H55 Extreme3

User Manual

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(1) this device may not cause harmful interference, and
(2) this device must accept any interference received, including interference that may cause undesired operation.

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The Lithium battery adopted on this motherboard contains Perchlorate, a toxic substance controlled in Perchlorate Best Management Practices (BMP) regulations passed by the California Legislature. When you discard the Lithium battery in California, USA, please follow the related regulations in advance.
"Perchlorate Material-special handling may apply, see www.dtsc.ca.gov/hazardouswaste/perchlorate"

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Chapter 1: Introduction

Thank you for purchasing ASRock ***H55 Extreme3*** motherboard, a reliable motherboard produced under ASRock's consistently stringent quality control. It delivers excellent performance with robust design conforming to ASRock's commitment to quality and endurance.

In this manual, chapter 1 and 2 contain introduction of the motherboard and step-by-step guide to the hardware installation. Chapter 3 and 4 contain the configuration guide to BIOS setup and information of the Support CD.

Because the motherboard specifications and the BIOS software might be updated, the content of this manual will be subject to change without notice. In case any modifications of this manual occur, the updated version will be available on ASRock website without further notice. You may find the latest VGA cards and CPU support lists on ASRock website as well. ASRock website http://www.asrock.com
If you require technical support related to this motherboard, please visit our website for specific information about the model you are using.
www.asrock.com/support/index.asp

1.1 Package Contents

ASRock ***H55 Extreme3*** Motherboard
(ATX Form Factor: 12.0-in x 9.6-in, 30.5 cm x 24.4 cm)
ASRock ***H55 Extreme3*** Quick Installation Guide
ASRock ***H55 Extreme3*** Support CD
4 x Serial ATA (SATA) Data Cables (Optional)
1 x Serial ATA (SATA) HDD Power Cable (Optional)
1 x I/O Panel Shield

1.2 Specifications

Platform	- ATX Form Factor: 12.0-in x 9.6-in, 30.5 cm x 24.4 cm - All Solid Capacitor design (100% Japan-made high-quality Conductive Polymer Capacitors)
CPU	- Supports Intel® Core™ i7 / i5 / i3 and Pentium® G6950 Processors in LGA1156 Package - Advanced V8 + 2 Power Phase Design - Supports Intel® Turbo Boost Technology (see **CAUTION 1**) - Supports Hyper-Threading Technology (see **CAUTION 2**) - Supports Untied Overclocking Technology (see **CAUTION 3**) - Supports EM64T CPU
Chipset	- Intel® H55
Memory	- Dual Channel DDR3 Memory Technology (see **CAUTION 4**) - 4 x DDR3 DIMM slots - Supports DDR3 2600+(OC)/2133(OC)/1866(OC)/1600/ 1333/1066 non-ECC, un-buffered memory - Max. capacity of system memory: 16GB (see **CAUTION 5**) - Supports Intel® Extreme Memory Profile (XMP) (see **CAUTION 6**)
Expansion Slot	- 1 x PCI Express 2.0 x16 slot (blue at x16 mode) - 3 x PCI Express 2.0 x1 slots (2.5GT/s) - 3 x PCI slots
Graphics *	* Requires a Processor with Intel® Graphics Technology - Intel® HD Graphics - Pixel Shader 4.0, DirectX 10 - Max. shared memory 1759MB (see **CAUTION 7**) - Three VGA Output options: D-Sub, DVI-D and HDMI (see **CAUTION 8**) - Supports HDMI 1.3a Technology with max. resolution up to 1920x1200 - Supports DVI with max. resolution up to 1920x1200 @ 60Hz - Supports D-Sub with max. resolution up to 2048x1536 @ 75Hz - Supports Auto Lip Sync, Deep Color (12bpc), xvYCC and HBR (High Bit Rate Audio) with HDMI 1.3a (Compliant HDMI monitor is required) (see **CAUTION 9**) - Supports HDCP function with DVI and HDMI ports - Supports Full HD 1080p Blu-ray (BD) / HD-DVD playback with DVI and HDMI ports

Audio	- 7.1 CH HD Audio with Content Protection - DAC with 110dB dynamic range (VIA® VT2020 Audio Codec) - Supports HDMI Audio with Dolby True HD and DTS HD Master Audio (when Intel® Core™ i5 600 series / i3 500 series / Pentium® G6950 CPU is installed) - Premium Blu-ray audio support
LAN	- PCIE x1 Gigabit LAN 10/100/1000 Mb/s - Realtek RTL8111DL - Supports Wake-On-LAN
Rear Panel I/O	I/O Panel - 1 x PS/2 Keyboard Port - 1 x VGA/D-Sub Port - 1 x VGA/DVI-D Port - 1 x HDMI Port - 1 x Optical SPDIF Out Port - 5 x Ready-to-Use USB 2.0 Ports - 1 x eSATA3 Connector - 1 x Ready-to-Use USB 3.0 Port - 1 x RJ-45 LAN Port with LED (ACT/LINK LED and SPEED LED) - 1 x IEEE 1394 Port - HD Audio Jack: Rear Speaker/Central/Bass/Line in/Front Speaker/Microphone (see **CAUTION 10**)
SATA3	- 2 x SATA3 6.0Gb/s connectors by Marvell SE9123/9120, support NCQ, AHCI and “Hot Plug” functions (SATA3_2 connector is shared with eSATA3 port)
USB 3.0	- 1 x USB3.0 port by Fresco FL1000G, supports USB 3.0 up to 5Gb/s
Connector	- 6 x SATAII 3.0Gb/s connectors, support NCQ, AHCI and “Hot Plug” functions - 2 x SATA3 6.0Gb/s connectors - 1 x IR header - 1 x COM port header - 1 x HDMI_SPDIF header - 1 x IEEE 1394 header - 1 x Chassis Intrusion header - 1 x Power LED header - CPU/Chassis/Power FAN connector - 24 pin ATX power connector - 8 pin 12V power connector - Front panel audio connector

	- 3 x USB 2.0 headers (support 6 USB 2.0 ports) (see **CAUTION 11**) - 1 x Dr. Debug (7-Segment Debug LED)
Smart Switch	- 1 x Clear CMOS Switch with LED - 1 x Power Switch with LED - 1 x Reset Switch with LED
BIOS Feature	- 64Mb AMI Legal BIOS - Supports "Plug and Play" - ACPI 1.1 Compliance Wake Up Events - Supports jumperfree - SMBIOS 2.3.1 Support - CPU VID, VCCM, SB, VTT, PCH PLL Voltage Multi-adjustment - Supports I. O. T. (Intelligent Overclocking Technology)
Support CD	- Drivers, Utilities, AntiVirus Software (Trial Version), ASRock Software Suite (CyberLink DVD Suite and Creative Sound Blaster X-Fi MB) (OEM and Trial Version)
Unique Feature	- ASRock OC Tuner (see **CAUTION 12**) - Intelligent Energy Saver (see **CAUTION 13**) - Instant Boot - ASRock Instant Flash (see **CAUTION 14**) - ASRock OC DNA (see **CAUTION 15**) - Hybrid Booster: - CPU Frequency Stepless Control (see **CAUTION 16**) - ASRock U-COP (see **CAUTION 17**) - Boot Failure Guard (B.F.G.) - Combo Cooler Option (C.C.O.) (see **CAUTION 18**) - Good Night LED - Turbo 50 / Turbo 100 GPU Overclocking (Requires Processor with Intel® Graphics Technology)
Hardware Monitor	- CPU Temperature Sensing - Chassis Temperature Sensing - CPU/Chassis/Power Fan Tachometer - CPU Quiet Fan - CPU/Chassis Fan Multi-Speed Control - CASE OPEN detection - Voltage Monitoring: +12V, +5V, +3.3V, CPU Vcore
OS	- Microsoft® Windows® 7 / 7 64-bit / Vista™ / Vista™ 64-bit / XP / XP 64-bit compliant
Certifications	- FCC, CE, WHQL - ErP/EuP Ready (ErP/EuP ready power supply is required) (see **CAUTION 19**)

* For detailed product information, please visit our website: http://www.asrock.com

WARNING

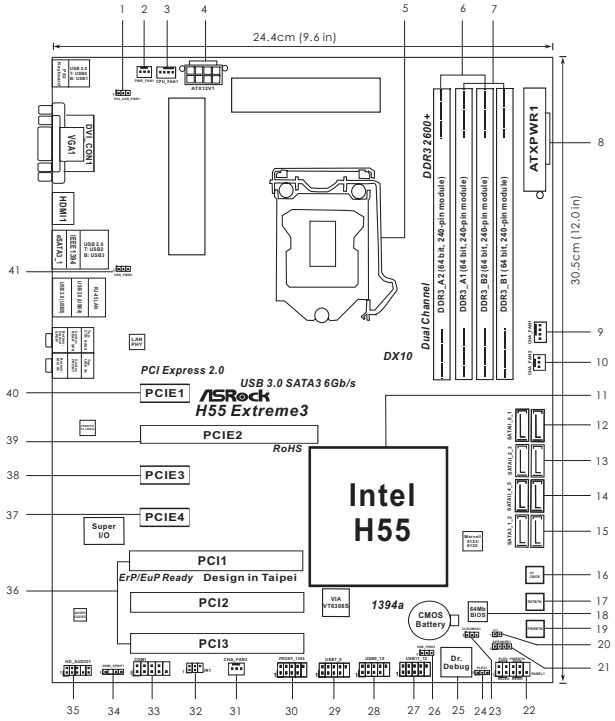
Please realize that there is a certain risk involved with overclocking, including adjusting the setting in the BIOS, applying Untied Overclocking Technology, or using the third-party overclocking tools. Overclocking may affect your system stability, or even cause damage to the components and devices of your system. It should be done at your own risk and expense. We are not responsible for possible damage caused by overclocking.

CAUTION!

1. Intel® Core™ i3 and Pentium® G6950 processors do not support Intel® Turbo Boost Technology.
2. About the setting of "Hyper Threading Technology", please check page 45.
3. This motherboard supports Untied Overclocking Technology. Please read "Untied Overclocking Technology" on page 37 for details.
4. This motherboard supports Dual Channel Memory Technology. Before you implement Dual Channel Memory Technology, make sure to read the installation guide of memory modules on page 18 for proper installation.
5. Due to the operating system limitation, the actual memory size may be less than 4GB for the reservation for system usage under Windows® 7 / Vista™ / XP. For Windows® OS with 64-bit CPU, there is no such limitation.
6. For those CPU that only support up to DDR3 1333, the XMP DDR3 1600 is supported through overclocking.
7. The maximum shared memory size is defined by the chipset vendor and is subject to change. Please check Intel® website for the latest information.
8. You can choose to use two of the three monitors only. D-Sub, DVI-D and HDMI monitors cannot be enabled at the same time. Besides, with the DVI-to-HDMI adapter, the DVI-D port can support the same features as HDMI port.
9. xvYCC and Deep Color are only supported under Windows® 7 64-bit / 7. Deep Color mode will be enabled only if the display supports 12bpc in EDID. HBR is supported under Windows® 7 64-bit / 7 / Vista™ 64-bit / Vista™.
10. For microphone input, this motherboard supports both stereo and mono modes. For audio output, this motherboard supports 2-channel, 4-channel, 6-channel, and 8-channel modes. Please check the table on page 12 for proper connection.
11. Power Management for USB 2.0 works fine under Microsoft® Windows® 7 64-bit / 7 / Vista™ 64-bit / Vista™ / XP 64-bit / XP SP1 or SP2.
12. It is a user-friendly ASRock overclocking tool which allows you to surveil your system by hardware monitor function and overclock your hardware devices to get the best system performance under Windows® environment. Please visit our website for the operation procedures of ASRock OC Tuner.
    ASRock website: http://www.asrock.com/feature/OCTuner/index.htm

