To revert a problematic WiFi driver update on Ubuntu, use the sudo apt autoremove command to remove the new driver, followed by sudo apt install -f to ensure all dependencies are met, then sudo apt update && sudo apt upgrade to reinstall the previous stable driver. If a specific driver is not working, try to reinstall the "in-tree" driver that shipped with your Ubuntu kernel, or find your specific hardware's driver from the manufacturer's website for Ubuntu, and install that driver instead. [[1](https://ubuntu-mate.community/t/update-caused-usb-wifi-to-no-longer-work-22-04/26376), [2](https://superuser.com/questions/1742777/wifi-not-working-in-ubuntu-22-04-lts), [3](https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/answers/questions/3921218/how-do-i-reinstall-my-wifi-adapter-drives-from-the)]

1. Reinstall the previous driver

**This is the most reliable method if the new driver is causing issues. [**[**1**](https://ubuntu-mate.community/t/update-caused-usb-wifi-to-no-longer-work-22-04/26376)**,** [**3**](https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/answers/questions/3921218/how-do-i-reinstall-my-wifi-adapter-drives-from-the)**,** [**4**](https://superuser.com/questions/116125/ubuntu-reset-networking)**,** [**5**](https://help.ubuntu.com/community/WifiDocs/WirelessTroubleShootingGuide/Drivers#:~:text=run%20the%20command%20sudo%20iwconfig.%20If%20you,is%20at%20least%20communicating%20with%20the%20kernel.)**,** [**6**](https://www.reddit.com/r/Fedora/comments/wkr9bk/driver_for_tplink_wiffi_adapter/)**,** [**7**](https://www.reddit.com/r/linux4noobs/comments/10cmfzy/rtl8821ce_wifi_card_not_working/#:~:text=usually%20if%20the%20driver%20was%20loaded%20and,with%20dmesg%20%7C%20grep%20%2DE%20'04:00.0%7C8821'%20.)**,** [**8**](https://help.ubuntu.com/stable/ubuntu-help/net-wireless-troubleshooting-hardware-check.html.en)**]**

1. **Identify the driver you want to revert to:** Sometimes, the previous version is an "in-tree" kernel driver or a specific version you need to find. You can try to see which driver is currently in use by running lspci -k and looking for the "Kernel driver in use" line.
2. **Remove the new driver:** Open your terminal and run the following commands:

|  |
| --- |
| sudo apt autoremove  sudo apt install -f  sudo apt update && sudo apt upgrade |

**These commands will remove any newly installed packages (the bad driver) and reinstall the previous, stable driver included in your Ubuntu kernel. [**[**1**](https://ubuntu-mate.community/t/update-caused-usb-wifi-to-no-longer-work-22-04/26376)**,** [**3**](https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/answers/questions/3921218/how-do-i-reinstall-my-wifi-adapter-drives-from-the)**]**

1. **Restart your computer:** A restart is often required for the changes to take effect.

2. Reload or re-install the existing driver

**If the driver was part of the system's standard installation (an "in-tree" driver), you may be able to fix issues by re-adding the driver's kernel module. [**[**9**](https://askubuntu.com/questions/1285875/uninstalling-reinstalling-wifi-drivers-in-ubuntu)**]**

1. **Identify the driver for your card:** Run lspci -k in the terminal to get comprehensive output, and look for the "Kernel driver in use" line for your wireless card. [[4](https://superuser.com/questions/116125/ubuntu-reset-networking), [5](https://help.ubuntu.com/community/WifiDocs/WirelessTroubleShootingGuide/Drivers#:~:text=run%20the%20command%20sudo%20iwconfig.%20If%20you,is%20at%20least%20communicating%20with%20the%20kernel.), [10](https://askubuntu.com/questions/1368555/problem-using-wifi-on-ubuntu-budgie-20-04-lts-with-usb-wifi-adapter-zebronics-u)]
2. **Reload the driver module:** For example, if your driver is the iwlwifi module (common for Intel cards), you can try reloading it: [[4](https://superuser.com/questions/116125/ubuntu-reset-networking), [11](https://discourse.ubuntu.com/t/how-to-reboot-the-wi-fi-on-ubuntu/49990), [12](https://www.reddit.com/r/Ubuntu/comments/1l2v36x/wifi_gone_ubuntu_2404_reinstalling_networkmanager/), [13](https://www.reddit.com/r/Ubuntu/comments/1l2v36x/wifi_gone_ubuntu_2404_reinstalling_networkmanager/), [14](https://askubuntu.com/questions/1356442/ubuntu-20-04-cannot-connect-to-wifi-wifi-settings-not-visible#:~:text=Update:%20You%20can%20try%20to%20unload%20and%20reload%20the%20iwlwifi%20kernel%20module.), [15](https://www.reddit.com/r/linux4noobs/comments/10kvcah/how_to_enable_wifi_on_ubuntu_22041/#:~:text=i%20believe%20unclaimed%20usually%20means%20it%20doesn't,problem%20with%20loading%20the%20driver%20at%20boot.)]

