

MX34

Online Manual

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Before You Start



This Online Manual is in [PDF format](#), we recommend using Adobe Acrobat Reader 4.0 for online viewing, it is included in [Bonus CD disc](#) or you can get free download from [Adobe web site](#).

Although this Online Manual is optimized for screen viewing, it is still capable for hardcopy printing, you can print it by A4 paper size and set 2 pages per A4 sheet on your printer. To do so, choose **File > Page Setup** and follow the instruction of your printer driver.

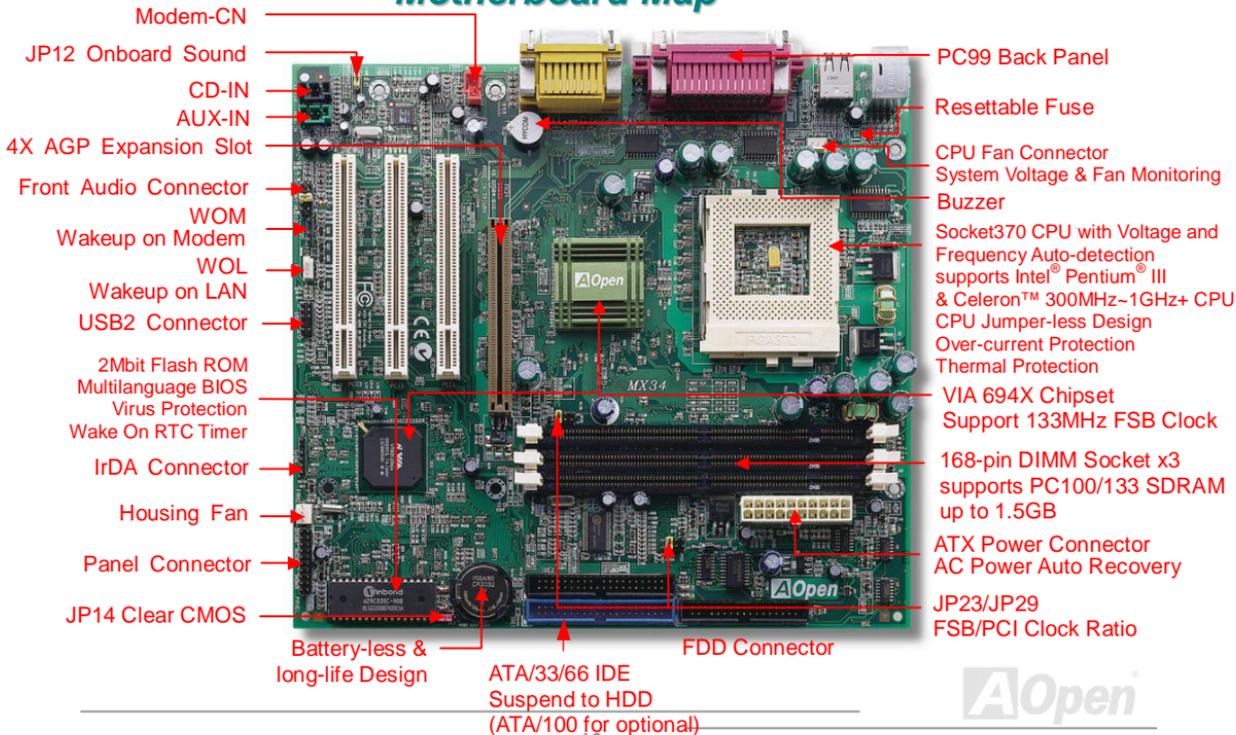
Thanks for the help of saving our earth.

Quick Installation Procedure

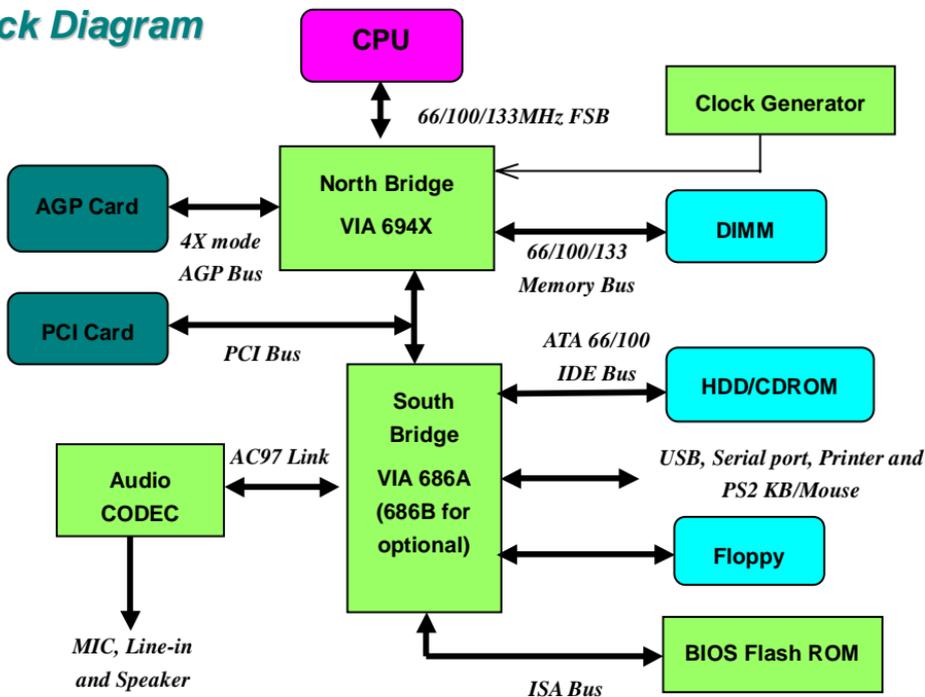
This page gives you a quick procedure on how to install your system. Follow each step accordingly.

- 1 Installing [CPU](#) and [Fan](#)
- 2 [Installing System Memory \(DIMM\)](#)
- 3 [Connecting Front Panel Cable](#)
- 4 [Connecting IDE and Floppy Cable](#)
- 5 [Connecting ATX Power Cable](#)
- 6 [Connecting Back Panel Cable](#)
- 7 [Power-on and Load BIOS Setup Default](#)
- 8 [Setting CPU Frequency](#)
- 9 Reboot
- 10 [Installing Operating System \(such as Windows 98\)](#)
- 11 [Installing Driver and Utility](#)

Motherboard Map



Block Diagram



Hardware

This chapter describes jumpers, connectors and hardware devices of this motherboard.



Note: *Electrostatic discharge (ESD) can damage your processor, disk drives, expansion boards, and other components. Always observe the following precautions before you install a system component.*

- 1. Do not remove a component from its protective packaging until you are ready to install it.*
- 2. Wear a wrist ground strap and attach it to a metal part of the system unit before handling a component. If a wrist strap is not available, maintain contact with the system unit throughout any procedure requiring ESD protection.*

JP14 Clear CMOS

You can clear CMOS to restore system default setting. To clear the CMOS, follow the procedure below.

1. Turn off the system and unplug the AC power.
2. Remove ATX power cable from connector PWR2.
3. Locate JP14 and short pins 2-3 for a few seconds.
4. Return JP14 to its normal setting by shorting pins 1-2.
5. Connect ATX power cable back to connector PWR2.



Tip: When should I Clear CMOS?

1. Boot fail because of overclocking...
2. Forget password...
3. Troubleshooting...



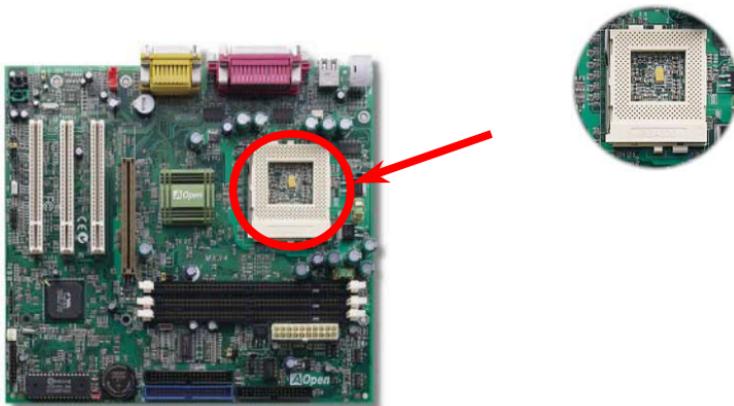
Normal Operation
(default)



Clear CMOS

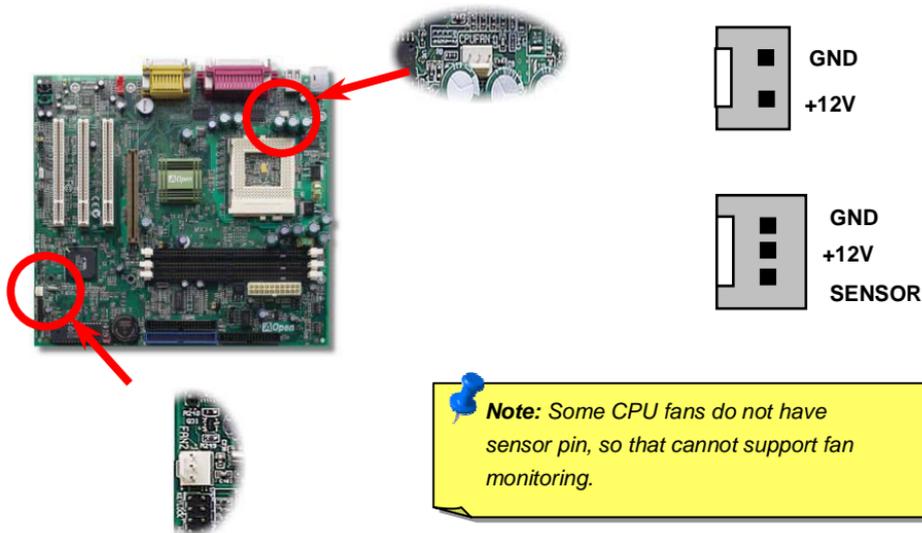
CPU Socket

This motherboard supports Celeron, and Pentium III FC-PGA Socket370 CPU. Be careful of CPU orientation when you pug it into CPU socket.



