



AirConnect® PC Card Quick Start Guide

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3Com Corporation ■ 5400 Bayfront Plaza ■ Santa Clara, California ■ 95052-8145

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Quick Start Guide

This Quick Start Guide is intended for users familiar with PC Card and driver installation for Windows 95, Windows 98, and Windows 2000. For installation under Windows NT 4.0 and Windows CE, refer to the *AirConnect Network Interface Card User Guide*.

Refer to "Installing the Documentation" on page 4 of this *Quick Start Guide* for information on setting up the on-line documentation.

Before installing the wireless LAN PC Card, at least one access point should be installed in your service area. You must set the Wireless LAN Service Area to that of the access point you will be using.

Installation for Windows 98 and Windows 2000

Before installing the driver, you will need a copy of the operating system installation media, usually a CD supplied with your computer or operating system. On Windows 98 systems, the installation files are sometimes archived on the hard disk in C:\WINDOWS\OPTIONS\CABS. On Windows 2000 systems, you may be prompted to load operating system files from the Windows 2000 installation disk.

You will also need the *End User Utilities* CD supplied with your AirConnect PC Card. The Setup program installs configuration utilities in the Network application in the Control Panel.

Run Setup from the End User Utilities CD

1 Turn on your computer.


2 Put the *End User Utilities* CD in the CD-ROM drive.

The setup program should start automatically. If it does not start, you can run it manually by selecting *Run* from the Start menu and running SETUP.EXE from the CD-ROM drive.

3 On the *3Com AirConnect WLAN Menu* screen, select *Installation for Windows*.

4 Select *Adapter Installation Instructions*. Follow the instructions as they appear on the screen.


- 5 When prompted, insert the AirConnect PC Card into the PC Card slot (Figure 1). Align the card properly before putting it in the slot. Insert the card firmly without forcing until it seats snugly.

 **CAUTION:** Forcing a misaligned card into the slot can damage the computer or the card.

The driver installation procedure guides you through the steps standard for your operating system. If you are unfamiliar with driver installation procedures, refer to the *AirConnect Network Interface Card User Guide* for details. You will be asked to supply CDs or directory path information for the *End User Utilities* CD and your operating system software.

As part of the driver installation process, the setup program will install and open the Network application in the Control Panel.

- 6 Enter the name of the Wireless LAN Service Area of the wireless network to which your computer will connect. The name you enter here must match exactly the name assigned to the access point. Characters, capitalization, and spacing must be identical.

 **NOTE:** If the access point you wish to associate with is set for encryption, you must also enable encryption on the wireless client. Click *Advanced* to go to screens where you can enable and configure encryption.

You must set the wireless client for the same encryption algorithm and Shared Key values as the access point it will associate with. Refer to the *AirConnect Network Interface Card User Guide* for more details about configuring encryption.

- 7 Save the configuration settings and exit by clicking *OK*.
- 8 Restart your computer.
- 9 Make sure that the network protocol parameters (IP address, gateway, and subnet mask) are set correctly for your computer.
- 10 When the system reboots, restart the setup program and install any other required components.

3Com recommends that you install the wireless LAN applications so you can access the utilities described in the *AirConnect Network Interface Card User Guide*.

- 11 Restart your computer for changes to take effect.

Installation for Windows 95

Installation under Windows 95 is identical to the procedure given above for Windows 98 and Windows 2000.

Only Windows 95 version B (OSR 2) or higher is supported. If you do not know how to determine which version of Windows 95 you are running, refer to the Windows 95 section of the *AirConnect Network Interface Card User Guide*.

Orienting the Antenna

The PC Card antenna is attached to the end of the PC Card.



CAUTION: Do not attempt to remove the antenna on the Airconnect PC Card. If you pull on or bend the antenna, you may break the antenna and permanently damage the card.

For best use of the antenna:

- Keep the area around the antenna clear from materials that could block radio transmission, such as metal objects, electronic devices, and cordless telephones.
- If necessary, move your notebook computer a few inches to find a better signal. Depending on your environment, a difference of one or two inches can mean the difference between a strong and a weak signal.

Even a slight change in PC orientation can improve a wireless connection, just as moving a radio an inch or two to the left or right can improve reception.

- If you have installed the WLAN Applications, you may use the Signal Strength display in the AirConnect Status application to determine the best location and orientation for a network connection. For details, refer to the *AirConnect Network Interface Card User Guide*.

AirConnect Adapter LEDs

The WLAN adapter LEDs (Figure 2) perform identical functions when indicating the operational status of the card.

Off	Slow Blinking	Fast Blinking
No access point associated with the card.	Card attempting to associate with an access point.	Card exchanging data with an access point. The higher the data rate the faster the blinking.

Removing the PC Card

- 1 Use the release lever or button on your card slot to free the PC Card (Figure 3).
- 2 Pull on the sides of the card to remove it from the slot. Do not pull on the antenna.



CAUTION: The antenna on the PC Card is not removable. If you try to remove the card by pulling on the antenna, you may break the antenna and permanently damage the card.

Installing the Documentation

If you want to review more detailed installation procedures than those provided by this guide, refer to the *AirConnect Network Interface Card User Guide*.

- 1 Put the *End User Utilities* CD in the CD-ROM drive. The Setup program will start automatically.**

If the Setup program does not start, use Start/Run to run the SETUP.EXE program from CD-ROM drive.

- 2 Select *Documentation*.**

You can view the manuals from the CD.

- 3 To install the manuals on your hard disk, select *Install User Documentation*. Follow the instructions on the screen to complete the installation.**

- 4 Exit the setup program.**

You can open the manuals from the AirConnect program group.

Product Registration and Support

To register this product with 3Com, go to the following Web page:

<http://www.3com.com/productreg/index.html>

For support information and pointers to the latest drivers and utilities available for the AirConnect network interface card, go to the following Web page:

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3Com® AirConnect® 11Mbps Wireless LAN

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(408) 326-5000
January 3, 2000

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However, there is no guarantee that interference will not occur in a particular installation. If the equipment does cause harmful interference to radio or television reception, which can be determined by turning the equipment off and on, the user is encouraged to try to correct the interference by one or more of the following measures:

- Re-orient or relocate the receiving antenna.
- Increase the separation between the equipment and receiver.
- Connect the equipment into an outlet on a circuit different from that which the receiver is connected.
- Consult the dealer or an experienced radio/TV technician for help.

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