



870 Extreme3

User Manual

Version 2.0

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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"

ASRock Website: <http://www.asrock.com>

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1. Introduction

Thank you for purchasing ASRock **870 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 **870 Extreme3** Motherboard

(ATX Form Factor: 12.0-in x 9.6-in, 30.5 cm x 24.4 cm)

ASRock **870 Extreme3** Quick Installation Guide

ASRock **870 Extreme3** Support CD

2 x Serial ATA (SATA) Data Cables (Optional)

1 x I/O Panel Shield

1.2 Specifications

Platform	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- ATX Form Factor: 12.0-in x 9.6-in, 30.5 cm x 24.4 cm- All Solid Capacitor design
CPU	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Support for Socket AM3+ processors- Support for Socket AM3 processors: AMD Phenom™ II X6 / X4 / X3 / X2 (except 920 / 940) / Athlon II X4 / X3 / X2 / Sempron processors- Supports 8-Core CPU- Supports UCC feature (Unlock CPU Core) (see CAUTION 1)- V4 + 1 Power Phase Design- Supports CPU up to 140W- Supports AMD's Cool 'n' Quiet™ Technology- FSB 2600 MHz (5.2 GT/s)- Supports Untied Overclocking Technology (see CAUTION 2)- Supports Hyper-Transport 3.0 (HT 3.0) Technology
Chipset	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Northbridge: AMD 870- Southbridge: AMD SB850
Memory	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Dual Channel DDR3 Memory Technology (see CAUTION 3)- 4 x DDR3 DIMM slots- Support DDR3 1866(OC)/1800(OC)/1600(OC)/1333/1066/800 non-ECC, un-buffered memory (see CAUTION 4)- Max. capacity of system memory: 32GB (see CAUTION 5)
Expansion Slot	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- 2 x PCI Express 2.0 x16 slot (Single at x16 or dual at x8/x8 mode)- 2 x PCI Express 2.0 x1 slots- 2 x PCI slots- Supports ATI™ Quad CrossFireX™ and CrossFireX™
Audio	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- 7.1 CH HD Audio with Content Protection (Realtek ALC892 Audio Codec)- Premium Blu-ray audio support
LAN	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- PCIe x1 Gigabit LAN 10/100/1000 Mb/s- Atheros® AR8151- Supports Wake-On-LAN
Rear Panel I/O	<p>I/O Panel</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- 1 x PS/2 Keyboard Port- 1 x Coaxial SPDIF Out Port- 1 x Optical SPDIF Out Port- 6 x Ready-to-Use USB 2.0 Ports- 1 x eSATA3 Connector- 2 x Ready-to-Use USB 3.0 Ports

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1 x RJ-45 LAN Port with LED (ACT/LINK LED and SPEED LED) - 1 x IEEE 1394 Port - 1 x Clear CMOS Switch with LED - HD Audio Jack: Side Speaker/Rear Speaker/Central/Bass/Line in/Front Speaker/Microphone (see CAUTION 6)
SATA3	- 5 x SATA3 6.0 Gb/s connectors, support RAID (RAID 0, RAID 1, RAID 0+1 and RAID 5), NCQ, AHCI and "Hot Plug" functions
USB 3.0	- 2 x USB 3.0 port by Etron EJ168A, support USB 1.0/2.0/3.0 up to 5Gb/s
Connector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 5 x SATA3 6.0Gb/s connectors - 1 x IR header - 1 x COM port header - 1 x IEEE 1394 header - 1 x HDMI_SPDIF 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) - 1 x Dr. Debug (7-Segment Debug LED)
Smart Switch	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1 x Clear CMOS Switch with LED - 1 x Power Switch with LED - 1 x Reset Switch with LED
BIOS Feature	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 32Mb AMI UEFI Legal BIOS with GUI support - Supports "Plug and Play" - ACPI 1.1 Compliance Wake Up Events - Supports jumperfree - SMBIOS 2.3.1 Support - CPU VID, VCCM, NB, SB Voltage Multi-adjustment
Support CD	- Drivers, Utilities, AntiVirus Software (Trial Version), AMD OverDrive™ Utility, AMD Fusion, AMD Fusion Media Explorer, ASRock Software Suite (CyberLink DVD Suite - OEM and Trial; Creative Sound Blaster X-Fi MB - Trial)
Unique Feature	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ASRock Extreme Tuning Utility (AXTU) (see CAUTION 7) - Instant Boot - ASRock Instant Flash (see CAUTION 8) - ASRock AIWI (see CAUTION 9) - ASRock APP Charger (see CAUTION 10) - SmartView (see CAUTION 11) - ASRock XFast USB (see CAUTION 12)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hybrid Booster: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CPU Frequency Stepless Control (see CAUTION 13) - ASRock U-COP (see CAUTION 14) - Boot Failure Guard (B.F.G.)
Hardware Monitor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CPU Temperature Sensing - Chassis Temperature Sensing - CPU/Chassis/Power Fan Tachometer - CPU Quiet Fan - CPU/Chassis Fan Multi-Speed Control - Voltage Monitoring: +12V, +5V, +3.3V, Vcore
OS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Microsoft® Windows® 7 / 7 64-bit / Vista™ / Vista™ 64-bit / XP / XP Media Center / XP 64-bit compliant
Certifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - FCC, CE, WHQL - ErP/EuP Ready (ErP/EuP ready power supply is required) (see CAUTION 15)

* 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.

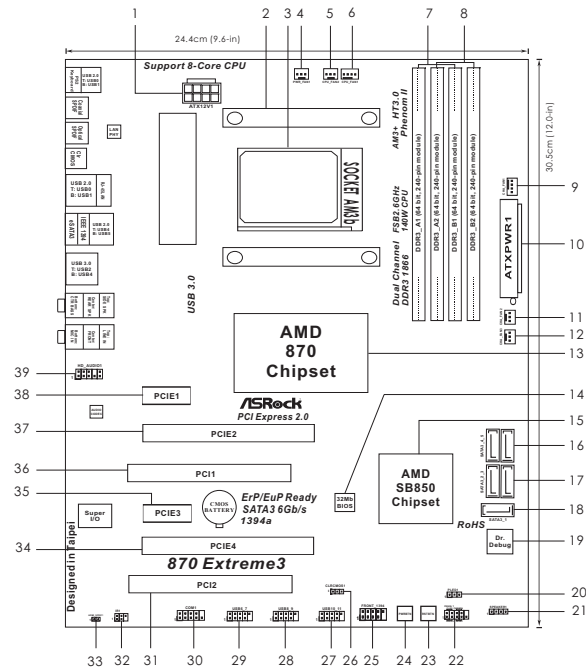
CAUTION!