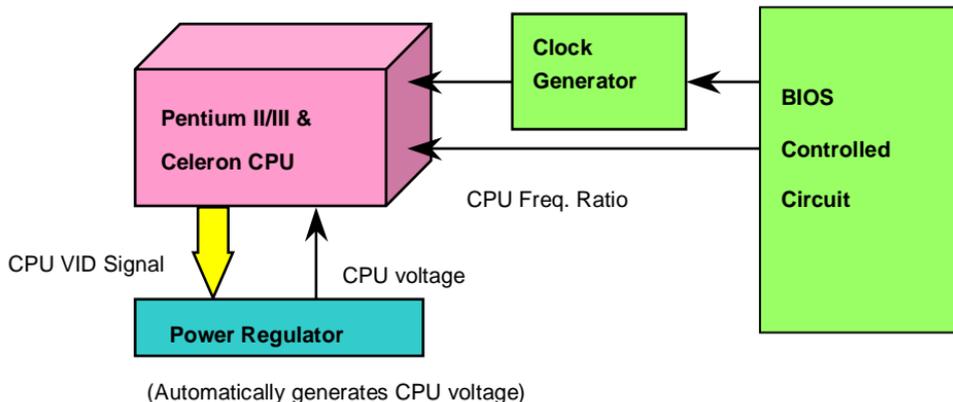
CPU Fan and Housing Fan Connector

Plug in the CPU fan cable to the 3-pin **CPUFAN** connector. If you have other housing fan, you can also plug it on **FAN** connector.



CPU Jumper-less Design

CPU VID signal and [SMBus](#) clock generator provide CPU voltage auto-detection and allows the user to set the CPU frequency through the [BIOS setup](#), therefore no jumpers or switches are used. The correct CPU information is saved into the [EEPROM](#). With these technologies, the disadvantages of the Pentium based jumper-less designs are eliminated. There will be no worry of wrong CPU voltage detection and no need to re-open the housing in case of CMOS battery loss.



Setting CPU Frequency

This motherboard is CPU jumper-less design, you can set CPU frequency through the BIOS setup, no jumpers or switches are needed.

BIOS Setup > Chipset Features Setup > [CPU Clock Frequency](#)

BIOS Setup > Chipset Features Setup > [CPU Clock Ratio](#)

CPU Ratio	1.5x, 2x, 2.5x, 3x, 3.5x, 4x, 4.5x, 5x, 5.5x, 6x, 6.5x, 7x, 7.5x, and 8x
CPU FSB	66.8, 75, 83.3, 100, 103, 105, 110, 112, 115, 120, 124, 133, 140, and 150 MHz.



Warning: VIA 694X chipset supports maximum 133MHz FSB and 66MHz AGP clock, higher clock setting may cause serious system damage.



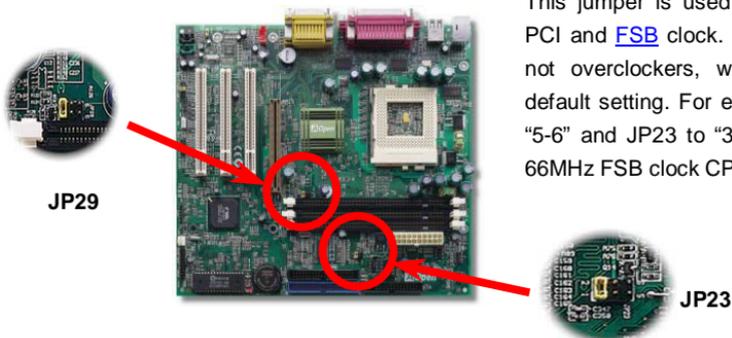
Tip: If your system hangs or fails to boot because of overclocking, simply use <Home> key to restore the default setting (233MHz).



Core Frequency = CPU FSB Clock * CPU Ratio

CPU	CPU Core Frequency	FSB Clock	Ratio
CELERON 300A	300MHz	66MHz	4.5x
CELERON 600	600MHz	66MHz	9x
CELERON 700	700MHz	66MHz	10.5x
CELERON 800	800MHz	100MHz	8x
CELERON 850	850MHz	100MHz	8.5x
Pentium!!! 700E	700MHz	100MHZ	7x
Pentium!!! 750E	750MHz	100MHZ	7.5x
Pentium!!! 800E	800MHz	100MHZ	8x
Pentium!!! 850E	850MHz	100MHZ	8.5x
Pentium!!! 733EB	733MHz	133MHZ	5.5x
Pentium!!! 866EB	866MHz	133MHZ	6.5x
Pentium!!! 933EB	866MHz	133MHZ	7x
Pentium!!! 1G	1GHz	133MHZ	7.5x
Pentium!!! 1.13G	1.13GHz	133MHz	8.5

JP29/JP23 FSB/PCI Clock Ratio



This jumper is used to specify the relationship of PCI and [FSB](#) clock. Generally speaking, if you are not overclockers, we recommend to set at the default setting. For example, you must set JP29 to "5-6" and JP23 to "3-4" if you want to overclock a 66MHz FSB clock CPU to 100MHz or higher.

JP29		JP23		JP29		JP23		JP29		JP23					
1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				
2	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				
5	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				
6	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Auto (default)				4X (133~150MHz)				3X (100~124MHz)				2X (66~83MHz)			

PCI Clock = CPU FSB Clock / Clock Ratio

AGP Clock = PCI Clock x 2

Clock Ratio	CPU (Host)	PCI	AGP	Memory
2X	66	33	66	PCI x2 or x3
3X	100	33	66	PCI x2 or x3 or x4
3X, overclocking	112	37.3	74.6	PCI x2 or x3 or x4
4X	133	33	66	PCI x3 or x4
4X, overclocking	155	38.75	77.5	PCI x3 or x4



Warning: VIA 694X chipset supports maximum 133MHz FSB and 66MHz AGP clock, higher clock setting may cause serious system damage.

DIMM Socket

This motherboard has three 168-pin [DIMM sockets](#) that allow you to install [PC133](#) memory up to 1.5GB. Only SDRAM is supported.



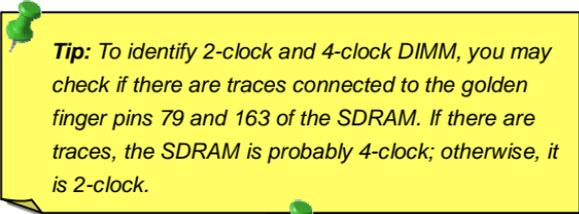
Pin 1



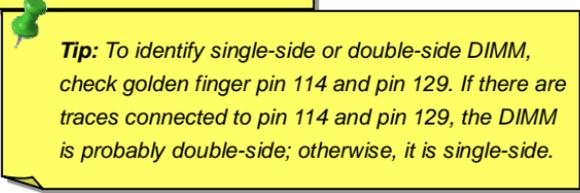
DIMM1
DIMM2
DIMM3

Tip: The driving capability of new generation chipset is limited due to the lack of a memory buffer (to improve performance). This makes DRAM chip count an important factor to take into consideration when you install DIMMs. Unfortunately, there is no way that the BIOS can identify the correct chip count, you need to calculate the chip count by yourself. The simple rule is: **By visual inspection, use only DIMMs which are less than 18 chips..**

DIMM can be single side or double side, it has 64 bit data and 2 or 4 clock signals. We strongly recommend choosing 4-clock SDRAM for its reliability

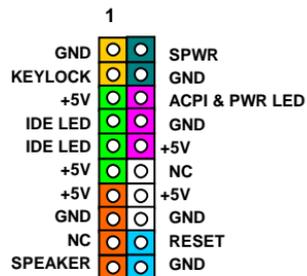
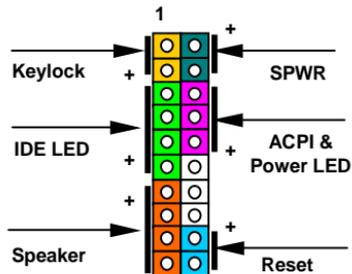
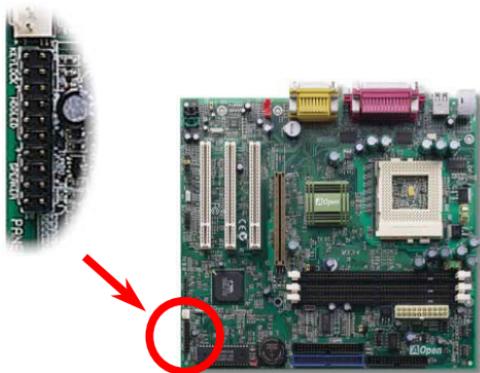


Tip: To identify 2-clock and 4-clock DIMM, you may check if there are traces connected to the golden finger pins 79 and 163 of the SDRAM. If there are traces, the SDRAM is probably 4-clock; otherwise, it is 2-clock.



Tip: To identify single-side or double-side DIMM, check golden finger pin 114 and pin 129. If there are traces connected to pin 114 and pin 129, the DIMM is probably double-side; otherwise, it is single-side.

Front Panel Connector



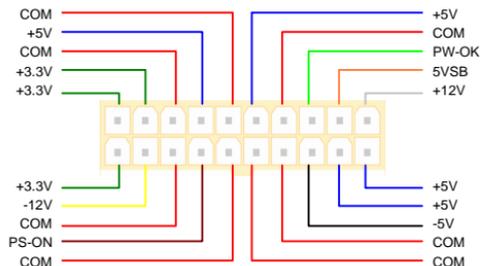
Attach the power LED, keylock, speaker, and reset switch connectors to the corresponding pins. If you enable Power Management > [Suspend Mode](#) in BIOS Setup, the ACPI & Power LED will keep flashing while the system is in suspend mode.

