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Gearmo USA-FTDI-8

Gearmo Ultra Compact 8 Inch USB to Serial Cable (Model USA-FTDI-8)

Instruction Manual

1. Introduction

This manual provides instructions for the installation, operation, and troubleshooting of your Gearmo Ultra Compact 8 Inch USB to Serial Cable, Model USA-FTDI-8. This adapter facilitates the connection of RS-232 serial devices to modern computers equipped with USB ports.

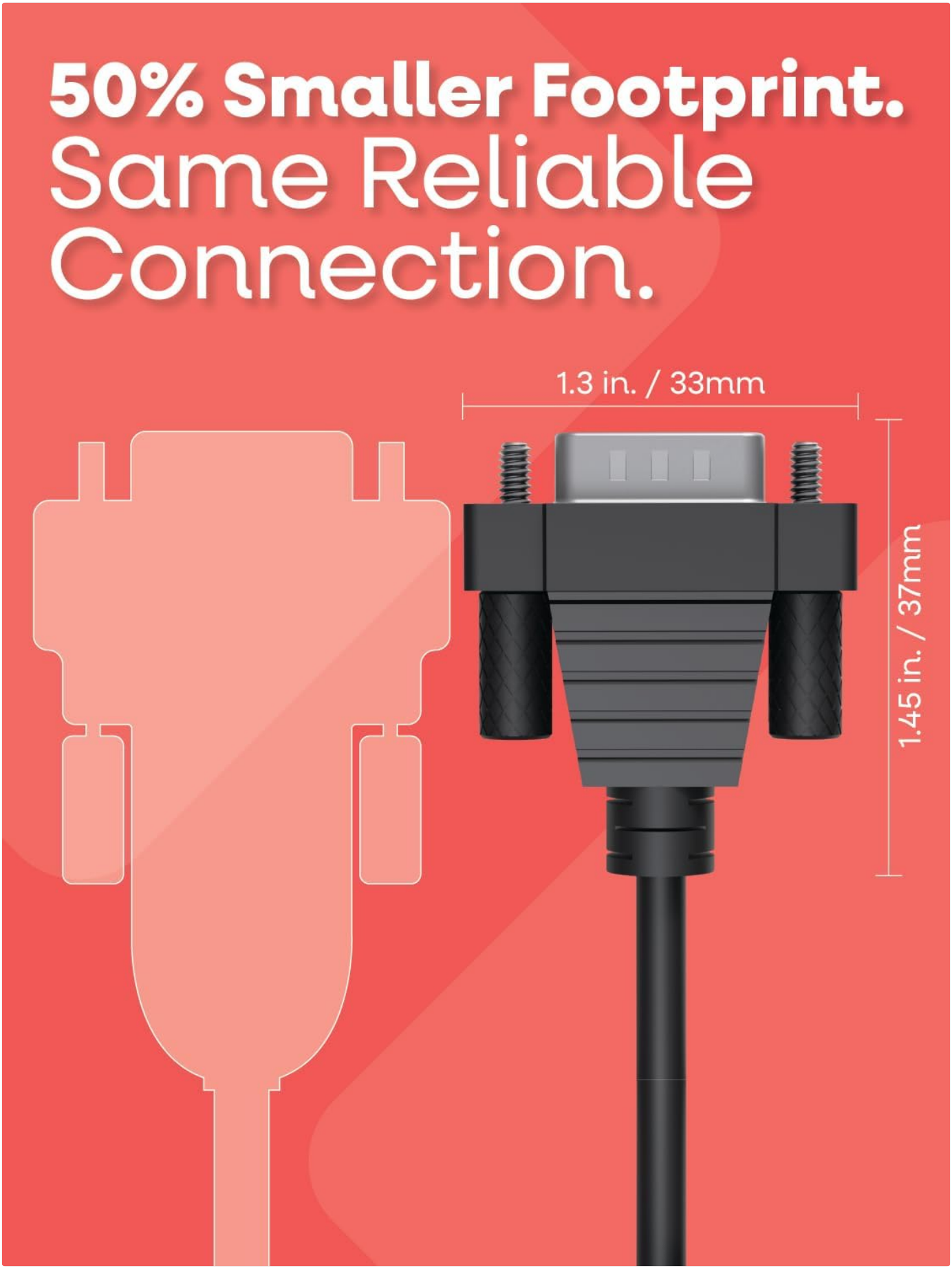


Image 1.1: The Gearmo Ultra Compact 8 Inch USB to Serial Cable, featuring a USB-A connector on one end and a DB9 male serial connector on the other.