1. ASRock UCC (Unlock CPU Core) feature simplifies AMD CPU activation. As long as a simple switch of the UEFI option "ASRock UCC", you can unlock the extra CPU core to enjoy an instant performance boost. When UCC feature is enabled, the dual-core or triple-core CPU will boost to the quad-core CPU, and some CPU, including quad-core CPU, can also increase L3 cache size up to 6MB, which means you can enjoy the upgrade CPU performance with a better price. Please be noted that UCC feature is supported with AM3/AM3+ CPU only, and in addition, not every AM3/AM3+ CPU can support this function because some CPU's hidden core may be malfunctioned.
2. This motherboard supports Untied Overclocking Technology. Please read "Untied Overclocking Technology" on page 40 for details.
3. 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 17 for proper installation.
4. Whether 1866/1800/1600MHz memory speed is supported depends on the AM3/AM3+ CPU you adopt. If you want to adopt DDR3 1866/1800/1600 memory module on this motherboard, please refer to the memory support list on our website for the compatible memory modules.
ASRock website <http://www.asrock.com>
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 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 13 for proper connection.
7. ASRock Extreme Tuning Utility (AXTU) is an all-in-one tool to re-tune different system functions in a user-friendly interface, which is including Hardware Monitor, Fan Control, Overclocking, OC DNA and IES. In Hardware Monitor, it shows the major readings of your system. In Fan Control, it shows the fan speed and temperature for you to adjust. In Overclocking, you are allowed to overclock CPU frequency for optimal system performance. In 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. In IES (Intelligent Energy Saver), the voltage regulator can reduce the number of output phases to improve efficiency when the CPU cores are idle without sacrificing computing performance. Please visit our website for the operation procedures of ASRock Extreme Tuning Utility (AXTU).
ASRock website: <http://www.asrock.com>

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8. 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.
 9. To experience intuitive motion controlled games is no longer only available at Wii. ASRock AIWI utility introduces a new way of PC gaming operation. ASRock AIWI is the world's first utility to turn your iPhone/iPod touch as a game joystick to control your PC games. All you have to do is just to install the ASRock AIWI utility either from ASRock official website or ASRock software support CD to your motherboard, and also download the free AIWI Lite from App store to your iPhone/iPod touch. Connecting your PC and apple devices via Bluetooth or WiFi networks, then you can start experiencing the exciting motion controlled games. Also, please do not forget to pay attention to ASRock official website regularly, we will continuously provide you the most up-do-date supported games!
ASRock website: <http://www.asrock.com/Feature/Aiwi/index.asp>
 10. If you desire a faster, less restricted way of charging your Apple devices, such as iPhone/iPod/iPad Touch, ASRock has prepared a wonderful solution for you - ASRock APP Charger. Simply installing the APP Charger driver, it makes your iPhone charged much quickly from your computer and up to 40% faster than before. ASRock APP Charger allows you to quickly charge many Apple devices simultaneously and even supports continuous charging when your PC enters into Standby mode (S1), Suspend to RAM (S3), hibernation mode (S4) or power off (S5). With APP Charger driver installed, you can easily enjoy the marvelous charging experience than ever.
ASRock website: <http://www.asrock.com/Feature/AppCharger/index.asp>
 11. SmartView, a new function of internet browser, is the smart start page for IE that combines your most visited web sites, your history, your Facebook friends and your real-time newsfeed into an enhanced view for a more personal Internet experience. ASRock motherboards are exclusively equipped with the SmartView utility that helps you keep in touch with friends on-the-go. To use SmartView feature, please make sure your OS version is Windows® 7 / 7 64 bit / Vista™ / Vista™ 64 bit, and your browser version is IE8.
ASRock website: <http://www.asrock.com/Feature/SmartView/index.asp>
 12. ASRock XFast USB can boost USB storage device performance. The performance may depend on the property of the device.

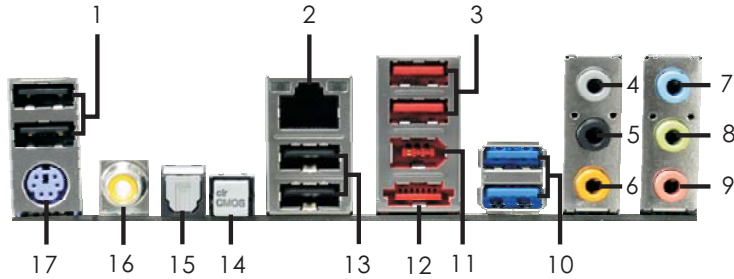
-
13. Although this motherboard offers stepless control, it is not recommended to perform over-clocking. Frequencies other than the recommended CPU bus frequencies may cause the instability of the system or damage the CPU.
 14. While CPU overheat is detected, the system will automatically shutdown. Before 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.
 15. 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 | ATX 12V Power Connector (ATX12V1) | 22 | System Panel Header (PANEL1, White) |
| 2 | CPU Heatsink Retention Module | 23 | Reset Switch (RSTBTN) |
| 3 | AM3+ CPU Socket | 24 | Power Switch (PWRBTN) |
| 4 | Power Fan Connector (PWR_FAN1) | 25 | Front Panel IEEE 1394 Header (FRONT_1394, White) |
| 5 | CPU Fan Connector (CPU_FAN2) | 26 | Clear CMOS Jumper (CLRCMOS1) |
| 6 | CPU Fan Connector (CPU_FAN1) | 27 | USB 2.0 Header (USB10_11, Blue) |
| 7 | 2 x 240-pin DDR3 DIMM Slots (Dual Channel: DDR3_A1, DDR3_B1; Blue) | 28 | USB 2.0 Header (USB8_9, Blue) |
| 8 | 2 x 240-pin DDR3 DIMM Slots (Dual Channel: DDR3_A2, DDR3_B2; White) | 29 | USB 2.0 Header (USB6_7, Blue) |
| 9 | Chassis Fan Connector (CHA_FAN1) | 30 | Serial Port Connector (COM1) |
| 10 | ATX Power Connector (ATXPWR1) | 31 | PCI Slot (PCI2) |
| 11 | Chassis Fan Connector (CHA_FAN2) | 32 | Infrared Module Header (IR1) |
| 12 | Chassis Fan Connector (CHA_FAN3) | 33 | HDMI_SPDIF Header (HDMI_SPDIF1, White) |
| 13 | Northbridge Controller | 34 | PCI Express 2.0 x16 Slot (PCI4; Blue) |
| 14 | SPI Flash Memory (32Mb) | 35 | PCI Express 2.0 x1 Slot (PCI3; White) |
| 15 | Southbridge Controller | 36 | PCI Slot (PCI1) |
| 16 | SATA3 Connector (SATA3_4_5, White) | 37 | PCI Express 2.0 x16 Slot (PCI2; Blue) |
| 17 | SATA3 Connector (SATA3_2_3, White) | 38 | PCI Express 2.0 x1 Slot (PCI1; White) |
| 18 | SATA3 Connector (SATA3_1, White) | 39 | Front Panel Audio Header (HD_AUDIO1, White) |
| 19 | Dr. Debug (LED) | | |
| 20 | Power LED Header (PLED1) | | |
| 21 | Chassis Speaker Header (SPEAKER 1, White) | | |

1.4 I/O Panel



- | | | | |
|------|-------------------------|--------|-----------------------------|
| 1 | USB 2.0 Ports (USB01) | 10 | USB 3.0 Port (USB24) |
| * 2 | LAN RJ-45 Port | 11 | IEEE 1394 Port (IEEE 1394) |
| 3 | USB 2.0 Ports (USB45) | *** 12 | eSATA3 Connector |
| 4 | Side Speaker (Gray) | 13 | USB 2.0 Ports (USB01) |
| 5 | Rear Speaker (Black) | 14 | Clear CMOS Switch (CLRCBTN) |
| 6 | Central / Bass (Orange) | 15 | Optical SPDIF Out Port |
| 7 | Line In (Light Blue) | 16 | Coaxial SPDIF Out Port |
| ** 8 | Front Speaker (Lime) | 17 | PS/2 Keyboard Port (Purple) |
| 9 | Microphone (Pink) | | |

* 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		SPEED LED	
Status	Description	Status	Description
Off	No Link	Off	10Mbps connection
Blinking	Data Activity	Orange	100Mbps connection
On	Link	Green	1Gbps connection


ACT/LINK LED SPEED LED

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. 8)	Rear Speaker (No. 5)	Central / Bass (No. 6)	Line In (No. 7)
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 "Mixer" tool on your system. Please select "Mixer ToolBox" , click "Enable playback multi-streaming", and click "ok". Choose "2CH", "4CH", "6CH", or "8CH" and then you are allowed to select "Realtek HDA Primary output" to use Rear Speaker, Central/Bass, and Front Speaker, or select "Realtek HDA Audio 2nd output" to use front panel audio.

