

# **AX88178 Mac OS X Driver Installation Guide**

Revision 2.01  
Aug. 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2012

## Revision History

Revision	Date	Description
1.00	2010/08/12	Initial release.
1.10	2011/04/27	Modified the script files in Appendix.
1.20	2011/08/15	Added Mac OS X 10.7 support.
1.30	2011/09/14	Modified the description to exclude Mac OS X 10.4 support.
1.31	2011/10/13	Rearranged the document format and added more detailed driver installation/uninstallation procedures information.
1.32	2011/10/14	1. Moved some Section 1 descriptions to Appendix A.
2.00	2012/08/03	1. Changed the document name to "AX88178 Mac OSX Driver Installation Guide". 2. Removed AX88772B/AX88772A/AX88760/AX88772 related information. 3. Added Appendix C "Apple Mac OSX Native USB to LAN Drivers Supported Devices List". 4. Modified some descriptions in Section 1 and 2.
2.01	2012/08/22	1. Added Section 4 "Troubleshooting".

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## 1. Introduction

This document contains the installation and uninstallation information of ASIX's AX88178 Mac OS X 10.4 to 10.8 driver.

The native "AppleUSBGigEthernet" driver of Mac OS X 10.8/10.7/10.6/10.5 systems already support some of major AX88178 dongles so users need not to manually install ASIX's standard AX88178 Mac OSX driver if you don't have any issue on Apple's native driver.

Some of AX88178 dongles are not supported by the native "AppleUSBGigEthernet" driver of Mac OS X 10.8/10.7/10.6/10.5/10.4 systems so users MUST manually install this AX88178 Mac OSX driver especially after upgrading OS X 10.8 system from Mac OSX 10.7 system.

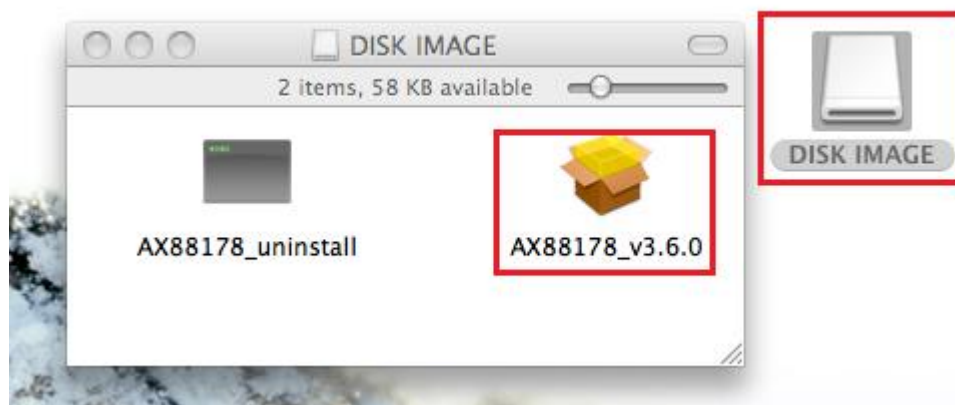
If both Apple's native driver and ASIX's standard driver couldn't work fine with your USB-to-LAN dongle, please contact the support guys of your USB-to-LAN dongle manufacturer for further support.

## 2. Driver Installation Procedures

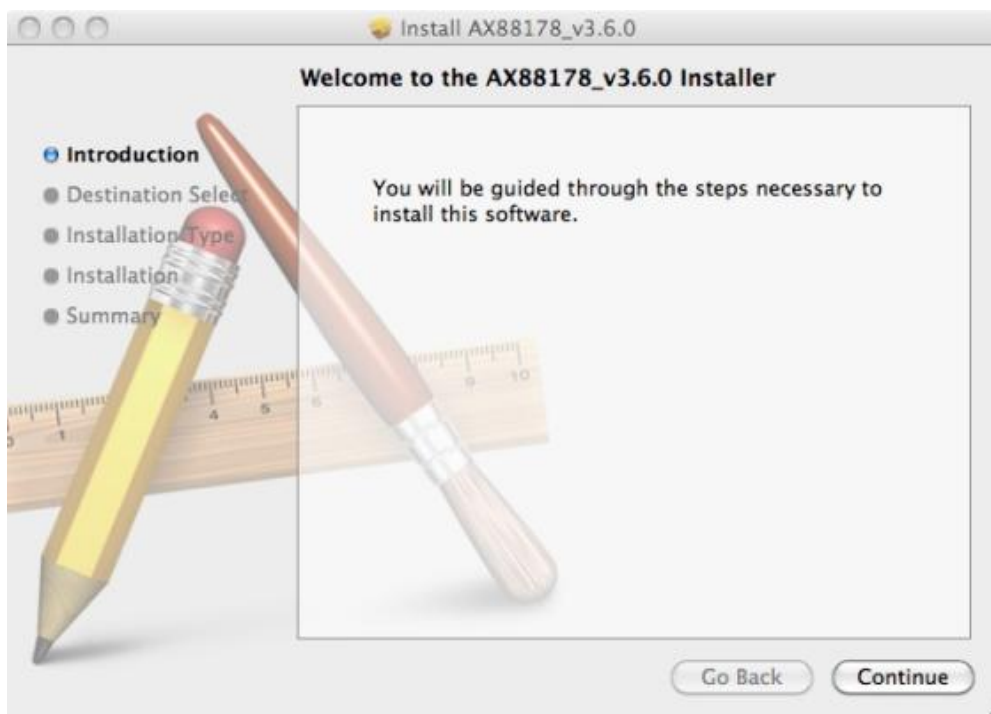
The AX88178 Mac OSX driver installation package is "**AX88178.dmg**".