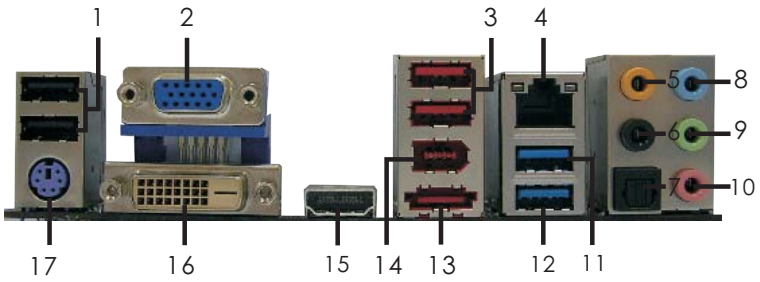
13. Featuring an advanced proprietary hardware and software design, Intelligent Energy Saver is a revolutionary technology that delivers unparalleled power savings. In other words, it is able to provide exceptional power saving and improve power efficiency without sacrificing computing performance. Please visit our website for the operation procedures of Intelligent Energy Saver.
    ASRock website: http://www.asrock.com/feature/IES/index.html
14. ASRock Instant Flash is a BIOS flash utility embedded in Flash ROM. This convenient BIOS update tool allows you to update system BIOS without entering operating systems first like MS-DOS or Windows®. With this utility, you can press <F6> key during the POST or press <F2> key to BIOS setup menu to access ASRock Instant Flash. Just launch this tool and save the new BIOS file to your USB flash drive, floppy disk or hard drive, then you can update your BIOS only in a few clicks without preparing an additional floppy diskette or other complicated flash utility. Please be noted that the USB flash drive or hard drive must use FAT32/16/12 file system.
15. The software name itself – OC DNA literally tells you what it is capable of. OC DNA, an exclusive utility developed by ASRock, provides a convenient way for the user to record the OC settings and share with others. It helps you to save your overclocking record under the operating system and simplifies the complicated recording process of overclocking settings. With OC DNA, you can save your OC settings as a profile and share with your friends! Your friends then can load the OC profile to their own system to get the same OC settings as yours! Please be noticed that the OC profile can only be shared and worked on the same motherboard.
16. Although this motherboard offers stepless control, it is not recommended to perform over-clocking. Frequencies other than the recommended CPU bus frequencies may cause the instability of the system or damage the CPU.
17. While CPU overheat is detected, the system will automatically shutdown. Before you resume the system, please check if the CPU fan on the motherboard functions properly and unplug the power cord, then plug it back again. To improve heat dissipation, remember to spray thermal grease between the CPU and the heatsink when you install the PC system.
18. Combo Cooler Option (C.C.O.) provides the flexible option to adopt two different CPU cooler types, Socket LGA 775 and LGA 1156. Please be noticed that not all the 775 CPU Fan can be used.
19. EuP, stands for Energy Using Product, was a provision regulated by European Union to define the power consumption for the completed system. According to EuP, the total AC power of the completed system shall be under 1.00W in off mode condition. To meet EuP standard, an EuP ready motherboard and an EuP ready power supply are required. According to Intel's suggestion, the EuP ready power supply must meet the standard of 5v standby power efficiency is higher than 50% under 100 mA current consumption. For EuP ready power supply selection, we recommend you checking with the power supply manufacturer for more details.

1.3 Motherboard Layout



1	PS2_USB_PWR1 Jumper
2	Power Fan Connector (PWR_FAN1)
3	CPU Fan Connector (CPU_FAN1)
4	ATX 12V Power Connector (ATX12V1)
5	1156-Pin CPU Socket
6	2 x 240-pin DDR3 DIMM Slots (Dual Channel: DDR3_A2, DDR3_B2, Blue)
7	2 x 240-pin DDR3 DIMM Slots (Dual Channel: DDR3_A1, DDR3_B1, White)
8	ATX Power Connector (ATXPWR1)
9	Chassis Fan Connector (CHA_FAN1)
10	Chassis Fan Connector (CHA_FAN2)
11	Intel H55 Chipset
12	SATAII Connector (SATAII_0_1, Blue)
13	SATAII Connector (SATAII_2_3, Blue)
14	SATAII Connector (SATAII_4_5, Blue)
15	SATA3 Connector (SATA3_1_2, White)
16	Clear CMOS Switch (CLRCBTN)
17	Reset Switch (RSTBTN)
18	64Mb SPI Flash
19	Power Switch (PWRBTN)
20	Chassis Intrusion Header (CI1)
21	Chassis Speaker Header (SPEAKER 1, White)
22	System Panel Header (PANEL1, White)
23	Clear CMOS Jumper (CLRCMOS1)
24	Power LED Header (PLED1)
25	Dr. Debug
26	USB_PWR3 Jumper
27	USB 2.0 Header (USB11_12, Blue)
28	USB 2.0 Header (USB9_10, Blue)
29	USB 2.0 Header (USB7_8, Blue)
30	Front Panel IEEE 1394 Header (FRONT_1394, White)
31	Chassis Fan Connector (CHA_FAN3)
32	Infrared Module Header (IR1)
33	COM Port Header (COM1)
34	HDMI_SPDIF Header (HDMI_SPDIF1, White)
35	Front Panel Audio Header (HD_AUDIO1, White)
36	PCI Slots (PCI1-3)
37	PCI Express 2.0 x1 Slot (PCIE4, White)
38	PCI Express 2.0 x1 Slot (PCIE3, White)
39	PCI Express 2.0 x16 Slot (PCIE2, Blue)
40	PCI Express 2.0 x1 Slot (PCIE1, White)
41	USB_PWR2 Jumper

1.4 I/O Panel



1	USB 2.0 Ports (USB01)	10	Microphone (Pink)
2	VGA/D-Sub Port	11	USB 2.0 Port (USB4)
3	USB 2.0 Ports (USB23)	12	USB 3.0 Port (USB5)
* 4	LAN RJ-45 Port	13	eSATA3 Connector (eSATA3_1)
5	Central / Bass (Orange)	14	IEEE 1394 Port (IEEE 1394)
6	Rear Speaker (Black)	15	HDMI Port
7	Optical SPDIF Out Port	16	VGA/DVI-D Port
8	Line In (Light Blue)	17	PS/2 Keyboard Port (Purple)
** 9	Front Speaker (Lime)		

* There are two LED next to the LAN port. Please refer to the table below for the LAN port LED indications.

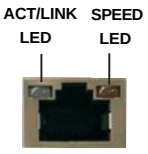
LAN Port LED Indications

Activity/Link LED

Status	Description
Off	No Link
Blinking	Data Activity
On	Link

SPEED LED

Status	Description
Off	10Mbps connection
Orange	100Mbps connection
Green	1Gbps connection



LAN Port

** If you use 2-channel speaker, please connect the speaker's plug into "Front Speaker Jack". See the table below for connection details in accordance with the type of speaker you use.

TABLE for Audio Output Connection

Audio Output Channels	Front Speaker (No. 9)	Rear Speaker (No. 6)	Central / Bass (No. 5)	Line In (No. 8)
2	V	--	--	--
4	V	V	--	--
6	V	V	V	--
8	V	V	V	V

To enable Multi-Streaming function, you need to connect a front panel audio cable to the front panel audio header. After restarting your computer, you will find “VIA HD Audio Deck” tool on your system. Please follow below instructions according to the OS you install.

For Windows® XP / XP 64-bit OS:
Please click “VIA HD Audio Deck” icon. Click “Jack” and then click “Configuration”. In “Configuration” screen, please check the item “Independent Headphone”.

For Windows® 7 / 7 64-bit / Vista™ / Vista™ 64-bit OS:
Please click “VIA HD Audio Deck” icon. Click “Advanced Options” on the right side on the bottom. In “Advanced Options” screen, please check the item “Independent Headphone”.

Chapter 2: Installation

This is an ATX form factor (12.0" x 9.6", 30.5 x 24.4 cm) motherboard. Before you install the motherboard, study the configuration of your chassis to ensure that the motherboard fits into it.

Make sure to unplug the power cord before installing or removing the motherboard. Failure to do so may cause physical injuries to you and damages to motherboard components.

2.1 Screw Holes

Place screws into the holes indicated by circles to secure the motherboard to the chassis.

Do not over-tighten the screws! Doing so may damage the motherboard.

2.2 Pre-installation Precautions

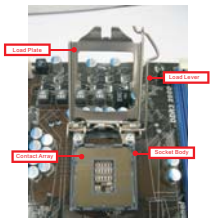
Take note of the following precautions before you install motherboard components or change any motherboard settings.

1. Unplug the power cord from the wall socket before touching any component.
2. To avoid damaging the motherboard components due to static electricity, NEVER place your motherboard directly on the carpet or the like. Also remember to use a grounded wrist strap or touch a safety grounded object before you handle components.
3. Hold components by the edges and do not touch the ICs.
4. Whenever you uninstall any component, place it on a grounded antistatic pad or in the bag that comes with the component.

Before you install or remove any component, ensure that the power is switched off or the power cord is detached from the power supply.
Failure to do so may cause severe damage to the motherboard, peripherals, and/or components.

2.3 CPU Installation

For the installation of Intel 1156-Pin CPU, please follow the steps below.



1156-Pin Socket Overview

Before you insert the 1156-Pin CPU into the socket, please check if the CPU surface is unclean or if there is any bent pin on the socket. Do not force to insert the CPU into the socket if above situation is found. Otherwise, the CPU will be seriously damaged.

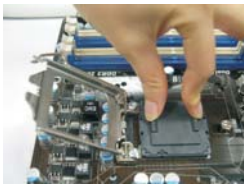
Step 1. Open the socket:

Step 1-1. Disengaging the lever by depressing down and out on the hook to clear retention tab.

Step 1-2. Rotate the load lever to fully open position at approximately 135 degrees.

Step 1-3. Rotate the load plate to fully open position at approximately 100 degrees.

Step 2. Remove PnP Cap (Pick and Place Cap).

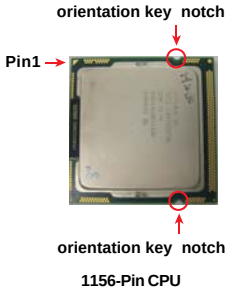


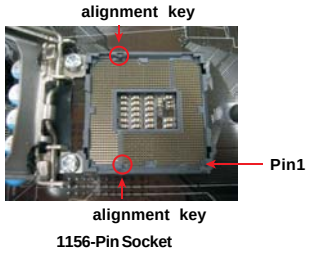
1. It is recommended to use the cap tab to handle and avoid kicking off the PnP cap.
2. This cap must be placed if returning the motherboard for after service.

Step 3. Insert the 1156-Pin CPU:

Step 3-1. Hold the CPU by the edge where is marked with black line.

Step 3-2. Orient the CPU with IHS (Integrated Heat Sink) up. Locate Pin1 and the two orientation key notches.





For proper inserting, please ensure to match the two orientation key notches of the CPU with the two alignment keys of the socket.

Step 3-3. Carefully place the CPU into the socket by using a purely vertical motion.

Step 3-4. Verify that the CPU is within the socket and properly mated to the orient keys.

Step 4. Close the socket:

Step 4-1. Rotate the load plate onto the IHS.

Step 4-2. While pressing down lightly on load plate, engage the load lever.

Step 4-3. Secure load lever with load plate tab under retention tab of load lever.

2.4 Installation of CPU Fan and Heatsink

This motherboard is equipped with 1156-Pin socket that supports Intel 1156-Pin CPU. Please adopt the type of heatsink and cooling fan compliant with Intel 1156-Pin CPU to dissipate heat. Before you installed the heatsink, you need to spray thermal interface material between the CPU and the heatsink to improve heat dissipation. Ensure that the CPU and the heatsink are securely fastened and in good contact with each other. Then connect the CPU fan to the CPU_FAN connector (CPU_FAN1, see page 11, No. 3).

