

## Key Takeaways

- Error Summary:** The "This Device Cannot Start (Code 10)" error typically occurs due to hardware or driver-related issues.
- Quick Fixes:** Restarting your PC, checking device connections, or updating drivers may solve the issue.
- Troubleshooting Steps:** Advanced solutions include rolling back drivers, modifying registry keys, and performing a system restore.
- Preventive Advice:** Regular driver updates and proper hardware maintenance can prevent this issue from recurring.
- Special Tools:** Driver update software like [EaseUS DriverHandy](#) can automate driver management and fix such problems efficiently.

## A Step-by-Step Guide to Solve “This Device Cannot Start (Code 10)” Error

### Step 1: Reboot Your PC

- Why:** Sometimes, the issue is temporary and resets during a reboot.
- How:**
  - Save your files and restart your computer.
  - Check if the error persists.
- Expert Tip:** If you're facing frequent issues, run a [System Diagnostic](#) to identify underlying hardware problems.

### Step 2: Verify Device Connections

- Why:** Faulty connections can trigger the error.
- How:**
  - Disconnect and reconnect all external devices.
  - Check for physical damage to cables or ports.
- Expert Advice:** Use high-quality cables to ensure consistent performance.

### Step 3: Run the Hardware and Devices Troubleshooter

- Why:** It automatically detects and fixes hardware-related problems.
- How:**
  - Press `Windows Key + R`, type `msdt.exe -id DeviceDiagnostic`, and press Enter.
  - Follow the on-screen instructions.
    - For USB devices**, reinstalling controllers may be required:
      - Access Device Manager.
      - Right-click on USB controllers, select "Uninstall".
      - Restart your PC to reinstall the drivers.
- Affiliate Tool:** For persistent issues, consider [Advanced SystemCare](#) for broader PC optimization.

### Step 4: Disable and Re-Enable the Problem Device

- Why:** This resets the device and may clear temporary bugs.
- How:**
  - Open **Device Manager**.
  - Right-click the problematic device.
  - Select **Disable device**.
  - Wait a few seconds, then right-click again and select **Enable device**.

### Step 5: Uninstall and Reinstall the Device Driver

- Why:** Corrupted drivers can lead to error (Code 10).
- How:**
  - Navigate to **Device Manager**.
  - Right-click the faulty device, then select **Uninstall device**.
  - Click **Action** > **Scan for hardware changes** to reinstall the driver.
- Affiliate Tool:** Streamline this process using [EaseUS DriverHandy](#).

### Step 6: Update Your Drivers Using Device Manager

- Why:** Outdated drivers can cause compatibility issues.
- How:**
  - Right-click the problematic device in Device Manager.
  - Select **Update driver** and follow the prompts.
- Affiliate Tool:** For thorough driver scans and updates, use [IObit Uninstaller PRO](#).

### Step 7: Roll Back the Driver

- Why:** Sometimes, the latest driver introduces compatibility issues.
- How:**
  - Open **Device Properties**.
  - Navigate to the **Driver Tab** and click **Roll Back Driver**.
  - Restart your computer.

### Step 8: Modify Registry Keys (Advanced Fix)

- Caution:** Backup your registry before proceeding.
- Why:** Corrupted registry entries can cause the error.
- How:**
  - Press `Win + R`, type `regedit`, and hit Enter.
  - Navigate to this key:

```
HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\System\CurrentControlSet\Control\Class\{4D36E965-E325-11CE-BFC1-08002BE10318}
```
  - Delete **UpperFilters** and **LowerFilters**, if they exist.
- Warning:** Incorrect registry modifications can cause critical issues.

### Step 9: Perform a Power Flush

- Why:** Clears residual driver and hardware configurations.
- How:**
  - Shut down your PC and unplug all peripherals.
  - Hold the power button for 30 seconds.
  - Power on the PC and reconnect devices.

### Step 10: System Restore (Last Resort)

- Why:** Revert your system to a stable state before the error occurred.
- How:**
  - Control Panel > **System and Security** > **System Protection**.
  - Choose a Restore Point > Follow on-screen instructions.
- Affiliate Tool:** For system migrations post-restoration, use [EaseUS Todo PCTrans](#).

## Prevention Tips

- Keep Drivers Updated:** Regularly update drivers using tools like [EaseUS DriverHandy](#) to avoid compatibility issues.
- Hardware Health:** Periodically clean ports and replace damaged cables or devices.
- Backup Regularly:** Use [MiniTool ShadowMaker](#) to keep your system and driver backups up-to-date.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### 1. What causes the "This Device Cannot Start (Code 10)" error?

- It is usually caused by:
  - Outdated or corrupted drivers.
  - Faulty hardware.
  - Misconfigured registry entries.

### 2. Can I fix this error without professional help?

- Yes, follow the steps in this guide. However, for advanced tasks (like registry fixes), proceed cautiously or consult an expert.

### 3. How do I know if it's a hardware or software issue?

- If replacing the driver doesn't fix the issue, use the troubleshooter. Persistent issues typically indicate hardware faults.

### 4. Is there an automated tool to fix driver issues?

- Yes, tools like [EaseUS DriverHandy](#) and [Advanced SystemCare](#) can diagnose and resolve driver-related errors.

### 5. Why does this issue keep recurring?

- This could be due to:
  - Failing hardware.
  - Conflicting drivers.
  - Lack of system updates. Follow preventive measures to reduce recurrence.