The following is an example of ASIX's AX88178 Mac OSX driver installation procedures.

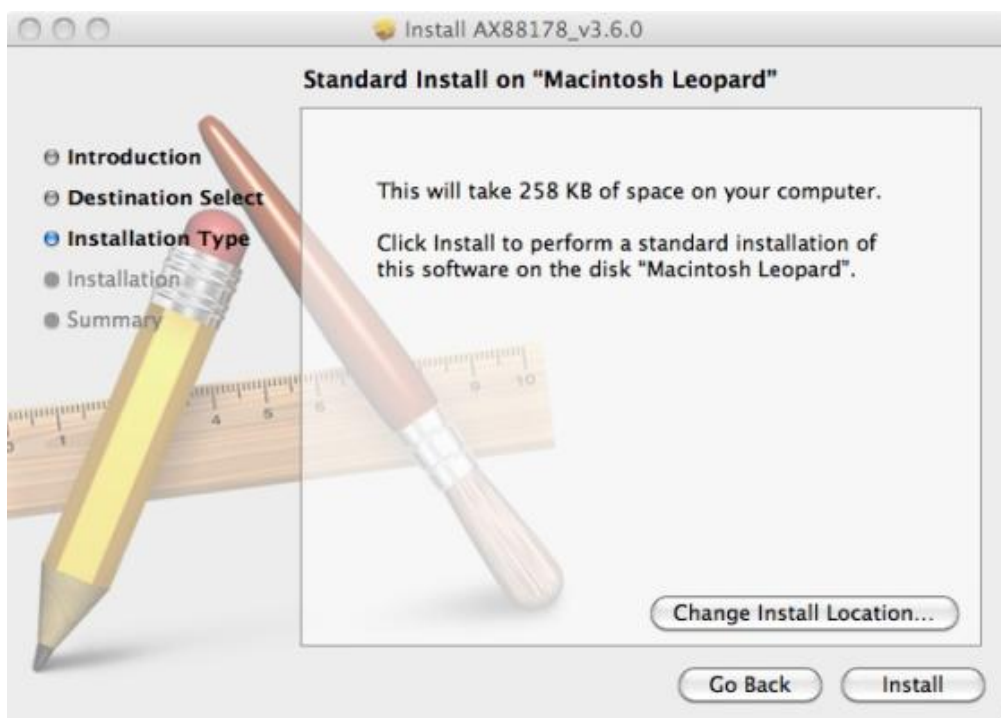
Step 1: Click the "AX88178.dmg", the following "DISK IMAGE" virtual disk will be appeared on the Desktop of your Mac OSX system. (This "DISK IMAGE" virtual disk will be auto-removed after rebooting Mac OSX system.)



Step 2: Click the “AX88178\_v3.6.0.pkg”, the following driver setup dialog will appear. Click the [Continue] button to start the installation operation and follow the instructions to continue the installation.



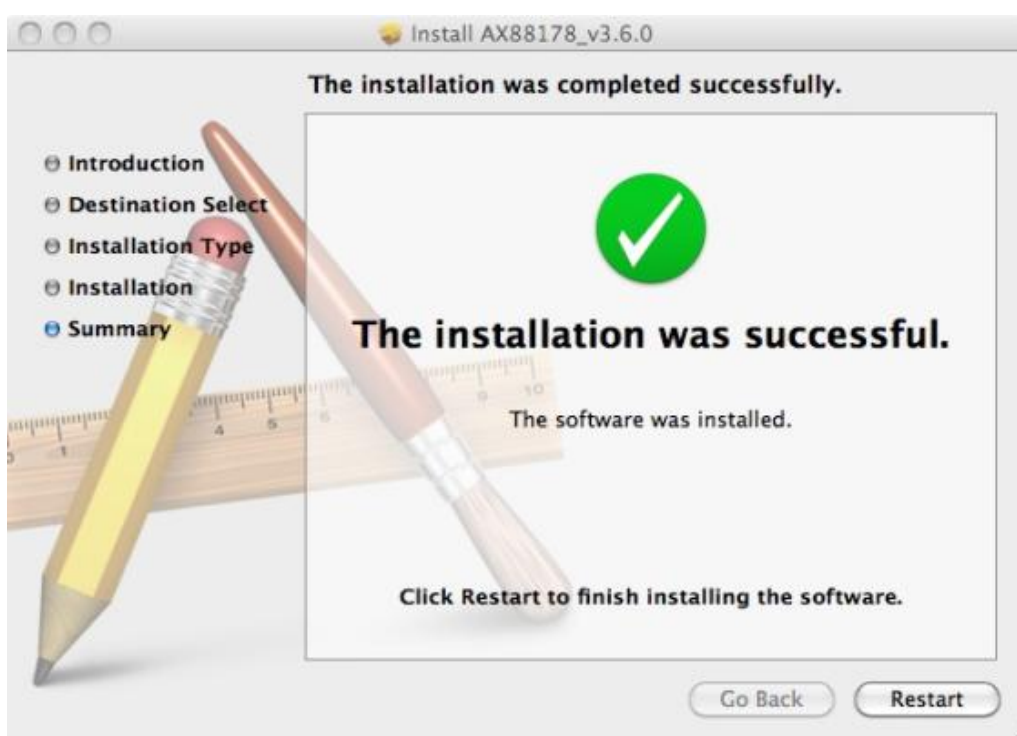
Step 3: Click the [Install] button to continue the installation operation. You might need to enter your user/password during the driver installation.



