

USBC-7IN1E User Guide

USBC-7IN1E USB-C 7-in-1 Hub with Ethernet

Host Compatibility

Compatible with Windows, macOS, ChromeOS, and Linux systems equipped with a USB-C, USB4, Thunderbolt 3, or Thunderbolt 4 port that supports DisplayPort Alternate Mode video output.

HDMI video output requires DisplayPort Alternate Mode support from the host USB-C port. Some USB-C ports support data or charging only and will not provide HDMI video output. For charging through the hub, the host computer must support USB-C Power Delivery charging. Not all USB-C ports support charging through a connected hub.

Select tablets and phones can use the hub when the device supports the specific USB-C features being used, such as video output, USB data, Ethernet, or Power Delivery. Many USB-C mobile devices do not support external video output.

Supported Operating Systems

- Windows 10 or newer
- macOS 11 or newer
- ChromeOS 100 or newer
- Linux distributions with compatible USB-C DisplayPort Alternate Mode, USB, and Ethernet support
- Select USB-C tablets and phones with compatible USB-C feature support

Overview

The Plugable USBC-7IN1E expands one compatible USB-C, USB4, or Thunderbolt port into a portable workspace with HDMI video, USB peripherals, wired Ethernet, SD and microSD card access, and USB-C Power Delivery pass-through charging.

The hub is designed for home offices, classrooms, hot desks, travel, presentations, diagnostics, and compact desk setups. It is driver-free for core functions on compatible systems, but final behavior depends on the host device, USB-C port capability, operating system, GPU, display, HDMI cable, network equipment, charger, and connected peripherals.

Typical capabilities include:

- One HDMI 2.0 display output
- Up to 3840x2160 at 60Hz on compatible DisplayPort 1.4 hosts
- Up to 3840x2160 at 30Hz on many DisplayPort 1.2 hosts

- Two USB-A 5Gbps ports
- Gigabit Ethernet
- SD and microSD UHS-I card readers
- USB-C Power Delivery input up to 100W
- Up to approximately 92W available to the host when using a 100W USB-C charger
- Driver-free setup on compatible systems

In the Box

- Pluggable USBC-7IN1E USB-C 7-in-1 hub
- Quick Start Guide

HDMI cable and USB-C power adapter not included.

Before You Begin

Confirm these items before setup. Most display, charging, or device-detection issues are caused by one of these requirements not being met.

- Use a host USB-C, USB4, Thunderbolt 3, or Thunderbolt 4 port that supports DisplayPort Alternate Mode for HDMI video output.
- Use a host computer that supports USB-C Power Delivery charging if you want to charge through the hub.
- Use an HDMI 2.0 or higher cable for 4K 60Hz.
- Confirm the HDMI display supports the desired resolution and refresh rate.
- Use a USB-C Power Delivery charger and USB-C cable rated for the power level your laptop requires.
- Connect the hub directly to the host during first setup. Avoid extension cables, hubs, docks, or adapters while troubleshooting.

Host System Requirements

- USB-C, USB4, Thunderbolt 3, or Thunderbolt 4 port
- DisplayPort Alternate Mode support required for HDMI video output
- USB-C Power Delivery support required for laptop charging through the hub
- DisplayPort 1.4 support required for 3840x2160 at 60Hz
- DisplayPort 1.2 hosts may be limited to 3840x2160 at 30Hz
- Operating system support for USB devices, external displays, Ethernet, and storage media
- Latest graphics drivers, operating system updates, and system firmware recommended

Ports and Features

The USBC-7IN1E includes:

- 1x HDMI 2.0 output
- 2x USB-A 5Gbps ports
- 1x Gigabit Ethernet port
- 1x SD card reader
- 1x microSD card reader
- 1x USB-C Power Delivery pass-through input
- 1x captive USB-C host cable

The USB-C Power Delivery port is for charger input only. It is not a USB-C data port, it does not provide video output, and it should not be used for USB-C peripherals.

HDMI Video Output

The USBC-7IN1E supports one HDMI display. This hub is not a DisplayLink dock and cannot add HDMI video to systems that do not support video output over USB-C.

Supported display behavior depends on the host GPU, operating system, USB-C video capability, HDMI cable, and display.

- DisplayPort 1.4 hosts can support up to 3840x2160 at 60Hz.
- DisplayPort 1.2 hosts are commonly limited to 3840x2160 at 30Hz.
- Lower resolutions such as 2560x1440, 1920x1200, and 1920x1080 can typically run at 60Hz when supported by the host and display.
- HDMI output requires a direct HDMI-to-HDMI cable.
- An HDCP-compliant display chain is required for protected video playback.

For 4K 60Hz, the host, hub, HDMI cable, and display must all support the required bandwidth. Some displays require HDMI 2.0, Enhanced Format, UHD Color, Deep Color, or similar settings to enable 4K 60Hz.

