IT Essentials 5.0

6.8.2.6 Lab - Install a Wireless NIC in Windows XP

Introduction

Print and complete this lab.

In this lab, you will install and configure a wireless NIC.

Recommended Equipment

- A computer with Windows XP installed
- Empty PCI or PCIe slot on the motherboard
- A wireless PCI or PCIe NIC
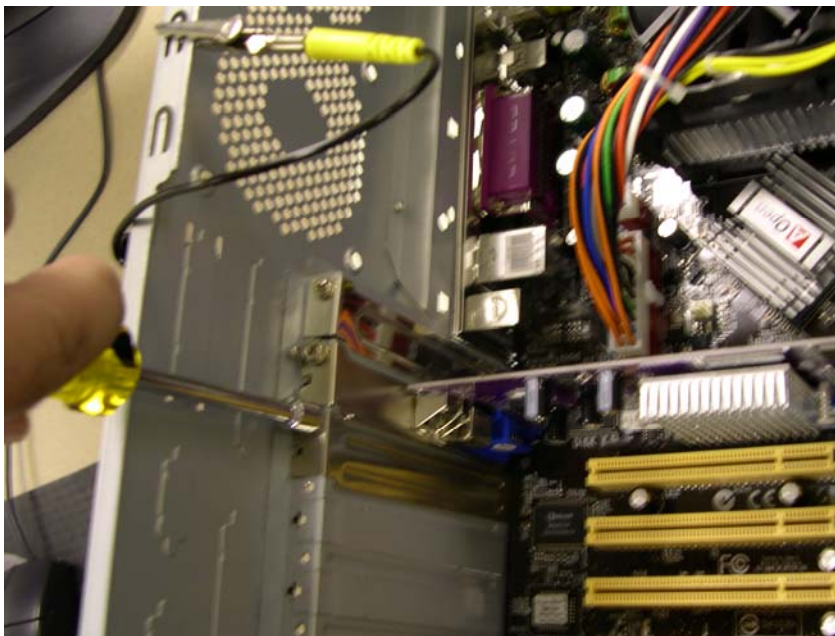- An antistatic wrist strap
- Tool kit

Step 1

Turn off your computer. If a switch is present on the power supply, set the switch to "0" or "off". Unplug the computer from the AC outlet. Remove the side panels from the case.
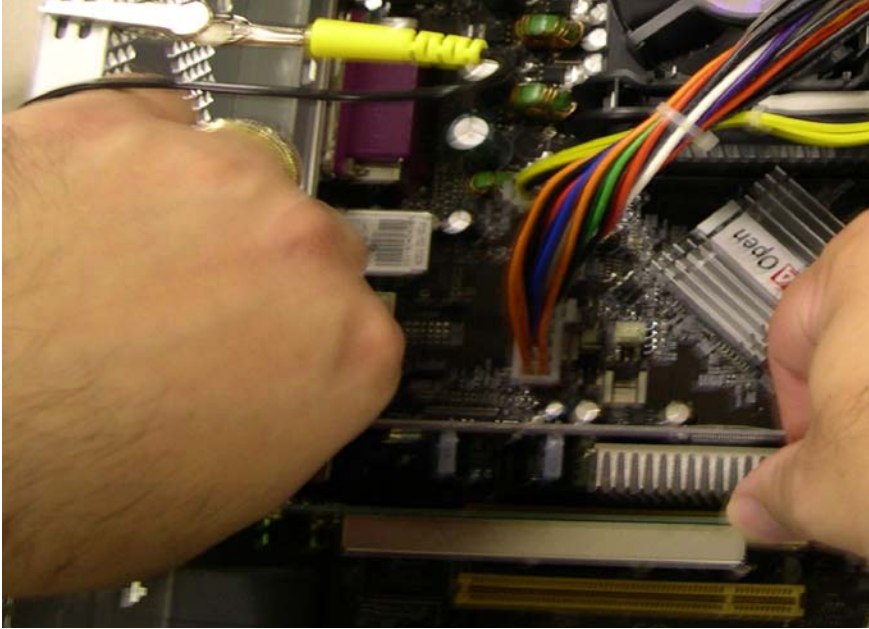
Put on the antistatic wrist strap and attach it to an unpainted metal surface of the computer case.