*** eSATA3 connector supports SATA Gen3 in cable 1M.

2. Installation

This is an ATX form factor (12.0-in x 9.6-in, 30.5 cm x 24.4 cm) motherboard.

Before you install the motherboard, study the configuration of your chassis to ensure that the motherboard fits into it.

Pre-installation Precautions

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



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.

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 anti-static pad or in the bag that comes with the component.
5. When placing screws into the screw holes to secure the motherboard to the chassis, please do not over-tighten the screws! Doing so may damage the motherboard.

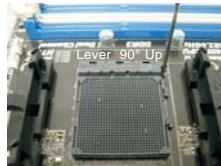
2.1 CPU Installation

- Step 1. Unlock the socket by lifting the lever up to a 90° angle.
- Step 2. Position the CPU directly above the socket such that the CPU corner with the golden triangle matches the socket corner with a small triangle.
- Step 3. Carefully insert the CPU into the socket until it fits in place.

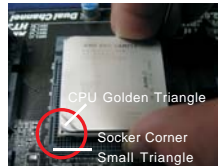


The CPU fits only in one correct orientation. DO NOT force the CPU into the socket to avoid bending of the pins.

- Step 4. When the CPU is in place, press it firmly on the socket while you push down the socket lever to secure the CPU. The lever clicks on the side tab to indicate that it is locked.



STEP 1:
Lift Up The Socket Lever



STEP 2 / STEP 3:
Match The CPU Golden Triangle
To The Socket Corner Small
Triangle



STEP 4:
Push Down And Lock
The Socket Lever

2.2 Installation of CPU Fan and Heatsink

After you install the CPU into this motherboard, it is necessary to install a larger heatsink and cooling fan to dissipate heat. You also need to spray thermal grease between the CPU and the heatsink to improve heat dissipation. Make sure 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 12, No. 6). For proper installation, please kindly refer to the instruction manuals of the CPU fan and the heatsink.

2.3 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 A** (DDR3_A1 and DDR3_B1; Blue slots; see p.12 No.7) or **identical** DDR3 DIMM pair in **Dual Channel B** (DDR3_A2 and DDR3_B2; White slots; see p.12 No.8), 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_A1 (Blue Slot)	DDR3_A2 (White Slot)	DDR3_B1 (Blue Slot)	DDR3_B2 (White Slot)
(1)	Populated	-	Populated	-
(2)	-	Populated	-	Populated
(3)*	Populated	Populated	Populated	Populated

* For the configuration (3), please install **identical** DDR3 DIMMs in all four slots.



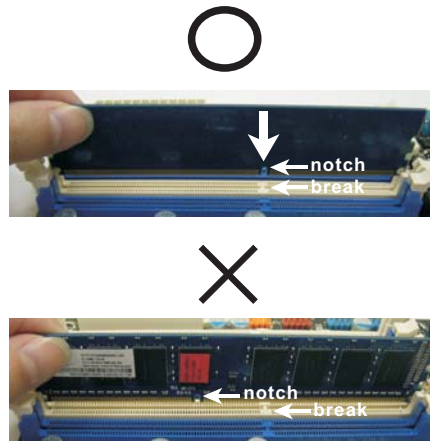
1. Please install the memory module into the white slot (DDR3_A2 and DDR3_B2) for the first priority.
2. If you want to install two memory modules, for optimal compatibility and reliability, it is recommended to install them in the slots of the same color. In other words, install them either in the set of blue slots (DDR3_A1 and DDR3_B1), or in the set of white slots (DDR3_A2 and DDR3_B2).
3. 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.
4. If a pair of memory modules is NOT installed in the same Dual Channel, for example, installing a pair of memory modules in DDR3_A1 and DDR3_A2, it is unable to activate the Dual Channel Memory Technology .
5. It is not allowed to install a DDR or DDR2 memory module into DDR3 slot; otherwise, this motherboard and DIMM may be damaged.
6. If you adopt DDR3 1866/1800/1600 memory modules on this motherboard, it is recommended to install them on DDR3_A2 and DDR3_B2 slots.

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.

2.4 Expansion Slots (PCI and PCI Express Slots)

There are 2 PCI slots and 4 PCI Express slots on this motherboard.

PCI Slots: PCI slots are used to install expansion cards that have the 32-bit PCI interface.

PCIe Slots:

PCIe1 / PCIe3 (PCIe x1 slot; White) is used for PCI Express cards with x1 lane width cards, such as Gigabit LAN card and SATA2 card.

PCIe2 / PCIe4 (PCIe x16 slot; Blue) is used for PCI Express x16 lane width graphics cards, or used to install PCI Express graphics cards to support CrossFireX™ function.



1. In single VGA card mode, it is recommended to install a PCI Express x16 graphics card on PCIe2 slot.
2. In CrossFireX™ mode, please install PCI Express x16 graphics cards on PCIe2 and PCIe4 slots. Therefore, both these two slots will work at x8 bandwidth.
3. Please connect a chassis fan to motherboard chassis fan connector (CHA_FAN1, CHA_FAN2 or CHA_FAN3) when using multiple graphics cards for better thermal environment.

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.

2.5 CrossFireX™ and Quad CrossFireX™ Operation Guide

This motherboard supports CrossFireX™ and Quad CrossFireX™ feature.

CrossFireX™ technology offers the most advantageous means available of combining multiple high performance Graphics Processing Units (GPU) in a single PC. Combining a range of different operating modes with intelligent software design and an innovative interconnect mechanism, CrossFireX™ enables the highest possible level of performance and image quality in any 3D application. Currently CrossFireX™ feature is supported with Windows® XP with Service Pack 2 / Vista™ / 7 OS. Quad CrossFireX™ feature are supported with Windows® Vista™ / 7 OS only. Please check AMD website for ATI™ CrossFireX™ driver updates.



1. If a customer incorrectly configures their system they will not see the performance benefits of CrossFireX™. All three CrossFireX™ components, a CrossFireX™ Ready graphics card, a CrossFireX™ Ready motherboard and a CrossFireX™ Edition co-processor graphics card, must be installed correctly to benefit from the CrossFireX™ multi-GPU platform.
2. If you pair a 12-pipe CrossFireX™ Edition card with a 16-pipe card, both cards will operate as 12-pipe cards while in CrossFireX™ mode.