Suspend Type	ACPI LED
Power on Suspend (S1)	Flashing for every second
Suspend to RAM (S3)	Flashing for every 4 seconds

Locate the power switch cable from your ATX housing. It is 2-pin female connector from the housing front panel. Plug this connector to the soft-power switch connector marked **SPWR**.

ATX Power Connector

The ATX power supply uses 20-pin connector shown below. Make sure you plug in the right direction.

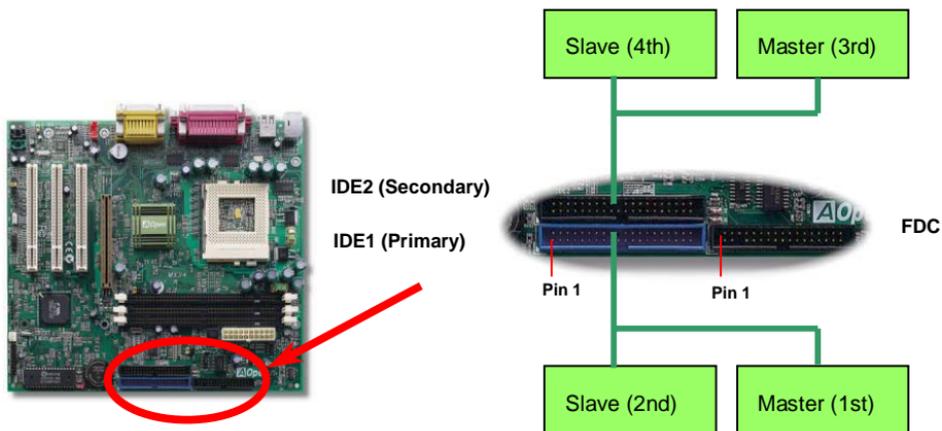


AC Power Auto Recovery

A traditional ATX system should remain at power off stage when AC power resumes from power failure. This design is inconvenient for a network server or workstation, without an UPS, that needs to keep power-on. This motherboard implements an AC Power Auto Recovery function to solve this problem. If BIOS Setup > Power management > [AC PWR Auto Recovery](#) is set to "On" the system will automatically power-on after AC power resumes.

IDE and Floppy Connector

Connect 34-pin floppy cable and 40-pin IDE cable to floppy connector FDC and IDE connector. The **blue connector** is IDE1 for clear identification. Be careful of the pin1 orientation. Wrong orientation may cause system damage.



IDE1 is also known as the primary channel and IDE2 as the secondary channel. Each channel supports two IDE devices that make a total of four devices. In order to work together, the two devices on each channel must be set differently to **master** and **slave** mode. Either one can be the hard disk or the CDROM. The setting as master or slave mode depends on the jumper on your IDE device, so please refer to your hard disk and CDROM manual accordingly.



Warning: *The specification of the IDE cable is a maximum of 46cm (18 inches), make sure your cable does not exceed this length.*



Tip: *For better signal quality, it is recommended to set the far end side device to master mode and follow the suggested sequence to install your new device. Please refer to above diagram.*

This motherboard supports [ATA 66 IDE \(ATA/100 for optional\)](#). Following table lists the transfer rate of IDE PIO and DMA modes. The IDE bus is 16-bit, which means every transfer is two bytes.

Mode	Clock Period	Clock Count	Cycle Time	Data Transfer Rate
PIO mode 0	30ns	20	600ns	$(1/600\text{ns}) \times 2\text{byte} = 3.3\text{MB/s}$
PIO mode 1	30ns	13	383ns	$(1/383\text{ns}) \times 2\text{byte} = 5.2\text{MB/s}$
PIO mode 2	30ns	8	240ns	$(1/240\text{ns}) \times 2\text{byte} = 8.3\text{MB/s}$
PIO mode 3	30ns	6	180ns	$(1/180\text{ns}) \times 2\text{byte} = 11.1\text{MB/s}$
PIO mode 4	30ns	4	120ns	$(1/120\text{ns}) \times 2\text{byte} = 16.6\text{MB/s}$
DMA mode 0	30ns	16	480ns	$(1/480\text{ns}) \times 2\text{byte} = 4.16\text{MB/s}$
DMA mode 1	30ns	5	150ns	$(1/150\text{ns}) \times 2\text{byte} = 13.3\text{MB/s}$
DMA mode 2	30ns	4	120ns	$(1/120\text{ns}) \times 2\text{byte} = 16.6\text{MB/s}$
UDMA/33	30ns	4	120ns	$(1/120\text{ns}) \times 2\text{byte} \times 2 = 33\text{MB/s}$
UDMA/66	30ns	2	60ns	$(1/60\text{ns}) \times 2\text{byte} \times 2 = 66\text{MB/s}$
UDMA/100	20ns	2	40ns	$(1/40\text{ns}) \times 2\text{byte} \times 2 = 100\text{MB/s}$

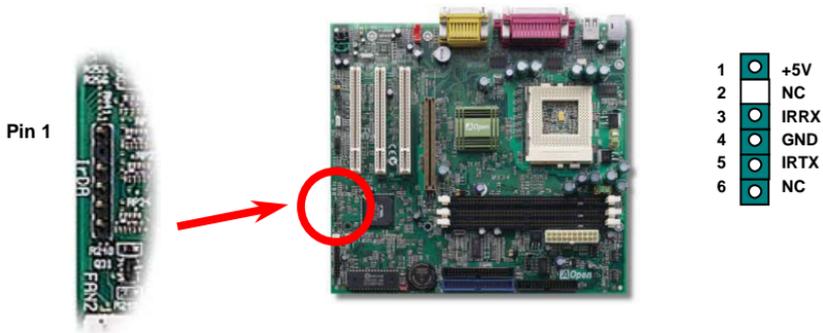


Tip: To achieve the best performance of Ultra DMA 66/100 hard disks, a special **80-wires IDE cable** for Ultra DMA66/100 is required..

IrDA Connector

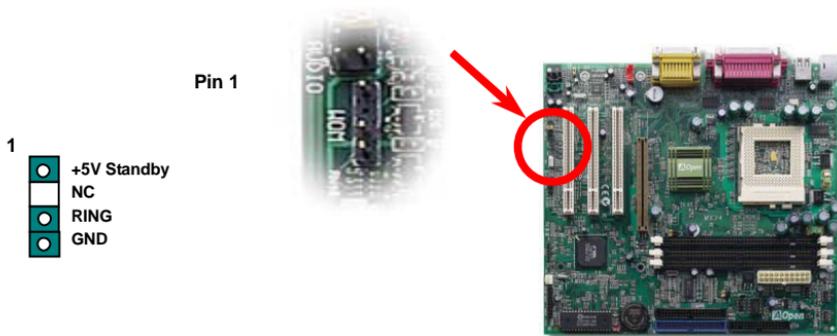
The IrDA connector can be configured to support wireless infrared module, with this module and application software such as Laplink or Windows 95 Direct Cable Connection, the user can transfer files to or from laptops, notebooks, PDA devices and printers. This connector supports HPSIR (115.2Kbps, 2 meters) and ASK-IR (56Kbps).

Install the infrared module onto the **IrDA** connector and enable the infrared function from BIOS Setup, UART mode select , make sure to have the correct orientation when you plug in the IrDA connector.



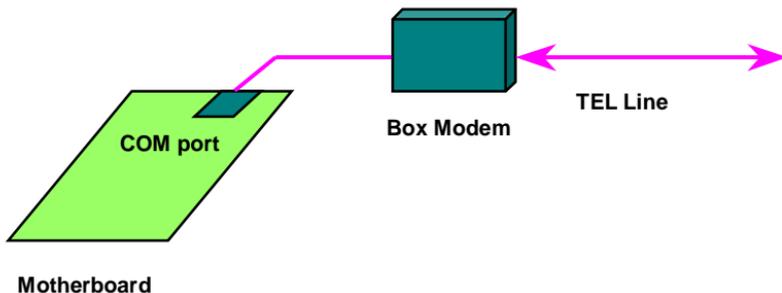
WOM (Zero Voltage Wake on Modem)

This motherboard implements special circuit to support Wake On Modem, both Internal modem card and external box modem are supported. Since Internal modem card consumes no power when system power is off, it is recommended to use an internal modem. To use internal modem, connect 4-pin cable from **RING** connector of modem card to the **WOM** connector on the motherboard.



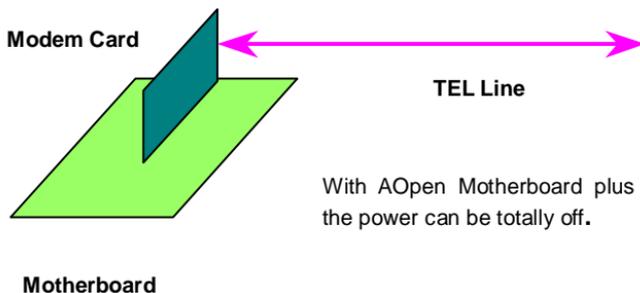
WOM by External BOX Modem

Traditional Green PC suspend mode does not really turn off the system power supply, it uses external box modem to trigger MB COM port and resume back to active.



WOM by Internal Modem Card

With the help of the ATX soft power On/Off, it is possible to have a system totally power off, and wakeup to automatically answer a phone call as an answering machine or to send/receive a fax. You may identify whether or not your system is in true power off mode by checking to see if the fan of your power supply is off. Both an external box modem and an internal modem card can be used to support Modem Wake Up, but if you use an external modem, you have to leave your box modem on.



With AOpen Motherboard plus AOpen Modem Card, the power can be totally off.

WOL (Wake on LAN)

This feature is very similar as [Wake On Modem](#), but it goes through local area network. To use Wake On LAN function, you must have a network card with chipset that supports this feature, and connect a cable from LAN card to motherboard WOL connector. The system identification information (probably IP address) is stored on network card and because there is a lot of traffic on the Ethernet, you need to install a network management software, such as ADM, for the checking of how to wake up the system. Note that, at least 600mA ATX standby current is required to support the LAN card for this function.



