

TiVo's adapters are easy to install. Just push the adapter's plug into one of TiVo's USB ports around back. (Leave TiVo turned on.) Keep your wireless adapter's antenna or cable visible; you'll be pushing it around to get a stronger signal, just as early TV owners tweaked the TV's rabbit ears to get a better picture.

Unlike TiVo, PCs usually embrace the cheapest adapter available. They'll use a USB wired or wireless adapter, just like TiVo, or a cheaper, under-the-hood "PCI card" model. If you buy the PCI card to save money, you'll save enough to buy my other book, *Upgrading and Fixing PCs For Dummies*, 6th Edition, from Wiley Publishing, Inc., which explains networking in much more detail.

Mac owners will discover TiVo works fine with Apple Airport wireless equipment.

At the time of this writing, TiVo supports only 802.11b wireless adapters, not the 802.11g (Wireless G) or 802.11a adapters. This technology changes rapidly, so be sure to check TiVo's Web site (www.tivo.com/adapters) before buying an adapter.

Connecting two TiVos *without* a computer network

If you simply want to transfer recorded shows between two TiVos, you don't need a fancy home network *or* a computer; just buy HMO and a network adapter for each TiVo. Here's how to connect the two TiVos so they can share shows, either wired or wireless:

Wired: Plug an approved USB wired network adapter into each TiVo's USB port. Next, connect a special "crossover Ethernet cable" between the two adapters. (Make sure you emphasize the word *crossover* or *crossover patch* cable at the computer store; a regular network cable won't work. Crossover cables are often yellow.) The two TiVos should recognize each other.

Wireless: Plug an approved wireless USB network adapter, like the one shown in Figure 8-1, into each TiVo's USB port. Later, when setting up each TiVo's network settings, choose "Peer to Peer" and choose the same network name and channel for each TiVo. When both TiVos pick up the HMO update through the phone lines, you'll be ready to swap TV shows.

Just connecting two TiVos rules out music and slideshows, but it allows swapping and remote scheduling (when given about 24-hours notice). If you don't have a computer or Internet connection, this might be all you need.