|  |
| --- |
| sudo modprobe -r iwlwifi  sleep 10  sudo modprobe iwlwifi |

**This command unloads the driver, pauses for 10 seconds, and then reloads it. [**[**11**](https://discourse.ubuntu.com/t/how-to-reboot-the-wi-fi-on-ubuntu/49990)**,** [**16**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UnO6Pb1WBfU)**,** [**17**](https://www.reddit.com/r/linux4noobs/comments/rcez97/ubuntu_2004_wifi_is_not_working_after_being/)**,** [**18**](https://www.baeldung.com/linux/wifi-connection-fix-no-reboot#:~:text=Finally%2C%20to%20apply%20the%20changes%2C%20we%20restart,Notably%2C%20these%20changes%20are%20persistent%20across%20reboots.)**]**

1. **Restart NetworkManager:** The NetworkManager service manages your network connections. Restart it to apply changes:

|  |
| --- |
| sudo systemctl restart NetworkManager |

3. Install a manufacturer driver (if needed)

**If your WiFi adapter requires a specific proprietary driver from the manufacturer, you can often find it on the manufacturer's support website. [**[**3**](https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/answers/questions/3921218/how-do-i-reinstall-my-wifi-adapter-drives-from-the)**]**

1. **Download the correct driver:** Go to your laptop or WiFi adapter manufacturer's website. [[3](https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/answers/questions/3921218/how-do-i-reinstall-my-wifi-adapter-drives-from-the)]
2. **Install the driver:** Follow the instructions on the manufacturer's website to install the driver package for your Ubuntu version. [[1](https://ubuntu-mate.community/t/update-caused-usb-wifi-to-no-longer-work-22-04/26376), [3](https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/answers/questions/3921218/how-do-i-reinstall-my-wifi-adapter-drives-from-the)]
3. **Restart your computer**: after installation is complete. [[3](https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/answers/questions/3921218/how-do-i-reinstall-my-wifi-adapter-drives-from-the)]

*AI responses may include mistakes.*

[1] <https://ubuntu-mate.community/t/update-caused-usb-wifi-to-no-longer-work-22-04/26376>

[2] <https://superuser.com/questions/1742777/wifi-not-working-in-ubuntu-22-04-lts>

[3] <https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/answers/questions/3921218/how-do-i-reinstall-my-wifi-adapter-drives-from-the>

[4] <https://superuser.com/questions/116125/ubuntu-reset-networking>

[5] [https://help.ubuntu.com/community/WifiDocs/WirelessTroubleShootingGuide/Drivers](https://help.ubuntu.com/community/WifiDocs/WirelessTroubleShootingGuide/Drivers#:~:text=run%20the%20command%20sudo%20iwconfig.%20If%20you,is%20at%20least%20communicating%20with%20the%20kernel.)

[6] <https://www.reddit.com/r/Fedora/comments/wkr9bk/driver_for_tplink_wiffi_adapter/>

[7] [https://www.reddit.com/r/linux4noobs/comments/10cmfzy/rtl8821ce\_wifi\_card\_not\_working/](https://www.reddit.com/r/linux4noobs/comments/10cmfzy/rtl8821ce_wifi_card_not_working/#:~:text=usually%20if%20the%20driver%20was%20loaded%20and,with%20dmesg%20%7C%20grep%20%2DE%20'04:00.0%7C8821'%20.)

[8] <https://help.ubuntu.com/stable/ubuntu-help/net-wireless-troubleshooting-hardware-check.html.en>

[9] <https://askubuntu.com/questions/1285875/uninstalling-reinstalling-wifi-drivers-in-ubuntu>

[10] <https://askubuntu.com/questions/1368555/problem-using-wifi-on-ubuntu-budgie-20-04-lts-with-usb-wifi-adapter-zebronics-u>

[11] <https://discourse.ubuntu.com/t/how-to-reboot-the-wi-fi-on-ubuntu/49990>

[12] <https://www.reddit.com/r/Ubuntu/comments/1l2v36x/wifi_gone_ubuntu_2404_reinstalling_networkmanager/>

[13] <https://www.reddit.com/r/Ubuntu/comments/1l2v36x/wifi_gone_ubuntu_2404_reinstalling_networkmanager/>

[14] [https://askubuntu.com/questions/1356442/ubuntu-20-04-cannot-connect-to-wifi-wifi-settings-not-visible](https://askubuntu.com/questions/1356442/ubuntu-20-04-cannot-connect-to-wifi-wifi-settings-not-visible#:~:text=Update:%20You%20can%20try%20to%20unload%20and%20reload%20the%20iwlwifi%20kernel%20module.)

[15] [https://www.reddit.com/r/linux4noobs/comments/10kvcah/how\_to\_enable\_wifi\_on\_ubuntu\_22041/](https://www.reddit.com/r/linux4noobs/comments/10kvcah/how_to_enable_wifi_on_ubuntu_22041/#:~:text=i%20believe%20unclaimed%20usually%20means%20it%20doesn't,problem%20with%20loading%20the%20driver%20at%20boot.)

[16] <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UnO6Pb1WBfU>

[17] <https://www.reddit.com/r/linux4noobs/comments/rcez97/ubuntu_2004_wifi_is_not_working_after_being/>

[18] [https://www.baeldung.com/linux/wifi-connection-fix-no-reboot](https://www.baeldung.com/linux/wifi-connection-fix-no-reboot#:~:text=Finally%2C%20to%20apply%20the%20changes%2C%20we%20restart,Notably%2C%20these%20changes%20are%20persistent%20across%20reboots.)