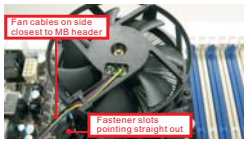
For proper installation, please kindly refer to the instruction manuals of your CPU fan and heatsink.

Below is an example to illustrate the installation of the heatsink for 1156-Pin CPU.

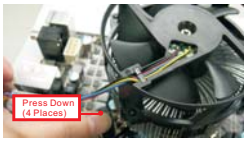
Step 1. Apply thermal interface material onto center of IHS on the socket surface.

Step 2. Place the heatsink onto the socket. Ensure fan cables are oriented on side closest to the CPU fan connector on the motherboard (CPU_FAN1, see page 11, No. 3).

Step 3. Align fasteners with the motherboard throughholes.



Step 4. Rotate the fastener clockwise, then press down on fastener caps with thumb to install and lock. Repeat with remaining fasteners.



If you press down the fasteners without rotating them clockwise, the heatsink cannot be secured on the motherboard.

Step 5. Connect fan header with the CPU fan connector on the motherboard.

Step 6. Secure excess cable with tie-wrap to ensure cable does not interfere with fan operation or contact other components.

Please be noticed that this motherboard supports Combo Cooler Option (C.C.O.), which provides the flexible option to adopt two different CPU cooler types, Socket LGA 775 and LGA 1156. The white throughholes are for Socket LGA 1156 CPU fan.

2.5 Installation of Memory Modules (DIMM)

This motherboard provides four 240-pin DDR3 (Double Data Rate 3) DIMM slots, and supports Dual Channel Memory Technology. For dual channel configuration, you always need to install **identical** (the same brand, speed, size and chip-type) DDR3 DIMM pair in the slots of the same color. In other words, you have to install **identical** DDR3 DIMM pair in **Dual Channel** (DDR3_A1 and DDR3_B1; white slots; see p.11 No.7), so that Dual Channel Memory Technology can be activated. This motherboard also allows you to install four DDR3 DIMMs for dual channel configuration, and please install **identical** DDR3 DIMMs in all four slots. You may refer to the Dual Channel Memory Configuration Table below.

Dual Channel Memory Configurations

	DDR3_A2 (Blue Slot)	DDR3_A1 (White Slot)	DDR3_B2 (Blue Slot)	DDR3_B1 (White Slot)
(1)	-	Populated	-	Populated
(2)*	Populated	Populated	Populated	Populated

* For the configuration (2), please install **identical** DDR3 DIMMs in all four slots.

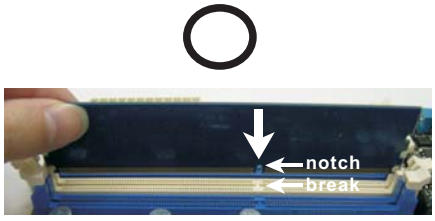
1. If you want to install two memory modules, for optimal compatibility and reliability, it is recommended to install them in the slots of the same color. In other words, install them either in the set of white slots (DDR3_A1 and DDR3_B1).
2. If only one memory module or three memory modules are installed in the DDR3 DIMM slots on this motherboard, it is unable to activate the Dual Channel Memory Technology.
3. It is not allowed to install a DDR or DDR2 memory module into DDR3 slot;otherwise, this motherboard and DIMM may be damaged.
4. Please install the memory module into the white slot (DDR3_B1) for the first priority.

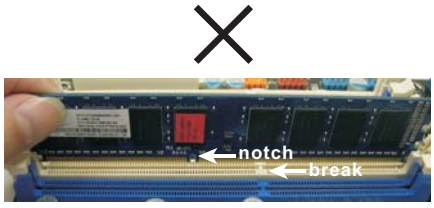
Installing a DIMM

Please make sure to disconnect power supply before adding or removing DIMMs or the system components.

Step 1. Unlock a DIMM slot by pressing the retaining clips outward.

Step 2. Align a DIMM on the slot such that the notch on the DIMM matches the break on the slot.





The DIMM only fits in one correct orientation. It will cause permanent damage to the motherboard and the DIMM if you force the DIMM into the slot at incorrect orientation.

Step 3. Firmly insert the DIMM into the slot until the retaining clips at both ends fully snap back in place and the DIMM is properly seated.

2.6 Expansion Slots (PCI and PCI Express Slots)

There are 3 PCI slots and 4 PCI Express slots on this motherboard.

PCI slot: PCI slot is used to install expansion cards that have the 32-bit PCI interface.

PCIE slots:

PCIE1 / PCIE3 / PCIE4 (PCIE x1 slot; White) is used for PCI Express cards with x1 lane width cards, such as Gigabit LAN card, SATA2 card, etc.

PCIE2 (PCIE x16 slot; Blue) is used for PCI Express x16 lane width graphics cards.

Installing an expansion card

Step 1. Before installing the expansion card, please make sure that the power supply is switched off or the power cord is unplugged. Please read the documentation of the expansion card and make necessary hardware settings for the card before you start the installation.

Step 2. Remove the system unit cover (if your motherboard is already installed in a chassis).

Step 3. Remove the bracket facing the slot that you intend to use. Keep the screws for later use.

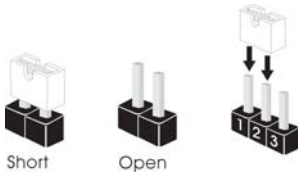
Step 4. Align the card connector with the slot and press firmly until the card is completely seated on the slot.

Step 5. Fasten the card to the chassis with screws.

Step 6. Replace the system cover.

2.7 Jumpers Setup

The illustration shows how jumpers are setup. When the jumper cap is placed on pins, the jumper is “Short”. If no jumper cap is placed on pins, the jumper is “Open”. The illustration shows a 3-pin jumper whose pin1 and pin2 are “Short” when jumper cap is placed on these 2 pins.



Jumper	Setting	
PS2_USB_PWR1 (see p.11, No. 1)	1_2 +5V; 2_3 +5VSB	Short pin2, pin3 to enable +5VSB (standby) for PS/2 or USB01 wake up events.

Note: To select +5VSB, it requires 2 Amp and higher standby current provided by power supply.

USB_PWR2 (see p.11, No. 41)	1_2 +5V; 2_3 +5V_DUAL	Short pin2, pin3 to enable +5V_DUAL for USB23/45 wake up events.

Note: To select +5V_DUAL, it requires 2 Amp and higher standby current provided by power supply. When you select +5V_DUAL, USB devices can wake up the system under S3 (Suspend to RAM) state.

USB_PWR3 (see p.11, No. 26)	1_2 +5V; 2_3 +5VSB	Short pin2, pin3 to enable +5VSB (standby) for USB7_8/9_10/11_12 wake up events.

Note: To select +5VSB, it requires 2 Amp and higher standby current provided by power supply.

Clear CMOS Jumper (CLRCMOS1) (see p.11, No. 23)	1_2 Default; 2_3 Clear CMOS	

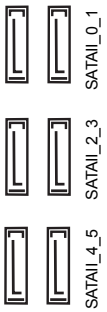
Note: CLRCMOS1 allows you to clear the data in CMOS. The data in CMOS includes system setup information such as system password, date, time, and system setup parameters. To clear and reset the system parameters to default setup, please turn off the computer and unplug the power cord from the power supply. After waiting for 15 seconds, use a jumper cap to short pin2 and pin3 on CLRCMOS1 for 5 seconds. However, please do not clear the CMOS right after you update the BIOS. If you need to clear the CMOS when you just finish updating the BIOS, you must boot up the system first, and then shut it down before you do the clear-CMOS action.

If you clear the CMOS, the case open may be detected. Please adjust the BIOS option "Clear Status" to clear the record of previous chassis intrusion status.

2.8 Onboard Headers and Connectors

Onboard headers and connectors are NOT jumpers. Do NOT place jumper caps over these headers and connectors. Placing jumper caps over the headers and connectors will cause permanent damage of the motherboard!

Serial ATAII Connectors
(SATAII_0_1: see p.11, No. 12)
(SATAII_2_3: see p.11, No. 13)
(SATAII_4_5: see p.11, No. 14)



These six Serial ATAII (SATAII) connectors support SATA data cables for internal storage devices. The current SATAII interface allows up to 3.0 Gb/s data transfer rate.

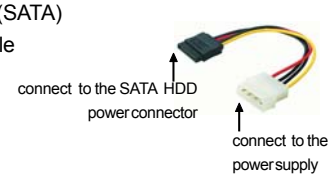
Serial ATA3 Connectors
(SATA3_1_2: see p.11, No. 15)

These two Serial ATA3 (SATA3) connectors support SATA data cables for internal storage devices. The current SATA3 interface allows up to 6.0 Gb/s data transfer rate.

Serial ATA (SATA) Data Cable
(Optional)

Either end of the SATA data cable can be connected to the SATA / SATAII / SATA3 hard disk or the SATAII / SATA3 connector on this motherboard.

Serial ATA (SATA) Power Cable
(Optional)

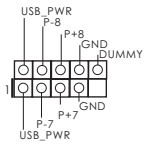


Please connect the black end of SATA power cable to the power connector on each drive. Then connect the white end of SATA power cable to the power connector of the power supply.

USB 2.0 Headers

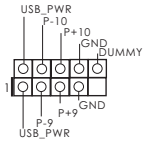
(9-pin USB7_8)

(see p.11 No. 29)



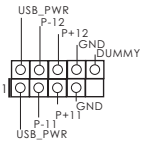
(9-pin USB9_10)

(see p.11 No. 28)



(9-pin USB11_12)

(see p.11 No. 27)

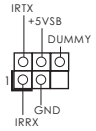


Besides five default USB 2.0 ports on the I/O panel, there are three USB 2.0 headers on this motherboard. Each USB 2.0 header can support two USB 2.0 ports.

Infrared Module Header

(5-pin IR1)

(see p.11 No. 32)



This header supports an optional wireless transmitting and receiving infrared module.

Chassis Intrusion Header

(2-pin CI1)

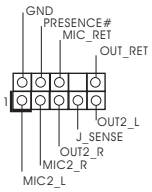
(see p.11 No. 20)

This motherboard supports CASE OPEN detection feature that detects if the chassis cover has been removed. This feature requires a chassis with chassis intrusion detection design.

Front Panel Audio Header

(9-pin HD_AUDIO1)

(see p.11 No. 35)



This is an interface for front panel audio cable that allows convenient connection and control of audio devices.

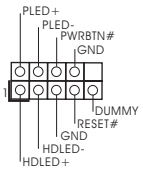
1. High Definition Audio supports Jack Sensing, but the panel wire on the chassis must support HDA to function correctly. Please follow the instruction in our manual and chassis manual to install your system.
2. If you use AC'97 audio panel, please install it to the front panel audio header as below:
   A. Connect Mic_IN (MIC) to MIC2_L.
   B. Connect Audio_R (RIN) to OUT2_R and Audio_L (LIN) to OUT2_L.
   C. Connect Ground (GND) to Ground (GND).
   D. MIC_RET and OUT_RET are for HD audio panel only. You don't need to connect them for AC'97 audio panel.

E. Enter BIOS Setup Utility. Enter Advanced Settings, and then select Chipset Configuration. Set the Front Panel Control option from [Auto] to [Enabled].

System Panel Header

(9-pin PANEL1)

(see p.11 No. 22)

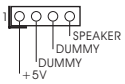


This header accommodates several system front panel functions.

Chassis Speaker Header

(4-pin SPEAKER 1)

(see p.11 No. 21)



Please connect the chassis speaker to this header.

Power LED Header

(3-pin PLED1)

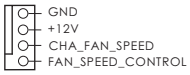
(see p.11 No. 24)

Please connect the chassis power LED to this header to indicate system power status. The LED is on when the system is operating. The LED keeps blinking in S1 state. The LED is off in S3/S4 state or S5 state (power off).