2.5.1 Graphics Card Setup



Different CrossFireX™ cards may require different methods to enable CrossFireX™ feature. In below procedures, we use Radeon HD 3870 as the example graphics card. For other CrossFireX™ cards that ATI™ has released or will release in the future, please refer to ATI™ graphics card manuals for detailed installation guide.

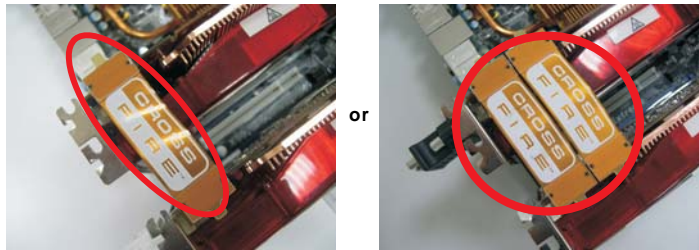
- Step 1. Insert one Radeon graphics card into PCIE2 slot and the other Radeon graphics card to PCIE4 slot. Make sure that the cards are properly seated on the slots.



-
- Step 2. Connect two Radeon graphics cards by installing CrossFire Bridge on CrossFire Bridge Interconnects on the top of Radeon graphics cards. (CrossFire Bridge is provided with the graphics card you purchase, not bundled with this motherboard. Please refer to your graphics card vendor for details.)



CrossFire Bridge



- Step 3. Connect the DVI monitor cable to the DVI connector on the Radeon graphics card on PCIE2 slot. (You may use the DVI to D-Sub adapter to convert the DVI connector to D-Sub interface, and then connect the D-Sub monitor cable to the DVI to D-Sub adapter.)

2.5.2 Driver Installation and Setup

- Step 1. Power on your computer and boot into OS.
- Step 2. Remove the ATI™ driver if you have any VGA driver installed in your system.



The Catalyst Uninstaller is an optional download. We recommend using this utility to uninstall any previously installed Catalyst drivers prior to installation. Please check AMD website for ATI™ driver updates.

- Step 3. Install the required drivers to your system.

For Windows® XP OS:

- A. ATI™ recommends Windows® XP Service Pack 2 or higher to be installed (If you have Windows® XP Service Pack 2 or higher installed in your system, there is no need to download it again):

<http://www.microsoft.com/windowsxp/sp2/default.msp>

- B. You must have Microsoft .NET Framework installed prior to downloading and installing the CATALYST Control Center. Please check Microsoft website for details.

For Windows® 7 / Vista™ OS:

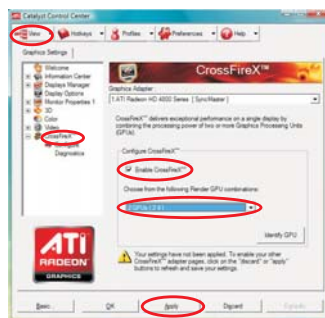
Install the CATALYST Control Center. Please check AMD website for details.

- Step 4. Restart your computer.
- Step 5. Install the VGA card drivers to your system, and restart your computer. Then you will find “ATI Catalyst Control Center” on your Windows® taskbar.



ATI Catalyst Control Center

- Step 6. Double-click “ATI Catalyst Control Center”. Click “View”, select “CrossFireX™”, and then check the item “Enable CrossFireX™”. Select “2 GPUs” or “4 GPUs” and click “Apply”.





Although you have selected the option “Enable CrossFire™”, the CrossFireX™ function may not work actually. Your computer will automatically reboot. After restarting your computer, please confirm whether the option “Enable CrossFire™” in “ATI Catalyst Control Center” is selected or not; if not, please select it again, and then you are able to enjoy the benefit of CrossFireX™ feature.

Step 7. You can freely enjoy the benefit of CrossFireX™ or Quad CrossFireX™ feature.

- * CrossFireX™ appearing here is a registered trademark of ATI™ Technologies Inc., and is used only for identification or explanation and to the owners' benefit, without intent to infringe.
- * For further information of ATI™ CrossFireX™ technology, please check AMD website for updates and details.

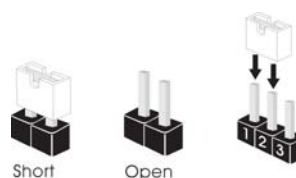
2.6 Surround Display Feature

This motherboard supports Surround Display upgrade. With the external add-on PCI Express VGA cards, you can easily enjoy the benefits of Surround Display feature. For the detailed instruction, please refer to the document at the following path in the Support CD:

..\ Surround Display Information

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						
Clear CMOS Jumper (CLRCMOS1) (see p.12, No. 26)	<table><tr><td>1 2</td><td>2 3</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Default</td><td>Clear CMOS</td></tr></table>	1 2	2 3			Default	Clear CMOS
1 2	2 3						
Default	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.

2.8 Onboard Headers and Connectors



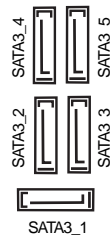
Onboard headers and connectors are NOT jumpers. Do NOT place jumper caps over these headers and connectors. Placing jumper caps over the headers and connectors will cause permanent damage of the motherboard!

Serial ATA3 Connectors

(SATA3_1: see p.12, No. 18)

(SATA3_2_3: see p.12, No. 17)

(SATA3_4_5: see p.12, No. 16)



These five 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)

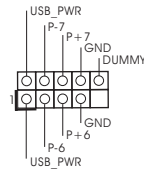


Either end of the SATA data cable can be connected to the SATA3 hard disk or the SATA3 connector on this motherboard.

USB 2.0 Headers

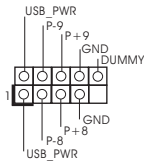
(9-pin USB6_7)

(see p.12 No. 29)



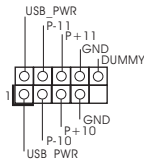
(9-pin USB8_9)

(see p.12 No. 28)



(9-pin USB10_11)

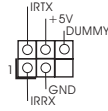
(see p.12 No. 27)



Besides six 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

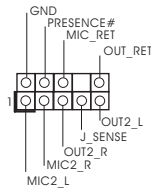
(5-pin IR1)
(see p.12 No. 32)



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

Front Panel Audio Header

(9-pin HD_AUDIO1)
(see p.12, No. 39)



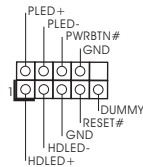
This is an interface for the front panel audio cable that allows convenient connection and control of audio devices.



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. To activate the front mic.
For Windows® XP / XP 64-bit OS:
Select "Mixer". Select "Recorder". Then click "FrontMic".
For Windows® 7 / 7 64-bit / Vista™ / Vista™ 64-bit OS:
Go to the "FrontMic" Tab in the Realtek Control panel. Adjust "Recording Volume".

System Panel Header

(9-pin PANEL1)
(see p.12 No. 22)



This header accommodates several system front panel functions.

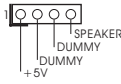
Power LED Header

(3-pin PLED1)
(see p.12 No. 20)



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).

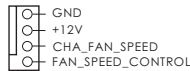
Chassis Speaker Header
 (4-pin SPEAKER 1)
 (see p.12 No. 21)



Please connect the chassis speaker to this header.

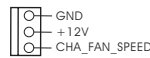
Chassis and Power Fan Connectors

(4-pin CHA_FAN1)
 (see p.12 No. 9)

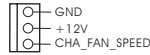


Please connect the fan cables to the fan connectors and match the black wire to the ground pin. CHA_FAN1/2/3 fan speed can be controlled through UEFI or AXTU.