2. Package Contents

- 1 x Gearmo Ultra Compact 8 Inch USB to Serial Cable (Model USA-FTDI-8)
- 1 x Driver Installation CD (for systems requiring manual driver installation)



Image 2.1: Contents of the package, including the USB to serial cable and a driver installation CD.

3. System Requirements

- Available USB 1.1 or 2.0 port
- Operating System: Windows 7, 8, 10, 11 (64-bit compatible), macOS 10.X, or Linux
- RS-232 DB9 female serial port on the device to be connected



Image 3.1: Visual representation of supported operating systems, including Windows, Mac OS, and Linux.

4. Setup Instructions

1. **Connect the Serial Device:** Plug the DB9 male connector of the Gearmo USB to Serial Cable into the RS-232 DB9 female serial port of your peripheral device (e.g., printer, modem, CNC machine, PLC, radio). Ensure a secure connection.
2. **Connect to Computer:** Insert the USB-A connector of the cable into an available USB port on your computer.

3. **Driver Installation:**
    - **Automatic Installation:** For most modern operating systems (Windows 7, 8, 10, 11, macOS 10.X, Linux), the necessary FTDI drivers will install automatically upon connection. Your computer may display a notification indicating successful driver installation.
    - **Manual Installation:** If automatic installation does not occur, or for older operating systems, insert the provided driver CD into your computer's optical drive and follow the on-screen instructions to install the drivers. Alternatively, the latest drivers can be downloaded from the Gearmo support website.
4. **Verify Installation (Windows):** After driver installation, open Device Manager (search for "Device Manager" in the Start menu). Expand the "Ports (COM & LPT)" section. You should see an entry for "USB Serial Port (COMX)", where X is the assigned COM port number.

