Check if your Mac boots a 32-bit or 64-bit kernel (Snow Leopard 10.6 only)

1. Click the Apple menu icon in the top left corner of your screen.
2. Select 'About this Mac'
3. Click the 'More Info' button
4. In the new window, on the left side scroll down and click on 'Software'
5. On the right side of the page look for a line that says:
   "64-bit kernel and extensions enabled"
6. If it says **YES**, you are booting a **64-bit kernel**. If it says **NO**, you are booting a **32-bit kernel**.

Alfa AWUS036H is currently only compatible with Snow Leopard running on a 32-bit kernel. But all Macs booting to a 64-bit kernel can be set to boot to a 32-bit kernel. There are two ways to change it:

1. Hold down the 3 and 2 keys on your keyboard when the system boots, do not release until computer boots up
2. Get "Kernel Startup Mode Selector", a free program that lets you set which kernel your Mac will boot to automatically (this is recommended if you have no need to occasionally load a 64-bit kernel
   LINK: http://www.macupdate.com/app/mac/32252/32--or-64-bit-kernel-startup-mode-selector/

COMMONLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. *Will booting into 32-bit kernel make my computer slower?*
   -No. If you have an Intel Mac with a 64-bit processor, that is not changing. Your computer is still a 64-bit machine and can do things computers with 32-bit processors cannot do, such as use more than 3GB of RAM. Changing the kernel setting only changes what kernel is loading, you will not see a difference in general performance. Almost all Macs up through February 2011 shipped from Apple running a 32-bit kernel, and many (such as Macbooks) could not even run a 64-bit kernel though they had 64-bit processors. But new Macs shipping after February 2011- for the most part- boot a 64-bit kernel by default.
2. *Why did Apple change the kernel to 64-bit if it does not change how fast my system is?*
   -A 64-bit kernel allows for the operation of 64-bit applications which are faster. Most all applications right now for Mac are 32-bit applications. As time goes on, developers will be releasing more 64-bit applications. Some applications, such as web browsers, can already be downloaded in 64-bit format. Most all 64-bit apps are also available in 32-bit flavor. At some point a 64-bit kernel compatible software update for this product will be available for Snow Leopard, but until that happens, the steps in this document will allow you to use your product on your Mac if your Mac has Snow Leopard running a 64-bit kernel

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