How to Determine if Your FTDI FT232R USB to Serial Chip Has Been Bricked

Download and install USB View Program. Connect your Arduino (or other device with an FTDI FT232R chip) and be sure it's powered up. Run USB View Program. You'll get a screen like this. Go down the list and select the line that says [Locxxx]DeviceConnected: USB Serial Converter. Locxxx varies from computer to computer.

USB View	
Eile Options Help	
Standard Enhanced PCI to USB Host Controller Standard Enhanced PCI to USB Host Connected : Generic USB Hub Standard Enhanced PCI to USB Serial Converter Standard Enhanced PCI to USB Host Connected Standard Enhanced PCI to USB Host Controller Standard Enhanced PCI to USB Host Connected : Generic USB Hub Standard Enhanced PCI to USB Host Connected : Generic USB Hub Standard Enhanced PCI to USB Host Connected : Generic USB Hub Standard Enhanced PCI to USB Host Connected Standard Enhanced PCI to USB Host Connected : Generic USB Hub Standard Enhanced PCI to USB Host Connected : Generic USB Hub Standard Enhanced PCI to USB Host Connected : Generic USB Hub Standard Enhanced PCI to USB Host Connected : USB Input Device Standard Enhanced PCI to USB In	
Loc218] NoDeviceConnected	-
Devices Connected: 10 Hubs Connected: 3	•

You'll then get a screen like this:

USB View		
File Options Help		
My Computer Standard Enhanced PCI to USB Host Controller Standard Enhanced PCI to USB Host Controller Signal Standard Enhanced PCI to USB Host Controller Signal Standard Enhanced PCI to USB Host Connected : Generic USB Hub Signal Standard Enhanced PCI to USB Serial Converter Signal Standard Enhanced PCI to USB Serial Converter Signal Standard Enhanced PCI to USB Host Controller Signal Enhanced PCI to USB Hos	<pre>Device Descriptor: bcdUSE: 0x0200 bDeviceClass: 0x00 bDeviceClass: 0x00 bDeviceSubClass: 0x00 bDeviceProtocol: 0x00 bdaxPacketSize0: 0x003 (Future Technology Devices Int idFroduct: 0x0000 bcdDevice: 0x0600 iManufacturer: 0x01 0x0409: "FT232R USB UART" 0x0409: "FT232R USB UART" bNumConfigurations: 0x01 ConnectionStatus: DeviceConnected Current Config Value: 0x01 Device Eddress: 0x05 Open Fipes: 2 Endpoint Descriptor: bEndpointAddress: 0x81 IN Transfer Type: Bulk wMaxPacketSize: 0x0040 (64) bInterval: 0x00 EndpointAddress: 0x02 OUT Transfer Type: Bulk </pre>	
Devices Connected: 10 Hubs Connected: 3		

Check the value of idProduct (the eighth line down). If the value is 0x0000your chip has been bricked. You then have to go in and modify the ftdibus.inf and ftdiport.inf files to add the 0x0000product ID. See procedure in associated file "How to FIX FTDI Driver Problem". If the product ID is 0x6001 (or maybe some other 60xx) your product is either genuine or you have not yet connected your device with the updated FTDI drivers installed. The new FTDI drivers check for an authentic FTDI device and change the product ID to 0x0000 if it is found to be counterfeit. The driver then won't properly install or work with a device with product ID of 0x0000 because these are not listed in the .inf files unless you modify them.

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