Choose an appropriate slot on the motherboard to install the new wireless NIC.

You may need to remove the metal cover near the slot on the back of the case.

Make sure the wireless NIC is properly lined up with the slot. Push down gently on the wireless NIC.

Secure the wireless NIC mounting bracket to the case with a screw.

Attach the antenna to the antenna connector on the back of the computer.

Disconnect the antistatic wrist strap. Replace the case panels. Plug the power cable into an AC outlet. If a switch is present on the power supply, set the switch to "1" or "on".

Step 2

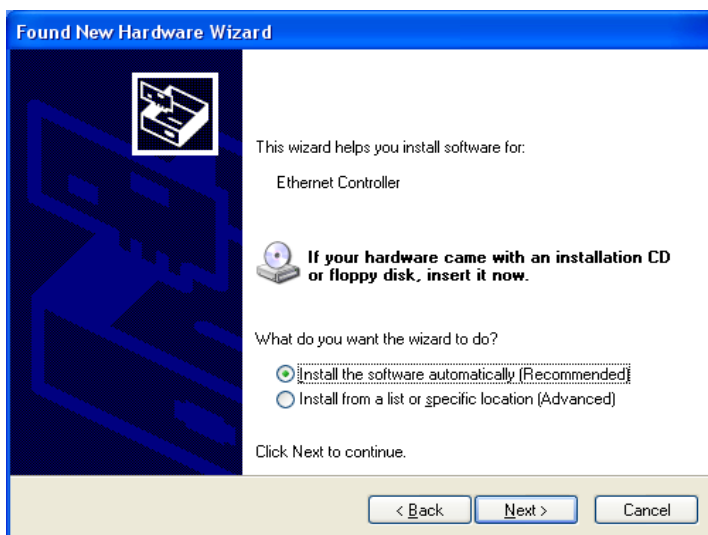Boot your computer, and then log on as an administrator.

The wireless NIC will be detected by Windows. The "Found New Hardware Wizard" window will open.

Select the **Yes, this time only** radio button, and then click **Next**.

Insert the manufacturer's CD.

Select the **Install the software automatically (Recommended)** radio button, and then click **Next**.
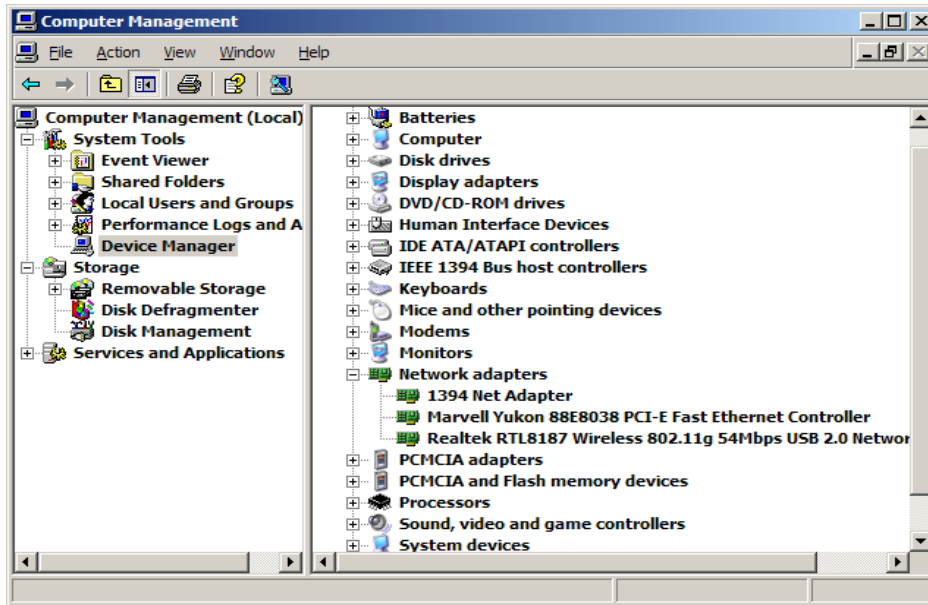
Step 3