Step 4: Click the [Continue Installation] button to continue the installation operation.

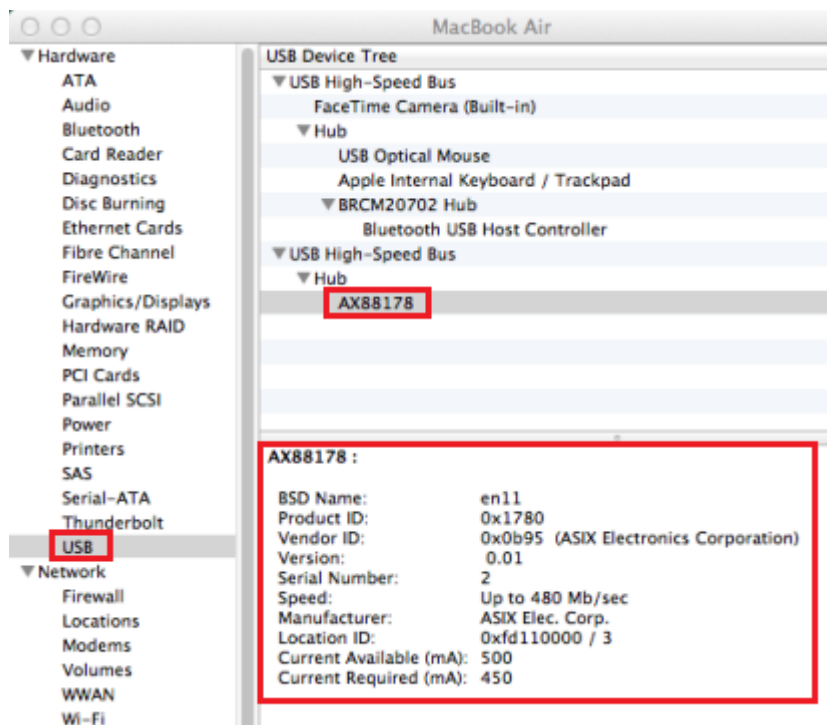


Step 5: Click the [Restart] button to restart Mac OSX system to take effect the revised driver installation.



Step 6: After booting up your Mac OSX system, plug your AX88178 USB dongle onto the USB port of your Mac OSX system and refer to the following information to double check if your USB dongle had been identified properly by Mac OSX system and the AX88178 Mac OSX driver was installed correctly or not.

(1) You can check the Vendor/Product ID information of your USB dongle from here.

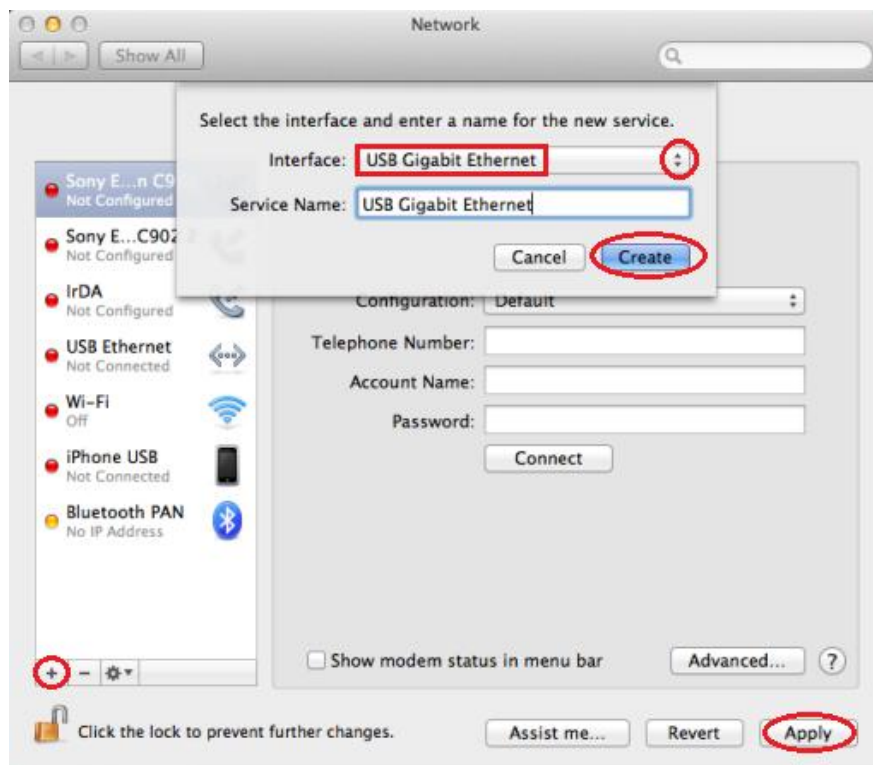


(2) You can check the installed AX88178 Mac OSX driver version information by running the “**kextstat**” command.