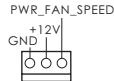
(3-pin CHA_FAN2)
 (see p.12 No. 11)



(3-pin CHA_FAN3)
 (see p.12 No. 12)

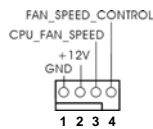


(3-pin PWR_FAN1)
 (see p.12 No. 4)



CPU Fan Connector

(4-pin CPU_FAN1)
 (see p.12 No. 6)



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



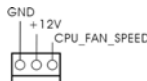
Though this motherboard provides 4-Pin CPU fan (Quiet Fan) support, the 3-Pin CPU fan still can work successfully even without the fan speed control function. If you plan to connect the 3-Pin CPU fan to the CPU fan connector on this motherboard, please connect it to Pin 1-3.

Pin 1-3 Connected ←

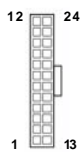


3-Pin Fan Installation

(3-pin CPU_FAN2)
 (see p.12 No. 5)



ATX Power Connector
 (24-pin ATXPWR1)
 (see p.12 No. 10)



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.12 No. 1)

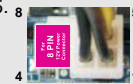


Please connect an ATX 12V power supply to this connector.

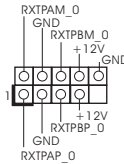


Though this motherboard provides 8-pin ATX 12V power connector, it can still work if you adopt a traditional 4-pin ATX 12V power supply. To use the 4-pin ATX power supply, please plug your power supply along with Pin 1 and Pin 5.

4-Pin ATX 12V Power Supply Installation

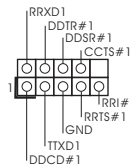


IEEE 1394 Header
 (9-pin FRONT_1394)
 (see p.12 No. 25)



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.

Serial port Header
 (9-pin COM1)
 (see p.12 No.30)



This COM1 header supports a serial port module.

HDMI_SPDIF Header
 (2-pin HDMI_SPDIF1)
 (see p.12 No. 33)



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.

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.12 No. 24)



Power Switch is a smart switch, allowing users to quickly turn on/off the system.

Reset Switch
(RSTBTN)
(see p.12 No. 23)



Reset Switch is a smart switch, allowing users to quickly reset the system.

Clear CMOS Switch
(CLRBTN)
(see p.13 No. 14)



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 24 "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.

Status Code	Description
0x00	Not used
0x01	Power on. Reset type detection (soft/hard)
0x02	AP initialization before microcode loading
0x03	North Bridge initialization before microcode loading
0x04	South Bridge initialization before microcode loading
0x05	OEM initialization before microcode loading
0x06	Microcode loading
0x07	AP initialization after microcode loading
0x08	North Bridge initialization after microcode loading
0x09	South Bridge initialization after microcode loading
0x0A	OEM initialization after microcode loading
0x0B	Cache initialization
0x0C – 0x0D	Reserved for future AMI SEC error codes
0x0E	Microcode not found
0x0F	Microcode not loaded
0x10	PEI Core is started
0x11	Pre-memory CPU initialization is started
0x12	Pre-memory CPU initialization (CPU module specific)
0x13	Pre-memory CPU initialization (CPU module specific)
0x14	Pre-memory CPU initialization (CPU module specific)
0x15	Pre-memory North Bridge initialization is started
0x16	Pre-Memory North Bridge initialization (North Bridge module specific)
0x17	Pre-Memory North Bridge initialization (North Bridge module specific)
0x18	Pre-Memory North Bridge initialization (North Bridge module specific)
0x19	Pre-memory South Bridge initialization is started
0x1A	Pre-memory South Bridge initialization (South Bridge module specific)
0x1B	Pre-memory South Bridge initialization (South Bridge module specific)
0x1C	Pre-memory South Bridge initialization (South Bridge module specific)
0x1D – 0x2A	OEM pre-memory initialization codes
0x2B	Memory initialization. Serial Presence Detect (SPD) data reading
0x2C	Memory initialization. Memory presence detection
0x2D	Memory initialization. Programming memory timing information
0x2E	Memory initialization. Configuring memory
0x2F	Memory initialization (other)
0x30	Reserved for ASL (see ASL Status Codes section below)
0x31	Memory Installed
0x32	CPU post-memory initialization is started
0x33	CPU post-memory initialization. Cache initialization
0x34	CPU post-memory initialization. Application Processor(s) (AP) initialization
0x35	CPU post-memory initialization. Boot Strap Processor (BSP) selection
0x36	CPU post-memory initialization. System Management Mode (SMM) initialization

0x37	Post-Memory North Bridge initialization is started
0x38	Post-Memory North Bridge initialization (North Bridge module specific)
0x39	Post-Memory North Bridge initialization (North Bridge module specific)
0x3A	Post-Memory North Bridge initialization (North Bridge module specific)
0x3B	Post-Memory South Bridge initialization is started
0x3C	Post-Memory South Bridge initialization (South Bridge module specific)
0x3D	Post-Memory South Bridge initialization (South Bridge module specific)
0x3E	Post-Memory South Bridge initialization (South Bridge module specific)
0x3F-0x4E	OEM post memory initialization codes
0x4F	DXE IPL is started
0x50	Memory initialization error. Invalid memory type or incompatible memory speed
0x51	Memory initialization error. SPD reading has failed
0x52	Memory initialization error. Invalid memory size or memory modules do not match
0x53	Memory initialization error. No usable memory detected
0x54	Unspecified memory initialization error
0x55	Memory not installed
0x56	Invalid CPU type or Speed
0x57	CPU mismatch
0x58	CPU self test failed or possible CPU cache error
0x59	CPU micro-code is not found or micro-code update is failed
0x5A	Internal CPU error
0x5B	reset PPI is not available
0x5C-0x5F	Reserved for future AMI error codes
0xE0	S3 Resume is started (S3 Resume PPI is called by the DXE IPL)
0xE1	S3 Boot Script execution
0xE2	Video repost
0xE3	OS S3 wake vector call
0xE4-0xE7	Reserved for future AMI progress codes
0xE8	S3 Resume Failed
0xE9	S3 Resume PPI not Found
0xEA	S3 Resume Boot Script Error
0xEB	S3 OS Wake Error
0xEC-0xEF	Reserved for future AMI error codes
0xF0	Recovery condition triggered by firmware (Auto recovery)
0xF1	Recovery condition triggered by user (Forced recovery)
0xF2	Recovery process started
0xF3	Recovery firmware image is found
0xF4	Recovery firmware image is loaded
0xF5-0xF7	Reserved for future AMI progress codes
0xF8	Recovery PPI is not available
0xF9	Recovery capsule is not found
0xFA	Invalid recovery capsule
0xFB – 0xFF	Reserved for future AMI error codes
0x60	DXE Core is started
0x61	NVRAM initialization