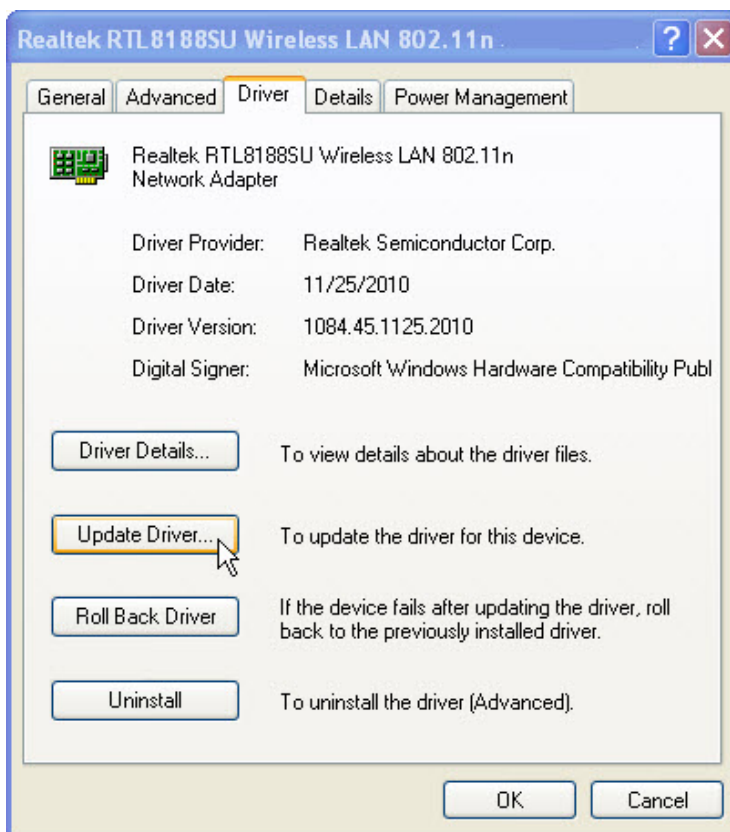Right-click **My Computer**, and choose **Manage**.

Choose **Device Manager**, and then expand "Network Adapters".

What network adapters are installed in the computer?

Step 4

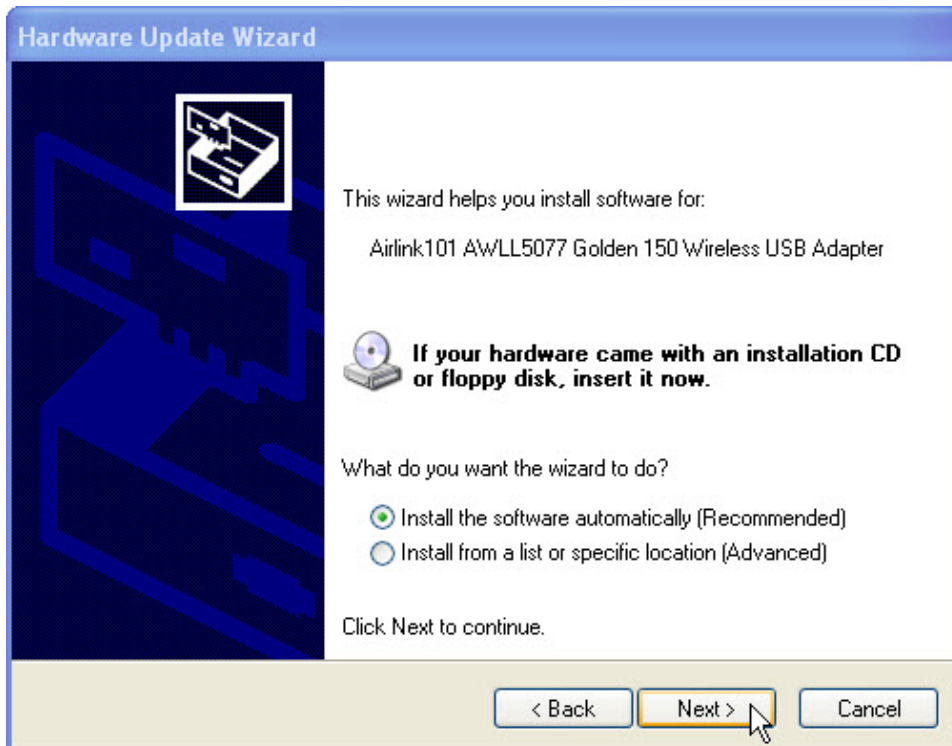Double-click on the network adapter you just installed to open the "Properties" window.