Tsengteki-MacBook-Air:~ allan\$ **kextstat**

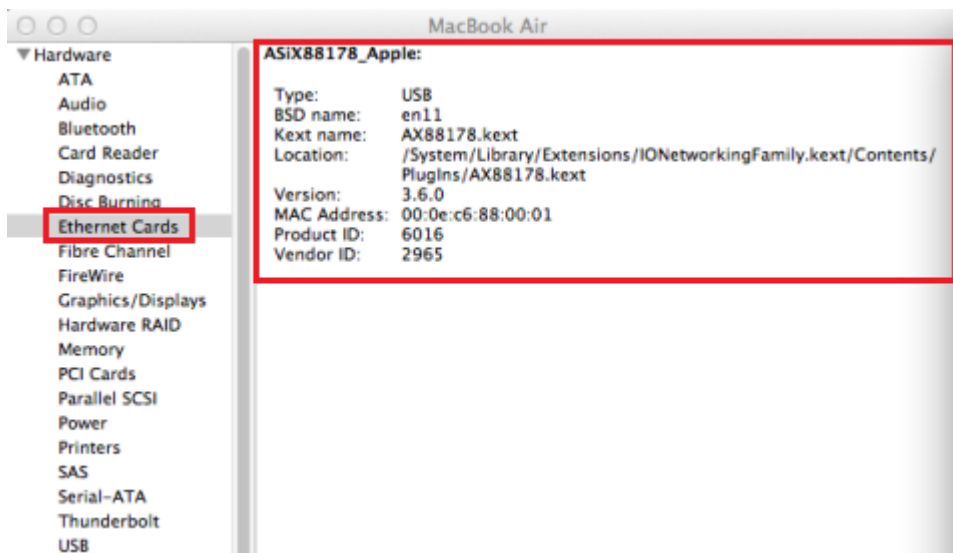
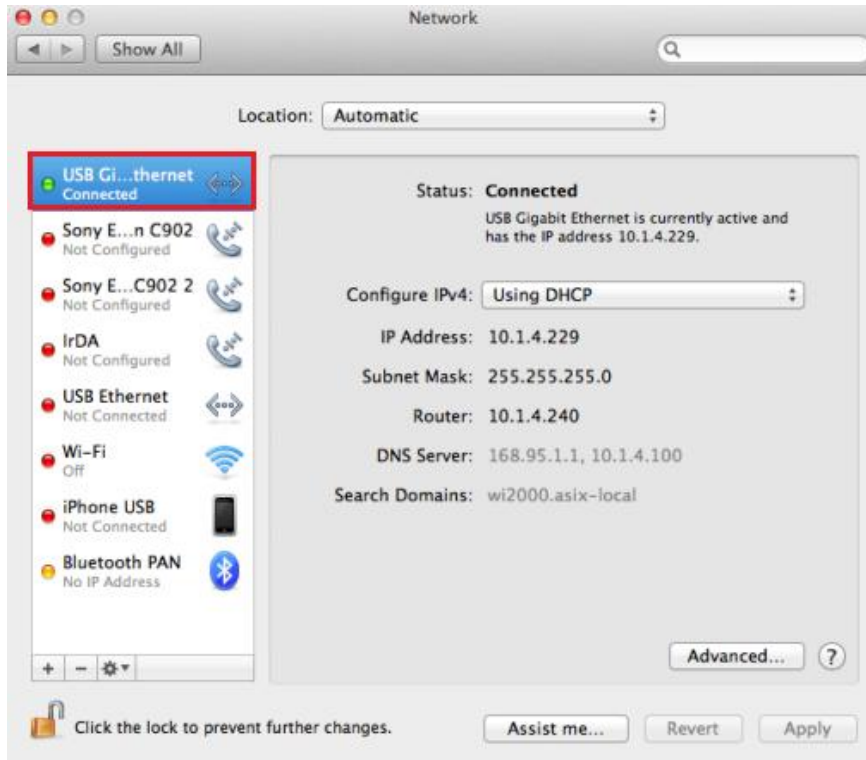
Index	Refs	Address	Size	Wired	Name (Version) <Linked Against>
110	0 0xffffffff7f81d5f000	0xa000	0xa000	0xa000	com.apple.driver.AppleUSBGigEthernet (3.5.0) <38 33 7 5 4 3 1>
111	0 0xffffffff7f81d69000	0x9000	0x9000	0x9000	com.apple.driver. <b>AppleUSBGigEthernet (3.6.0)</b> <38 33 7 5 4 3 1>
112	0 0xffffffff7f81d72000	0x8000	0x8000	0x8000	com.asix.driver.ax88179 (1.1.0) <38 33 7 5 4 3 1>

Step 7: Please refer to below figure to add a new “USB Gigabit Ethernet” network interface and then press the [Apply] button to take effect the new network interface.