0x62	Installation of the South Bridge Runtime Services
0x63	CPU DXE initialization is started
0x64	CPU DXE initialization (CPU module specific)
0x65	CPU DXE initialization (CPU module specific)
0x66	CPU DXE initialization (CPU module specific)
0x67	CPU DXE initialization (CPU module specific)
0x68	PCI host bridge initialization
0x69	North Bridge DXE initialization is started
0x6A	North Bridge DXE SMM initialization is started
0x6B	North Bridge DXE initialization (North Bridge module specific)
0x6C	North Bridge DXE initialization (North Bridge module specific)
0x6D	North Bridge DXE initialization (North Bridge module specific)
0x6E	North Bridge DXE initialization (North Bridge module specific)
0x6F	North Bridge DXE initialization (North Bridge module specific)
0x70	South Bridge DXE initialization is started
0x71	South Bridge DXE SMM initialization is started
0x72	South Bridge devices initialization
0x73	South Bridge DXE Initialization (South Bridge module specific)
0x74	South Bridge DXE Initialization (South Bridge module specific)
0x75	South Bridge DXE Initialization (South Bridge module specific)
0x76	South Bridge DXE Initialization (South Bridge module specific)
0x77	South Bridge DXE Initialization (South Bridge module specific)
0x78	ACPI module initialization
0x79	CSM initialization
0x7A – 0x7F	Reserved for future AMI DXE codes
0x80 – 0x8F	OEM DXE initialization codes
0x90	Boot Device Selection (BDS) phase is started
0x91	Driver connecting is started
0x92	PCI Bus initialization is started
0x93	PCI Bus Hot Plug Controller Initialization
0x94	PCI Bus Enumeration
0x95	PCI Bus Request Resources
0x96	PCI Bus Assign Resources
0x97	Console Output devices connect
0x98	Console input devices connect
0x99	Super IO Initialization
0x9A	USB initialization is started
0x9B	USB Reset
0x9C	USB Detect
0x9D	USB Enable
0x9E – 0x9F	Reserved for future AMI codes
0xA0	IDE initialization is started
0xA1	IDE Reset
0xA2	IDE Detect
0xA3	IDE Enable
0xA4	SCSI initialization is started
0xA5	SCSI Reset

0xA6	SCSI Detect
0xA7	SCSI Enable
0xA8	Setup Verifying Password
0xA9	Start of Setup
0xAA	Reserved for ASL (see ASL Status Codes section below)
0xAB	Setup Input Wait
0xAC	Reserved for ASL (see ASL Status Codes section below)
0xAD	Ready To Boot event
0xAE	Legacy Boot event
0xAF	Exit Boot Services event
0xB0	Runtime Set Virtual Address MAP Begin
0xB1	Runtime Set Virtual Address MAP End
0xB2	Legacy Option ROM Initialization
0xB3	System Reset
0xB4	USB hot plug
0xB5	PCI bus hot plug
0xB6	Clean-up of NVRAM
0xB7	Configuration Reset (reset of NVRAM settings)
0xB8 – 0xBF	Reserved for future AMI codes
0xC0 – 0xCF	OEM BDS initialization codes
0xD0	CPU initialization error
0xD1	North Bridge initialization error
0xD2	South Bridge initialization error
0xD3	Some of the Architectural Protocols are not available
0xD4	PCI resource allocation error. Out of Resources
0xD5	No Space for Legacy Option ROM
0xD6	No Console Output Devices are found
0xD7	No Console Input Devices are found
0xD8	Invalid password
0xD9	Error loading Boot Option (LoadImage returned error)
0xDA	Boot Option is failed (StartImage returned error)
0xDB	Flash update is failed
0xDC	Reset protocol is not available

2.11 Serial ATA3 (SATA3) Hard Disks Installation

This motherboard adopts AMD SB850 chipset that supports Serial ATA3 (SATA3) hard disks and RAID functions. 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.

2.12 Hot Plug and Hot Swap Functions for SATA3 HDDs

This motherboard supports Hot Plug and Hot Swap functions for SATA3 in RAID / AHCI mode. AMD SB850 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.

What is Hot Swap Function?

If SATA3 HDDs are built as RAID 1 or RAID 5 then it is called "Hot Swap" for the action to insert and remove the SATA3 HDDs while the system is still power-on and in working condition.

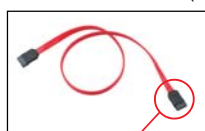
2.13 SATA3 HDD Hot Plug Feature and Operation Guide

This motherboard supports Hot Plug feature for SATA3 HDD in RAID / AHCI mode. Please read below operation guide of Hot Plug feature carefully. Before you process the 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 SATA3 HDD

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

Caution

1. Without SATA 15-pin power connector interface, the SATA3 Hot Plug cannot be processed.
2. Even some 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:

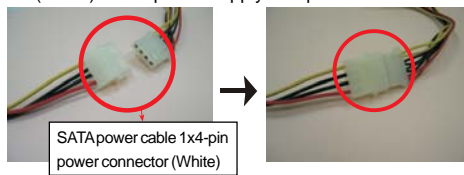
1. Below operation procedure is designed only for our motherboard, which supports SATA3 HDD Hot Plug.
 - * The SATA3 Hot Plug feature might not be supported by the chipset because of its limitation, the SATA3 Hot Plug support information of our motherboard is indicated in the product spec on our website: www.asrock.com
2. Make sure your SATA3 HDD can support Hot Plug function from your dealer or HDD user manual. The SATA3 HDD, which cannot support Hot Plug function, will be damaged under the Hot Plug operation.
3. Please make sure the SATA3 driver is installed into system properly. The latest 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 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 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 SATA3 connector.



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



Step 4 Connect SATA data cable to the SATA3 HDD.

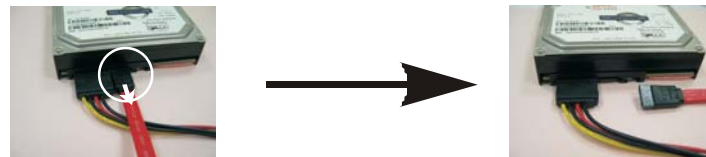


How to Hot Unplug a SATA3 HDD:

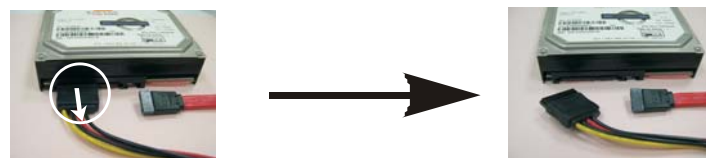
Points of attention, before you process the Hot Unplug:

Please do follow below instruction sequence to process the Hot Unplug, improper procedure will cause the SATA3 HDD damage and data loss.

Step 1 Unplug SATA data cable from SATA3 HDD side.



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



2.14 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.

2.15 Installing Windows® 7 / 7 64-bit / Vista™ / Vista™ 64-bit / XP / XP 64-bit With RAID Functions

If you want to install Windows® 7 / 7 64-bit / Vista™ / Vista™ 64-bit / XP / XP 64-bit on a RAID disk composed of 2 or more SATA3 HDDs with RAID functions, please follow below procedures according to the OS you install.

2.15.1 Installing Windows® XP / XP 64-bit With RAID Functions

If you want to install Windows® XP / XP 64-bit on a RAID disk composed of 2 or more SATA3 HDDs with RAID functions, please follow below steps.

STEP 1: Set up UEFI.

- A. Enter UEFI SETUP UTILITY → Advanced screen → Storage Configuration.
- B. Set the "SATA Mode" option to [RAID].

STEP 2: Make a SATA3 Driver Diskette. (Please use USB floppy or floppy disk.)