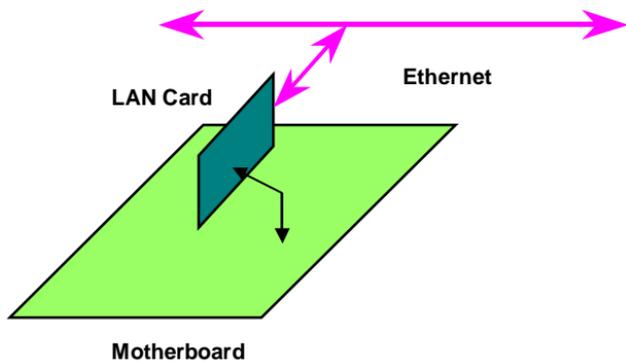
+5V Standby

GND

LID

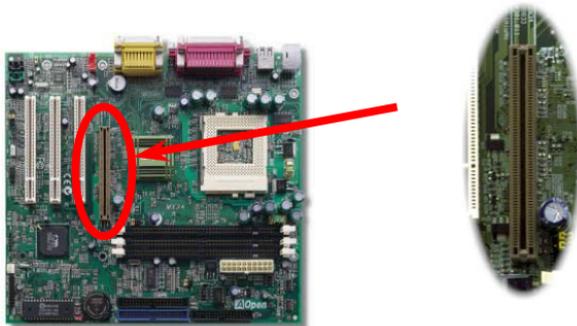
Pin 1





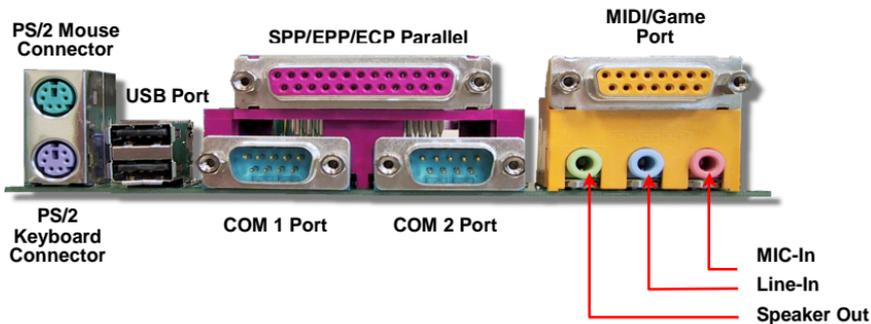
4X AGP (Accelerated Graphic Port)

This motherboard supports 4X [AGP](#). AGP is a bus interface designed for high-performance 3D graphic and supports only memory read/write operation. One motherboard can only have one AGP slot. **2X AGP** uses both rising and falling edge of the 66MHz clock, the data transfer rate is $66\text{MHz} \times 4 \text{ bytes} \times 2 = 528\text{MB/s}$. **4X AGP** is still using 66MHz AGP clock but the it has 4 data transfers within one 66MHz clock cycle, so that the data transfer rate is $66\text{MHz} \times 4 \text{ bytes} \times 4 = 1056\text{MB/s}$.



PC99 Color Coded Back Panel

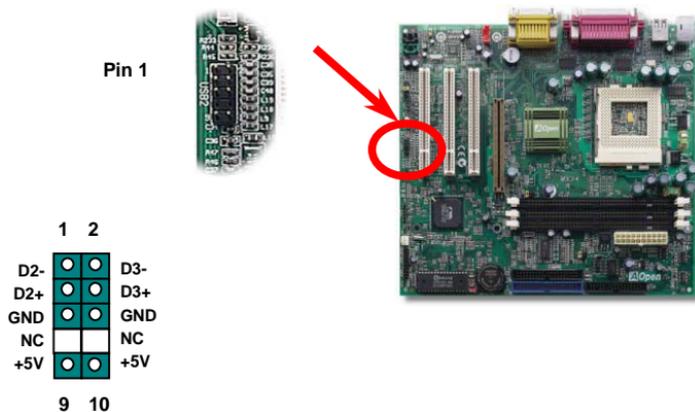
The onboard I/O devices are PS/2 Keyboard, PS/2 Mouse, serial ports COM1 and COM2, Printer, [four USB](#), AC97 sound and Game port. The view angle of drawing shown here is from the back panel of the housing.



- Speaker:** To External Speaker, Earphone or Amplifier.
- Line-In:** From signal source such as CD/Tape player.
- MIC:** From Microphone

Support 4 USB Ports

This motherboard supports four USB ports. Two of them are on back panel connector, the other two are on the left-bottom area of this motherboard. With proper cable, you can connect them to front panel.



JP12 Enable/Disable Onboard Sound

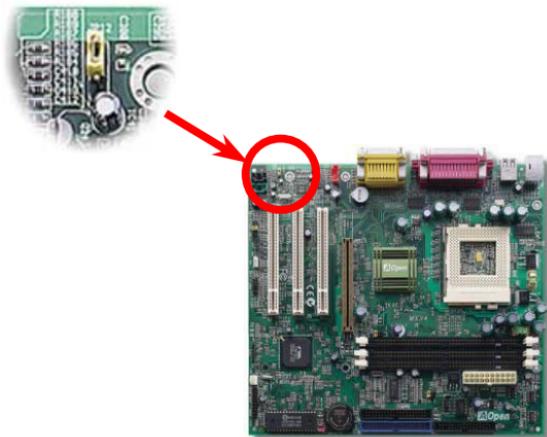
This motherboard has [AC97](#) sound onboard. JP12 is used to enable or disable onboard AD1885 [CODEC](#) chip. If you select Disable, you can use your preferred PCI sound card.



Enable



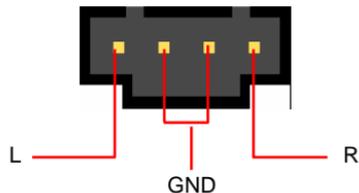
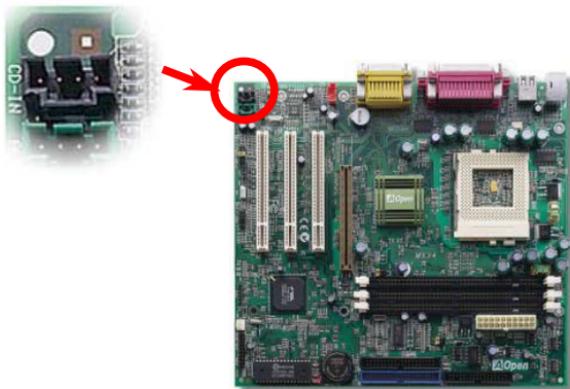
Disable



CD Audio Connector

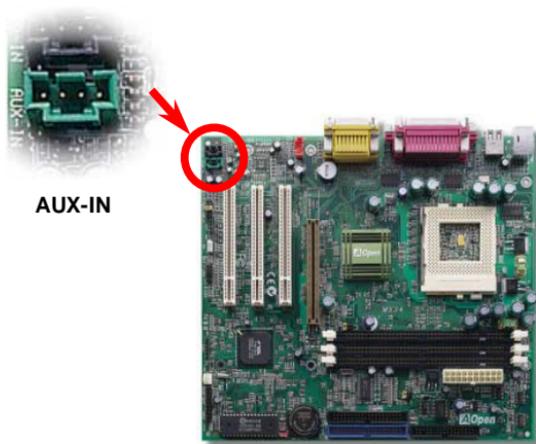
This CD-IN is used to connect CD Audio cable from CDROM or DVD drive to onboard sound.

CD-IN

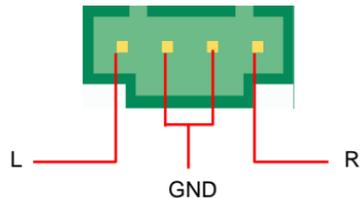


AUX-IN Connector

The AUX-IN connector is used to connect MPEG Audio cable from MPEG card to onboard



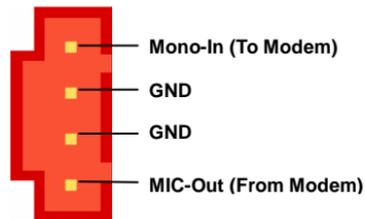
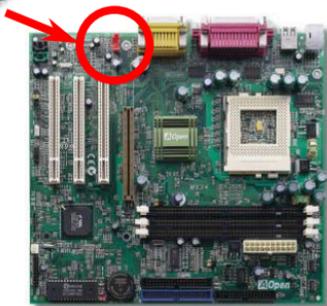
AUX-IN



Modem Audio Connector

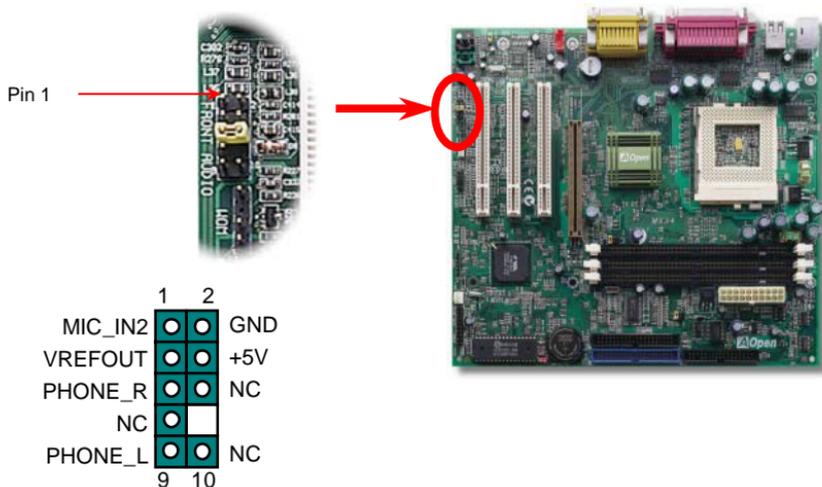
This connector is used to connect Mono In/Mic Out cable from internal modem card to onboard sound circuit. The pin 1-2 is **Mono In**, and the pin 3-4 is **Mic Out**. Please note that there is no standard for this kind of connector yet, only some internal modem cards implement this connector.