Chassis and Power Fan Connectors

(4-pin CHA_FAN1)

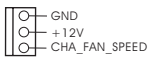
(see p.11 No. 9)



Please connect the fan cables to the fan connectors and match the black wire to the ground pin.

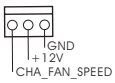
(3-pin CHA_FAN2)

(see p.11 No. 10)



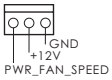
(3-pin CHA_FAN3)

(see p.11 No. 31)



(3-pin PWR_FAN1)

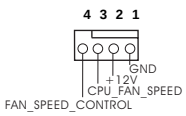
(see p.11 No. 2)



CPU Fan Connector

(4-pin CPU_FAN1)

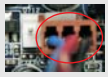
(see p.11 No. 3)



Please connect a CPU fan cable to this connector and match the black wire to the ground pin.

Though this motherboard provides 4-Pin CPU fan (Quiet Fan) support, the 3-Pin CPU fan still can work successfully even without the fan speed control function. If you plan to connect the 3-Pin CPU fan to the CPU fan connector on this motherboard, please connect it to Pin 1-3.

Pin 1-3 Connected

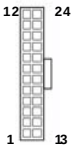


3-Pin Fan Installation

ATX Power Connector

(24-pin ATXPWR1)

(see p.11, No. 8)



Please connect an ATX power supply to this connector.

Though this motherboard provides 24-pin ATX power connector, it can still work if you adopt a traditional 20-pin ATX power supply. To use the 20-pin ATX power supply, please plug your power supply along with Pin 1 and Pin 13.

20-Pin ATX Power Supply Installation

ATX 12V Power Connector

(8-pin ATX12V1)

(see p.11 No. 4)

Please connect an ATX 12V power supply to this connector.

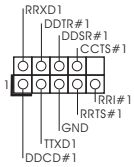
Though this motherboard provides 8-pin ATX 12V power connector, it can still work if you adopt a traditional 4-pin ATX 12V power supply. To use the 4-pin ATX power supply, please plug your power supply along with Pin 1 and Pin 5.

4-Pin ATX 12V Power Supply Installation

Serial port Header

(9-pin COM1)

(see p.11 No.33)

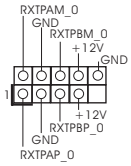


This COM1 header supports a serial port module.

IEEE 1394 Header

(9-pin FRONT_1394)

(see p.11 No. 30)



Besides one default IEEE 1394 port on the I/O panel, there is one IEEE 1394 header (FRONT_1394) on this motherboard. This IEEE 1394 header can support one IEEE 1394 port.

HDMI_SPDIF Header

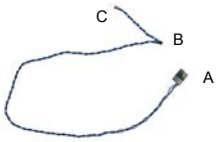
(3-pin HDMI_SPDIF1)

(see p.11 No. 34)

HDMI_SPDIF header, providing SPDIF audio output to HDMI VGA card, allows the system to connect HDMI Digital TV/ projector/LCD devices. Please connect the HDMI_SPDIF connector of HDMI VGA card to this header.

HDMI_SPDIF Cable

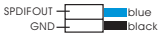
(Optional)



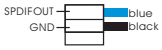
Please connect the black end (A) of HDMI_SPDIF cable to the HDMI_SPDIF header on the motherboard. Then connect the white end (B or C) of HDMI_SPDIF cable to the HDMI_SPDIF connector of HDMI VGA card.

A. black end

B. white end (2-pin)



C. white end (3-pin)



2.9 Smart Switches

This motherboard has three smart switches: power switch, reset switch and clear CMOS switch, allowing users to quickly turn on/off or reset the system or clear the CMOS values.

Power Switch (PWRBTN) (see p.11 No. 19)		Power Switch is a smart switch, allowing users to quickly turn on/off the system.
Reset Switch (RSTBTN) (see p.11 No. 17)		Reset Switch is a smart switch, allowing users to quickly reset the system.
Clear CMOS Switch (CLRCBTN) (see p.11 No. 16)		Clear CMOS Switch is a smart switch, allowing users to quickly clear the CMOS values

You are not allowed to use Clear CMOS switch function if you set up the system password. If you want to clear the CMOS values, please clean your system password in advance or refer to page 21 “Clear CMOS jumper” description instead.

2.10 Dr. Debug

Dr. Debug is used to provide code information, which makes troubleshooting even easier. Please see the diagrams below for reading the Dr. Debug codes.

The Bootblock initialization code sets up the chipset, memory and other components before system memory is available. The following table describes the type of checkpoints that may occur during the bootblock initialization portion of the BIOS:

Checkpoint	Description
Before D1	Early chipset initialization is done. Early super I/O initialization is done including RTC and keyboard controller. NMI is disabled.
D1	Perform keyboard controller BAT test. Check if waking up from power management suspend state. Save power-on CPUID value in scratch CMOS.
D0	Go to flat mode with 4GB limit and GA20 enabled. Verify the bootblock checksum.
D2	Disable CACHE before memory detection. Execute full memory sizing module. Verify that flat mode is enabled.
D3	If memory sizing module not executed, start memory refresh and do memory sizing in Bootblock code. Do additional chipset initialization. Re-enable CACHE. Verify that flat mode is enabled.
D4	Test base 512KB memory. Adjust policies and cache first 8MB. Set stack.
D5	Bootblock code is copied from ROM to lower system memory and control is given to it. BIOS now executes out of RAM.
D6	Both key sequence and OEM specific method is checked to determine if BIOS recovery is forced. Main BIOS checksum is tested. If BIOS recovery is necessary, control flows to checkpoint E0.
D7	Restore CPUID value back into register. The Bootblock-Runtime interface module is moved to system memory and control is given to it. Determine whether to execute serial flash.
D8	The Runtime module is uncompressed into memory. CPUID information is stored in memory.
D9	Store the Uncompressed pointer for future use in PMM. Copying Main BIOS into memory. Leaves all RAM below 1MB Read-Write including E000 and F000 shadow areas but closing SMRAM.
DA	Restore CPUID value back into register. Give control to BIOS POST (ExecutePOSTKernel).

The POST code checkpoints are the largest set of checkpoints during the BIOS pre-boot process. The following table describes the type of checkpoints that may occur during the POST portion of the BIOS:

Checkpoint	Description
03	Disable NMI, Parity, video for EGA, and DMA controllers. Initialize BIOS, POST, Runtime data area. Also initialize BIOS modules on POST entry and GPNV area. Initialized CMOS as mentioned in the Kernel Variable "wCMOSFlags."
04	Check CMOS diagnostic byte to determine if battery power is OK and CMOS checksum is OK. Verify CMOS checksum manually by reading storage area. If the CMOS checksum is bad, update CMOS with power-on default values and clear passwords. Initialize status register A. Initializes data variables that are based on CMOS setup questions. Initializes both the 8259 compatible PICs in the system
05	Initializes the interrupt controlling hardware (generally PIC) and interrupt vector table.
06	Do R/W test to CH-2 count reg. Initialize CH-0 as system timer. Install the POSTINT1Ch handler. Enable IRQ-0 in PIC for system timer interrupt. Traps INT1Ch vector to "POSTINT1ChHandlerBlock."
08	Initializes the CPU. The BAT test is being done on KBC. Program the keyboard controller command byte is being done after Auto detection of KB/MS using AMI KB-5.
C0	Early CPU Init Start — Disable Cache - Init Local APIC
C1	Set up boot strap proccessor Information
C2	Set up boot strap proccessor for POST
C5	Enumerate and set up application proccessors
C6	Re-enable cache for boot strap proccessor
C7	Early CPU Init Exit
0A	Initializes the 8042 compatible Key Board Controller.
0B	Detects the presence of PS/2 mouse.
0C	Detects the presence of Keyboard in KBC port.
0E	Testing and initialization of different Input Devices. Also, update the Kernel Variables. Traps the INT09h vector, so that the POST INT09h handler gets control for IRQ1. Uncompress all available language, BIOS logo, and Silent logo modules.
13	Early POST initialization of chipset registers.
24	Uncompress and initialize any platform specific BIOS modules.
30	Initialize System Management Interrupt.
2A	Initializes different devices through DIM. See DIM Code Checkpoints section of document for more information.
2C	Initializes different devices. Detects and initializes the video adapter installed in the system that have optional ROMs.
2E	Initializes all the output devices.
31	Allocate memory for ADM module and uncompress it. Give control to ADM module for initialization. Initialize language and font modules for ADM. Activate ADM module.

33	Initializes the silent boot module. Set the window for displaying text information.
37	Displaying sign-on message, CPU information, setup key message, and any OEM specific information.
38	Initializes different devices through DIM.
39	Initializes DMAC-1 & DMAC-2.
3A	Initialize RTC date/time.
3B	Test for total memory installed in the system. Also, Check for DEL or ESC keys to limit memory test. Display total memory in the system.
3C	Mid POST initialization of chipset registers.
40	Detect different devices (Parallel ports, serial ports, and coprocessor in CPU, etc.) successfully installed in the system and update the BDA, EBDA, etc.
50	Programming the memory hole or any kind of implementation that needs an adjustment in system RAM size if needed.
52	Updates CMOS memory size from memory found in memory test. Allocates memory for Extended BIOS Data Area from base memory.
60	Initializes NUM-LOCK status and programs the KBD typematic rate.
75	Initialize Int-13 and prepare for IPL detection.
78	Initializes IPL devices controlled by BIOS and option ROMs.
7A	Initializes remaining option ROMs.
7C	Generate and write contents of ESCD in NVRam.
84	Log errors encountered during POST.
85	Display errors to the user and gets the user response for error.
87	Execute BIOS setup if needed / requested.
8C	Late POST initialization of chipset registers.
8D	Build ACPI tables (if ACPI is supported)
8E	Program the peripheral parameters. Enable/Disable NMI as selected
90	Late POST initialization of system management interrupt.
A0	Check boot password if installed.
A1	Clean-up work needed before booting to OS.
A2	Takes care of runtime image preparation for different BIOS modules. Fill the free area in F000h segment with 0FFh. Initializes the Microsoft IRQ Routing Table. Prepares the runtime language module. Disables the system configuration display if needed.
A4	Initialize runtime language module.
A7	Displays the system configuration screen if enabled. Initialize the CPU's before boot, which includes the programming of the MTRR's.
A8	Prepare CPU for OS boot including final MTRR values.
A9	Wait for user input at config display if needed.
AA	Uninstall POST INT1Ch vector and INT09h vector. Deinitializes the ADM module.
AB	Prepare BBS for Int 19 boot.
AC	End of POST initialization of chipset registers.
B1	Save system context for ACPI.
00	Passes control to OS Loader (typically INT19h).

2.11 HDMI_SPDIF Header Connection Guide

HDMI (High-Definition Multi-media Interface) is an all-digital audio/video specification, which provides an interface between any compatible digital audio/video source, such as a set-top box, DVD player, A/V receiver and a compatible digital audio or video monitor, such as a digital television (DTV). A complete HDMI system requires a HDMI VGA card and a HDMI ready motherboard with a HDMI_SPDIF header. This motherboard is equipped with a HDMI_SPDIF header, which provides SPDIF audio output to HDMI VGA card, allows the system to connect HDMI Digital TV/projector/LCD devices. To use HDMI function on this motherboard, please carefully follow the below steps.

Step 1. Install the HDMI VGA card to the PCI Express Graphics slot on this motherboard. For the proper installation of HDMI VGA card, please refer to the installation guide on page 20.

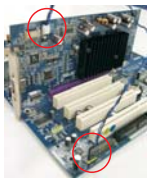
Step 2. Connect the black end (A) of HDMI_SPDIF cable to the HDMI_SPDIF header (HDMI_SPDIF1, white, see page 11, No. 34) on the motherboard.

