

# DisplayLink

## DisplayLink 3.0 Devices

This HOWTO covers how to configure and install the DisplayLink driver (evdi) for USB 3.0 devices, and has been tested under Slackware 14.1 and newer. For older devices (e.g. USB 2.0), the udl driver should work with minimal configuration needed.



Older versions of the DisplayLink driver installed themselves in `/usr/lib/displaylink` instead of the path `/opt/displaylink` which is used in the instructions below

### Preparation

In order to install the `evdi` driver, you will need to install [dkms](#), which can be grabbed from SlackBuilds.org using your favorite method. To install it manually:

```
# wget https://slackbuilds.org/slackbuilds/14.2/development/dkms.tar.gz
# tar xvf dkms.tar.gz
# cd dkms
# wget https://github.com/dell/dkms/archive/v2.4.0/dkms-2.4.0.tar.gz
# sh dkms.SlackBuild
```

After installing dkms, reboot your system.

### Installing evdi

Grab the current DisplayLink USB Graphics Driver for Ubuntu here:

<http://www.displaylink.com/downloads/ubuntu>.

After downloading, you'll need to extract the driver and run the installer script (adjust for the current version number and make sure to run the script as root):

```
# unzip DisplayLink USB Graphics Software for Ubuntu 1.3.54.zip
# sh displaylink-driver-1.3.54.run
Verifying archive integrity... All good.
DisplayLink Linux Software 1.3.54 install script called: install
WARNING: Unknown distribution, assuming default - this may fail.
Installing
Configuring EVDI DKMS module
Registering EVDI kernel module with DKMS
Building EVDI kernel module with DKMS
Installing EVDI kernel module to kernel tree
```

```
EVDI kernel module built successfully
Installing x64/DisplayLinkManager
Installing libraries
Installing firmware packages
Installing license file
Adding udev rule for DisplayLink DL-3xxx/5xxx devices
```

The WARNING messages are simply due to Slackware not being a “supported” distribution, and should not cause issue. Likewise, you might see a warning about the `lsb-release` command, which can also safely be ignoring. Once complete, the `evdi` module should be available. Restarting once more is recommended.

## Starting DisplayLinkManager

In order to manually start the `evdi` module and `DisplayLinkManager`, run the following:

```
# modprobe evdi
# cd /opt/displaylink
# ./DisplayLinkManager &
```



In testing, `DisplayLinkManager` did not seem to run properly unless executed by root and from the `/opt/displaylink` directory. Keep that in mind when manually, or automatically, calling the program.

Once running, you should be able to identify your new display(s) in `xrandr`:

```
$ xrandr --listproviders
```

Your native display (if on a laptop), will be Provider 0, with any connected monitors showing as 1, 2, etc. Assuming they are shown properly, enable them:

```
$ xrandr --setprovideroutputsource 1 0
```

Replace 1 with the number of your external display(s). Once active, they should show in `xrandr` or your chosen display settings, and can be configured properly.

## Automatically Loading on Boot

Since `DisplayLink` support is still pretty finicky, you might have to get creative with loading the module and starting `DisplayLinkManager` on boot. You should be able to add the following to `/etc/rc.d/rc.modules.local` to load `evdi`:

```
/sbin/modprobe evdi    # DisplayLink
```

In order to start `DisplayLinkManager`, you can add the following to `/etc/rc.d/rc.local`:

```
cd /opt/displaylink && ./DisplayLinkManager &
```

From there, you'll only need to run (or script) the `xrandr` command to activate monitors on boot. One example is to add them to a script, like this:

```
#!/bin/bash
#
# Activate external, USB-driven monitors.
#

for x in `xrandr --listproviders | grep "Provider " | awk '{print $2}' | awk
-F\: '{print $1}'`;
do
    if [ $x -gt 0 ];
    then
        xrandr --setprovideroutputsource $x 0;
    fi;
done;
```

## DisplayLink 2.0 Devices

For devices and docks using USB 2.0, the built-in `udl` module should be sufficient to enable external monitors.

## See Also

- [DisplayLink on ArchWiki](#)
- [Official DisplayLink Linux Forum](#)

[howtos](#), [hardware](#), [displaylink](#), [evdi](#), author [matthew salazar](#)

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