Installing the Altera USB ByteBlaster in Windows Vista (32bit or 64bit)

Step 1: Plug in the ByteBlaster, a dialog box similar to the following will appear.

![Dialog box](image)

Step 2: You have two choices. You can select **Locate and Install Driver**, or **Don't show this message again for this device**. I recommend you choose **Don't show this message again**.

If you picked **Locate and Install Driver**, Windows will search for the driver and probably fail. After it does you will see the following dialog box.

![Dialog box](image)

Click **I don't have the disc. Show me other options** and go to step 3.

If you selected **Don't show this message again** open your **Device Manager** from the **Control Panel**. You will see the following window with **USB-Blaster** listed under **Other devices**. Right-Click on this device and choose **Update Driver Software**...
Step 3: Click Browse my computer for driver software (advanced).

Step 4: Click on the Browse.. button and navigate to the drivers/usb-blaster folder (typically C:\altera\80sp1\quartus\drivers\usb-blaster). Make sure Include subfolders is checked as in the image below.
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Step 5: When the following dialog box pops up, click **Install this driver software anyway**.

Step 6: You should see this dialog box, and you're done! Maybe... if you didn't get this, head down to troubleshooting.
Troubleshooting:

Nothing popped up when I plugged in my ByteBlaster.
Go to the Device Manager. Look for USB-Blaster under Other devices. If it exists, go to step 2 above, and continue from If you selected Don't show me...

I don't see USB-Blaster under Other Devices.
Open the Device Manager. Look for Altera USB-Blaster under Universal Serial Bus controllers. If it is there, then Windows thinks the device was properly installed. If the programmer doesn't work in Quartus, right click on Altera USB-Blaster in the Device Manager and choose Uninstall. Be sure to click the checkbox Delete the driver software for this device. Unplug the ByteBlaster, plug it back in and start from the beginning of this guide.

Windows finds the driver, but fails installing with a funny little error that says “Blah blah blah, another service with the same name already exists.”.
This is a pretty rare error, and hopefully you're comfortable with your computer to fix it. Open the start menu and type RegEdit.exe in the box at the bottom and press enter. If you are running in a classic theme rather than the newer Vista themes, click on Run.. then type in RegEdit.exe and press enter.
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In the left browser on the window that pops up, navigate to

HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE->SYSTEM->CurrentControlSet->Services->USBBLSTR

(Yours might say AlteraUSBBlaster it depends on your operating system. Since mine is 64-bit this is what I saw).

IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT YOU MAKE SURE YOU HAVE THE AlteraUSB-Blaster Device Driver SERVICE SELECTED!!!! Look in the second image below for clarification. Once you are sure this is the right service, delete the registry entry. IF YOU DELETE THE WRONG ENTRY YOU CAN MAKE YOUR COMPUTER CRASH/UNSTABLE/UNBOOTABLE!!! Unplug the ByteBlaster and reboot. When the computer is restarted, plug in your ByteBlaster and start again from the beginning of this guide.
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Browse into this folder...
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Make sure it’s the right key!! Delete it!

If you still have problems, let someone know and we'll work it out.