Make sure to correctly connect the HDMI_SPDIF cable to the motherboard and the HDMI VGA card according to the same pin definition. For the pin definition of HDMI_SPDIF header and HDMI_SPDIF cable connectors, please refer to page 26. For the pin definition of HDMI_SPDIF connectors on HDMI VGA card, please refer to the user manual of HDMI VGA card vendor. Incorrect connection may cause permanent damage to this motherboard and the HDMI VGA card.

Step 3. Connect the white end (B or C) of HDMI_SPDIF cable to the HDMI_SPDIF connector of HDMI VGA card. (There are two white ends (2-pin and 3-pin) on HDMI_SPDIF cable. Please choose the appropriate white end according to the HDMI_SPDIF connector of the HDMI VGA card you install.

white end (2-pin) (B)

white end (3-pin) (C)



Please do not connect the white end of HDMI_SPDIF cable to the wrong connector of HDMI VGA card or other VGA card. Otherwise, the motherboard and the VGA card may be damaged. For example, this picture shows the wrong example of connecting HDMI_SPDIF cable to the fan connector of PCI Express VGA card. Please refer to the VGA card user manual for connector usage in advance.

Step 4. Connect the HDMI output connector on HDMI VGA card to HDMI device, such as HDTV. Please refer to the user manual of HDTV and HDMI VGA card vendor for detailed connection procedures.

Step 5. Install HDMI VGA card driver to your system.

2.12 Serial ATA (SATA) / Serial ATAII (SATAII) Hard Disks Installation

This motherboard adopts Intel® H55 chipset that supports Serial ATA (SATA) / Serial ATAII (SATAII) hard disks. You may install SATA / SATAII hard disks on this motherboard for internal storage devices. This section will guide you to install the SATA / SATAII hard disks.

STEP 1: Install the SATA / SATAII hard disks into the drive bays of your chassis.
STEP 2: Connect the SATA power cable to the SATA / SATAII hard disk.
STEP 3: Connect one end of the SATA data cable to the motherboard's SATAII connector.
STEP 4: Connect the other end of the SATA data cable to the SATA / SATAII hard disk.

It is not recommended to switch the "SATA Operation Mode" setting between AHCI and IDE mode after OS installation.

2.13 Serial ATA3 (SATA3) Hard Disks Installation

This motherboard adopts Marvell SE9123/9120 chipset that supports Serial ATA3 (SATA3) hard disks. You may install SATA3 hard disks on this motherboard for internal storage devices. This section will guide you to install the SATA3 hard disks.

STEP 1: Install the SATA3 hard disks into the drive bays of your chassis.
STEP 2: Connect the SATA power cable to the SATA3 hard disk.
STEP 3: Connect one end of the SATA data cable to the motherboard's SATA3 connector.
STEP 4: Connect the other end of the SATA data cable to the SATA3 hard disk.

It is not recommended to switch the "Marvell SATA3 Operation Mode" setting between AHCI and IDE mode after OS installation.

2.14 Hot Plug Function for SATA / SATAII HDDs

This motherboard supports Hot Plug function for SATA / SATAII in AHCI mode. Intel® H55 chipset provides hardware support for Advanced Host controller Interface (AHCI), a new programming interface for SATA host controllers developed thru a joint industry effort.

NOTE

What is Hot Plug Function?

If the SATA / SATAII HDDs are NOT set for RAID configuration, it is called "Hot Plug" for the action to insert and remove the SATA / SATAII HDDs while the system is still power-on and in working condition.
However, please note that it cannot perform Hot Plug if the OS has been installed into the SATA / SATAII HDD.

2.15 Hot Plug Function for SATA3 HDDs

This motherboard supports Hot Plug function for SATA3 in AHCI mode. Marvell SE9123/9120 chipset provides hardware support for Advanced Host controller Interface (AHCI), a new programming interface for SATA host controllers developed thru a joint industry effort.

NOTE

What is Hot Plug Function?

If the SATA3 HDDs are NOT set for RAID configuration, it is called "Hot Plug" for the action to insert and remove the SATA3 HDDs while the system is still power-on and in working condition.
However, please note that it cannot perform Hot Plug if the OS has been installed into the SATA3 HDD.

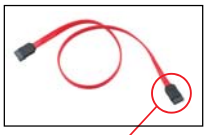
2.16 SATA / SATAII / SATA3 HDD Hot Plug Feature and Operation Guide

This motherboard supports Hot Plug feature for SATA / SATAII / SATA3 HDD in AHCI mode. Please read below operation guide of Hot Plug feature carefully. Before you process the SATA / SATAII / SATA3 HDD Hot Plug, please check below cable accessories from the motherboard gift box pack.

A. 7-pin SATA data cable

B. SATA power cable with SATA 15-pin power connector interface

A. SATA data cable (Red)



SATA 7-pin connector

B. SATA power cable

The SATA 15-pin power connector (Black) connect to SATA / SATAII / SATA3 HDD

1x4-pin conventional power connector (White) connect to power supply

Caution

1. Without SATA 15-pin power connector interface, the SATA / SATAII / SATA3 Hot Plug cannot be processed.
2. Even some SATA / SATAII / SATA3 HDDs provide both SATA 15-pin power connector and IDE 1x4-pin conventional power connector interfaces, the IDE 1x4-pin conventional power connector interface is definitely not able to support Hot Plug and will cause the HDD damage and data loss.

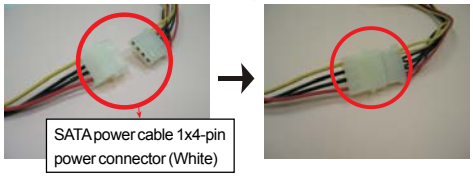
Points of attention, before you process the Hot Plug:

1. Below operation procedure is designed only for our motherboard, which supports SATA / SATAII / SATA3 HDD Hot Plug.
   * The SATA / SATAII / SATA3 Hot Plug feature might not be supported by the chipset because of its limitation, the SATA / SATAII / SATA3 Hot Plug support information of our motherboard is indicated in the product spec on our website: www.asrock.com
2. Make sure your SATA / SATAII / SATA3 HDD can support Hot Plug function from your dealer or HDD user manual. The SATA / SATAII / SATA3 HDD, which cannot support Hot Plug function, will be damaged under the Hot Plug operation.
3. Please make sure the SATA / SATAII / SATA3 driver is installed into system properly. The latest SATA / SATAII / SATA3 driver is available on our support website: www.asrock.com
4. Make sure to use the SATA power cable & data cable, which are from our motherboard package.
5. Please follow below instructions step by step to reduce the risk of HDD crash or data loss.

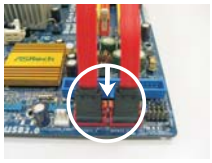
How to Hot Plug a SATA / SATAII / SATA3 HDD:

Points of attention, before you process the Hot Plug:
Please do follow below instruction sequence to process the Hot Plug, improper procedure will cause the SATA / SATAII / SATA3 HDD damage and data loss.

Step *1* Please connect SATA power cable 1x4-pin end (White) to the power supply 1x4-pin cable.



Step *2* Connect SATA data cable to the motherboard's SATAII / SATA3 connector.



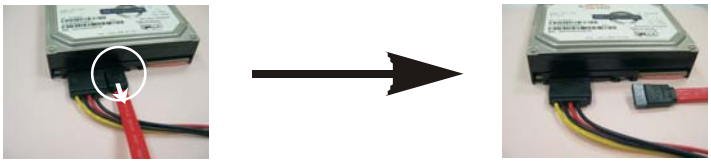
Step *3* Connect SATA 15-pin power cable connector (Black) end to SATA / SATAII / SATA3 HDD.

Step *4* Connect SATA data cable to the SATA / SATAII / SATA3 HDD.

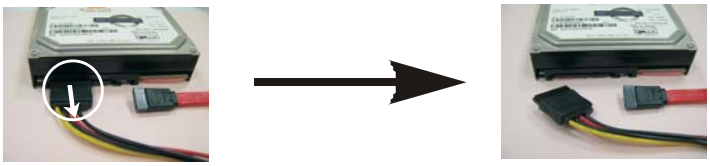
How to Hot Unplug a SATA / SATAII / SATA3 HDD:

Points of attention, before you process the Hot Unplug:
Please do follow below instruction sequence to process the Hot Unplug, improper procedure will cause the SATA / SATAII / SATA3 HDD damage and data loss.

Step *1* Unplug SATA data cable from SATA / SATAII / SATA3 HDD side.



Step *2* Unplug SATA 15-pin power cable connector (Black) from SATA / SATAII / SATA3 HDD side.



2.17 Driver Installation Guide

To install the drivers to your system, please insert the support CD to your optical drive first. Then, the drivers compatible to your system can be auto-detected and listed on the support CD driver page. Please follow the order from up to bottom side to install those required drivers. Therefore, the drivers you install can work properly.

2.18 Installing Windows® 7 / 7 64-bit / Vista™ / Vista™ 64-bit / XP / XP 64-bit Without RAID Functions

If you want to install Windows® 7 / 7 64-bit / Vista™ / Vista™ 64-bit / XP / XP 64-bit OS on your SATA / SATAII HDDs without RAID functions, please follow below procedures according to the OS you install.

2.18.1 Installing Windows® XP / XP 64-bit Without RAID Functions

If you want to install Windows® XP / XP 64-bit OS on your SATA / SATAII HDDs without RAID functions, please follow below steps.

AHCI mode is not supported under Windows® XP / XP 64-bit OS.

Using SATA / SATAII HDDs without NCQ function (IDE mode)

STEP 1: Set up BIOS.

A. Enter BIOS SETUP UTILITY → Advanced screen → Storage Configuration.

B. Set the option "SATA Operation Mode" to [IDE].

STEP 2: Install Windows® XP / XP 64-bit OS on your system.

2.18.2 Installing Windows® 7 / 7 64-bit / Vista™ / Vista™ 64-bit Without RAID Functions

If you want to install Windows® 7 / 7 64-bit / Vista™ / Vista™ 64-bit OS on your SATA / SATAII HDDs without RAID functions, please follow below steps.

Using SATA / SATAII HDDs with NCQ function (AHCI mode)

STEP 1: Set Up BIOS.

A. Enter BIOS SETUP UTILITY → Advanced screen → Storage Configuration.

B. Set the option "SATA Operation Mode" to [AHCI].

STEP 2: Install Windows® 7 / 7 64-bit / Vista™ / Vista™ 64-bit OS on your system.

Using SATA / SATAII HDDs without NCQ function (IDE mode)

STEP 1: Set up BIOS.

A. Enter BIOS SETUP UTILITY → Advanced screen → Storage Configuration.

B. Set the option "SATA Operation Mode" to [IDE].

STEP 2: Install Windows® 7 / 7 64-bit / Vista™ / Vista™ 64-bit OS on your system.

2.19 Untied Overclocking Technology

This motherboard supports Untied Overclocking Technology, which means during overclocking, FSB enjoys better margin due to fixed PCI / PCIE buses. Before you enable Untied Overclocking function, please enter "Overclock Mode" option of BIOS setup to set the selection from [Auto] to [Manual]. Therefore, CPU FSB is untied during overclocking, but PCI / PCIE buses are in the fixed mode so that FSB can operate under a more stable overclocking environment.

Please refer to the warning on page 9 for the possible overclocking risk before you apply Untied Overclocking Technology.

Chapter 3: BIOS SETUP UTILITY

3.1 Introduction

This section explains how to use the BIOS SETUP UTILITY to configure your system. The BIOS FWH chip on the motherboard stores the BIOS SETUP UTILITY. You may run the BIOS SETUP UTILITY when you start up the computer. Please press <F2> or <Del> during the Power-On-Self-Test (POST) to enter the BIOS SETUP UTILITY, otherwise, POST will continue with its test routines.