Step 8: The new “USB Gigabit Ethernet” driver should be ready now.

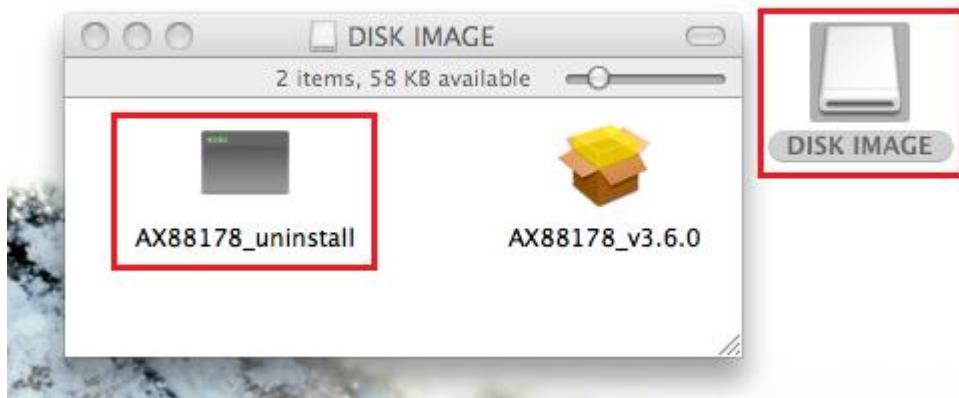


### 3. Driver Uninstallation Procedures

The AX88178 Mac OSX driver uninstallation script file is “**AX88178\_uninstall**”.

The following is an example of ASIX’s AX88178 Mac OSX driver uninstallation procedures.

Step 1: Click the “AX88178.dmg”, the following “DISK IMAGE” virtual disk will be appeared on the Desktop of your Mac OSX system. (This “DISK IMAGE” virtual disk will be auto-removed after rebooting Mac OSX system.)



Step 2: Click the “**AX88178\_uninstall**” script file to uninstall ASIX’s AX88178 Mac OSX driver.

**Situation 1:** If the AX88178 USB dongle was installed, you will see below messages.

```
Terminal — 80x24
Last login: Thu Oct 13 13:57:51 on console
/Volumes/DISK\ IMAGE/AX88178_uninstall ; exit;
asix-testde-macbook:~ test$ /Volumes/DISK\ IMAGE/AX88178_uninstall ; exit;
Password:
logout

[Process completed]
```

**Situation 2:** If the AX88178 USB dongle was not installed, you will see below messages but the driver uninstallation can still be completed successfully.

```
Terminal — 80x24
Last login: Thu Oct 13 13:39:40 on ttys001
/Volumes/DISK\ IMAGE/AX88178_uninstall ; exit;
asix-testde-macbook:~ test$ /Volumes/DISK\ IMAGE/AX88178_uninstall ; exit;
(kernel) Kext com.apple.driver.AppleUSBGigEthernet not found for unload request.
Failed to unload com.apple.driver.AppleUSBGigEthernet - (libkern/kext) not found
.
logout

[Process completed]
```

## 4. Troubleshooting

(The figures in this section are examples for your reference)

### 4-1. Driver Installation Failure on OS X 10.8 Issue

The Mac OSX driver might not be able to be installed properly on OS X 10.8 system with below sample error message if you downloaded the driver package from ASIX web site on your OS X 10.8 platform.