Pin 1



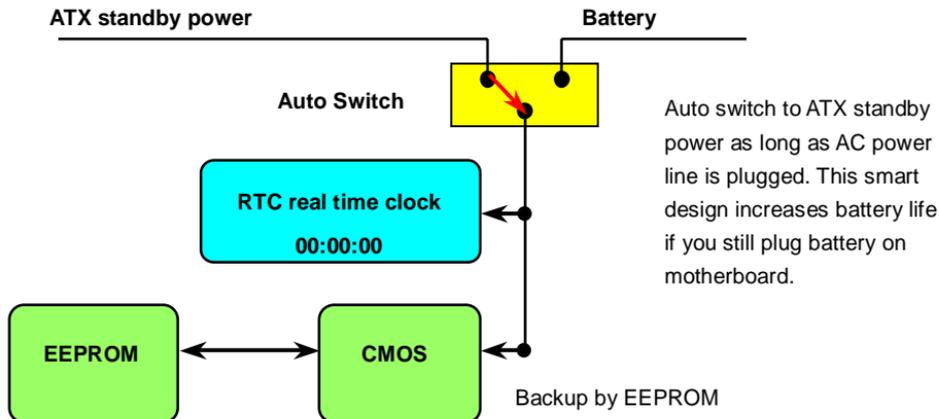
Front Audio Connector

If the housing has been design with an audio port on the front panel, you'll be able to connect onboard audio to front panel through this connector. By the way, please remove the jumper cap from the Front Panel Audio Connector before you connect the cable. Do not remove this yellow jumper cap if housing without an audio port on the front panel.



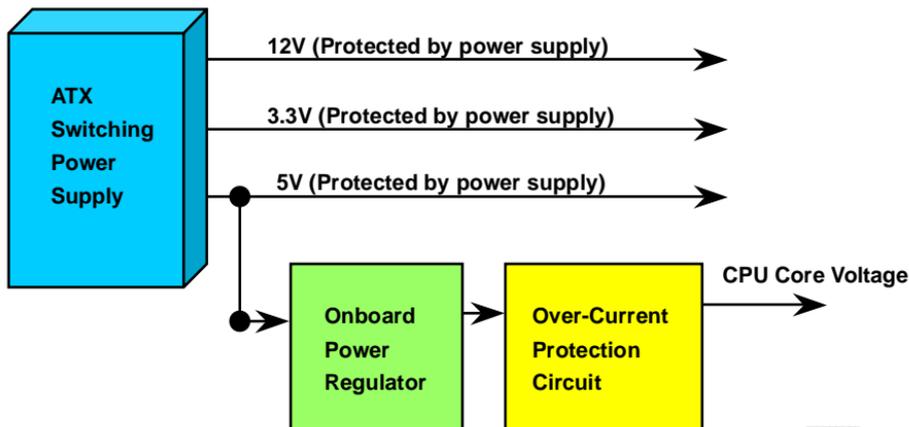
Battery-less and Long Life Design

This Motherboard implements [EEPROM](#) and a special circuit that allows you to save your current CPU and CMOS Setup configurations without the need of a battery. The RTC (real time clock) can also keep running as long as the power cord is plugged. If you lose your CMOS data by accident, you can just reload the CMOS configurations from EEPROM and the system will recover as usual.



Over-current Protection

The Over Current Protection was very popular implemented on ATX 3.3V/5V/12V switching power supply. However, the new generation CPU uses different voltage that has regulator to transfer 5V to CPU voltage (for example, 2.0V), and makes 5V over current protection useless. This motherboard with switching regulator onboard support CPU over-current protection, in conjunction with 3.3V/5V/12V power supply provide the full line over-current protection.

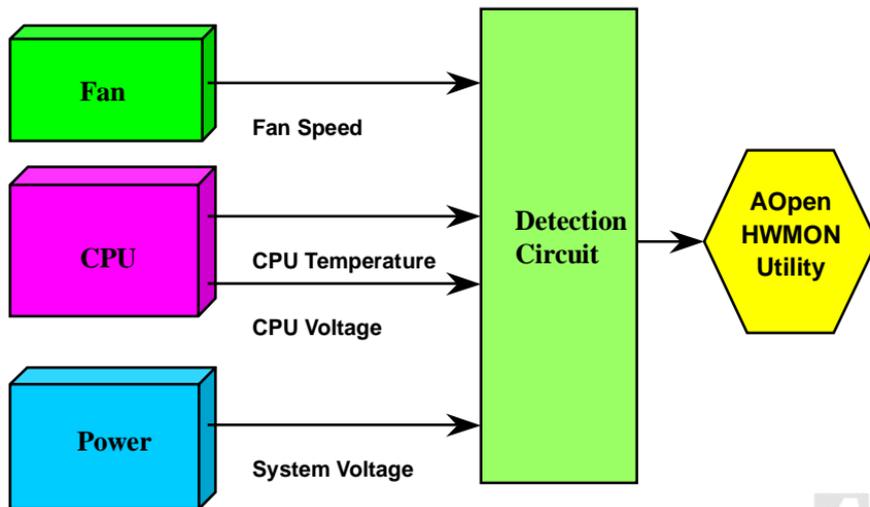




Note: Although we have implemented protection circuit try to prevent any human operating mistake, there is still certain risk that CPU, memory, HDD, add-on cards installed on this motherboard may be damaged because of component failure, human operating error or unknown nature reason. **AOpen cannot guaranty the protection circuit will always work perfectly.**

Hardware Monitoring

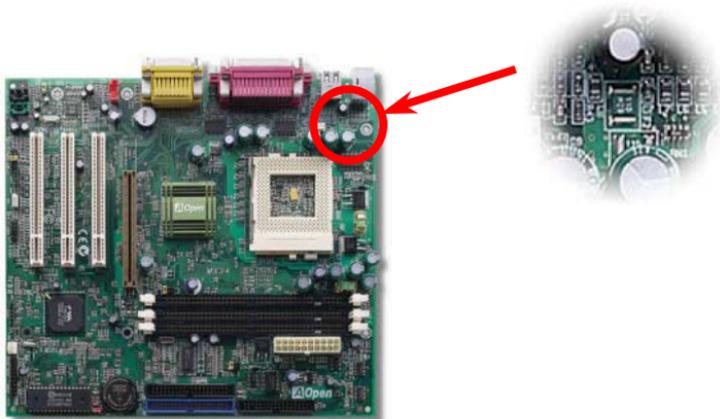
This motherboard implements a hardware monitoring system. As you turn on your system, this smart design will continue to monitor your system's working voltage, fan status and CPU temperature. If any of these system's status go wrong, there will be an alarm through the AOpen [Hardware Monitoring Utility](#) to warn the user.



Resettable Fuse

Traditional motherboard has fuse for Keyboard and [USB](#) port to prevent over-current or shortage. These fuses are soldered onboard that when it is broken (did the job to protect motherboard), user still cannot replace it and the motherboard is still malfunction.

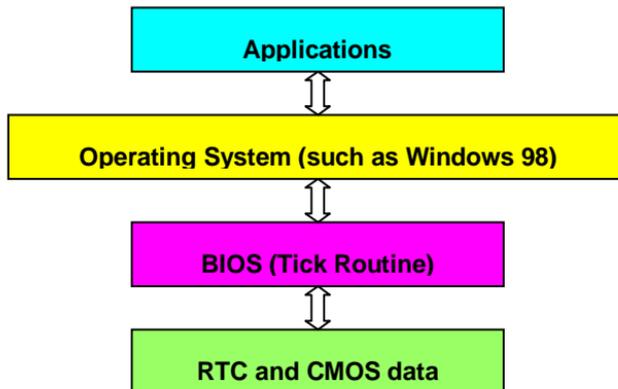
With expensive Resettable Fuse, the motherboard can back to normal function after fuse did the protection job.



Year 2000 (Y2K)

Y2K is basically a problem of the identification of year code. To save storage space, traditional software uses only two digits for year identification. For example, 98 for 1998 and 99 for 1999, but 00 will be confused with 1900 and 2000.

There is an RTC circuit (Real Time Clock) in conjunction with 128 bytes of CMOS RAM data in the chipset of the motherboard. The RTC has only two digits and the CMOS has another 2 digits. Unfortunately, this circuit's behavior is like this 1997 → 1998 → 1999 → 1900, that means it may have the Y2K problem. Below is a diagram of how applications work with the OS, BIOS and RTC. In order to keep the best compatibility in the PC industry there is a rule that applications must call the OS to get services and OS must call the BIOS, and then only BIOS is allowed to access the hardware (RTC) directly.



There is a Tick Routine (that goes live around every 50m sec) in the BIOS to keep record of date/time information. In general the BIOS, this Tick Routine does not update the CMOS every time because the CMOS is a very slow device which degrades system performance. The Tick Routine of the AOpen BIOS has 4 digits for year coding, as long as applications and the operating system follow the rule to get date/time information. There will be no Y2K problem (such as NSTL's test program). But unfortunately again, we found some test programs (such as Checkit 98) accesses RTC/CMOS directly. **This motherboard has hardware Y2K checking and protection that ensures risk free operation.**

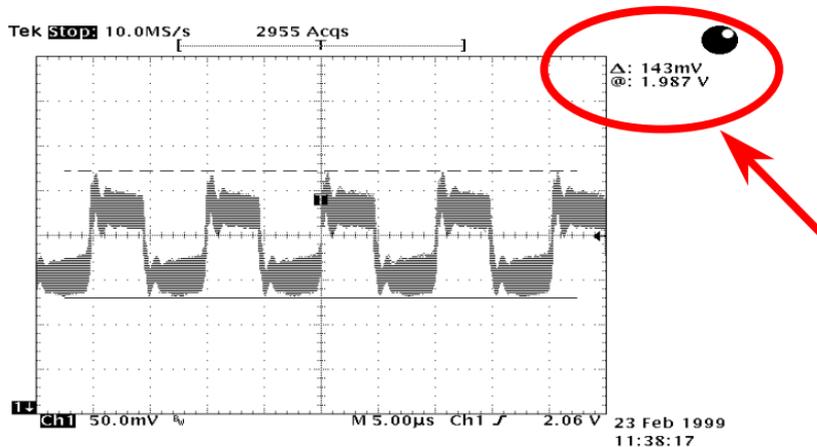
1500uF Low ESR Capacitor

The quality of low ESR capacitor (Low Equivalent Series Resistance) during high frequency operation is very important for stability of CPU power. The location of where to put these capacitors is another know-how that requires experience and detail calculation.

