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BENFEI USB to RS-232 DB9 Male Serial Adapter (Model 000151) Instruction Manual

1. INTRODUCTION

The BENFEI USB to RS-232 DB9 Male Serial Adapter provides a reliable solution for connecting serial devices to modern computers lacking a dedicated serial port. This adapter facilitates communication between your computer's USB port and various serial peripherals, ensuring seamless data transfer.

Key features include a robust Prolific PL-2303 Chipset for broad operating system compatibility and a 1.8-meter cable length for flexible setup. It supports data transfer rates up to 1Mbps, making it suitable for a wide range of applications.



Figure 1: BENFEI USB to RS-232 DB9 Male Serial Adapter.

2. SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Detail
Product Dimensions	0.39 x 0.39 x 0.39 inches
Item Weight	1 ounces
Model Number	000151
Connector Type	USB Type A Male to DB9 Male RS-232
Chipset	Prolific PL-2303
Cable Length	1.8 meters
Conductor	Tinned Copper (Wire gauge #24#28)
Shielding	Triple Shielding

Feature	Detail
Power Source	USB Bus Powered (No external adapter required)
Color	Black

3. COMPATIBILITY

This adapter is designed for broad compatibility with various operating systems and serial devices:

3.1 Operating System Compatibility

- Windows: 11, 10, 8.1, 8, 7, XP, Vista, 2000, 98
- Mac OS: X 10.6 and above
- Linux: 2.4.0 and later

3.2 Device Compatibility

The adapter connects to a wide range of RS-232 DB9 serial devices, including but not limited to:

- Serial Modems
- ISDN Terminal Adapters
- Digital Cameras
- Label Writers
- Palm PCs
- Barcode Scanners
- PDAs
- Printers (with serial interface)
- Network Switches (for console access)
- PLC Controllers

3.3 Important Note: Not for VGA

This adapter is specifically designed for RS-232 serial communication and is **not compatible with VGA (Video Graphics Array) monitors or other video output devices**. The DB9 connector on this cable is for data transfer, not video signals. VGA connectors typically have 15 pins, while this adapter uses a 9-pin DB9 connector for serial data.

RS232/DB9 Interface



DB9(Male)RS232



9 Pin



9 Pin RS232 Male Plug

Yes

Serial data cable

9 Pin RS232 male port

Note: It's NOT a USB to VGA Cable!



VGA



15 Pin



9 Hole RS232 Female Socket

No

Monitor video cable

9 Pin RS232 female port

9 Pin EGA/CGA/RGB port

15 Pin VGA port

Figure 2: Distinction between DB9 (RS232) and VGA connectors.

Universal Compatibility

USB-A ✓



Desktop PC



Laptop



RS-232 ✓



Printer



Label Printer



Scanner



Network Switches



Modems



Plc Controllers



VGA X



TV X



display X



projector X

Figure 3: Devices compatible with the BENFEI USB to Serial Adapter.

4. SETUP INSTRUCTIONS

Follow these steps for initial setup and driver installation:

4.1 Driver Installation

- Download Drivers:** For first-time use, driver installation is required. Visit the official BENFEI website to download the latest drivers for the Prolific PL-2303 chipset. The driver download page can typically be found at https://www.think-benfei.com/alternative_driver.html.
- Install Drivers:** Run the downloaded driver installer and follow the on-screen prompts to complete the installation. Restart your computer if prompted.

Driver Installation Is Needed For The First Time Use

Please get the driver from BENFEI website



Multi-system Compatibility

Figure 4: Driver installation is necessary for initial use.

4.2 Connecting the Adapter

- Connect to Computer:** Plug the USB Type-A end of the adapter into an available USB port on your computer.
- Connect to Serial Device:** Connect the DB9 Male end of the adapter to the DB9 Female serial port on your peripheral device. Ensure the screws are tightened to secure the connection.

After successful driver installation and connection, your operating system should recognize the adapter as a virtual COM port.

5. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

Once the BENFEI USB to RS-232 DB9 Male Serial Adapter is installed and connected, it functions as a standard serial port on your computer. To operate your serial device:

- Identify COM Port:** Open your computer's Device Manager (Windows) or System Information (Mac OS) to identify the assigned COM port number for the USB-to-Serial adapter.
- Use Serial Communication Software:** Launch the specific software or application designed to communicate with your serial device.
- Configure Settings:** Within the software, select the identified COM port and configure the serial

communication parameters (e.g., baud rate, data bits, parity, stop bits, flow control) to match those required by your serial device. Refer to your serial device's manual for correct settings.

