

Chapter 01 – Getting Started

Fingerprint Scanner Basics

Plug-and-Play

In order for **ValidateMe!** and your fingerprint reader to communicate, the appropriate device drivers must be selected and installed.

The good news is that with today's plug-and-play (PnP) technology, most hardware installations can be just that – plug it in and play it. Thus, as soon as a newly-connected device is connected to your computer, the operating system:

- 1) automatically detects the device
- 2) loads the appropriate drivers without any intervention from the user
- 3) immediately begins working with the hardware



In order for Windows 7 to automatically recognize a newly-connected fingerprint scanner, your device must be plug-and-play capable.

Embedded Finger Scanners in Laptops

Today's laptops often come equipped with built-in roller-style finger sensors. If your laptop has one, it's usually conveniently embedded near the lower right section of the touchpad area of your machine, just below the keyboard.



Integrated sensor

Integrated into the Windows 7 operating system is software support for the sensor. As long as the finger scanner is 100% compatible with the Windows 7 biometric framework, the device will be compatible with **ValidateMe!**



You will have to perform a few steps to set up and enable the functionality of your fingerprint scanner. For the how-to, see the section, **How do I install ValidateMe! on my computer?** later in this chapter.

External Fingerprint Scanners

External scanners are also available to plug into your desktop or laptop via any USB port. There are a number of external scanners available, even from your local big box discounters. Like their embedded counterparts, software support is also integrated into the Windows 7 operating system. And, as long as the USB finger scanner is fully compatible with the Windows 7 biometrics framework, the device will be compatible with **ValidateMe!**.



USB finger scanner



You will have to perform a few steps to set up the functionality of your fingerprint scanner. For the how-to, see the section, **How do I install ValidateMe! on my computer?** later in this chapter.

Other Types of Fingerprint Scanners

The **ValidateMe!** application also handles sensors that are embedded into keyboards and in mice, provided that the hardware is fully compatible with the Windows 7 biometrics framework.



Wireless keyboard with integrated sensor (upper right corner)



USB mouse with integrated sensor



You can even install two or more scanners on your machine, such as using a built-in scanner along with an external one. Once installed, each scanner must be enabled. Once enabled, in order to use that scanner for authentication, you will need to enroll at least one of your fingers using that scanner.

Which scanners are supported?

The following is a list of supported fingerprint readers:

Laptops

AuthenTec

Validity

USB Readers

AuthenTec

How do I install my scanner?

- ✓ No installation is required for any type of sensor built into a laptop.
- ✓ For USB-type scanners:
 - Remove the packaging from the device.
 - Connect the USB cable to any available USB port on your computer; Windows 7 will automatically search for and install the most current version of drivers associated with your scanner type.

What if I don't have a scanner?

You do not need to physically connect your scanner prior to installing **ValidateMe!**; the connection can be done at anytime. Be aware, however, that without a scanner attached to your computer, you will be required to provide a valid Windows password(s) instead of a finger swipe.