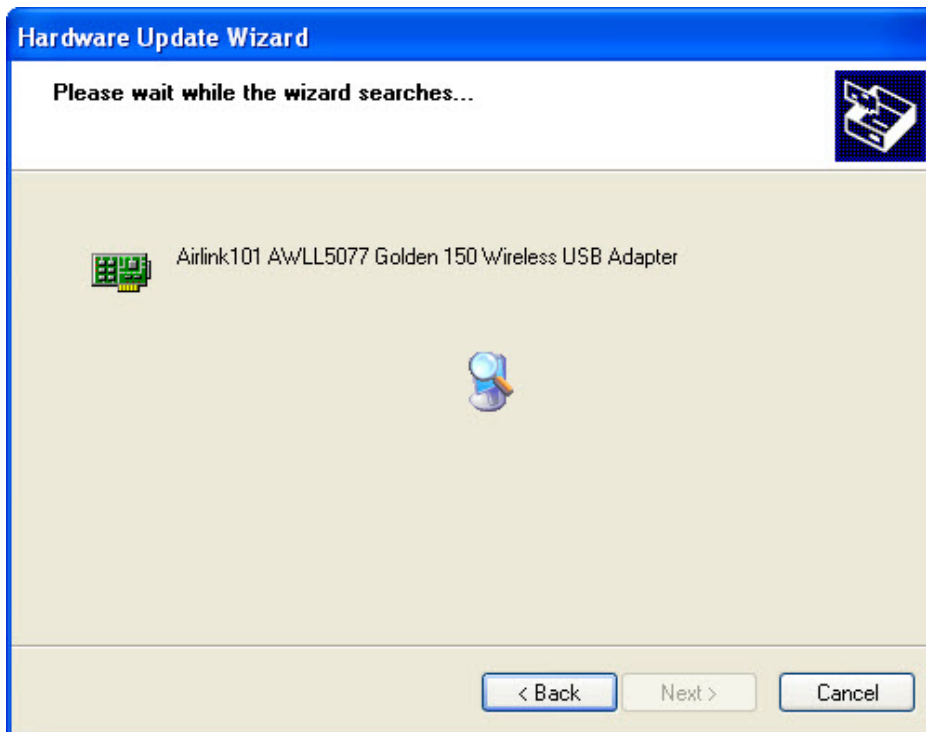Click **Driver** tab **> Update Driver…**

The "Hardware Update Wizard" starts.
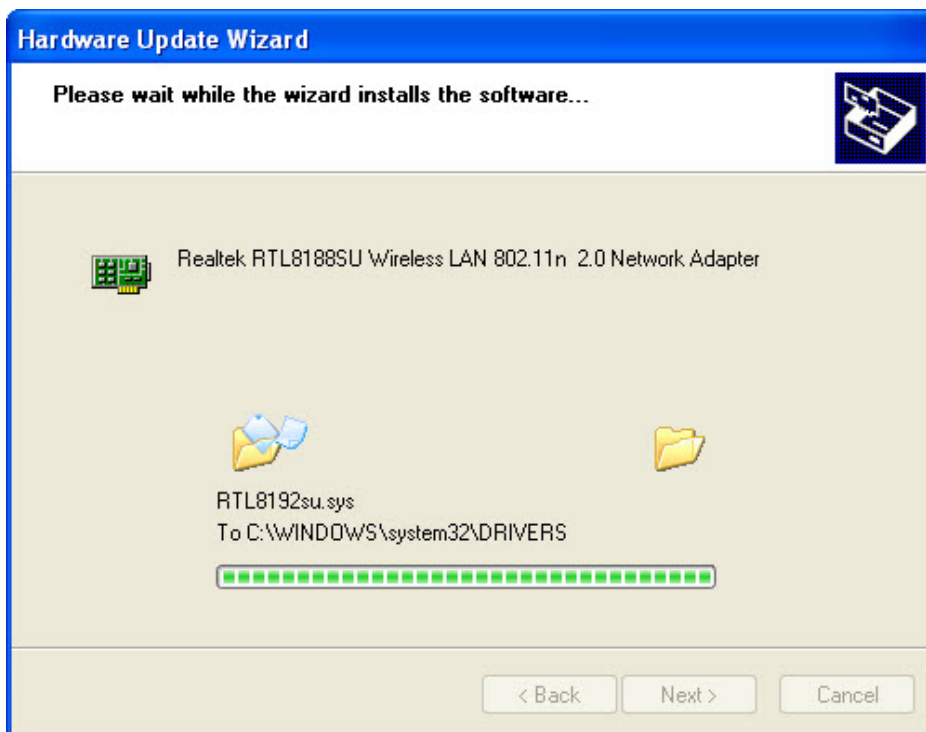
Select **Yes, this time only > Next**.

