

How to Restore the ATI DirectX Video Drivers

The VAIO uses a special DIRECT-X driver for the ATI board. Some Programs (especially games) want to load their own video driver which will not work properly with the VAIO video board. If you have loaded such a program which over-writes the VAIO driver, the result may be an error message or broken up and distorted video. You may see some of the below errors:

1. Ghost images will appear in the background
2. The cursor will turn into a "blob" or "square"
3. An illegal operation error will occur
4. When the "Start" button is accessed, it will be blank
5. The desktop screen will shift to the left or right.

If you have video problems after loading a game (usually a DOS game), please follow the below instructions to reload the correct video driver. The game will work correctly with the VAIO ATI driver loaded.

If any of the above symptoms appear, the following page details the steps to resolve the issue.

The following games may install incompatible DirectX drivers onto the Sony PC. Please note that this list is incomplete as other games may also cause this reaction.

Big Red Racing
Close Combat
Deadly Tides
Decathlon 2
Destruction Derby
Diablo
Durandal
Elmo Preschool
FIFA Soccer
FX Fighter Deluxe
Gex
Hellbender
Madden '97
Marathon 2

Mech Warrior 2: Ghost Bear
Mech Warrior 2: Mercenaries
Mech Warrior 2: Pentium Edition
Monster Truck Madness
MS Flight Simulator for Win 95
Nascar
Necrodome
NFL 96-97
NHL '97
Road Rash
Sega Sonic CD
Tomb Raider
Toy Story
Wing Commander: Kilrathi Saga

Following is the procedure to reload the proper video driver:

1. Restart the PC by powering it off and back on after 15 seconds
2. As soon as the first Windows 95 logo screen appears, press and hold down the SHIFT key until Windows 95 is loaded (this bypasses the start of the VAIO Space)
3. Hold the shift key down until the startup is complete and the hard drive activity light is out for at least 30 seconds
4. Insert the Recovery Disk in the CD drive
5. Right click on the Windows Desktop (outside of any icon)
6. You will see a menu
7. Click on Properties
8. You will see the Display Properties windows
9. Click on the Settings Tab
10. You will see a Settings Page
11. Click on Change Display Type
12. You will see the Change Display Type window
13. The Adapter Type should be ATImach64 PCI (maxcw4)(Direct Draw)
14. If you do not see ATImach64, click on the Change button to the right of the Adapter type box
15. The system will build driver information
16. You will see a Select Device window
17. Click on Have Disk
18. You will see an Install From Disk window
19. In the next field labeled "Copy manufacturer's files from", enter the following directory:
G:\DRIVERS\ATI\WIN95
20. Click on OK in the Install From Disk window
21. You will see a Select Device windows with the ATImach64 PCI (macxw4)(Direct Draw) highlighted
22. Click on OK
23. The computer will load the correct drivers from the recovery disk
24. You will see the Change Display Type window again verifying the ATImach64 PCI (macxw4)(Direct Draw) is copied to your computer
25. Click on Close
26. The monitor screen will go black for a moment while the driver is being selected
27. You will see the Display Properties window
28. Click on Close to return to Windows
29. You will see a System Settings Change window
30. Select Yes to restart the computer with the new settings
31. Your computer will now restart with the proper video driver

Please note: If you install additional games at a later date and these same symptoms appear, please follow the above steps for each occurrence.

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How to Contact ATI Technologies:

ATI Technologies Inc.
33 Commerce Valley Drive East
Thornhill, Ontario
Canada L3T 7N6

(905) 882-2626	Customer Support (voice)
(905) 882-0546	Customer Support (fax)
(905) 764-9404	ATI DOWNLOAD BBS (8N1)
(905) 882-2600	Head Office, Sales and Marketing
(905) 882-2620	Corporate fax

How To E-Mail ATI Technologies:

Product information/specifications, Pricing inquiries, and ATI policy information:
Tim Ross 76004.3656@compuserve.com

Assistance with installation, configuration, or compatibility issues, on your ATI products:
Technical Support 74740.667@compuserve.com

Information on where to buy ATI products or reseller information:
sales@atitech.ca

Files on the ATI DOWNLOAD BBS are also available on:
Compuserve (GO ATITECH)
ftp://ftp.atitech.ca/pub

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