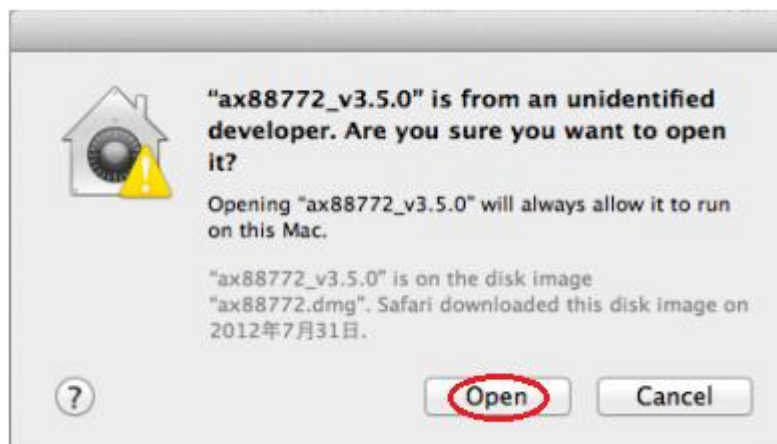
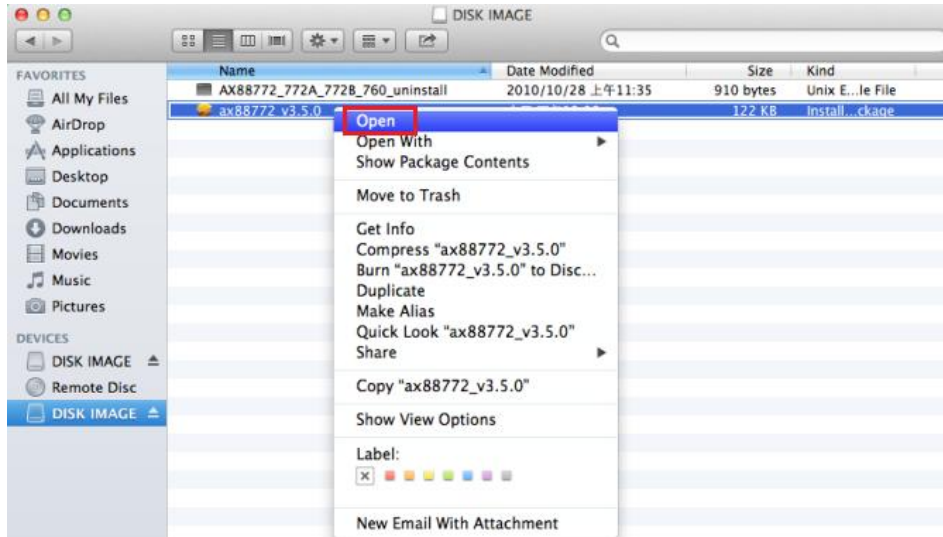
The OS X 10.8 system includes new features to improve security for users. One of the new default options prevents users from being able to install or launch applications that are not downloaded from the Mac App Store, or that have not been digitally signed by the developers. ASIX's Mac OSX driver installers are not digitally signed at this time and ASIX will improve this point soon.

Before that time, you can use one of the following solutions to install ASIX's Mac OSX driver package that was downloaded from ASIX web site on your OS X 10.8 platform.

Solution 1: Download ASIX's Mac OSX driver package on other Windows machines and then copy it via USB Flash drive onto your OS X 10.8 platform. The installer should launch and function normally now.

## Solution 2: Override Gatekeeper for only the current installer

- (1) Control-Click on the installer and then select 'Open'.  
OS X 10.8 will display a warning message that the installer app is from an unidentified developer and ask the user to confirm that they want to open it.

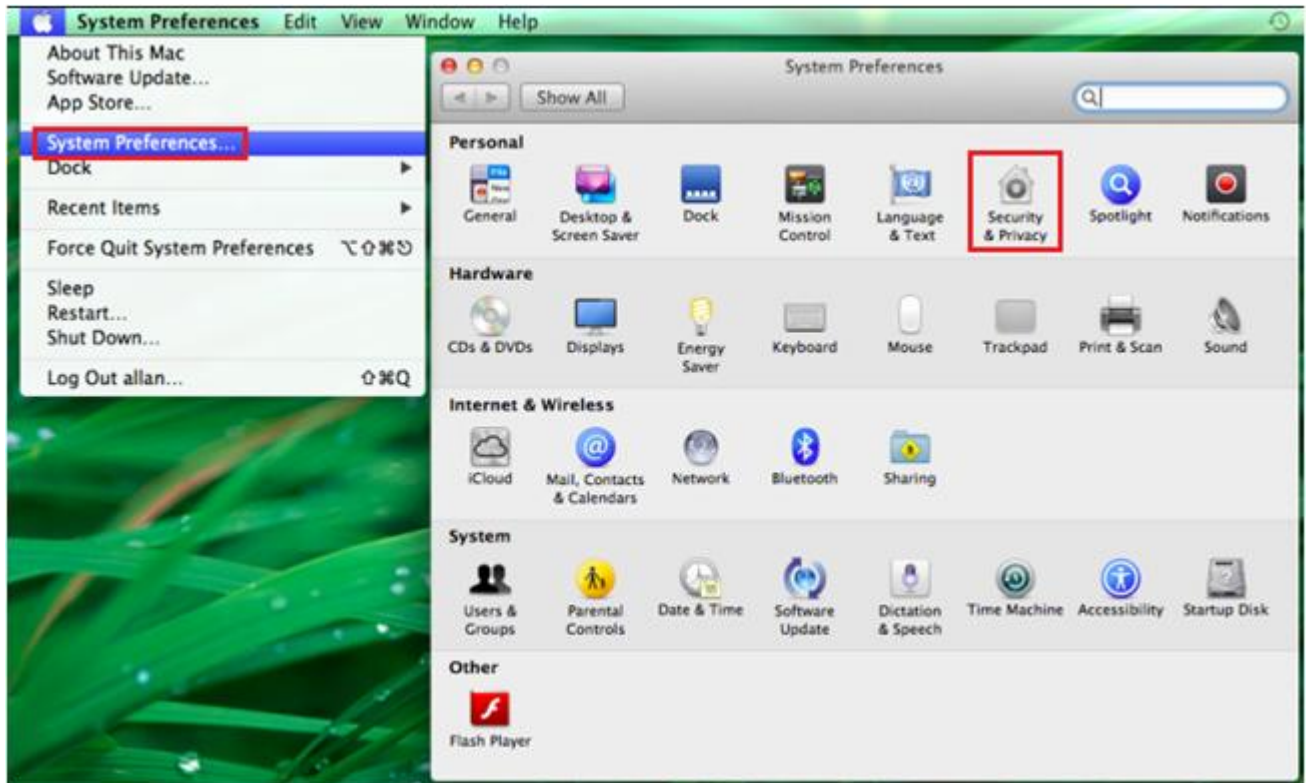


- (2) Click on the 'Open' button. This will allow the installer to run on your computer.
- (3) The installer should launch and function normally now.

