

The x520 network card cannot recognize the optical module



Overview

The Intel X520 network card on ESXi, ensure you're using SFP+ modules that are compatible with Intel X520 cards. For retail Intel® Ethernet Converged Network Adapter X520 Series, we do have a specific list of Compatible SFP+ Modules, SFP Modules, and Cables link below. Sadly the X520 is quite outdated and driver support on Windows 11 does not come preinstalled (they work perfectly on Linux however). This post likely also applies to the X540, X550, and X710-based cards. Intel has discontinued these card drivers, removing them from all up-to-date driver packages. On the router, I've got a Dell-branded Intel X520-DA2 NIC, along with some Flypro 10GBase-T SFP+ modules which I picked up on offer last year. Intel — like a lot of other vendors — restricts the SFP+ modules to those which have been approved, regardless of whether they may. Be aware that the X520 cards want real Intel optics in them, so if you put clones or Ciscos in there things may not work right. On the X520's, there is a sysctl to override that behaviour though. Thank you @jgreco (and hope you're well of course), I have a nice variety of optics that work well with. I have a problem with this network card and esxi, if there is no module insert in to the network card is the system recognized correctly the device, but when i insert a copper module in to the network card it disappears from the system and in the log i give this error : ixgbe 0000:84:00.



Article Content

Dec 03, 2025

Solved: X520

We are currently looking that this is most likely to be an issue with the module. For retail Intel® Ethernet Converged Network Adapter X520 Series, we do have a specific list of Compatible

Sep 10, 2025

Get Intel X520 SFP+ card working Proxmox/Debian -

Test whether allowing this option in the ixgbe config would result in the card being visible when running `ip addr show`: ... If you see your interfaces

Nov 28, 2025

Intel X520 Series Network Adapter is not visible in the ...

However, network adapters can be seen with the following command: `$ lspci -v | grep -A1 -i ethernet 0000:81:00.0 Ethernet controller: Intel (R) Ethernet 10G 2P X520 Adapter`

Sep 26, 2025

Intel X520-T2 10Gbit cards not working with Windows 10

You could try disconnecting and reconnecting the network cable a couple times just to see if it will properly negotiate a 10Gb connection. You also

Sep 25, 2025

Intel X520 won't work in Proxmox

Hi, I migrated to Proxmox because I wanted to get rid of ESXi, but I can't get the Intel X520-DA2 card in it working. It does not make sense to me since the card is recognized by Debian,

May 03, 2026

Question: R730 + Intel X520-DA2 (10gig optical nic) : r/homelab

This usually applies to switches and routers (at least the bigger brands), but network cards are mostly apathetic about which transceiver you use. The exception of course, is Intel, as you've experienced.

Sep 13, 2025

Unlocking the Intel X520-DA2 SFP+

I once had to figure out how to get an Intel X520-DA2 10-Gbps fiber optics card to work with non-Intel transceivers.

Apr 26, 2026

Intel X520-DA1 driver support in Windows 11 | Ars OpenForum

Is this still working for everyone? I'm trying to get an X520 DA2 card working in Windows 11 22H1 and while the driver installs, the card can't be enabled. I've extracted 27.8 as well as...

Oct 12, 2025

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

Mar 14, 2026

network interface

This seems to be the same problem as reported (and solved) here where a user had the same problem with a X520-DA2 card. The subvendor id "0001" in "Intel Corporation Device 0001" looks wrong.

May 01, 2026

How to get 10Gtek NICs to work on Windows 11

Here's the download link for the last version that supports the X520. While it lists only Win10 compatibility, the driver works fine for 11, even with HVCI enabled.

Apr 27, 2026

DELL PowerEdge 930 running ESXi 6.0 unable to recognize Intel

Hi, Currently, Dell part number R8H2F is the only SFP+ optic module supported by the Intel X520 DA/SFP+ adapter.

