

The new [iXP1-500 Dongle](#) claims to eliminate the "Not charging" issue that some iPad owners experience when connecting to older machines. We haven't tested one, but our initial instinct is dubious at best.



Shortly after the iPad was released in the US, users [noticed](#) a "charging issue." Specifically, the iPad would report "Not charging" when connected to an older MacBook Pro, Macbook, iMac or non-Apple machine. We later [confirmed](#) that the iPad actually *does* charge in that scenario, just very slowly.

Honestly, we're skeptical about this thing. Click below to find out why.

[Via [Cult Of Mac](#)]

At first glance, the iXP1-500 seems like a tidy solution. For only US\$5, you get a tiny doohicky that acts as a bridge between the iPad and the under-powered computer. Once connected, it will eliminate the "Not charging" message and power up your iPad. So what's the problem?

First of all, their [website](#) isn't entirely correct in saying that "users of non Apple computer and some Apple computers cannot charge the iPad unless they use an electrical wallplate," as we've [demonstrated](#). Additionally, [NASA Electrical I&T Engineer](#) Frederick Maxwell [notes](#) on the Cult of Mac blog: "The battery in an iPad is a dual-cell, parallel-wired, Lithium-Polymer that weighs a whopping 148 grams (5.5ozs) and provides 24.8 watt-hours of capacity. The dongle in the article has a total weight of 0.1 ounce, including connector, casing, and all internal parts. It can't work. Period."

As John Brownlee notes at CoM, this thing is probably tricking the iPad into believing it's receiving 10w of power, there by eliminating the "Not charging" message. Eliminating the message could convince some shoppers that their \$15 (\$5 for the dongle + shipping) was well spent. But it's just a workaround, and you didn't need to spend the \$15 in the first place.

The moral of the story is twofold. First, buyer beware. Secondly, you can charge your iPad from an underpowered USB port -- just slowly -- as it is.

**Tags:** [charger](#), [charging](#), [hardware](#), [iPad](#), [ixp1-500 dongle](#), [ixp1-500Dongle](#)

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