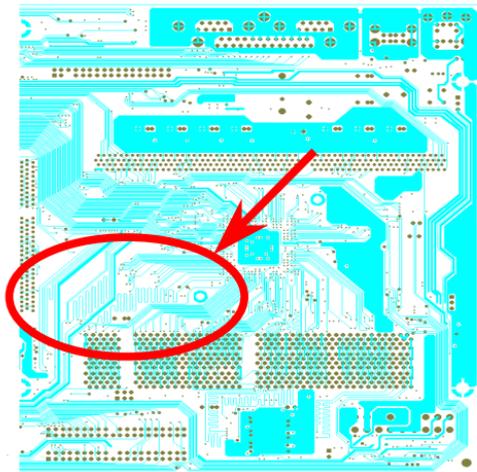
Not only that, this motherboard implements **Low ESR capacitors**, which is much larger than normal (1000uF) and provide better stability for CPU power.



The power circuit of the CPU core voltage must be checked to ensure system stability for high speed CPUs (such as the new Pentium III, or when overclocking). A typical CPU core voltage is 2.0V, so a good design should control voltage between 1.860V and 2.140V. That is, the transient must be below 280mV. Below is a timing diagram captured by a Digital Storage Scope, it shows the voltage transient is only 143mV even when maximum 18A current is applied.



Layout (Frequency Isolation Wall)



Note: This diagram for example only, it may not be exactly the same as this motherboard.

For high frequency operation, especially overclocking, layout is the most important factor to make sure chipset and CPU working in stable condition. The layout of this motherboard implements AOpen's unique design called "Frequency Isolation Wall". Separating each critical portion of motherboard into regions where each region operates in a same or similar frequency range to avoid cross talk and frequency interference between each region's operations and condition. The trace length and route must be calculated carefully. For example, the clock trace must be equal length (not necessarily as short as possible) so that clock skew will be controlled within few a pico second ($1/10^{12}$ Sec)

Driver and Utility

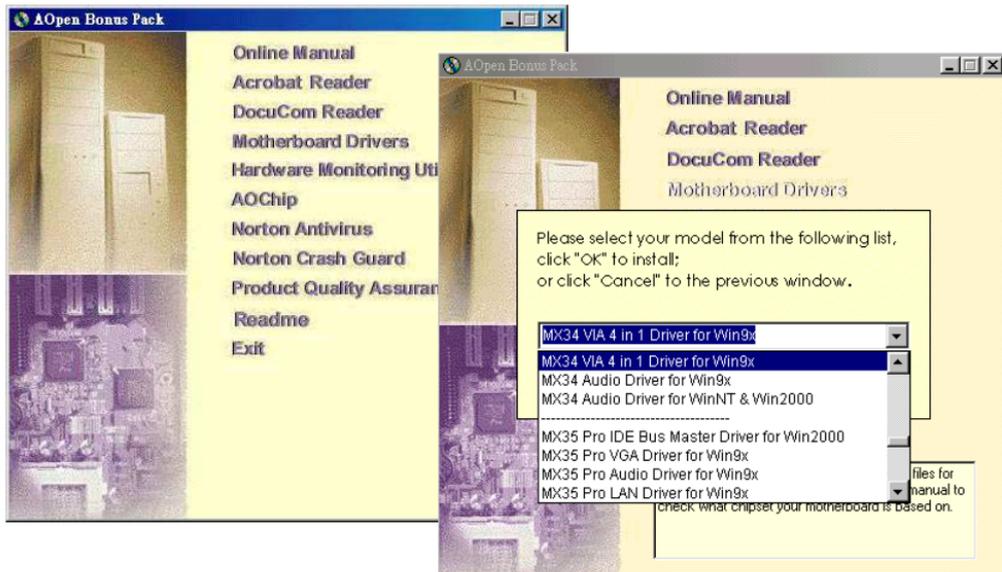
There are motherboard drivers and utilities included in [AOpen Bonus CD disc](#). You don't need to install all of them in order to boot your system. But after you finish the hardware installation, you have to install your operation system first (such as Windows 98) before you can install any drivers or utilities. Please refer to your operation system's installation guide.



Note: Please follow recommended procedure to install [Windows 95](#) and [Windows 98](#).

Autorun Menu from Bonus CD Disc

You can use the autorun menu of Bonus CD disc. Choose the utility and driver and select model name.



Installing Windows 95

1. First, don't install any add-on card except [AGP](#) card.
2. Install Windows 95 OSR2 v2.1, 1212 or 1214 version and later with USB support. Otherwise, you need to install USBSUPP.EXE.
3. Install the [VIA 4 in 1 driver](#), which includes VIA AGP Vxd driver, VIA ATAPI Vendor Support driver and VIA registry (INF) program.
4. Finally, Install other add-on cards and their drivers.

Installing Windows 98

1. First, don't install any add-on card except [AGP](#) card.
2. Enable USB Controller in BIOS Setup > Advanced Chipset Features > [USB Controller](#), to make BIOS fully capable of controlling IRQ assignment.
3. Install Window 98 into your system.
4. Install the [VIA 4 in 1 driver](#), which includes VIA AGP Vxd driver, IRQ Routing, VIA ATAPI Vendor Support driver and VIA registry (INF) program.
5. Finally, Install other add-on cards and their drivers.

Installing Windows 98 SE, Windows ME & Windows2000

If you are using Windows® 98 Second Edition, Windows® Millennium Edition or Windows® 2000, you do not need to install the 4-in-1 driver as the IRQ Routing Driver and the ACPI Registry are already incorporated into the operating system. Users with Windows® 98 SE may update the VIA Registry INF and AGP drivers by installing them individually.

Please refer to [VIA Technologies Inc.](http://www.via.com) for latest version of 4 in 1 driver:

[http://www.via.com/](http://www.via.com)

<http://www.via.com/drivers/4in1420.exe>

Installing VIA 4 in 1 Driver

You can install the VIA 4 in 1 driver ([IDE Bus master](#) (For Windows NT use), VIA ATAPI Vendor Support Driver, VIA [AGP](#), IRQ Routing Driver (For Windows 98 use), VIA Registry (INF) Driver) from the Bonus Pack CD disc Autorun menu.

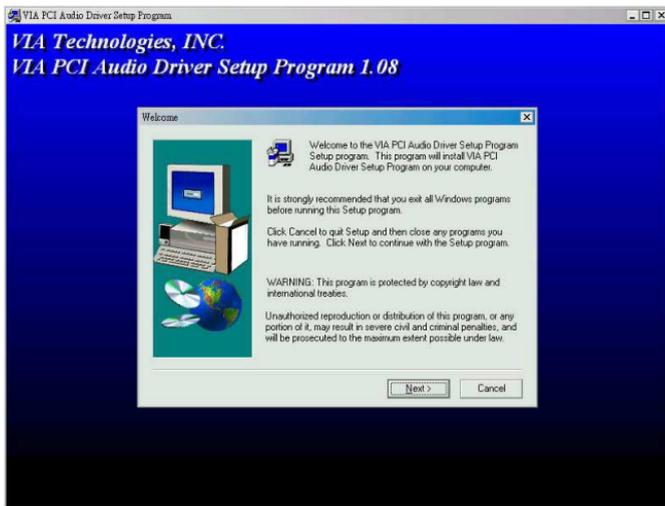


Note: Installing this Bus Master IDE driver may cause Suspend to Hard Drive failure.

Warning: If you want to uninstall the VIA AGP Vxd driver, please remove the AGP card driver first. Otherwise, the screen may go black at rebooting after the un-installation.

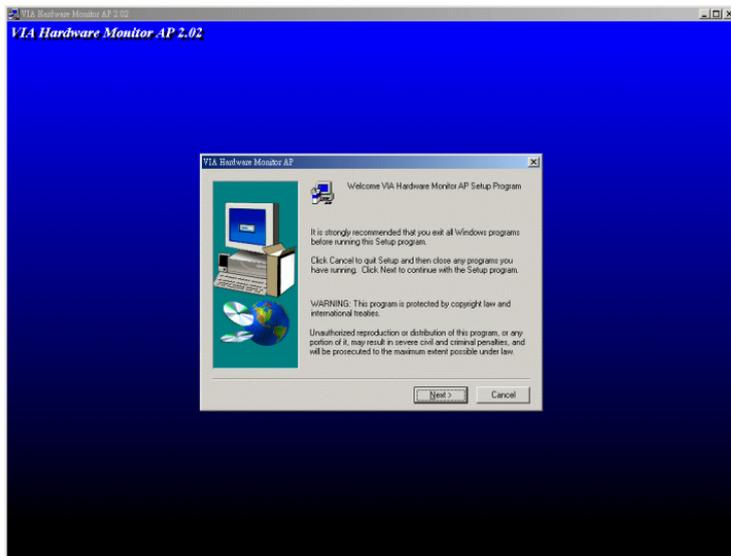
Installing Onboard Sound Driver

If this motherboard comes with an AD 1885 AC97 CODEC, you can find the audio driver from the Bonus Pack CD disc autorun menu.



