 16-Pin ALDL cable into your vehicle's ALDL port and turn your ignition key forward to light up the dash. You are now ready to collect data.

The COM port used will be the first available COM port, usually COM3, but occasionally it will be a COM port above COM4. Some ALDL Diagnostic programs will not work above COM4, so you may have to select a diagnostics software package that allows operation above COM4. If you need to operate on COM3 or COM4, uninstall devices that are currently using COM3 or COM4. Next, uninstall the ALDL-USB driver that is using a high port number then reinstall the ALDL USB driver to use COM3 or COM4

The ALDL connector has 16 pins in it, of which only 2 are wired for use in this cable. Serial data

only flows through pin 9 from your ECM/PCM to your PC computer at 8192 baud. Pin 5 connects to the vehicle's signal ground. The pin locations are labeled outside of the 16 pin connector shell.

You can see a list of software packages available for your diagnostic needs on our home page at www.aldlcable.com or on the CD-ROM included in this package

To use this cable, plug the 2 ends in and start up your laptop and start whatever data collection or tuning program software you use, and turn the car key forward (but car not running) to light up the dash, and start the data stream flowing. Click the record button in the software package to start logging data. You can then start the car and drive around logging data. View data later on to see and review results.

Trouble shooting: If all the cables are connected properly but you are still not seeing data, there are a number of things to check. When testing any cable, simply plug the USB cable into your Laptop or PC, and then plug the 16-Pin ALDL connector into your vehicle. Start up the HyperTerminal program (usually under Start > Programs > Accessories), select the COM port the USB cable was installed on (usually COM3, see above), and select a baud rate close to the ECM's (9600 baud). As soon as you turn the car key forward to light up the dash, but car not running, data patterns start to stream across the HyperTerminal screen. At that point you know that proper communication is happening between your vehicles ECM and your laptop, and any data logging program should work.

If you are still having problems after this HyperTerminal test, check under the device manager of the system control panel on your PC to make sure your virtual COM port is active and has not been disabled. If you don't see any virtual COM ports enabled, or see red Xs or yellow circles, then you may need to reinstall the driver. Begin by removing the virtual com port that is there and also removing the USB device further down the screen

If you have a 1996 or later vehicle that has a 16 pin connector, it is an OBD2 compliant vehicle and requires a completely different type of scan tool and software. Please see www.obd2allinone.com to purchase.