If you wish to enter the BIOS SETUP UTILITY after POST, restart the system by pressing <Ctl> + <Alt> + <Delete>, or by pressing the reset button on the system chassis. You may also restart by turning the system off and then back on.

Because the BIOS software is constantly being updated, the following BIOS setup screens and descriptions are for reference purpose only, and they may not exactly match what you see on your screen.

3.1.1 BIOS Menu Bar

The top of the screen has a menu bar with the following selections:

Main	To set up the system time/date information
OC Tweaker	To set up overclocking features
Advanced	To set up the advanced BIOS features
H/W Monitor	To display current hardware status
Boot	To set up the default system device to locate and load the Operating System
Security	To set up the security features
Exit	To exit the current screen or the BIOS SETUP UTILITY

Use <←> key or <→> key to choose among the selections on the menu bar, and then press <Enter> to get into the sub screen.

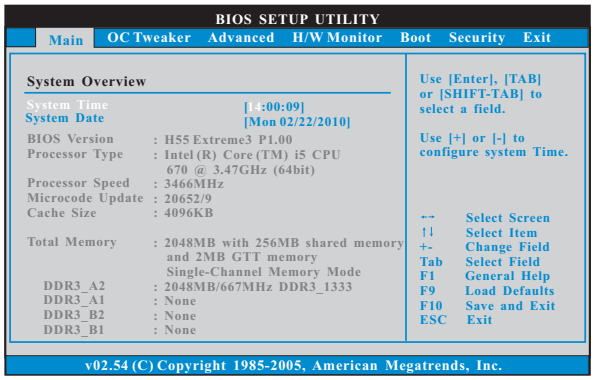
3.1.2 Navigation Keys

Please check the following table for the function description of each navigation key.

Navigation Key(s)	Function Description
← / →	Moves cursor left or right to select Screens
↑ / ↓	Moves cursor up or down to select items
+ / -	To change option for the selected items
<Enter>	To bring up the selected screen
<F1>	To display the General Help Screen
<F9>	To load optimal default values for all the settings
<F10>	To save changes and exit the BIOS SETUP UTILITY
<ESC>	To jump to the Exit Screen or exit the current screen

3.2 Main Screen

When you enter the BIOS SETUP UTILITY, the Main screen will appear and display the system overview.



System Time [Hour:Minute:Second]

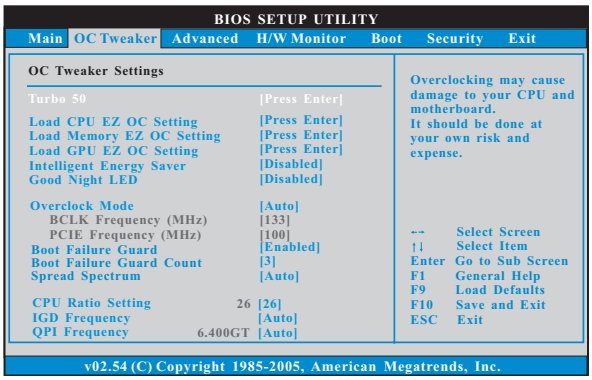
Use this item to specify the system time.

System Date [Day Month/Date/Year]

Use this item to specify the system date.

3.3 OC Tweaker Screen

In the OC Tweaker screen, you can set up overclocking features.



Turbo 50

You can use this option to increase your system performance. If you adopt Intel® Pentium® G6950 CPU, this option will be “Turbo 100”.

Load CPU EZ OC Setting

You can use this option to load CPU EZ overclocking setting. Please note that overclocing may cause damage to your CPU and motherboard. It should be done at your own risk and expense.

Load Memory EZ OC Setting

You can use this option to load memory EZ overclocking setting. Please note that overclocing may cause damage to your memory and motherboard. It should be done at your own risk and expense.

Load GPU EZ OC Setting

You can use this option to load GPU EZ overclocking setting. Please note that overclocing may cause damage to your GPU and motherboard. It should be done at your own risk and expense.

Intelligent Energy Saver

Intelligent Energy Saver is a revolutionary technology that delivers unparalleled power savings. The default value is [Disabled]. Configuration options: [Enabled] and [Disabled]. If you want to enable this function, please set this item to [Enabled]. Besides the BIOS option, you can also choose our Intelligent Energy Saver utility to enable this function.

Good Night LED

Enable this option to turn off Power LED and Lan LED when the system is power on. The keyboard LED will also be turned off in S1, S3 and S4 state. The default value is [Disabled].

Overclock Mode

Use this to select Overclock Mode. Configuration options: [Auto], [Manual], [I.O.T.] and [Optimized]. The default value is [Auto]. If you select [Manual], Untied Overclocking function is enabled. Please refer to page 37 for the details of Untied Overclocking Technology. Therefore, you are allowed to adjust the Host frequency and PCIE frequency in the following two items. If you select [I.O.T.] (Intelligent Overclocking Technology), the system will automatically enable the overclocking function when your CPU is heavy loaded.

BCLK Frequency (MHz)

Use this option to adjust BCLK (Internal Base Clock) frequency.

PCIE Frequency (MHz)

Use this option to adjust PCIE frequency.

Boot Failure Guard

Enable or disable the feature of Boot Failure Guard.

Boot Failure Guard Count

Enable or disable the feature of Boot Failure Guard Count.

Spread Spectrum

This item should always be [Auto] for better system stability.

CPU Ratio Setting

If the ratio status is unlocked, you will find this item appear to allow you changing the ratio value of this motherboard.

IGD Frequency

Use this option to adjust IGD frequency.

QPI Frequency

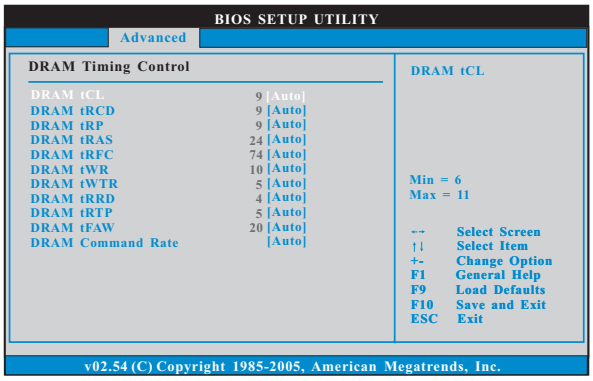
Use this option to adjust QPI frequency.

DRAM Frequency

If [Auto] is selected, the motherboard will detect the memory module(s) inserted and assigns appropriate frequency automatically.

DRAM Timing Control

Use this item to control DRAM Timing.



DRAM tCL

Use this item to adjust the means of memory accessing. Configuration options : [Auto], [6] to [11].

DRAM tRCD

This controls the number of DRAM clocks for TRCD. Configuration options: [Auto], [3] to [15].

DRAM tRP

This controls the number of DRAM clocks for TRP. Configuration options: [Auto], [3] to [15].

DRAM tRAS

This controls the number of DRAM clocks for TRAS. Configuration options: [Auto], [9] to [31].

DRAM tRFC

This controls the number of DRAM clocks for TRFC. Configuration options: [Auto], [15] to [255].

DRAM tWR

This controls the number of DRAM clocks for TWR. Configuration options: [Auto], [3] to [15].

DRAM tWTR

This controls the number of DRAM clocks for TWTR. Configuration options: [Auto], [2] to [10].

DRAM tRRD

This controls the number of DRAM clocks for TRRD. Configuration options: Configuration options: [Auto], [4] to [7].

DRAM tRTP

This controls the number of DRAM clocks for TRTP. Configuration options: [Auto], [2] to [13].

DRAM tFAW

This controls the number of DRAM clocks for TFAW. Configuration options: [Auto], [1] to [63].

DRAM Command Rate

Use this item to adjust DRAM Command Rate. Configuration options : [1], [2] and [Auto].

ASRock VDroop Control

Use this to enable or disable ASRock VDroop control. Configuration options: [With VDroop] and [Without VDroop]. The default value is [With VDroop].

CPU Voltage

Use this to select CPU Voltage. Configuration options: [Auto], [Manual] and [Overdrive Offset]. The default value is [Auto].

DRAM Voltage

Use this to select DRAM Voltage. Configuration options: [Auto], [0.998V] to [2.008V]. The default value is [Auto].

VTT Voltage

Use this to select VTT Voltage. Configuration options: [Auto], [0.814V] to [2.594V]. The default value is [Auto].

PCH Voltage

Use this to select PCH Voltage. Configuration options: [Auto], [1.066V] to [1.488V]. The default value is [Auto].

CPU PLL Voltage

Use this to select CPU PLL Voltage. Configuration options: [Auto], [1.812V] to [2.324V]. The default value is [Auto].

GFX Voltage

Use this to select GFX Voltage. Configuration options: [Auto], [+0 mV] to [+300 mV]. The default value is [Auto].

IGD VID

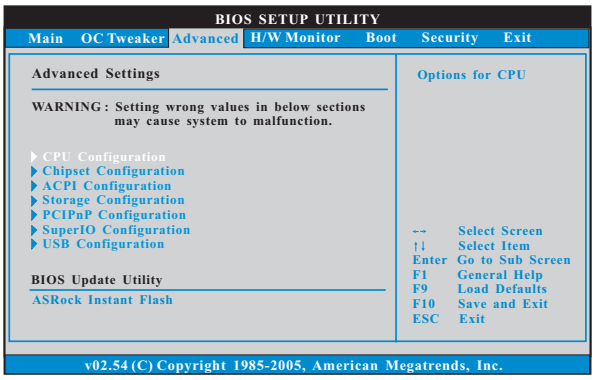
Use this to select onboard VGA VID. Configuration options: [Auto], [0.8500V] to [1.4625V]. The default value is [Auto].

Would you like to save current setting user defaults?

In this option, you are allowed to load and save three user defaults according to your own requirements.

3.4 Advanced Screen

In this section, you may set the configurations for the following items: CPU Configuration, Chipset Configuration, ACPI Configuration, Storage Configuration, PCIPnP Configuration, SuperIO Configuration, and USB Configuration.

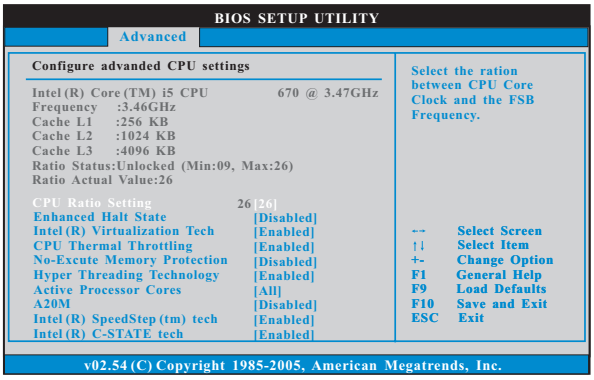


Setting wrong values in this section may cause the system to malfunction.

ASRock Instant Flash

ASRock Instant Flash is a BIOS flash utility embedded in Flash ROM. This convenient BIOS update tool allows you to update system BIOS without entering operating systems first like MS-DOS or Windows®. Just launch this tool and save the new BIOS file to your USB flash drive, floppy disk or hard drive, then you can update your BIOS only in a few clicks without preparing an additional floppy diskette or other complicated flash utility. Please be noted that the USB flash drive or hard drive must use FAT32/16/12 file system. If you execute ASRock Instant Flash utility, the utility will show the BIOS files and their respective information. Select the proper BIOS file to update your BIOS, and reboot your system after BIOS update process completes.

3.4.1 CPU Configuration



CPU Ratio Setting

If the ratio status is unlocked, you will find this item appear to allow you changing the ratio value of this motherboard.