4. **Initiate Communication:** Once configured, you can initiate data transfer or control commands through the software.

6. TROUBLESHOOTING

If you encounter issues with your BENFEI USB to RS-232 DB9 Male Serial Adapter, consider the following troubleshooting steps:

- **Device Not Recognized:**
 - Ensure the USB cable is securely plugged into both the computer and the serial device.
 - Try connecting the adapter to a different USB port on your computer.
 - Verify that the drivers are correctly installed. Check Device Manager for any yellow exclamation marks next to the serial port entry.
- **Driver Issues:**
 - If the device is not appearing as a COM port or shows an error, uninstall the current driver and reinstall the latest version from the official BENFEI website.
 - Ensure your operating system is supported by the Prolific PL-2303 chipset drivers.
- **No Communication with Serial Device:**
 - Confirm that the COM port number and all serial communication settings (baud rate, data bits, parity, stop bits, flow control) in your software match those of your serial device.
 - Check the physical connection of the DB9 connector. Ensure the screws are tightened to prevent loose connections.
 - Verify the serial device itself is powered on and functioning correctly.
- **Incorrect Pin Assignment:**
 - The DB9 Male connector has a standard pin assignment. If you are working with custom serial devices, ensure their pinout matches the standard RS-232 configuration.

DB9 Male Pin Assignment

1 DCD Data carrier detect	2 RXD Received data	3 TXD Transmitted data
4 DTR Data terminology ready	5 GND Common ground	6 DSR Data set ready
7 RTS Request to send	8 CTS Clear to send	9 RI Ring indicator



Figure 5: Standard DB9 Male Pin Assignment.

7. MAINTENANCE

To ensure the longevity and optimal performance of your BENFEI USB to RS-232 DB9 Male Serial Adapter, follow these simple maintenance guidelines:

- **Storage:** Store the cable in a cool, dry place away from direct sunlight and extreme temperatures.
- **Handling:** Avoid bending or kinking the cable sharply, as this can damage the internal conductors and shielding.
- **Cleaning:** Use a soft, dry cloth to clean the cable and connectors. Do not use liquid cleaners or solvents.
- **Connection:** Always grasp the connector housing when plugging or unplugging the cable, rather than pulling on the cable itself.

8. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

BENFEI provides an exclusive **18-month warranty** for this product, ensuring long-term satisfaction with your purchase. This warranty covers manufacturing defects and ensures the product performs as described.

For technical assistance, troubleshooting, or warranty claims, please contact BENFEI customer service. You can typically find contact information on the official BENFEI website or through your purchase platform.

Related Documents - 000151

	<p><u>Troubleshooting Guide for BENFEI Gigabit Ethernet Adapter</u></p> <p>Step-by-step troubleshooting guide for the BENFEI USB 3.0 to RJ45 Gigabit LAN Adapter, covering driver installation and network connectivity issues for various operating systems.</p>
	<p><u>BENFEI USB 3.0 to HDMI Adapter User Manual</u></p> <p>User manual for the BENFEI USB 3.0 to HDMI Adapter, detailing its features, specifications, how to use it, and troubleshooting tips. Supports Windows operating systems.</p>
	<p><u>BENFEI USB to VGA Adapter User Manual</u></p> <p>User manual for the BENFEI USB 3.0 to VGA Adapter, detailing its features, specifications, connection, and troubleshooting.</p>
	<p><u>BENFEI USB 3.0 to VGA Adapter User Manual and Guide</u></p> <p>Comprehensive user manual for the BENFEI USB 3.0 to VGA Adapter, detailing installation, connection, specifications, and troubleshooting for connecting USB 3.0 enabled devices to VGA displays. Learn about OS compatibility and common issues.</p>
	<p><u>BENFEI USB C to HDMI Adapter Troubleshooting Manual</u></p> <p>A troubleshooting guide for the BENFEI USB C to HDMI Adapter, covering common issues and compatibility checks for various devices.</p>
	<p><u>Benfei Wireless USB-C to HDMI Transmitter and Receiver User Manual</u></p> <p>Comprehensive user guide for the Benfei Wireless USB-C to HDMI Transmitter and Receiver, detailing setup, operation, and specifications for seamless wireless display connectivity.</p>