Installing Hardware Monitoring Utility

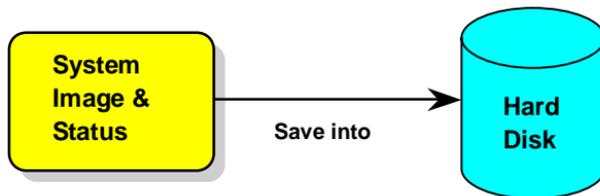
You can install Hardware Monitoring Utility to monitor CPU temperature, fans and system voltage. The hardware monitoring function is automatically implemented by the BIOS and utility software, no hardware installation is needed.



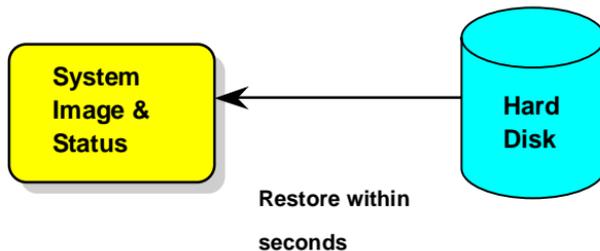
ACPI Suspend to Hard Drive

[ACPI](#) Suspend to Hard Drive is basically controlled by Windows operation system. It saves your current work (system status, memory and screen image) into hard disk, and then the system can be totally power off. Next time, when power is on, you can resume your original work directly from hard disk within few seconds without go through the Windows booting process and run your application again. If your memory is 64MB, normally, you need to reserve at least 64MB HDD space to save your memory image.

When go into Suspend:



When power-on next time:



System Requirement

1. **AOZVHDD.EXE 1.30b** or later.
2. Delete **config.sys** and **autoexec.bat**.

Fresh installation of Windows 98 on a new system

1. Execute "**Setup.exe /p j**" to install Windows 98
2. After Windows 98's installation is complete, go to the **Control Panel > Power Management**.
 - a. Set **Power Schemes > System Standby** to "Never".
 - b. Click on "Hibernate" and select "Enable Hibernate Support" then "Apply".
 - c. Click on the "Advanced" tab, you'll see "Hibernate" on "Power Buttons". Note that this option will only be seen after step b mentioned above has been completed, otherwise only "Standby" and "Shutdown" will be shown. Select "Hibernate" and "Apply".
1. Clean boot into DOS and run AOZVHDD utility.
 - a. If you assign the whole disk to your Win 98 system (FAT 16 or FAT 32), please run "**aozvhd /c /file**". Please remember sufficient free space has to be reserved in the disk, e.g. if you have 64 MB DRAM and 16 MB VGA card installed, the system needs at least 80 MB free space. The utility will locate the space automatically.

- b. If you assign an individual partition for Win 98, please run "**aozvhd /c /partition**". Of course, the system needs to provide unformatted an empty partition.
2. Reboot system.
3. You've already implemented ACPI Suspend to-Hard Drive. Click "**Start > Shut Down > Standby**" then the screen will go off immediately. And 1 minute or so will be taken for the system to save what's in the memory to the hard drive; the larger the memory size the longer this process will take.

Changing from APM to ACPI (Windows 98 only)

1. Run "Regedit.exe"

- a. Go through the following path

HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE

SOFTWARE

MICROSOFT

WINDOWS

CURRENT VERSION

DETECT

- b. Select "ADD Binary" and name it as "**ACPIOPTION**".
- c. Right click and select Modify, add "01" after "0000" to make it "0000 01".
- d. Save changes.

2. Select "Add New Hardware" under Control Panel. Allow Windows 98 to detect new hardware. (It will find "**ACPI BIOS**" and remove "**Plug and Play BIOS**")

3. Reboot system.

4. Clean boot into DOS and run "AOZVHDD.EXE /C /File"

Changing from ACPI to APM

1. Run "Regedit.exe"

- a. Go through the following path

HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE

SOFTWARE

MICROSOFT

WINDOWS

CURRENT VERSION

DETECT

ACPI OPTION

- b. Right click and select "Modify, change "01" to "00" to make it "0000 02".



Tip: "02" means Windows 98 is ACPI acknowledged but the ACPI function is disabled.

- c. Save changes.

2. Select "Add New Hardware" under Control Panel. Allow Windows 98 to detect new hardware. (It will find "**Plug and Play BIOS**" and **remove "ACPI BIOS"**)
3. Reboot system.
4. Run "Add New Hardware" again and it will find "Advanced Power Management Resource".
5. Click "OK".

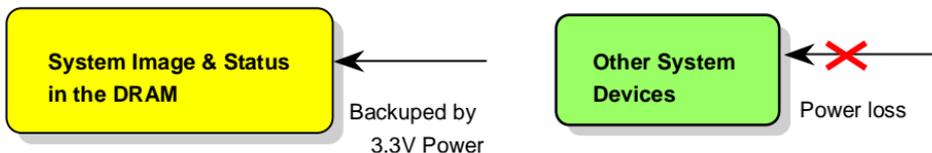


Tip: Currently we found only ATI 3D Rage Pro AGP card would support ACPI suspend to disk. Please refer to AOpen web site for latest update.

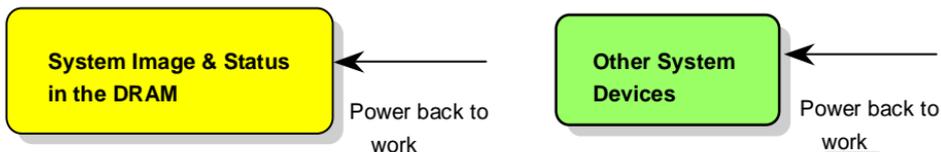
ACPI Suspend to RAM (STR)

This motherboard supports ACPI Suspend to RAM function. With this function, you can resume your original work directly from DRAM without going through the Windows 98 booting process and run your application again. Suspend to DRAM saves your current work in the system memory, it is faster than Suspend to Hard Drive but requires power supplied to DRAM, while Suspend to Hard Drive requires no power.

When go into Suspend:



When power-on next time:



To implement ACPI Suspend to DRAM, please follow the procedures as below:

System Requirement

1. An ACPI OS is required. Currently, Windows 98 is the only choice. Please refer to [ACPI Suspend to Hard Drive](#) of how to setup Windows 98 ACPI mode.
2. The VIA 4 in 1 Driver must have been installed properly.

Procedures

1. Changed the following BIOS settings.

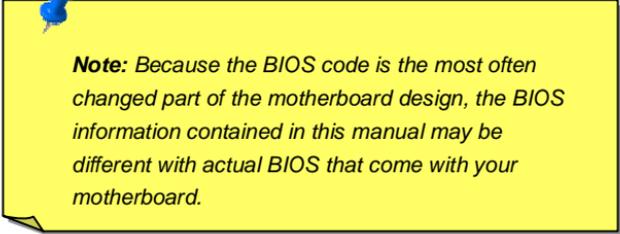
BIOS Setup > Power Management > [ACPI Function](#) : Enabled

BIOS Setup > Power Management > [ACPI Suspend Type](#) :S3.

2. Go to Control Panel > Power Management. Set "Power Buttons" to "Standby".
3. Press power button or standby button to wake up the system.

AWARD BIOS

System parameters can be modified by going into [BIOS](#) Setup menu, this menu allows you to configure the system parameters and save the configuration into the 128 byte CMOS area, (normally in the RTC chip or in the main chipset). [To enter to BIOS setup menu](#), press when [POST \(Power-On Self Test\)](#) screen is shown on your monitor.



Note: Because the BIOS code is the most often changed part of the motherboard design, the BIOS information contained in this manual may be different with actual BIOS that come with your motherboard.

How To Use Award™ BIOS Setup Program

Generally, you can use the arrow keys to highlight items that you want to choose, then press <Enter> key to select, and use the <Page Up> and <Page Down> key to change setting value. You also can press <F1> key for help and press <Esc> key to quit Award™ BIOS setup program. The following table provides details about how to use keyboard in the Award™ BIOS setup program. By the way, all products of AOpen also provides a special function in the BIOS setup, you can press <F3> key selecting preferred menu language to display.

Key	Description
Page Up or +	Changing setting to next value or increase the value.
Page Down or -	Changing setting to previous value or decrease value.
Enter	Select the item.
Esc	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. In main menu: Quit and don't save any change.2. In sub menu: Exit current menu to main menu.
Up Arrow	Highlight previous item.
Down Arrow	Highlight next item.

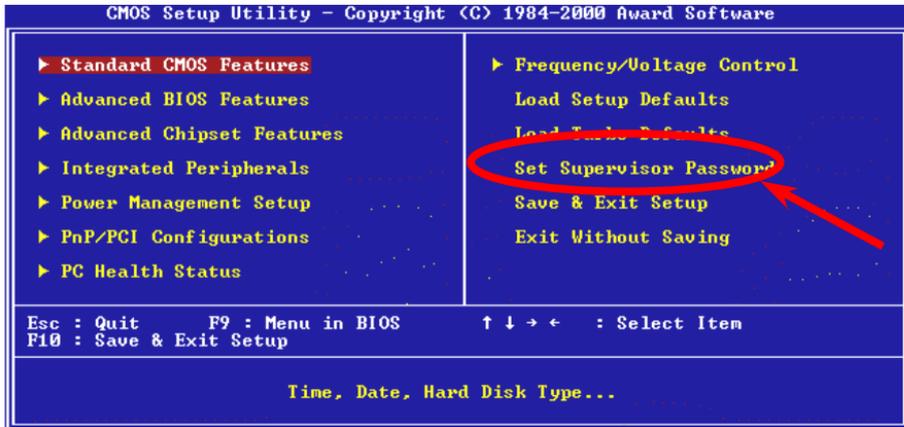
Key	Description
Left Arrow	Move the light bar to left side of menu.
Right Arrow	Move the light bar to right side of menu.
F1	Get menu or item help description.
F3	Changing menu language.
F5	Load previous setting value from CMOS.
F6	Load fail-save setting value from CMOS.
F7	Load turbo setting value from CMOS.
F10	Save changed setting and exit setup program.



Note: AOpen always dedicates to give users a more friendly computer system. Now, we include all function descriptions of BIOS setup program into the BIOS Flash ROM. When you select one function of BIOS setup program, the function description will appeared at right side of screen. Hence, you don't need read this manual while you changing the BIOS setting.