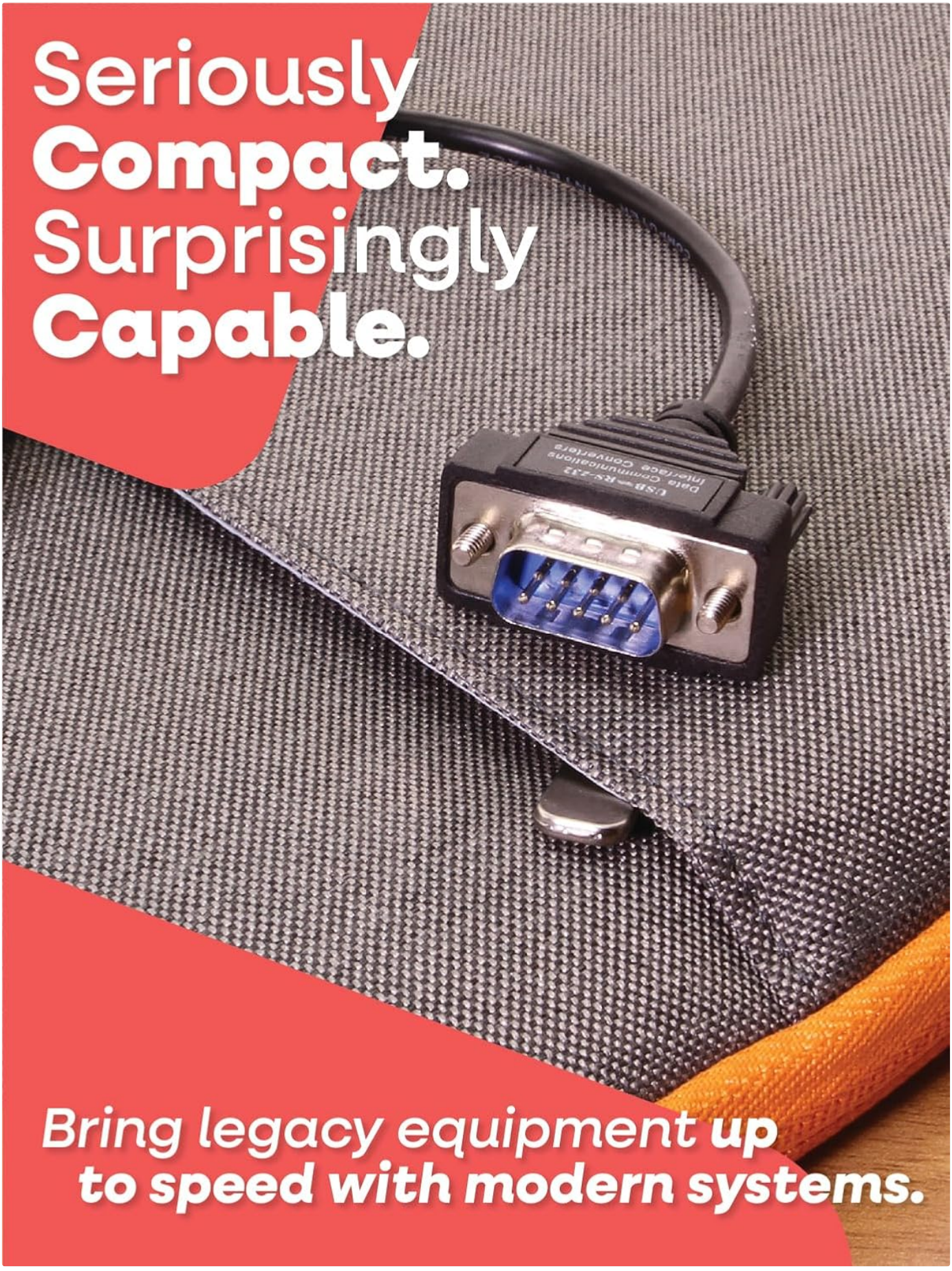


Image 4.1: The compact design of the USB to serial adapter, highlighting its small footprint for easy integration.

5. Operating Instructions

Once the drivers are successfully installed and the cable is connected, your computer will recognize the serial port. You can now use your serial communication software (e.g., PuTTY, HyperTerminal, terminal emulators) to interact with your connected serial device.

1. **Identify COM Port:** Refer to Device Manager (Windows) or equivalent system information tools (macOS/Linux) to identify the COM port number assigned to the USB Serial Port.
2. **Configure Software:** Open your serial communication software and configure it with the correct COM port number, baud rate, data bits, parity, and stop bits as required by your serial device.
3. **Establish Connection:** Initiate the connection within your software. You should now be able to send and receive data from your serial device.