### Solution 3: Override Gatekeeper altogether

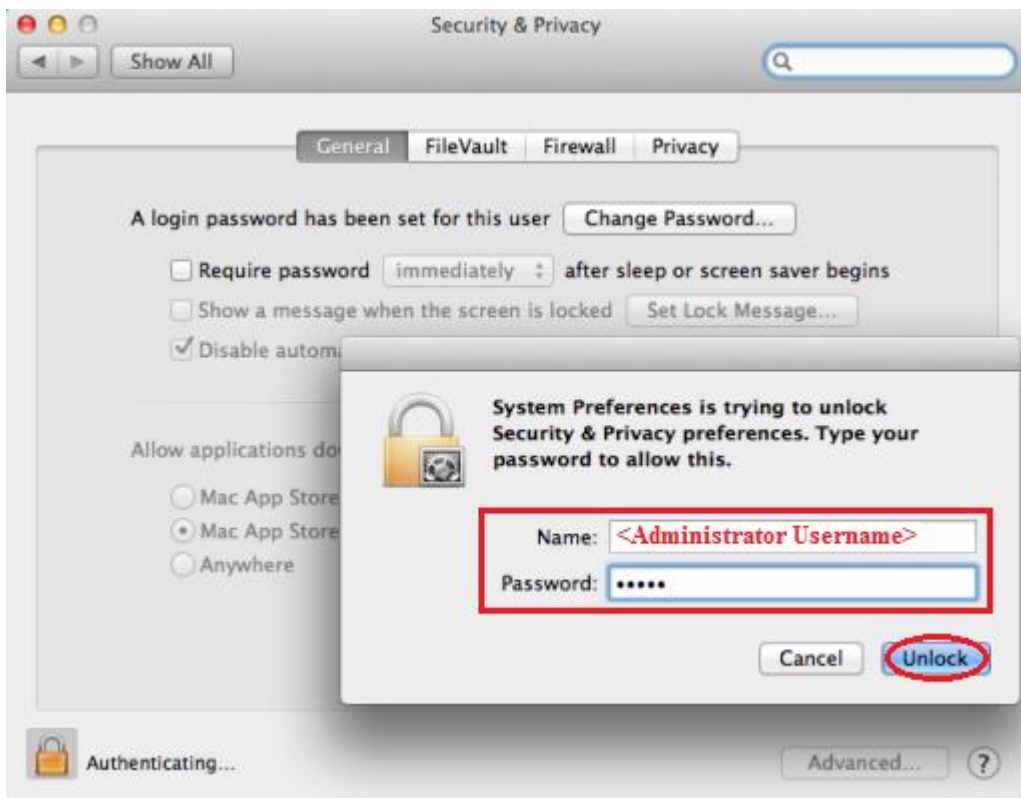
NOTE: Users should change the security setting back to “**Mac App Store and identified developers**” or “**Mac App Store**” as desired, for improved security.

(1) Go to System Preferences > Security & Privacy





- (2) Click the lock icon in the lower-left corner and enter your administrator username and password



- (3) Under “Allow applications downloaded from” , select “Anywhere” and then press the “Allow From Anywhere” button.



- (4) The installer should launch and function normally now.

## Appendix A. Script Files Descriptions

When installing ASIX's AX88178 Mac OSX driver, the driver setup program will execute the **preflight** and **postflight** scripts to remove the corresponding Apple's default AX88178 USB-to-LAN driver "**AppleUSBGigEthernet.kext**" before installing ASIX's driver.

The script files will do the following operations in order.

- (1) Create a **"/asix\_temp"** folder.
- (2) Backup Apple's default driver ("**AppleUSBGigEthernet.kext**") from **"/System/Library/Extensions/IONetworkingFamily.kext/Contents/PlugIns/"** folder to **"asix\_temp"** folder.
- (3) Unload and remove Apple's default driver from **"/System/Library/Extensions/IONetworkingFamily.kext/Contents/PlugIns/"** folder.
- (4) Set the permission access mode of Apple's default driver.
- (5) Update the access and modification times of ASIX's AX88178 driver.

While uninstalling ASIX's AX88178 driver, the driver uninstallation script will remove ASIX's driver and then re-install the corresponding Apple's default AX88178 USB-to-LAN driver back to the system.