USB Ports

The USBC-7IN1E includes two USB-A 5Gbps ports for USB peripherals and storage devices. Use the USB-A ports for devices such as:

- Keyboard
- Mouse
- USB flash drive
- External storage device
- USB receiver
- Webcam or other USB accessory

Actual transfer speed depends on the connected USB device, host system, file size, storage media, and other connected devices sharing hub bandwidth.

For high-power USB devices, connect a USB-C Power Delivery charger to the hub so the hub has additional available power for connected peripherals.

Card Reader

The hub includes SD and microSD card reader slots.

- SD card slot supports SD, SDHC, SDXC, and MMC media.
- microSD slot supports microSD, microSDHC, and microSDXC media.
- Card readers support UHS-I media up to 104 MB/s.
- Actual transfer speed depends on the card, file size, host system, and connected USB bandwidth.

Use the operating system's safe eject option before removing storage media to reduce the chance of file corruption.

Ethernet

The USBC-7IN1E includes a Gigabit Ethernet port for wired network connectivity.

For best results:

- Use a known-good Ethernet cable.
- Use Cat5e or better cable for Gigabit Ethernet.
- Connect to a Gigabit-capable router, switch, or network port.
- Confirm link lights appear on the Ethernet port and network equipment.
- If the network does not connect automatically, check the operating system's network settings.
- On macOS, allow a moment for the USB Ethernet interface to appear after connecting the hub.

Power and Charging

The USBC-7IN1E supports USB-C Power Delivery input up to 100W through the USB-C Power Delivery pass-through port on the hub.

The hub uses part of the connected charger's power for its own operation and connected peripherals. This means the laptop receives less than the full wattage of the charger.

Examples:

- With a 100W USB-C charger, up to approximately 92W may be available to the laptop.
- With a 65W USB-C charger, less than 65W will be available to the laptop.
- If the laptop requires more power than the hub can provide, the laptop may charge slowly, maintain battery level, or continue to drain under heavy load.

Important:

- Not all USB-C ports support charging.
- Some laptops require their original higher-wattage charger for full performance.
- A laptop that ships with a 130W or higher power adapter may not charge at full speed through this hub.
- Use a USB-C charger and cable rated for the power level you need.
- For best results, connect the USB-C power adapter to the hub's Power Delivery port before connecting the hub to the host computer.

Quick Setup

1. Connect the USBC-7IN1E directly to your computer's USB-C, USB4, Thunderbolt 3, or Thunderbolt 4 port.
2. Optional: Connect your USB-C power adapter to the USB-C Power Delivery pass-through port on the hub.
3. Connect an HDMI display using an HDMI 2.0 or higher cable.
4. Connect USB devices, Ethernet, SD cards, or microSD cards as needed.
5. Power on the display and select the correct HDMI input.
6. Open the operating system's display settings to mirror, extend, or arrange the display where supported.
7. Set the desired resolution and refresh rate.

Operating System Setup

- Windows: Right-click the desktop, select Display settings, then choose Duplicate, Extend, or Show only on display as needed.
- macOS: Open System Settings > Displays to arrange displays, mirror displays, or choose the connected display.
- ChromeOS: Open Settings > Device > Displays to arrange displays and select resolution.
- Linux: Use the display settings provided by your desktop environment. Results vary by distribution, graphics driver, kernel, and USB-C implementation.
- Tablets and phones: Use the display, screen mirroring, desktop mode, Samsung DeX, or similar settings provided by the device where available.

Best Practices and Tips

- Connect the hub directly to the host device when troubleshooting.
- Use HDMI 2.0 or higher cables for 4K 60Hz.
- Confirm the host USB-C port supports DisplayPort Alternate Mode before expecting HDMI output.
- Confirm the host supports USB-C Power Delivery before expecting charging through the hub.

- Update graphics drivers, USB drivers, operating system updates, and system firmware.
- Test one function at a time when troubleshooting: HDMI first, then charging, then USB, then Ethernet, then card reader.
- If a display does not wake after sleep, disconnect and reconnect the hub after the computer is fully awake.
- If charging seems slow, test the laptop's original charger directly connected to the laptop, then compare behavior through the hub.
- Safely eject storage devices and cards before unplugging them.

Supported Display Modes

Use case	Expected behavior
Single HDMI display	Up to 3840x2160 at 60Hz on compatible DisplayPort 1.4 hosts with an HDMI 2.0 or higher cable and display.
DisplayPort 1.2 host	Often limited to 3840x2160 at 30Hz. Lower resolutions may support 60Hz.
Mirror mode	Supported when the operating system allows the internal and external displays to show the same image.
Extended mode	Supported when the operating system allows the HDMI display to be used as an additional workspace.
Protected video playback	Requires an HDCP-compliant host, hub, HDMI cable, and display chain.
Multiple external displays from this hub	Not supported. The USBC-7IN1E provides one HDMI output.

Looking for More Information?

Additional setup and compatibility details are available on the [Plugable product page](#).

For personalized assistance, contact support@plugable.com.