Enhance Halt State

All processors support the Halt State (C1). The C1 state is supported through the native processor instructions HLT and MWAIT and requires no hardware support from the chipset. In the C1 power state, the processor maintains the context of the system caches.

Intel (R) Virtualization Tech

When this option is set to [Enabled], a VMM (Virtual Machine Architecture) can utilize the additional hardware capabilities provided by Vanderpool Technology. This option will be hidden if the installed CPU does not support Intel (R) Virtualization Technology.

CPU Thermal Throttling

You may select [Enabled] to enable CPU internal thermal control mechanism to keep the CPU from overheated.

No-Excute Memory Protection

No-Execution (NX) Memory Protection Technology is an enhancement to the IA-32 Intel Architecture. An IA-32 processor with “No Execute (NX) Memory Protection” can prevent data pages from being used by malicious software to execute code. This option will be hidden if the current CPU does not support No-Excute Memory Protection.

Hyper Threading Technology

To enable this feature, it requires a computer system with an Intel® processor that supports Hyper-Threading technology and an operating system that includes optimization for this technology, such as Microsoft® Windows® XP / Vista™ / 7. Set to [Enabled] if using Microsoft® Windows® XP /

Vista™ / 7, or Linux kernel version 2.4.18 or higher. This option will be hidden if the installed CPU does not support Hyper-Threading technology.

Active Processor Cores

Use this item to select the number of cores to enable in each processor package. Configuration options: [All], [1] and [2]. The default value is [All].

A20M

Use this item to enable or disable A20M. Legacy OS and AP may need A20M enabled. The default value is [Disabled].

Intel (R) SpeedStep(tm) tech.

Intel (R) SpeedStep(tm) tech. is Intel's new power saving technology. Processor can switch between multiple frequency and voltage points to enable power savings. The default value is [Enabled]. Configuration options: [Auto], [Enabled] and [Disabled]. If you install Windows® XP and select [Auto], you need to set the "Power Schemes" as "Portable/Laptop" to enable this function. If you install Windows® Vista™ and want to enable this function, please set this item to [Enabled]. This item will be hidden if the current CPU does not support Intel (R) SpeedStep(tm) tech..

Please note that enabling this function may reduce CPU voltage and lead to system stability or compatibility issue with some power supplies. Please set this item to [Disable] if above issue occurs.

Intel (R) TurboMode tech

Use this item to enable or disable Intel (R) Turbo Boost Technology. Turbo mode allows processor cores to run faster than marked frequency in specific condition. The default value is [Enabled].

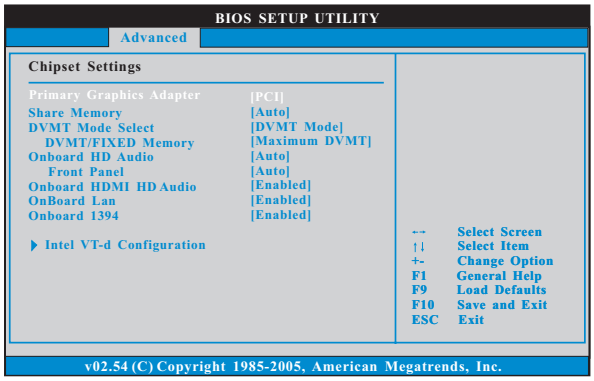
Intel (R) C-STATE tech.

Intel (R) C-STATE tech. is achieved by making the power and thermal control unit part of the core logic and not part of the chipset as before. Migration of the power and thermal management flow into the processor allows us to use a hardware coordination mechanism in which each core can request any C-state it wishes, thus allowing for individual core savings to be maximized. The CPU C-state is determined and entered based on the lowest common denominator of both cores' requests, portraying a single CPU entity to the chipset power management hardware and flows. Thus, software can manage each core independently, while the actual power management adheres to the platform and CPU shared resource restrictions.

C State package limit setting

This item appears only when you set the item "Intel (R) C-STATE tech." to [Enabled]. The selected option will programme into C State package limit register. Configuration options: [Auto], [C3] and [C6]. The default value is [Auto].

3.4.2Chipset Configuration



Primary Graphics Adapter

This allows you to select [Onboard], [PCI] or [PCI Express] as the boot graphic adapter priority. The default value is [PCI].

Share Memory

This allows you to set share memory feature. The default value is [Auto]. Configuration options: [Auto], [32MB], [64MB], [128MB] and [256MB].

DVMT Mode Select

Use this option to adjust DVMT mode. The default value is [DVMT Mode]. DVMT (Dynamic Video Memory Technology) is an architecture that offers breakthrough performance for the motherboard through efficient memory utilization. In DVMT mode, the graphics driver allocates memory as needed for running graphics applications and is cooperatively using this memory with other system components. This item will not be used under Windows® Vista™ / 7 OS because the driver will intelligently detect physical memory available and allocate necessary video memory.

DVMT/FIXED Memory

You are allowed to adjust the shared memory size in this item if you set DVMT Mode Select as [DVMT Mode]. Configuration options: [128MB], [256MB] and [Maximum DVMT]. The option [Maximum DVMT] only appears when you adopt the memory module with 1024MB or above.

Onboard HD Audio

Select [Auto], [Enabled] or [Disabled] for the onboard HD Audio feature. If you select [Auto], the onboard HD Audio will be disabled when PCI Sound Card is plugged.

Front Panel

Select [Auto], [Enabled] or [Disabled] for the onboard HD Audio Front Panel.

Onboard HDMI HD Audio

This allows you to enable or disable the “Onboard HDMI HD Audio” feature.

OnBoard Lan

This allows you to enable or disable the “OnBoard Lan” feature.

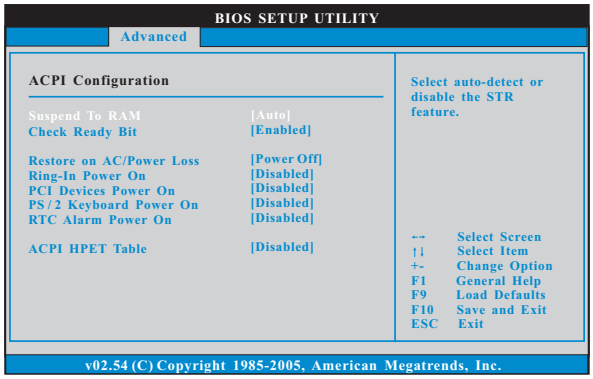
Onboard 1394

This allows you to enable or disable the “Onboard 1394” feature.

Intel VT-d Configuration

Use this to enable or disable Intel® VT-d technology (Intel® Virtualization Technology for Directed I/O). The default value of this feature is [Disabled].

3.4.3 ACPI Configuration



Suspend to RAM

Use this item to select whether to auto-detect or disable the Suspend-to-RAM feature. Select [Auto] will enable this feature if the OS supports it.

Check Ready Bit

Use this item to enable or disable the feature Check Ready Bit.

Restore on AC/Power Loss

This allows you to set the power state after an unexpected AC/power loss. If [Power Off] is selected, the AC/power remains off when the power recovers. If [Power On] is selected, the AC/power resumes and the system starts to boot up when the power recovers.

Ring-In Power On

Use this item to enable or disable Ring-In signals to turn on the system from the power-soft-off mode.

PCI Devices Power On

Use this item to enable or disable PCI devices to turn on the system from the power-soft-off mode.

PS/2 Keyboard Power On

Use this item to enable or disable PS/2 keyboard to turn on the system from the power-soft-off mode.

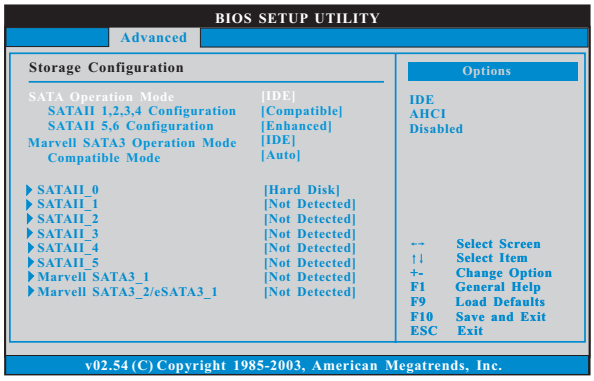
RTC Alarm Power On

Use this item to enable or disable RTC (Real Time Clock) to power on the system.

ACPI HPET Table

Use this item to enable or disable ACPI HPET Table. The default value is [Disabled]. Please set this option to [Enabled] if you plan to use this motherboard to submit Windows® Vista™ certification.

3.4.4 Storage Configuration



SATA Operation Mode

Use this to select SATA Operation Mode. Configuration options: [IDE], [AHCI] and [Disabled]. The default value is [IDE].

If you select [IDE] mode, the options "SATAII 1,2,3,4 Configuration" and "SATAII 5,6 Configuration" will appear.

If you select [AHCI] mode, the options "Hot Plug" and "Link Power Management" will appear.

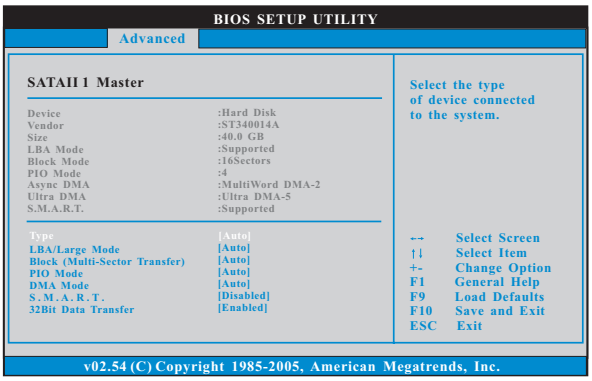
AHCI (Advanced Host Controller Interface) supports NCQ and other new features that will improve SATA disk performance but IDE mode does not have these advantages.

Marvell SATA3 Operation Mode

Use this item to select Marvell SATA3 operation mode. Configuration mode: [IDE] and [AHCI]. The default value is [IDE].

Compatible Mode

Use this item to select Marvell SATA3 compatible mode. The default value is [Auto].



TYPE

Use this item to configure the type of the IDE device that you specify. Configuration options: [Not Installed], [Auto], [CD/DVD], and [ARMD].

[Not Installed]: Select [Not Installed] to disable the use of IDE device.

[Auto]: Select [Auto] to automatically detect the hard disk drive.

After selecting the hard disk information into BIOS, use a disk utility, such as FDISK, to partition and format the new IDE hard disk drives. This is necessary so that you can write or read data from the hard disk. Make sure to set the partition of the Primary IDE hard disk drives to active.

[CD/DVD]: This is used for IDE CD/DVD drives.

[ARMD]: This is used for IDE ARMD (ATAPI Removable Media Device), such as MO.

LBA/Large Mode

Use this item to select the LBA/Large mode for a hard disk > 512 MB under DOS and Windows; for Netware and UNIX user, select [Disabled] to disable the LBA/Large mode.

Block (Multi-Sector Transfer)

The default value of this item is [Auto]. If this feature is enabled, it will enhance hard disk performance by reading or writing more data during each transfer.

PIO Mode

Use this item to set the PIO mode to enhance hard disk performance by optimizing the hard disk timing.

DMA Mode

DMA capability allows the improved transfer-speed and data-integrity for compatible IDE devices.

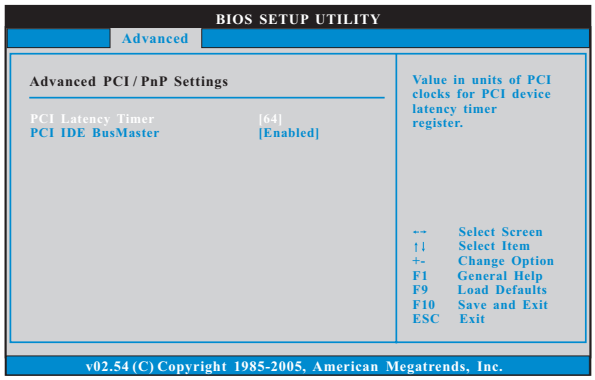
S.M.A.R.T.