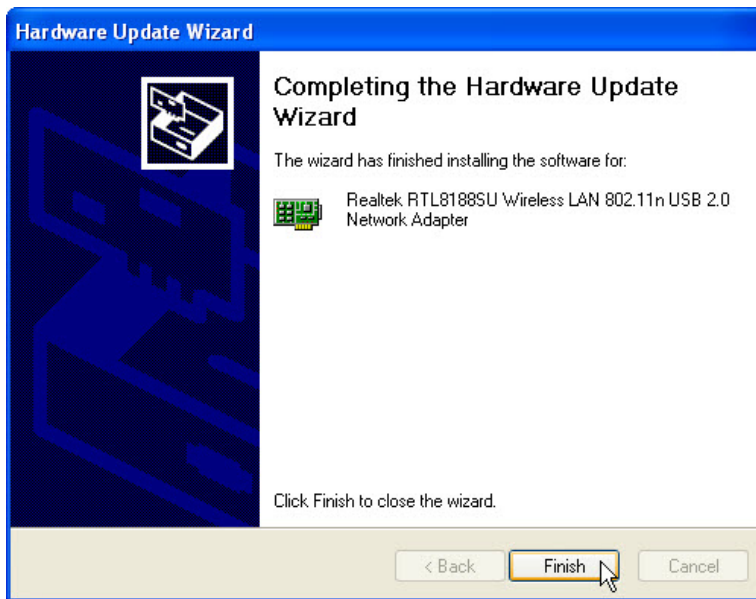Select **Install the software automatically (Recommended) > Next**.

The "Please wait while the wizard searches…" screen appears.

The "Please wait while the wizard installs the software…" screen appears.

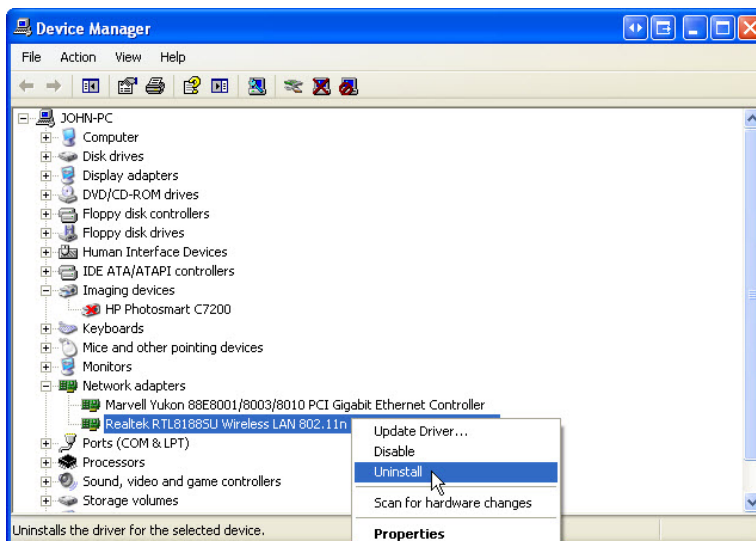The "Completing the Hardware Update Wizard" screen appears.

Once the software is installed, click **Finish**.

Step 5

If required to reset the computer to the state at the start of the lab, complete the following tasks:

To uninstall the driver, click **Start > Control Panel > System > Hardware** tab **> Device Manager >** expand "Network Adapters". Then right-click the newly install wireless NIC and select **Uninstall > OK**.

To remove software that was installed along with the wireless NIC driver, click **Start > Control Panel > Add or Remove Programs >** select the software **> Change/Remove**. Follow instructions to fully remove the software. Shut down the computer.

To remove the wireless NIC from the computer, reverse the steps from the start of this lab.