

ATI Catalyst Driver Installation Guide

Win XP or Win Vista

Rev. A

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Purpose:

Drivers are the driving force behind your graphics card and tell the OS how to communicate with the graphics card and with games. Drivers are frequently updated by the manufacturer, in this case ATI with the intent to solve issues and improve performance. To many, simply uninstalling older drives via the Add/Remove Control Panel, rebooting, and then installing the new drivers is a good enough procedure that works just fine in most cases and it's true, it usually works just fine but sometimes using that method still leaves traces of the older drivers on your system which can lead to problems. Problems like system instability, poor performance, and driver conflicts caused by improperly uninstalled older drivers. Therefore I recommend you use the full uninstall method which will minimize the possibilities of having any problems with the newer drivers.

Tools:

CCleaner (Freeware): <http://www.ccleaner.com/>

Driver Sweeper (Freeware): <http://www.guru3d.com/category/driversweeper/>

Step by Step Procedures:

1. Download the newest drivers from <http://ati.amd.com/support/driver.html>
2. Reboot your computer.
3. Now, go to, Control Panel > Add/Remove and select the "ATI Software Uninstall Utility".
4. If you DO NOT have an AMD motherboard select "Completely Remove" if you do have an AMD motherboard select the other option.
5. When it prompts you to reboot click "No".
6. Navigate to your C:\ drive and delete the ATI folder.
7. Go to Start > Run > and type "REGEDIT".
8. Navigate to HKEY_CURRENT_USER > Software > and delete the folder labeled "ATI".
9. Navigate to HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE > SOFTWARE > and delete the folders labeled "ATI, ATI Technologies, and ATI Technologies Inc."
10. Close the registry.
11. Open CCleaner, go to the "Registry" tab click on "Scan for Issues" and then hit "Fix the Selected Issues".
12. Open Driver Sweeper, select "ATI", then hit analyze and then clean, when prompted to reboot hit yes.
13. Boot into Safe Mode (F8 During Bootup). **~VERY IMPORTANT**
14. Run DriverSweeper again using the same method as above. **~VERY IMPORTANT**
15. Reboot.
16. Install new drivers.
17. Reboot.
18. Your new drivers are ready to use.