

# Getting Started with NI-DAQ™mx Base

This guide describes how to install your device, and download and install your software.



**Note** Install the software before installing the device.

NI-DAQmx Base is a driver that controls your data acquisition device on Linux, Mac OS X, and Windows. NI-DAQmx Base consists of a set of LabVIEW VIs and a C programming interface, as well as device recognition and simple datalogging tools. NI-DAQmx Base is a subset of NI-DAQmx. If you are familiar with NI-DAQmx, you should be able to use NI-DAQmx Base.

## 1. Install Software

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### Mac OS X

Complete the following steps to install NI-DAQmx Base from `ni.com`:

1. Go to `ni.com/info`, enter `BaseMac`, and download the NI-DAQmx Base `.dmg` file.
2. Double-click the NI-DAQmx Base `.dmg` file to mount the disk image.
3. Double-click the NI-DAQmx Base `.pkg` file to run the NI-DAQmx Base installer.

For more information, refer to the `ReadMe.rtf` file.

### Linux

Complete the following steps to install NI-DAQmx Base from `ni.com`:

1. Go to `ni.com/info`, enter `BaseLinux`, and download the NI-DAQmx Base `.iso` file.
2. Either mount the ISO image or burn the image to a CD and mount the CD.
3. To launch the NI-DAQmx Base installer, run the `INSTALL` script as root from the mount location.

For more information, refer to the `README.txt` file.

### Windows

Complete the following steps to install NI-DAQmx Base from `ni.com`:

1. Go to `ni.com/info`, enter `BaseWin`, and download NI-DAQmx Base.
2. Double-click the executable to extract the files.
3. The installer launches after the installer files are extracted.

For more information, refer to the `readme.html` file.

## 2. Install Device

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Refer to the installation guide packaged with your device for more information about how to install the device.

## 3. Confirm That Your Device Is Recognized

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NI-DAQmx Base includes a List Devices utility (`lsdaq`), which displays the devices installed on your computer. The utility is accessible from the following locations:

### Mac OS X

`/Applications/National Instruments/NI-DAQmx Base/lsdaq.app`

### Linux

`/usr/local/bin/lsdaq`

### Windows

**Start»All Programs»National Instruments»NI-DAQmx Base»NI-DAQmx Base List Devices**

## 4. (Optional) Launch Ready-to-Run Datalogging Software

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NI-DAQmx Base includes ready-to-run datalogging software, which lets you begin making measurements without writing a program. The applications are accessible from the following locations:

### Mac OS X

`/Applications/National Instruments/NI-DAQmx Base/nidatalogger.app`

### Linux

`/usr/local/bin/nidatalogger`

### Windows

**Start»All Programs»National Instruments»NI-DAQmx Base»Utilities»NI-DAQmx Base Datalogger**

## 5. Run Programming Examples

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NI-DAQmx Base includes LabVIEW and C examples for each measurement type that demonstrate appropriate functionality. Make sure you run the List Devices utility (`lsdaq`) before running the examples. Examples for LabVIEW are not included in the NI Example Finder.

## Mac OS X

- LabVIEW API:  
`<LabVIEW>/examples/daqmxbase`
- C API:  
`/Applications/National Instruments/NI-DAQmx Base/examples`

## Linux

- LabVIEW API:  
`<LabVIEW>/examples/daqmxbase`
- C API:  
`/usr/local/natinst/nidaqmxbase/examples`

## Windows

- LabVIEW API:  
`<LabVIEW>/examples/daqmxbase`
- C API:  
**Start»All Programs»National Instruments»NI-DAQmx Base»Examples»NI-DAQmx Base C Examples**

For more information about how to run the C Examples, refer to the *NI-DAQmx Base Readme*.

## Documentation

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Documentation includes the *NI-DAQmx Base C Function Reference*, the hardware references, supporting PDFs, and the *NI-DAQmx Base Readme*. LabVIEW help files are accessible from the *LabVIEW Help* menu. Documentation is located in the following directories:

## Mac OS X

`/Applications/National Instruments/NI-DAQmx Base/documentation`

## Linux

`/usr/local/natinst/nidaqmxbase/documentation`

## Windows

**Start»All Programs»National Instruments»NI-DAQmx Base»NI-DAQmxBase Documentation**

For more information, refer to the *NI-DAQmx Base Readme*.

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