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

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.

NATIONAL INSTRUMENTS™

2. Install Device

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

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

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

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

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*.