- A. Insert the ASRock Support CD into your optical drive to boot your system.
- B. During POST at the beginning of system boot-up, press <F11> key, and then a window for boot devices selection appears. Please select CD-ROM as the boot device.
- C. When you see the message on the screen, "Generate Serial ATA driver diskette [YN]?", press <Y>.
- D. Then you will see these messages,
Please insert a diskette into the floppy drive.
WARNING! Formatting the floppy diskette will lose ALL data in it!
Start to format and copy files [YN]?
Please insert a floppy diskette into the floppy drive, and press any key.
- E. The system will start to format the floppy diskette and copy SATA3 drivers into the floppy diskette.

STEP 3: Use “RAID Installation Guide” to set RAID configuration.

Before you start to configure RAID function, you need to check the RAID installation guide in the Support CD for proper configuration. Please refer to the BIOS RAID installation guide part of the document in the following path in the Support CD:

.. \ RAID Installation Guide

STEP 4: Install Windows® XP / XP 64-bit OS on your system.

After step 1, 2, 3, you can start to install Windows® XP / XP 64-bit OS on your system. At the beginning of Windows® setup, press F6 to install a third-party RAID driver. When prompted, insert the SATA3 driver diskette containing the AMD RAID driver. After reading the floppy disk, the driver will be presented. Select the driver to install according to the OS you install.

2.15.2 Installing Windows® 7 / 7 64-bit / Vista™ / Vista™ 64-bit With RAID Functions

If you want to install Windows® 7 / 7 64-bit / Vista™ / Vista™ 64-bit on a RAID disk composed of 2 or more SATA3 HDDs with RAID functions, please follow below steps.

STEP 1: Set up UEFI.

- A. Enter UEFI SETUP UTILITY → Advanced screen → Storage Configuration.
- B. Set the “SATA Mode” option to [RAID].

STEP 2: Use “RAID Installation Guide” to set RAID configuration.

Before you start to configure RAID function, you need to check the RAID installation guide in the Support CD for proper configuration. Please refer to the BIOS RAID installation guide part of the document in the following path in the Support CD:

.. \ RAID Installation Guide

STEP 3: Make a SATA3 Driver Diskette.

Make a SATA3 driver diskette by following section 2.15.1 step 2 on page 37.

STEP 4: Install Windows® 7 / 7 64-bit / Vista™ / Vista™ 64-bit OS on your system.

2.16 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 SATA3 HDDs without RAID functions, please follow below procedures according to the OS you install.

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

If you want to install Windows® XP / XP 64-bit on your SATA3 HDDs without RAID functions, please follow below steps.

Using SATA3 HDDs with NCQ and Hot Plug functions (AHCI mode)

STEP 1: Set up UEFI.

- A. Enter UEFI SETUP UTILITY → Advanced screen → Storage Configuration.
- B. Set the "SATA Mode" option to [AHCI].

STEP 2: Make a SATA3 Driver Diskette.

Make a SATA3 driver diskette by following section 2.15.1 step 2 on page 37.

STEP 3: Install Windows® XP / XP 64-bit OS on your system.

You can start to install Windows® XP / XP 64-bit OS on your system. At the beginning of Windows® setup, press F6 to install a third-party AHCI driver. When prompted, insert the SATA3 driver diskette containing the AMD AHCI driver. After reading the floppy disk, the driver will be presented. Select the driver to install according to the OS you install.

Using SATA3 HDDs without NCQ and Hot Plug functions (IDE mode)

STEP 1: Set up UEFI.

- A. Enter UEFI SETUP UTILITY → Advanced screen → Storage Configuration.
- B. Set the "SATA Mode" option to [IDE].

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

2.16.2 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 on your SATA3 HDDs without RAID functions, please follow below steps.

Using SATA3 HDDs with NCQ and Hot Plug functions (AHCI mode)

STEP 1: Set up UEFI.

- A. Enter UEFI SETUP UTILITY → Advanced screen → Storage Configuration.
- B. Set the “SATA Mode” option to [AHCI].

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

Using SATA3 HDDs without NCQ and Hot Plug functions (IDE mode)

STEP 1: Set up UEFI.

- A. Enter UEFI SETUP UTILITY → Advanced screen → Storage Configuration.
- B. Set the “SATA Mode” option to [IDE].

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

2.17 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 UEFI 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 8 for the possible overclocking risk before you apply Untied Overclocking Technology.

3. UEFI SETUP UTILITY

3.1 Introduction

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

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

3.1.1 UEFI 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 UEFI 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 UEFI 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 UEFI SETUP UTILITY
<ESC>	To jump to the Exit Screen or exit the current screen

3.2 Main Screen

When you enter the UEFI 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.



CPU Configuration

Overclock Mode

Use this to select Overclock Mode. Configuration options: [Auto] and [Manual].

The default value is [Auto].

Spread Spectrum

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

ASRock UCC

ASRock UCC (Unlock CPU Core) feature simplifies AMD CPU activation. As long as a simple switch of the UEFI option "ASRock UCC", you can unlock the extra CPU core to enjoy an instant performance boost. When UCC feature is enabled, the dual-core or triple-core CPU will boost to the quad-core CPU, and some CPU, including quad-core CPU, can also increase L3 cache size up to 6MB, which means you can enjoy the upgrade CPU performance with a better price. Please be noted that UCC feature is supported with AM3/AM3+ CPU only, and in addition, not every AM3/AM3+ CPU can support this function because some CPU's hidden core may be malfunctioned.

CPU Active Core Control

This allows you to adjust CPU Active Core Control feature. The configuration options depend on the CPU core you adopt. The default value is [Disabled].

Processor Maximum Frequency

It will display Processor Maximum Frequency for reference.

North Bridge Maximum Frequency

It will display North Bridge Maximum Frequency for reference.

Processor Maximum Voltage

It will display Processor Maximum Voltage for reference.

Multiplier/Voltage Change

This item is set to [Auto] by default. If it is set to [Manual], you may adjust the value of Processor Frequency and Processor Voltage. However, it is recommended to keep the default value for system stability.

CPU Frequency (MHz)

Use this option to adjust CPU frequency.

CPU Voltage

It allows you to adjust the value of CPU voltage. However, for safety and system stability, it is not recommended to adjust the value of this item.

NB Frequency (MHz)

Use this option to adjust NB frequency.

NB Voltage

It allows you to adjust the value of NB voltage. However, for safety and system stability, it is not recommended to adjust the value of this item.

HT Bus Speed (MHz)

This feature allows you selecting Hyper-Transport bus speed. Configuration options: [Auto], [200MHz] to [2000MHz].

HT Bus Width

This feature allows you selecting Hyper-Transport bus width. Configuration options: [Auto], [8 Bit] and [16 Bit].

DRAM Configuration

DRAM Frequency

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

DRAM Timing Control



Power Down Enable

Use this item to enable or disable DDR power down mode.

Bank Interleaving

Interleaving allows memory accesses to be spread out over banks on the same node, or across nodes, decreasing access contention.

Channel Interleaving

It allows you to enable Channel Memory Interleaving. Configuration options: [Disabled], [Address bits 6], [Address bits 12], [HASH 1] and [HASH 2]. The default value is [HASH 2].

CAS# Latency (tCL)

Use this item to change CAS# Latency (tCL) Auto/Manual setting. The default is [Auto].

RAS# to CAS# Delay (tRCD)

Use this item to change RAS# to CAS# Delay (tRCD) Auto/Manual setting. The default is [Auto].

