

Altaids Computer Quick Start Guide

To power and communicate with the computer, an FTDI USB to TTL cable (P/N: **TTL-232R-5V**) or equivalent is needed. Note, this needs to be the **+5V** version.

To communicate with the Altaids computer, use a serial terminal emulator (e.g. TeraTerm)

Here is a link:

https://download.cnet.com/Tera-Term/3000-2094_4-75766675.html

The FTDI VCP (virtual communications port) drivers need to be loaded if they are not already installed. *Note Linux has the drivers loaded in most distributions.* The host PC communicates and powers the computer over the FTDI USB cable.

Go to: <https://www.ftdichip.com/Drivers/VCP.htm> to download the appropriate driver

Open TeraTerm. On the TeraTerm menu select: **Setup->Serial Port**
The serial port settings are: **2400 bps, 8N1, Flow control: None**

Because of the time to process serial data by the Altaids computer, sending text files requires delays for character and lines.

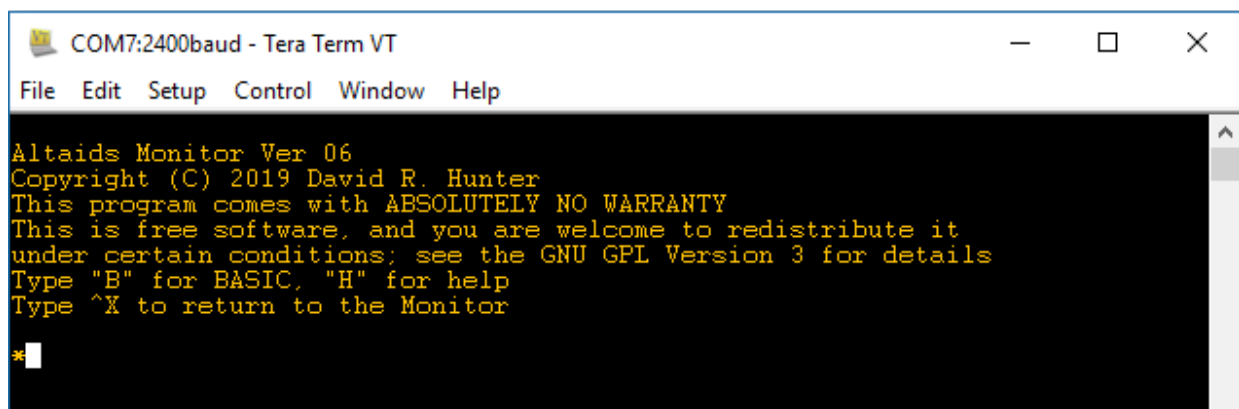
I found these transmit delay settings to be very reliable.

50 msec/char

200 msec/line

Plug in the FTDI cable into the PC USB port and into the Altaids connector J1. Note the orientation of the connector. Pin 1 (black) should be lined up with pin 1 on the silkscreen (towards the capacitors)

The LED should light when plugged in. Press the RESET button and the startup screen should be seen on the terminal emulator.

A screenshot of a TeraTerm window titled "COM7:2400baud - Tera Term VT". The window has a menu bar with "File", "Edit", "Setup", "Control", "Window", and "Help". The main text area is black with yellow text. The text reads: "Altaids Monitor Ver 06", "Copyright (C) 2019 David R. Hunter", "This program comes with ABSOLUTELY NO WARRANTY", "This is free software, and you are welcome to redistribute it", "under certain conditions; see the GNU GPL Version 3 for details", "Type 'B' for BASIC, 'H' for help", "Type ^X to return to the Monitor". Below this text is a yellow asterisk followed by a cursor. The window has standard Windows window controls (minimize, maximize, close) in the top right corner.

```
COM7:2400baud - Tera Term VT
File Edit Setup Control Window Help
Altaids Monitor Ver 06
Copyright (C) 2019 David R. Hunter
This program comes with ABSOLUTELY NO WARRANTY
This is free software, and you are welcome to redistribute it
under certain conditions; see the GNU GPL Version 3 for details
Type "B" for BASIC, "H" for help
Type ^X to return to the Monitor
*█
```