

# Z-Stick Gen5 Quick Start - Just the Essentials

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This page provides the necessary steps to get started with your Z-Stick Gen5 and form part of the larger **Z-Stick Gen5 user manual**. (<https://aeotec.freshdesk.com/solution/articles/6000056439-z-stick-gen-5-user-manual>).

Congratulations on getting your first Z-Stick and Z-Wave Controller. What you need is dependent on what you want and what your application is. Past getting the Z-Stick, you will need to first research the software that you want to use. Some software's will require you to purchase it, and others will be free. The degree of usability will be determined by the software itself and not just the Z-Stick.

## Step 1: Install Necessary Drivers

You may find the drivers for the Z-Stick Gen5 here: <https://aeotec.freshdesk.com/solution/articles/6000034892-install-z-stick-gen5-drivers-inf-on-windows> (<https://aeotec.freshdesk.com/solution/articles/6000034892-install-z-stick-gen5-drivers-inf-on-windows>).

You will only need to install these drivers on Windows OS machines. On Linux or OSX, there is no need to install drivers, the Z-Stick Gen5 will use its native drivers.

## Notes -

**Windows 10** should already have the drivers already installed, there may be no need to install the drivers manually. It should appear as a **COMx** where x could be any number (ie. **COM4**, **COM15**, etc).

**Linux** should appear as a **/dev/ttyACM0** (or other numbered such as **/dev/ttyACM1 ... ACMx**) device, if it does not, you may need to manually install the CDC-ACM module (should already be a part of the Linux kernel) or re-install Linux.

**OSX** should appear as a **/dev/cu.usbmodem** device, if you are having issues connecting, you should try alternate USB ports to see if they will allow this port to appear.

## Method 1 (Only works on Windows 8 or 10):

Right click on the .INF file in the Z-Stick Gen5 drivers, and in the popup menu, click on INSTALL.

## Method 2 (Can be used on any OS):

There is an alternative way to install the inf file. Please follow the steps below

- 1) First open up "Device Manager" in Windows
- 2) Look for "Ports (COM & LPT)" (Usually the Z-Stick will appear here if the drivers are installed properly).

or

"Other Devices" (It will appear under Other Devices when the device is not installed yet)



- 3) The Z-Stick Gen5 should appear as an "Unknown Device"

4) Right Click on "Unknown Device" then click on "Update Driver Software"

5) On the new popup window, click on " Browse my Computer for driver software"

6) look for .inf file.

7) If installed properly, it should appear as the image below as a UZB device under "Ports (COM & LPT)" (The COM number will change depending on the USB it is plugged into)



## Step 2: Determine the COM port of the Z-Stick (Z-Stick must be plugged in)

The COM port of the Z-Stick can be found under device manager in Windows (Control Panel/Device Manager). To find the COM port for Linux and Mac is a bit different, and if you need help with this I can find out for you on how to do so.

You need to know the COM port for the connection between the Z-Stick and Software you have chosen.

(Refer to Method 2 in drivers installation.)

## Step 3: Choose your Software

You will now need to choose the software that you want to use, I will list them out and you can determine which one you will want to use for your home automation control.

### Software with trial use

1. Homeseer (1 Month Trial) <http://www.homeseer.com/> (<http://www.homeseer.com/>)
2. InControl (Control up to 10 devices for free) <http://www.incontrolzwave.com/> (<http://www.incontrolzwave.com/>)
3. Indigo (Mac Software, I believe there is a trial, but I am not 100% sure) <https://www.indigodomo.com/devices/> (<https://www.indigodomo.com/devices/>)
4. Z-Wave <http://razberry.z-wave.me/index.php?id=24> (<http://razberry.z-wave.me/index.php?id=24>)

### Free Software

1. LinuxMCE <http://linuxmce.com/> (<http://linuxmce.com/>)
2. zVirtualScenes <http://aarondrabeck.github.io/zVirtualScenes/> (<http://aarondrabeck.github.io/zVirtualScenes/>)
3. OpenControl 2.0 <http://www.openremote.org/display/docs/OpenRemote+2.0+How+To+-+Controller+Installation> (<http://www.openremote.org/display/docs/OpenRemote+2.0+How+To+-+Controller+Installation>)
4. HomeGenie <http://www.homegenie.it/> (<http://www.homegenie.it/>)
5. Domotiga <https://www.domotiga.nl/> (<https://www.domotiga.nl/>)
6. Domoticz <https://domoticz.com/> (<https://domoticz.com/>)
  - How to use Domoticz installation and setup: <https://aeotec.freshdesk.com/solution/articles/6000199837-quick-start-z-stick-gen5-with-domoticz> (<https://aeotec.freshdesk.com/solution/articles/6000199837-quick-start-z-stick-gen5-with-domoticz>)
7. OpenHAB <http://www.openhab.org/> (<http://www.openhab.org/>)
8. Jeedom <https://jeedom.fr/site/en/index.html> (<https://jeedom.fr/site/en/index.html>)

## Step 4: Connect your Z-Stick to the Software you have chosen

How you do so will be a different experience for each software, some are easier, and some take a little more time to figure out. Each software generally will have steps on how to do so.

## Step 5: Add Devices to the Z-Stick Z-Wave network or removing devices.

If you have a Z-Stick Gen5 or S2, you can use the button to add or remove devices from your network. But you can also use software to include and exclude as well.

#### **Adding devices via its button (Example).**

1. Remove the Z-Stick from your PC USB port (disconnect)
2. Tap the Z-Stick Gen5 button, and its LED should blink blue
3. Now go to your Switch or Z-Wave device, and tap its button quickly (most devices use a single tap, but some Z-Wave devices may have special operations to pair, please refer to your Z-Wave devices manual to pair it to Z-Stick).
4. If successful, you'll notice that the Z-Stick Gen5s LED will blink rapidly, and if the pairing was a complete success, the LED on Z-Stick Gen5s blue LED will become solid for 2 seconds (if it failed, then a red LED will appear for 2 seconds instead) then continue to blink blue slowly
5. You can continue to add new devices while it is blinking blue slowly (follow steps 3-4 with each device you want to add one at a time)
6. Once you are done, tap the Z-Sticks button once and the LED should stop blinking.

Alternatively you will be able to remove nodes easily using the physical button as well:

#### **Removing devices via its button (Example).**

1. Remove the Z-Stick from your PC USB port (disconnect)
2. Press and hold the Z-Stick Gen5 button until its LED should blink yellow rapidly, then release its button.
3. Now go to your Switch or Z-Wave device, and tap its button quickly (most devices use a single tap, but some Z-Wave devices may have special operations to unpair, please refer to your Z-Wave devices manual to unpair it from the Z-Stick).
4. If successful, you'll notice that the Z-Stick Gen5s LED will become solid blue for 2 seconds to indicate a successful unpair, then it will return to blinking yellow rapidly to allow you to continue removing other devices.
5. You can continue to remove devices while it is blinking yellow rapidly (follow steps 3-4 with each device you want to remove then continue to step 6 when you are done)
6. Once you are done, tap the Z-Sticks button once and the LED should stop blinking.

#### **Step 6: Get to know Z-Wave common knowledge, and things to look up**

1. Changing Z-Wave Parameter Settings (Advanced)
2. Setting Events/Scenes/Triggers to trigger devices in your network
3. Complications of Z-Wave Battery Sensors
4. Z-Wave Product Compatibility to Software
5. Possible Scripting in the Software that you are using