Row Precharge Time (tRP)

Use this item to change Row Precharge Time (tRP) Auto/Manual setting. The default is [Auto].

RAS# Active Time (tRAS)

Use this item to change RAS# Active Time (tRAS) Auto/Manual setting. The default is [Auto].

Command Rate (CR)

Use this item to change Command Rate (CR) Auto/Manual setting. Min: 1N. Max: 2N. The default is [Auto].

RAS# Cycle Time (tRC)

Use this item to change RAS# Cycle Time (tRC) Auto/Manual setting. The default is [Auto].

Write Recovery Time (tWR)

Use this item to change Write Recovery Time (tWR) Auto/Manual setting. The default is [Auto].

Refresh Cycle Time (tRFC)

Use this item to change Refresh Cycle Time (tRFC) Auto/Manual setting. The default is [Auto].

RAS to RAS Delay (tRRD)

Use this item to change RAS to RAS Delay (tRRD) Auto/Manual setting. The default is [Auto].

Write to Read Delay (tWTR)

Use this item to change Write to Read Delay (tWTR) Auto/Manual setting. The default is [Auto].

Read to Precharge (tRTP)

Use this item to change Read to Precharge (tRTP) Auto/Manual setting. The default is [Auto].

Four Activate Window (tFAW)

Use this item to change Four Activate Window (tFAW) Auto/Manual setting.
The default is [Auto].

Voltage Control**DRAM Voltage**

Use this to select DRAM Voltage. The default value is [Auto].

NB Voltage

Use this to select NB Voltage. The default value is [Auto].

CPU Load-Line Calibration

CPU Load-Line Calibration helps prevent CPU voltage droop when the system is under heavy load.

HT Voltage

Use this to select HT Voltage. The default value is [Auto].

CPU VDDA Voltage

Use this to select CPU VDDA Voltage. The default value is [Auto].

PCIE VDDA Voltage

Use this to select PCIE VDDA Voltage. The default value is [Auto].

SB Core Voltage

Use this to select SB Core Voltage. 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, South Bridge Configuration, Storage Configuration, SuperIO Configuration, ACPI Configuration, and USB Configuration.



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

ASRock Instant Flash

ASRock Instant Flash is a UEFI flash utility embedded in Flash ROM. This convenient UEFI update tool allows you to update system UEFI without entering operating systems first like MS-DOS or Windows®. Just launch this tool and save the new UEFI file to your USB flash drive, floppy disk or hard drive, then you can update your UEFI 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 UEFI files and their respective information. Select the proper UEFI file to update your UEFI, and reboot your system after UEFI update process completes.

3.4.1 CPU Configuration



Cool 'n' Quiet

Use this item to enable or disable AMD's Cool 'n' Quiet™ technology. The default value is [Enabled]. Configuration options: [Auto], [Enabled] and [Disabled]. If you install Windows® 7 / Vista™ and want to enable this function, please set this item to [Enabled]. Please note that enabling this function may reduce CPU voltage and memory frequency, and lead to system stability or compatibility issue with some memory modules or power supplies. Please set this item to [Disable] if above issue occurs.

Secure Virtual Machine

When this option is set to [Enabled], a VMM (Virtual Machine Architecture) can utilize the additional hardware capabilities provided by AMD-V. The default value is [Enabled]. Configuration options: [Enabled] and [Disabled].

Enhance Halt State (C1E)

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.

CPU Thermal Throttle

Use this item to enable CPU internal thermal control mechanism to keep the CPU from overheated. The default value is [Auto].

3.4.2 South Bridge Configuration



Primary Graphics Adapter

This item will switch the PCI Bus scanning order while searching for video card. It allows you to select the type of Primary VGA in case of multiple video controllers. The default value of this feature is [PCI Express].

Configuration options: [PCI] and [PCI Express].

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] or [Disabled] for the onboard HD Audio Front Panel.

Onboard LAN

This allows you to enable or disable the onboard LAN feature.

Onboard 1394 controller

This allows you to enable or disable the onboard 1394 controller.

Onboard Debug Port LED

This allows you to enable or disable the onboard Debug Port LED.

3.4.3 Storage Configuration



SATA Controller

Use this item to enable or disable the “SATA Controller” feature.

SATA Mode

Use this item to adjust SATA Mode. The default value of this option is [IDE Mode]. Configuration options: [AHCI Mode], [RAID Mode] and [IDE Mode].



If you set this item to RAID mode, it is suggested to install SATA ODD driver on SATA3_5 port.

SATA IDE Combined Mode

This item is for SATA3_5 and eSATA ports only. Use this item to enable or disable SATA IDE combined mode. The default value is [Enabled].



If you want to build RAID on SATA3_5 and eSATA ports, please disable this item.

3.4.4 Super IO Configuration



Serial Port

Use this item to enable or disable the onboard serial port.

Serial Port Address

Use this item to set the address for the onboard serial port.

Configuration options: [Auto], [3F8 / IRQ4] and [3E8 / IRQ4].

Infrared Port

Use this item to enable or disable the onboard infrared port.

Infrared Port Address

Use this item to set the address for the onboard infrared port.

Configuration options: [Auto], [2F8 / IRQ3] and [2E8 / IRQ3].

3.4.5 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.

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.

PCI Devices Power On

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

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.

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.

3.4.6 USB Configuration



USB 2.0 Controller

Use this item to enable or disable the use of USB 2.0 controller.

USB 3.0 Controller

Use this item to enable or disable the use of USB 3.0 controller.

Legacy USB Support

Use this option to select legacy support for USB devices. There are four configuration options: [Enabled], [Auto], [Disabled] and [UEFI 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 UEFI setup when [Disabled] is selected. If you have USB compatibility issue, it is recommended to select [Disabled] to enter OS.

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

Legacy USB 3.0 Support

Use this option to enable or disable legacy support for USB 3.0 devices. The default value is [Enabled].

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 1 & 2 Setting

This allows you to set the CPU fan 1 & 2 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], [Manual Mode] and [Automatic Mode]. The default is value [Full On].

Chassis Fan 2 Setting

This allows you to set the chassis fan 2 speed. Configuration options: [Full On] and [Manual Mode]. The default is value [Full On].

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].

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.



Setup Prompt Timeout

This shows the number of seconds to wait for setup activation key. 65535(0xFFFF) means indefinite waiting.

Bootup Num-Lock

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

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 From Onboard LAN

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

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.

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 UEFI 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 UEFI 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 UEFI Defaults

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

Launch EFI Shell from filesystem device

Attempts to Launch EFI Shell application (Shell64.efi) from one of the available filesystem devices.

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 Media Center / 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 the 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.

Installing OS on a HDD Larger Than 2TB

This motherboard is adopting UEFI BIOS that allows Windows® OS to be installed on a large size HDD (>2TB). Please follow below procedure to install the operating system.

1. Please make sure to use **Windows® Vista™ 64-bit (with SP1 or above)** or **Windows® 7 64-bit**.
2. Set **AHCI Mode** in UEFI Setup Utility > Advanced > Storage Configuration > SATA Mode.
3. Press F11 to launch boot menu at system POST.
4. Choose the item "**UEFI:xxx**" to boot. ("xxx" is the device which contains your Windows® installation files. Normally it is an optical drive.)
5. Start Windows® installation.