

# Optical modules are incompatible with Intel network cards



## Overview

By default, Intel network interface cards (NICs) perform authentication on connected optical modules. If a non-Intel genuine module is detected, the NIC may disable the port or trigger an alarm. Intel provides a way to disable this authentication to support. SFP (Small Form-factor Pluggable) module compatibility issues can cause network instability, poor performance, or even hardware failure. We've listed the five most common ones. First of all, let's briefly recap what SFP and SFP+ stand for. SFPs – short for 'small form-factor pluggable' – are compact, hot-pluggable devices that link networking devices, like switches, routers and. Intel® Ethernet SFP+ SR Optics and Intel® Ethernet SFP+ LR Optics are the only 10-Gbps optical modules supported. This guide explains the root cause of "uncertified module" errors and provides 5 crucial compatibility fixes.



## Article Content

Hot

2-Port 10Gbps SFP+ OCP 3.0 Server Network Card with

10G OCP NETWORK CARD: 10Gbps Network Interface Card w/Intel X710-BM2 Controller adds 2x open SFP+ slots to a server, enhancing connectivity

May 07, 2026 Hot

Common Problems and Solutions

Common Problems and Solutions There are many simple, easy-to-fix problems related to network problems. Review each one of these before going further. Check for recent changes to hardware,

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SFP+ Modules and Cables Compatible with Intel®

SFP+ optical module, SFP module, and direct attach cable requirements for the Intel® Ethernet Converged Network Adapter X520 Series.

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Fixing unsupported SFP+ modules/"no carrier" errors with Intel X520 ...

Fixing unsupported SFP+ modules/"no carrier" errors with Intel X520 cards on Debian & FreeBSD Posted on January 15, 2024. Tagged with: debian, freebsd, networking. I've been

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Intel Support

Intel® Product Compatibility Tool Find compatibility information for Intel® Products.

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How To Enable Support For Third-Party Modules On

By default, Intel network interface cards (NICs) perform authentication on connected optical modules. If a non-Intel genuine module is detected, the NIC

Nov 05, 2025 Hot

X710-DA2 no link with SFP+, works with SFP

X710 cards require the use of Intel optic modules. We request you to check the below link to get the complete details on Compatible SFP+ Modules

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## Connect Network Cables

Connect Network Cables Connect the appropriate network cable, as described in the following sections. Connect Supported Optical Modules Depending on the device family and its supported interfaces,

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## E810 series cards and compatibility with 3rd party transceivers

The E810 series of cards are "Open Optic" which means that we don't restrict them to only Intel branded cables and optics. You may use 3rd party modules but it will be on your own

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## Intel® Ethernet SFP+ SR Optics and LR Optics

For instance, customers can remove the optical modules that come installed on the adapter and replace them with an Intel® Ethernet SFP+ Optic, an SFP+ Direct Attach Copper Cable, or a 1000BASE-T

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## Which Optic Modules work With the Intel® Ethernet Network Adapter...

Follow the steps below to identify validated Optics and cables for the Intel® Ethernet Network Adapters X722: Open the Intel® Product Compatibility Tool. Select 700 Series. Select Intel®

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## Which Optic Modules and Cables Are Compatible with Intel® Ethernet...

Resolution Refer to the Intel® Ethernet Controller E810 Interoperability Testing Summary for the latest information on supported modules. Intel® Ethernet Network Adapter E810 Series SKUs

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## Connect Network Cables

The auto-MDI-X feature of Intel gigabit copper adapters allows you to directly connect two adapters without using a cross-over cable. Connect the Fiber Optic Network Cable

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SFP+ compatibility issues? Here are 5 troubleshooting tips!

There are several possible reasons for failure. We've listed the five most common ones. First of all, let's briefly recap what SFP and SFP+ stand for. SFPs – short for "small form-factor pluggable" – are

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Intel SFP+ support?

Intel just states that their NETWORK CARD only works with their SFP+ modules. As long as you use Intel's SFP+ on Intel's card, you are free to use whatever SFP+ optics you want on the

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Why Is the Intel® Network Adapter Not Detected?

Try the following steps when troubleshooting an Intel® Network Adapter that is not recognized: Verify the compatibility with the motherboard. On a dual server board, make sure the

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Help with Intel X553 and 1G SFP

Maybe I am not waiting long enough for a connection? There're are a few things to check here: the SFP module, Qotom device (ix3 cage) and the Intel X553 NIC. You're saying the module

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Intel NIC Compatibility Crisis: 5 Fixes for Uncertified

Intel NICs (X710/E810) use firmware to lock out optics. This guide explains the root cause of "uncertified module" errors and provides 5 crucial

Aug 02, 2025 Hot

Optical Transceiver Market Size, Growth Drivers

InfiniBand retains a niche in high-performance computing where RDMA latency is critical, while Fibre Channel evolves to Gen 7 speeds in storage

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How to solve the problem of SFP module compatibility problems?

These issues typically arise when SFP modules are incompatible with the switches, routers, or optical fiber cables they are paired with. Here's a structured approach to solving SFP module compatibility

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SFP vs SFP+: A Complete Guide to Compatibility and

Optical transceivers are compact, hot-pluggable devices that convert electrical signals into optical signals, enabling high-speed data transmission

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QSFP+ Modules and Cables Compatible with Intel® Ethernet Server...

The Intel® Product Compatibility Tool lists supported modules and cables for the Intel® Ethernet Converged Network Adapter XL710 Series with QSFP+ connectivity. Open the Intel®

Jun 07, 2026

## Contact Us

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