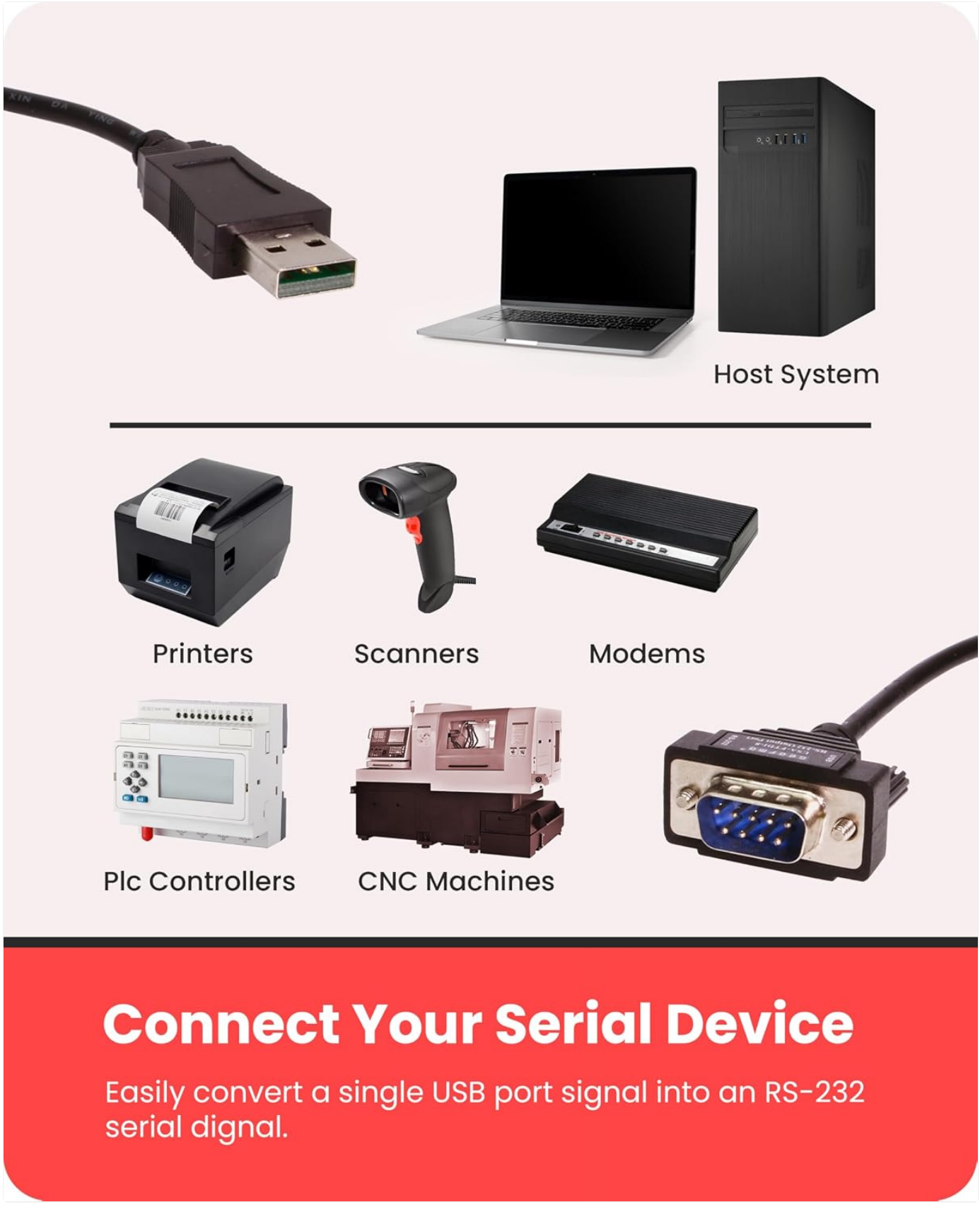


Image 5.1: Examples of devices compatible with the USB to serial adapter, including printers, scanners, modems, PLC controllers, and CNC machines.

6. Maintenance

The Gearmo USB to Serial Cable is designed for durability and reliable performance. To ensure its longevity:

- Store the cable in a clean, dry environment when not in use.

- Avoid bending or kinking the cable sharply, especially near the connectors.
- Do not expose the cable to extreme temperatures or direct sunlight.
- Clean the connectors gently with a dry, lint-free cloth if necessary.

7. Troubleshooting

7.1. Device Not Recognized / Driver Issues

- **Re-plug the Cable:** Disconnect and reconnect the USB cable to a different USB port on your computer.
- **Reinstall Drivers:** If automatic installation failed, try installing drivers manually from the provided CD or download the latest FTDI drivers from the Gearmo support website.
- **Check Device Manager (Windows):** Look for any yellow exclamation marks next to the "USB Serial Port" entry, indicating a driver issue. Right-click and select "Update Driver" or "Uninstall device" and then re-plug the cable.
- **Verify FTDI Chipset:** This cable uses an authentic FTDI chipset, which generally ensures broad compatibility and stable drivers. Ensure no conflicting drivers from other serial adapters are present.

7.2. Communication Errors / No Data Transfer

- **Verify COM Port:** Ensure your serial communication software is configured to use the correct COM port number assigned to the Gearmo adapter in Device Manager.
- **Check Serial Settings:** Confirm that the baud rate, data bits, parity, and stop bits in your software match the requirements of your serial device. Incorrect settings are a common cause of communication failure.
- **COM Port Conflicts (Windows):** If your software requires a specific COM port (e.g., COM1), you can change the assigned port in Device Manager. Right-click on "USB Serial Port (COMX)", go to "Properties" > "Port Settings" > "Advanced", and select an unused COM port.
- **Cable Connection:** Ensure both the USB and DB9 connectors are firmly seated.
- **Device Power:** Confirm that your serial device is powered on and functioning correctly.

7.3. RS-232 Pin-Out Information

The DB9 connector on this cable follows the standard RS-232 pin assignment. Refer to the diagram below for pin identification:

