



FTDI Cable 5V VCC-3.3V I/O

DEV-09717 ROHS ✓

★★★★☆ 10

DESCRIPTION

DOCUMENTS



The FTDI cable is a USB to Serial (TTL level) converter which allows for a simple way to connect TTL interface devices to USB. The VCC pins of this FTDI cable are configured to operate at 5V with 3.3V I/O.

The FTDI cable is designed around an FT232RQ, which is housed in a USB A connector. The other side of the cable is terminated with a 0.1" pitch, 6-pin connector with the following pinout: RTS, RX, TX, 5V, CTS, GND (RTS is the green cable and GND is black).

This cable has almost the same pinout and functionality as our [FTDI Basic Breakout](#) board; you can use it to program your [Arduino Pro](#), [Pro Mini](#) and [Lilypad](#), etc. For use with those boards, align the black and green wires of the FTDI cable with the 'BLK' and 'GRN' labels on the PCB. The difference between this cable and the FTDI Basic Breakout is the cable has a 5V Vcc where as the breakout has a 3.3V Vcc. You will still be able to program an Aruidno Pro, Pro Mini, Lilypad, etc. The 5V Vcc supply will not damage these Arduino circuit boards.

Originally, the cable was designed to have 3.3V VCC, however something was lost in translation between SparkFun and our supplier and we got stuck with a whole bunch of FTDI cables that have a slight mix up in wiring. These have 5V VCC, and 3.3V I/O. The 5V Vcc output shouldn't be a problem unless this cable is being used to power a sensitive circuit such as a sensor.

There are pros and cons to the FTDI Cable vs the FTDI Basic. The FTDI Basic has great LED indicators, but requires a Mini-B cable. The FTDI Cable is well protected against the elements, but is large and cannot be embedded into a project as easily. The FTDI Basic uses DTR to cause a hardware reset where the FTDI cable uses the RTS signal.

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FTDI Cable 5V VCC-3.3V I/O Product Help and Resources

TUTORIALS



How to Install FTDI Drivers

JUNE 4, 2013

How to install drivers for the FTDI Basic on Windows, Mac OS X, and Linux.



SparkFun USB to Serial UART Boards Hookup Guide

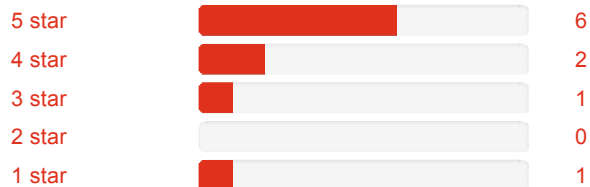
FEBRUARY 18, 2016

How to use the SparkFun FTDI based boards to program an Arduino and access another serial device over the hardware serial port, without unplugging anything!

Customer Reviews

★★★★★ 4.2 out of 5

Based on 10 ratings:



Currently viewing all customer reviews.

1 of 1 found this helpful:

☆☆☆☆☆ sigh

last year by **Member #820513** ✓ verified purchaser

So after blowing 2x ESP8266 modules, i put a voltage meter on the VCC cable and saw the 5v output... nearly ready to lose me ***.... *i read the item discription again and saw the forewarning that this cable outputs 5v.....*
sigh

Dont make the same mistake i made! get a voltage regulator if you plan to use this cable with a 3.3v device!!

★★★★☆ Great cable, a bit expensive.

about 2 years ago by **Member #187815** ✓ verified purchaser

I'd put this cable at just okay especially if you compare it to the other ftdi cables and boards Sparkfun sells.

cons: 1) You can't power a 3.3v device from it.

2) It's more expensive then the other sparkfun cables (eg CAB-12977 is half the price). It seems weird to me that you pay such a premium for having a few extra handshake pins broken out.

Pros: 1) In spite of con the cons The fact that the handshake pins are there and the fact that the electronics are not exposed, making it a bit more durable is absolutely worth it for me. 2) The FTDI chip is much more reliable than the prolific chips, which I've had flake out on me.

★★★★★ 3.3 OR 5V?

about 2 years ago by **RuralGuru** ✓ verified purchaser

I got this to communicate with the Arduino Fio and have since used it with the RN52 breakout, and a few other projects. Has been handy as heck. The only downside i see in the future is that the wires going to the 6-pin connector are twisted around one another and seem to be the point that will ultimately fail. But I don't have a fix for it so i reckon they did as good as could be asked.

★★★★★ It Works

about a year ago by **Member #687255** ✓ verified purchaser

It's an FTDI cable....need I say more?

★★★★☆ Pretty good

about a year ago by **Skye** ✓ verified purchaser

The cable works as advertised. I only wished that the power was at 3V3 like the logic. But that issue was described on the product page. I has several of these and will continue to buy them till such time as the power issue is corrected.

★★★★★ As advertised

Downloaded from **Arrow.com** ✓ verified purchaser

Works great, no complaints

★★★★★ **Extremely useful!**

about 2 months ago by **Member #922507** 

Having proper 5V USB, but being able to communicate with 3.3V microcontrollers is hugely useful.

★★★★☆ **Works as advertised.**

about 3 years ago by **Svartalf** 

Need a terminal for a Beaglebone or Arduino derivative as mentioned- but don't have the footprint/profile for the breakout board (it is possible...it's why I had to buy several of these gems over time...)? This is your answer to that "problem" with the breakouts.



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In 2003, CU student Nate Seidle blew a power supply in his dorm room and, in lieu of a way to order easy replacements, decided to start his own company. Since then, SparkFun has been committed to sustainably helping our world achieve electronics literacy from our headquarters in Boulder, Colorado.

No matter your vision, SparkFun's products and resources are designed to make the world of electronics more accessible. In addition to over 2,000 open source components and widgets, SparkFun offers curriculum, training and online tutorials designed to help demystify the wonderful world of embedded electronics. We're here to help you start something.

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