Use this item to enable or disable the S.M.A.R.T. (Self-Monitoring, Analysis, and Reporting Technology) feature. Configuration options: [Disabled], [Auto], [Enabled].

32-Bit Data Transfer

Use this item to enable 32-bit access to maximize the IDE hard disk data transfer rate.

3.4.5PCIPnP Configuration



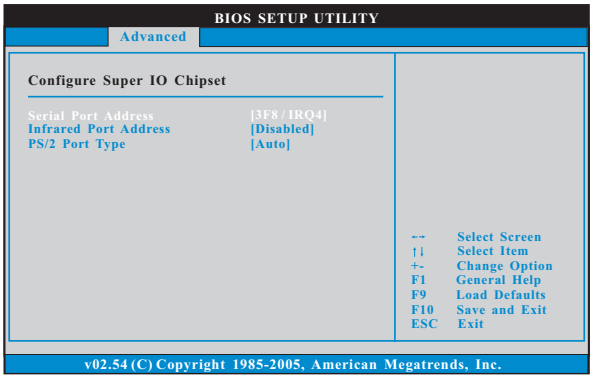
PCI Latency Timer

The default value is 32. It is recommended to keep the default value unless the installed PCI expansion cards' specifications require other settings.

PCI IDE BusMaster

Use this item to enable or disable the PCI IDE BusMaster feature.

3.4.6 Super IO Configuration



Serial Port Address

Use this item to set the address for the onboard serial port or disable it. Configuration options: [Disabled], [3F8 / IRQ4], [2F8 / IRQ3], [3E8 / IRQ4], [2E8 / IRQ3].

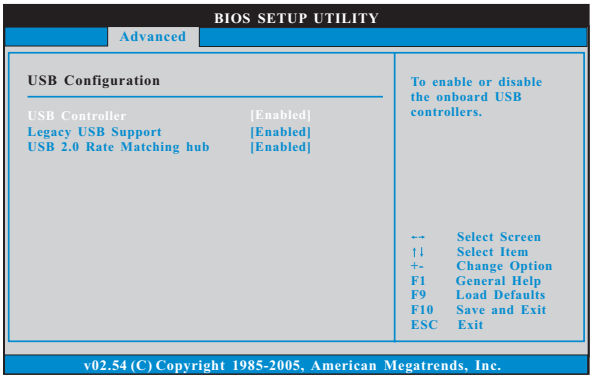
Infrared Port Address

Use this item to set the address for the onboard infrared port or disable it. Configuration options: [Disabled], [2F8 / IRQ3], and [2E8 / IRQ3].

PS/2 Port Type

Use this item to set the PS/2 port type.

3.4.7 USB Configuration



USB Controller

Use this item to enable or disable the use of USB controller.

Legacy USB Support

Use this option to select legacy support for USB devices. There are four configuration options: [Enabled], [Auto], [Disabled] and [BIOS Setup Only]. The default value is [Enabled]. Please refer to below descriptions for the details of these four options:

[Enabled] - Enables support for legacy USB.

[Auto] - Enables legacy support if USB devices are connected.

[Disabled] - USB devices are not allowed to use under legacy OS and BIOS setup when [Disabled] is selected. If you have USB compatibility issue, it is recommended to select [Disabled] to enter OS.

[BIOS Setup Only] - USB devices are allowed to use only under BIOS setup and Windows / Linux OS.

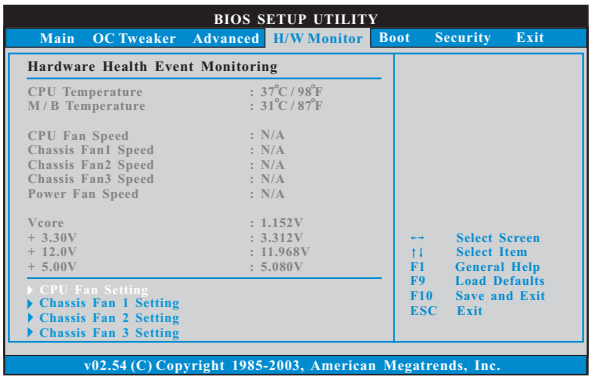
USB3 port device cannot support USB3 legacy.

USB 2.0 Rate Matching hub

Use this item to enable or disable the USB 2.0 Rate Matching hub.

3.5 Hardware Health Event Monitoring Screen

In this section, it allows you to monitor the status of the hardware on your system, including the parameters of the CPU temperature, motherboard temperature, CPU fan speed, chassis fan speed, and the critical voltage.



CPU Fan Setting

This allows you to set the CPU fan speed. Configuration options: [Full On] and [Automatic mode]. The default is value [Full On].

Chassis Fan 1 Setting

This allows you to set the chassis fan 1 speed. Configuration options: [Full On] and [Manual mode]. The default is value [Full On].

Chassis Fan 2 Setting

This allows you to set the chassis fan 2 speed. Configuration options: [Level 1] to [Level 4]. The default is value [Level 4].

Chassis Fan 3 Setting

This allows you to set the chassis fan 3 speed. Configuration options: [Full On] and [Manual mode]. The default is value [Full On].

Case Open Feature

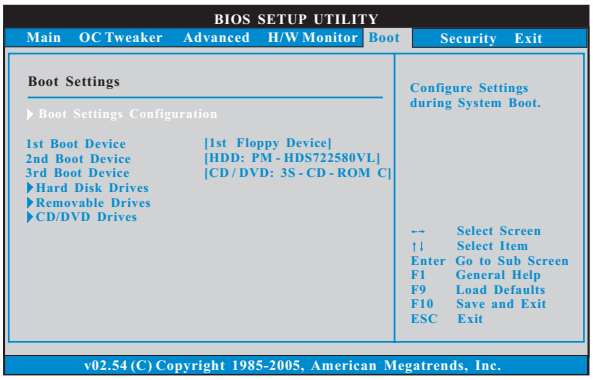
This allows you to enable or disable case open detection feature. The default is value [Enabled].

Clear Status

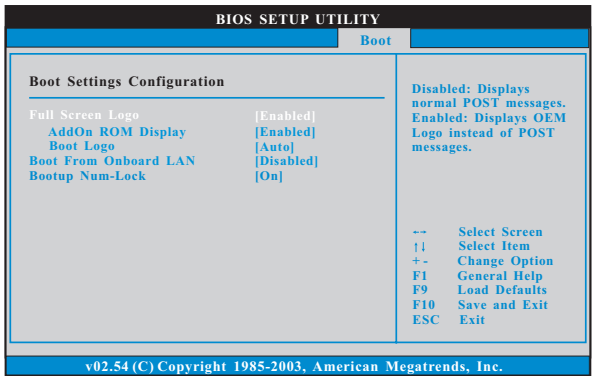
This option appears only when the case open has been detected. Use this option to keep or clear the record of previous chassis intrusion status.

3.6 Boot Screen

In this section, it will display the available devices on your system for you to configure the boot settings and the boot priority.



3.6.1 Boot Settings Configuration



Full Screen Logo

Use this item to enable or disable OEM Logo. The default value is [Enabled].

AddOn ROM Display

Use this option to adjust AddOn ROM Display. If you enable the option "Full Screen Logo" but you want to see the AddOn ROM information when the system boots, please select [Enabled]. Configuration options: [Enabled] and [Disabled]. The default value is [Enabled].

Boot Logo

Use this option to select logo in POST screen. This option only appears when you enable the option “Full Screen Logo”. Configuration options: [Auto], [EuP], [Scenery] and [ASRock]. The default value is [Auto].

Boot From Onboard LAN

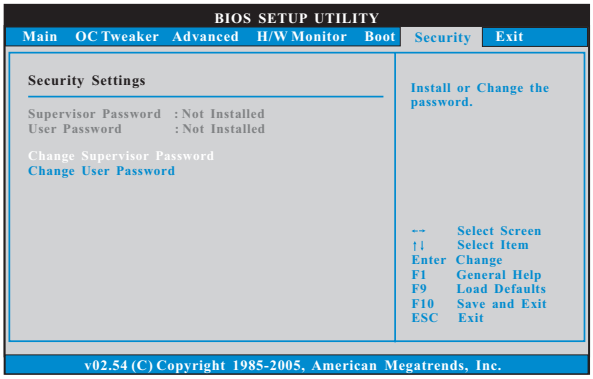
Use this item to enable or disable the Boot From Onboard LAN feature.

Boot Up Num-Lock

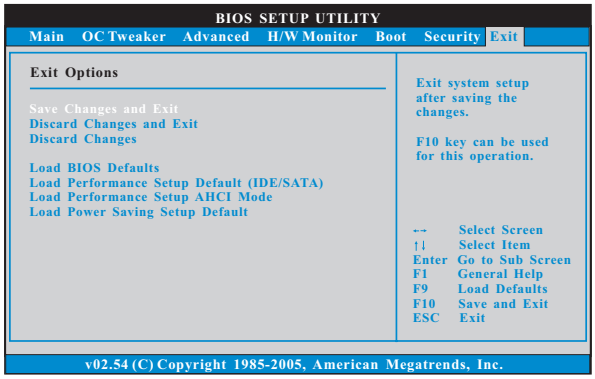
If this item is set to [On], it will automatically activate the Numeric Lock function after boot-up.

3.7 Security Screen

In this section, you may set or change the supervisor/user password for the system. For the user password, you may also clear it.



3.8 Exit Screen



Save Changes and Exit

When you select this option, it will pop-out the following message, "Save configuration changes and exit setup?" Select [OK] to save the changes and exit the BIOS SETUP UTILITY.

Discard Changes and Exit

When you select this option, it will pop-out the following message, "Discard changes and exit setup?" Select [OK] to exit the BIOS SETUP UTILITY without saving any changes.

Discard Changes

When you select this option, it will pop-out the following message, "Discard changes?" Select [OK] to discard all changes.

Load BIOS Defaults

Load BIOS default values for all the setup questions. F9 key can be used for this operation.

Load Performance Setup Default (IDE/SATA)

This performance setup default may not be compatible with all system configurations. If system boot failure occurs after loading, please resume optimal default settings. F5 key can be used for this operation.

Load Performance Setup AHCI Mode

This performance setup AHCI mode may not be compatible with all system configurations. If system boot failure occurs after loading, please resume optimal default settings. F3 key can be used for this operation.

Load Power Saving Setup Default

Load power saving setup default. F6 key can be used for this operation.

Chapter 4: Software Support

4.1 Install Operating System

This motherboard supports various Microsoft® Windows® operating systems: 7 / 7 64-bit / Vista™ / Vista™ 64-bit / XP / XP 64-bit. Because motherboard settings and hardware options vary, use the setup procedures in this chapter for general reference only. Refer to your OS documentation for more information.

4.2 Support CD Information

The Support CD that came with the motherboard contains necessary drivers and useful utilities that enhance the motherboard features.

4.2.1 Running The Support CD

To begin using the support CD, insert the CD into your CD-ROM drive. The CD automatically displays the Main Menu if "AUTORUN" is enabled in your computer. If the Main Menu did not appear automatically, locate and double click on the file "ASSETUP.EXE" from the BIN folder in the Support CD to display the menus.

4.2.2 Drivers Menu

The Drivers Menu shows the available devices drivers if the system detects installed devices. Please install the necessary drivers to activate the devices.

4.2.3 Utilities Menu

The Utilities Menu shows the applications software that the motherboard supports. Click on a specific item then follow the installation wizard to install it.

4.2.4 Contact Information

If you need to contact ASRock or want to know more about ASRock, welcome to visit ASRock's website at http://www.asrock.com; or you may contact your dealer for further information.