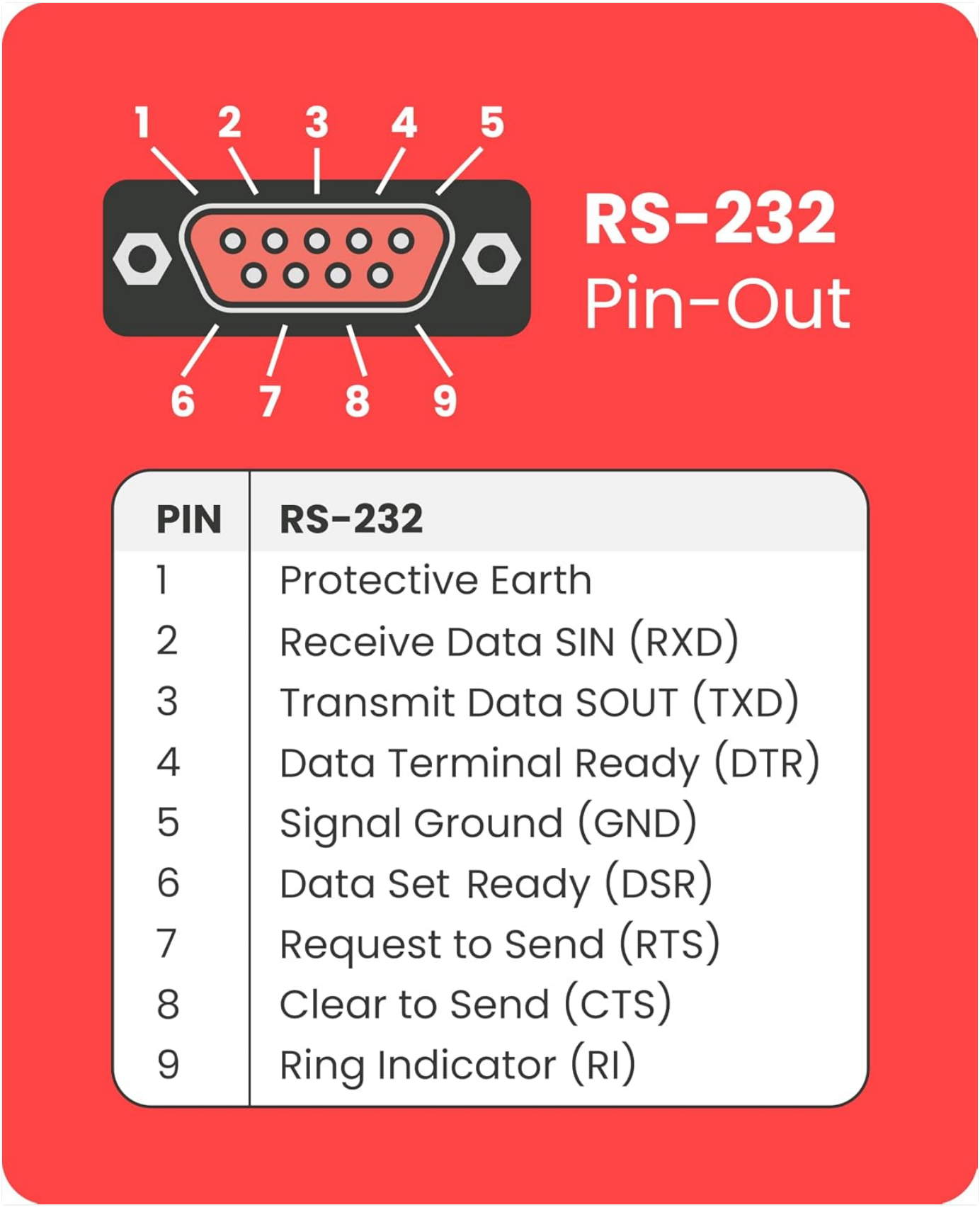


Image 7.1: Detailed pin-out diagram for the RS-232 DB9 connector, showing the function of each of the 9 pins.

RS-232 DB9 Pin Assignment

PIN	RS-232 Signal
1	Protective Earth
2	Receive Data SIN (RXD)

PIN	RS-232 Signal
3	Transmit Data SOUT (TXD)
4	Data Terminal Ready (DTR)
5	Signal Ground (GND)
6	Data Set Ready (DSR)
7	Request to Send (RTS)
8	Clear to Send (CTS)
9	Ring Indicator (RI)

8. Specifications

- **Model Number:** USA-FTDI-8
- **Cable Length:** 8 inches
- **Connectors:** USB-A Male to RS-232 DB9 Male with Screws
- **Chipset:** FTDI
- **USB Compliance:** USB 1.1 and 2.0 compliant
- **Operating System Compatibility:** Windows 7, 8, 10, 11 (64-bit compatible), macOS 10.X, Linux
- **Compatible Devices:** Devices with RS-232 DB9 female serial ports such as printers, modems, CNC machines, PLCs, radios, and other legacy serial equipment.
- **Color:** Black
- **Item Weight:** 1 ounce
- **Product Dimensions (Approximate):** 5 x 4 x 1 inches (packaging)

9. Warranty Information

For detailed warranty information regarding your Gearmo USB to Serial Cable, please refer to the documentation included with your purchase or visit the official Gearmo website. Warranty terms and conditions may vary.

10. Support

If you require technical assistance, have questions about product integration, or need access to CAD files, mechanical drawings, or datasheets, please contact Gearmo customer support. Visit the official Gearmo website for contact information and additional resources.
Gearmo Website: Gearmo Official Store

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