The uninstallation script will do the following operations in order:

- (1) Copy Apple's default driver from **"/asix\_temp"** folder to **"/System/Library/Extensions/IONetworkingFamily.kext/Contents/PlugIns/"** folder.
- (2) Remove **"asix\_temp"** folder.
- (3) Unload and remove ASIX's AX88178 driver.
- (4) Set the permission access mode of Apple's default driver.
- (5) Set Apple's default driver files to be owned by root/wheel.
- (6) Update the access and modification times of Apple's default driver.



## Appendix B. AX88178 Script Files

Below are **preflight** and **postflight** script files:

```
#!/bin/sh
#filename:autopack.sh

if [ -d /System/Library/Extensions/IONetworkingFamily.kext/Contents/PlugIns/AppleUSBGigEthernet.kext ]
then
sudo mkdir /asix_temp
sudo cp -R
/System/Library/Extensions/IONetworkingFamily.kext/Contents/PlugIns/AppleUSBGigEthernet.kext
/asix_temp/AppleUSBGigEthernet.kext
sudo kextunload
/System/Library/Extensions/IONetworkingFamily.kext/Contents/PlugIns/AppleUSBGigEthernet.kext
sudo rm -rf
/System/Library/Extensions/IONetworkingFamily.kext/Contents/PlugIns/AppleUSBGigEthernet.kext
sudo chmod -R 755 /asix_temp/AppleUSBGigEthernet.kext
sudo chown -R root:wheel /asix_temp/AppleUSBGigEthernet.kext
fi

if [ -d /System/Library/Extensions/IONetworkingFamily.kext/Contents/PlugIns/AX88178.kext ]
then
sudo kextunload /System/Library/Extensions/IONetworkingFamily.kext/Contents/PlugIns/AX88178.kext
sudo rm -rf /System/Library/Extensions/IONetworkingFamily.kext/Contents/PlugIns/AX88178.kext
fi

if [ -d /System/Library/Extensions/AppleUSBGigEthernet.kext ]
then
sudo kextunload /System/Library/Extensions/AppleUSBGigEthernet.kext
sudo rm -rf /System/Library/Extensions/AppleUSBGigEthernet.kext
fi

if [ -d /System/Library/Extensions/AX88178.kext ]
then
sudo kextunload /System/Library/Extensions/AX88178.kext
sudo rm -rf /System/Library/Extensions/AX88178.kext
fi
```

```
#!/bin/sh
#filename:autopack.sh

sudo touch /System/Library/Extensions
```

Below is **AX88178\_uninstall** script file

```
#!/bin/sh
#filename:autopack.sh

sudo cp -R /asix_temp/AppleUSBGigEthernet.kext
/System/Library/Extensions/IONetworkingFamily.kext/Contents/PlugIns
sudo rm -rf /asix_temp/AppleUSBGigEthernet.kext

if [ -d /System/Library/Extensions/IONetworkingFamily.kext/Contents/PlugIns/AX88178.kext ]
then
sudo kextunload /System/Library/Extensions/IONetworkingFamily.kext/Contents/PlugIns/AX88178.kext
sudo rm -rf /System/Library/Extensions/IONetworkingFamily.kext/Contents/PlugIns/AX88178.kext
fi

if [ -d /System/Library/Extensions/AX88178.kext ]
then
sudo kextunload /System/Library/Extensions/AX88178.kext
sudo rm -rf /System/Library/Extensions/AX88178.kext
fi

sudo chmod -R 755
/System/Library/Extensions/IONetworkingFamily.kext/Contents/PlugIns/AppleUSBGigEthernet.kext
sudo chown -R root:wheel
/System/Library/Extensions/IONetworkingFamily.kext/Contents/PlugIns/AppleUSBGigEthernet.kext
sudo touch /System/Library/Extensions
```

## Appendix C. Apple Mac OSX Native USB to LAN Drivers Supported Devices List

Apple native drivers "AppleUSBGigEthernet" and "AppleUSBGigEthernet" of MacBook Air OSX 10.5/10.6/10.7/10.8 systems already support the following AX88178/AX88772A/AX88760/AX88772 USB-to-LAN dongles.

Vendor	Model Name	VID	PID	Comments
ASIX Electronics Corp.	AX88178	0B95h	1780h	
ASIX Electronics Corp.	AX88772A/AX88760	0B95h	772Ah	
ASIX Electronics Corp.	AX88772	0B95h	7720h	
Apple	Apple USB Ethernet Adapter	05ACh	1402h	
Linksys	USB200M	13B1h	0018h	
D-Link Corp.	DUB-E100 Fast Ethernet	2001h	3C05h	
Linksys	USB1000	1737h	0039h	
Belkin Components	F5D5055	050Dh	5055h	
MelCo., Inc.	USB Gigabit Ethernet	0411h	006Eh	
I-O Data Device, Inc.	ETG-US2	04BBh	0930h	

For the other USB-to-LAN dongles with ASIX solution inside, please download the latest ASIX's standard Mac OSX drivers from ASIX web site (<http://www.asix.com.tw/download.php?sub=driver>). If you still have problems, please contact the support guys of your USB dongle manufacturer for further support.

**Note:** End users should get proper driver from the manufacturer of your USB-to-LAN dongle if both Apple's native driver and ASIX's standard driver couldn't work with your USB-to-LAN dongle.



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