Jun 12, 2026

10gbethernet

I've purchased a Dell PowerEdge R630 with an integrated Intel X520/I350 (2x SFP + 2x RJ45) network card. I've setup the server locally (on a

May 16, 2026

PC PROBLEMS | I have a Dell dr4100 and i'm trying to find

I have a Dell dr4100 and i'm trying to find the right network card for it Google says it's a Intel X520-DA2 Dual Port 10GbE SFP+ but Dell says it doesn't support it. Im trying to run fiber optic. I

Nov 12, 2025

How To Read Optical Module Information On A Network Card In Linux ...

In addition to independent devices such as switches and routers, optical modules can also work on network adapters (commonly known as network cards). For optical modules used on

Sep 27, 2025

Problems with a X520-DA2 10G NIC (Not

I have a (used) Intel X520-DA2 (appears genuine) that isn't recognised in a known good Scale machine (Gigabyte GA-B250M-D2V / Intel G4560 / Intel

Aug 11, 2025

Solved: x520-da2 not working with SFP+ twinax cable.

Hi all, I have 2 servers Windows 2008 R2 x64 that I have just installed X520-DA2 cards. The moment I attach the cable the network adapter disappears from the network connections screen

Sep 04, 2025

How to get 10Gtek NICs to work on Windows 11

10Gtek X520 NICs can work on Windows 11 with an old Intel driver package. I bought the 10Gtek X520-DA1 network cards a few months back because they are cheap 10-gigabit SFP+

May 22, 2026

Missing network interface 10G Intel X520 with error failed to load ...

DO NOT forget to execute a grub2 make configuration command, because the grub2 configuration file must be regenerated to include the option you've set. Most linux distros use ixgbe

May 10, 2026

Re:Integrated NIC 1: Intel(R) 2P X520/2P I350 rNDC ESXi Module not ...

Since the issue is about module, we believe that the issue is about the card X520. Are you also having issue with I350? How many adapters are affected? Can you still remember the

Aug 02, 2025

Intel x520-1 Code 10

I've got a intel x520-1 in my desktop for a potential 10Gb connection to my network. Currently I only have a 1Gb module installed because I do not have a 10Gb port available on my

Jan 23, 2026

Intel X520/X550/X710 NIC Guide: Setup & Configuration

Intel's X520, X550, and X710 series cards are widely supported across the major operating systems, like Windows, Linux, and FreeBSD, but

Apr 13, 2026

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

Intel — like a lot of other vendors — restricts the SFP+ modules to those which have been approved, regardless of whether they may pose a problem and so you can't just use any SFP+

Jan 13, 2026

Intel X520-DA1 driver support in Windows 11 | Ars OpenForum

Windows didn't recognized the pcie sfp+ card, the OS classified it in "other peripherals" not network card I saw that Windows 11 doesn't support anymore this Intel Ethernet chipset.

Jun 09, 2026

Intel x520 EEPROM Patcher allows to unlock the x520 network card to ...

Intel x520 EEPROM Patcher allows to unlock the x520 network card to work with non-intel branded SFP modules. - intel_x520_patcher.py

Dec 24, 2025

Re:Integrated NIC 1: Intel(R) 2P X520/2P I350 rNDC ESXi Module not ...

We have a list of validated SFP+ cables and modules for your card and as per the link below, Other brands of SFP+ optical modules will not work with the Intel® Ethernet Server Adapter

Feb 18, 2026

XCP-NG and Intel X520-DA2 10Gbit card with non-Intel SFP

I recently did setup a new XCP-NG host, which has an Intel X520-DA2 10Gbit card in it. Transceivers are from Finisar.

Sep 11, 2025

Intel X520 Dual-Port 10Gb modules incompatible

The Intel X520 network card on ESXi, ensure you're using SFP+ modules that are compatible with Intel X520 cards. Check Intel's compatibility list or use Intel-branded modules to

Contact Us

For more information, pricing, or custom solutions, please contact us:

Website: <https://www.piano-lessons.co.za>

Email: info@piano-lessons.co.za

Phone: +31 6 37258914

Address: Herengracht 123, 1015 BT Amsterdam, Netherlands

This document is for informational purposes only. Specifications subject to change without notice.