How To Enter BIOS Setup

After you finish the setting of jumpers and connect correct cables. Power on and enter the BIOS Setup, press during POST (Power-On Self Test). Choose "Load Setup Defaults" for recommended optimal performance.



Warning: Please avoid of using "Load Turbo Defaults", unless you are sure your system components (CPU, DRAM, HDD, etc.) are good enough for turbo setting.

BIOS Upgrade

By flashing your motherboard, you agree to accept the possibility of BIOS flash failure. If you motherboard is working and is stable, and there are no major bugs that were fixed by a latter BIOS revision, we recommend that you DO NOT try to upgrade your BIOS.

By doing so, you are taking a risk of BIOS flash failure. If you indeed intent on upgrading, PLEASE BE SURE to use the right BIOS revision for the right motherboard model.

AOpen Easy Flash is a little different than traditional flash method. The [BIOS](#) binary file and flash routine are linked together and you simply run a single commend to complete the flash process.



Caution: AOpen Easy Flash BIOS programs are designed to be compatible with the Award BIOS. At the date of this note, AOpen Easy Flash BIOS programs are not available for AMI BIOS. AMI BIOS appears mostly only on old 486 boards and some early Pentium boards. Please be sure to view the README compressed inside the BIOS package before upgrading, and follow upgrade instructions carefully. This will minimize the chance of flash failures.

Below are the steps for easy flashing procedures: (applies for Award BIOS ONLY)

1. Download new BIOS upgrade [zip](#) file from AOpen's web site.
For example, MX34102.ZIP.
2. Run shareware PKUNZIP (<http://www.pkware.com/>) which supports miscellaneous operation systems to extract the binary BIOS file and the flash utility.
Or Winzip (<http://www.winzip.com/>) in Windows environment.
3. Save the unzipped file into a bootable floppy disk.
For example, MX34102.BIN & MX34102.EXE
4. Reboot the system to DOS mode without loading any memory handler (such as EMM386) or device driver. It needs around 520K free memory spaces.
5. Execute A:> MX34102 and the program will do the rest of it.

DO NOT turn off the power during FLASH PROCESS until you are asked to!!

6. Reboot system and press to [enter BIOS setup](#). Choose "[Load Setup Defaults](#)", then "[Save & Exit Setup](#)". Done!



Warning: *The new BIOS upgrade will permanently replace your original BIOS's settings and PnP information when flashing. You may need to reconfigure your BIOS setting and re-install Win95/Win98 as well as your add-on cards, so that your system can go back to work as normal.*

Overclocking

As a leading manufacturer in motherboard industry, AOpen always listens to what customers want and develop products to fit different user's requirements. Reliability, compatibility, leading technology and friendly features are our basic goals when designing motherboards. Other than above mentioned design criteria, there are power users who are always seeking to push the limitation of the system performance by overclocking which we call them "Overclocker".

This section is dedicated to Overclockers.

This high performance motherboard is designed for maximum **133MHz** CPU bus clock. But it comes with clock generator of **150MHz** when we design it to accommodate future CPU bus clock. Our lab test results shown that **150MHz** is achievable when proper setting and qualified components were presented.



Warning: *The design of this product follows CPU and chipset vendor's design guideline. Any attempts to push beyond product specification are not recommended and you are taking your own risk to damage your system or important data. Before doing overclocking, you must make sure your components are able to tolerate such abnormal setting, especially CPU, memory, hard disks, and AGP VGA cards.*



Tip: *Note that overclocking may also cause thermal problem. Please make sure that the cooling fan and the heatsink were adequate to dissipate excessive heat that's generated by overclocking the CPU.*

VGA Card & Hard Disk

VGA and HDD is key components for overclocking, for your reference, the following list are what have been successful overclocked in our lab. Please note that AOpen can not guaranty they can be successful overclocked again. Please check the **Available Vendor List (AVL)** by link to our official website.

VGA: <http://www.aopen.com.tw/tech/report/overclk/mb/vga-oc.htm>

HDD: <http://www.aopen.com.tw/tech/report/overclk/mb/hdd-oc.htm>

Glossary

AC97

Basically, AC97 specification separates sound/modem circuit to two parts, digital processor and a [CODEC](#) for analog I/O, they are linked by AC97 link bus. Since digital processor can be put into motherboard main chipset, the cost of sound/modem onboard solution can be reduced.

ACPI (Advanced Configuration & Power Interface)

ACPI is the power management specification of PC97 (1997). It intends to save more power by taking full control of power management to operating system and bypass [BIOS](#). The chipset or super I/O chip needs to provide standard register interface to operating system (such as Windows 98). This is a bit similar as the [PnP](#) register interface. ACPI defines ATX momentary soft power switch to control the power state transition.

AGP (Accelerated Graphic Port)

AGP is a bus interface targeted for high-performance 3D graphic. AGP supports only memory read/write operation and single-master single-slave one-to-one only. AGP uses both rising and falling edge of the 66MHz clock, for 2X AGP, the data transfer rate is $66\text{MHz} \times 4\text{byte} \times 2 = 528\text{MB/s}$. AGP is now moving to 4X mode, $66\text{MHz} \times 4\text{byte} \times 4 = 1056\text{MB/s}$. AOpen is the first company to

support 4X AGP motherboards by both AX6C (Intel 820) and MX64/AX64 (VIA 694x), started from Oct 1999.

AMR (Audio/Modem Riser)

The [CODEC](#) circuit of AC97 sound/modem solution can be put on motherboard or put on a riser card (AMR card) that connects to motherboard through AMR connector.

AOpen Bonus Pack CD

A disc bundled with AOpen motherboard product, there are motherboard drivers, Acrobat Reader for [PDF](#) online manual and other useful utilities.

APM

Unlike [ACPI](#), BIOS controls most APM power management functions. AOpen Suspend to Hard Drive is a good example of APM power management.

ATA/66

ATA/66 uses both rising edge and falling edge but doubles [UDMA/33](#) transfer rate. The data transfer rate is 4 times of the PIO mode 4 or DMA mode 2, 16.6MB/s x4 = 66MB/s. To use ATA/66, you need special ATA/66 IDE cable.

ATA/100

ATA/100 is a new IDE specification under developing. ATA/100 uses both rising edge and falling edge as [ATA/66](#) but clock cycle time is reduced to 40ns. The data transfer rate is $(1/40\text{ns}) \times 2 \text{ bytes} \times 2 = 100\text{MB/s}$. To use ATA/100, you need special 80-wire IDE cable, the same as ATA/66.

BIOS (Basic Input/Output System)

BIOS is a set of assembly routine/program that reside in [EPROM](#) or [Flash ROM](#). BIOS controls Input/output devices and other hardware devices of motherboard. In general, to provide hardware independent portability, operation system and drivers is required to access BIOS without directly access hardware devices.

Bus Master IDE (DMA mode)

The traditional PIO (Programmable I/O) IDE requires the CPU to involve in all the activities of the IDE access including waiting for the mechanical events. To reduce the workload of the CPU, the bus master IDE device transfers data from/to memory without interrupting CPU, and releases CPU to operate concurrently while data is transferring between memory and IDE device. You need the bus master IDE driver and the bus master IDE HDD to support bus master IDE mode.

CODEC (Coding and Decoding)

Normally, CODEC means a circuit that can do digital to analog conversion and also the analog to digital conversion. It is part of [AC97](#) sound/modem solution.

DIMM (Dual In Line Memory Module)

DIMM socket has total 168-pin and supports 64-bit data. It can be single or double side, the golden finger signals on each side of PCB are different, that is why it was called Dual In Line. Almost all DIMMs are made by [SDRAM](#), which operate at 3.3V. Note that some old DIMMs are made by FPM/[EDO](#) and only operate at 5V. Do not confuse them with SDRAM DIMM..

ECC (Error Checking and Correction)

The ECC mode needs 8 ECC bits for 64-bit data. Each time memory is accessed, ECC bits are updated and checked by a special algorithm. The ECC algorithm has the ability to detect double-bit error and automatically correct single-bit error while parity mode can only detect single-bit error.

EDO (Extended Data Output) Memory

The EDO DRAM technology is actually very similar to FPM (Fast Page Mode). Unlike traditional FPM that tri-states the memory output data to start the pre-charge activity, EDO DRAM holds the memory data valid until the next memory access cycle, that is similar to pipeline effect and reduces one clock state.

EEPROM (Electronic Erasable Programmable ROM)

Also known as E²PROM. Both EEPROM and [Flash ROM](#) can be re-programmed by electronic signals, but the interface technology is different. Size of EEPROM is much smaller than flash ROM, AOpen motherboard uses EEPROM for jumper-less and battery-less design.

EPROM (Erasable Programmable ROM)

Traditional motherboard stores BIOS code in EPROM. EPROM can only be erased by ultra-violet (UV) light. If BIOS has to be upgraded, you need to remove EPROM from motherboard, clear by UV light, re-program, and then insert back.

FCC DoC (Declaration of Conformity)

The DoC is component certification standard of FCC EMI regulations. This standard allows DIY component (such as motherboard) to apply DoC label separately without a shielding of housing.

FC-PGA

FC means Flip Chip, FC-PGA is a new package of Intel for Pentium III CPU. It can plug into SKT370 socket, but require motherboard to add some signals on socket 370. That is, the motherboard needs to be redesigned. Intel is going to ship FC-PGA 370 CPU and phase out slot1 CPU.

Flash ROM

Flash ROM can be re-programmed by electronic signals. It is easier for BIOS to upgrade by a flash utility, but it is also easier to be infected by virus. Because of increase of new functions, BIOS size is increased from 64KB to 256KB (2M bit). AOpen AX5T is the first board to implement 256KB (2Mbit) Flash ROM. Now flash ROM size is moving to 4M bit on AX6C (Intel 820) and MX3W (Intel 810) motherboard.

FSB (Front Side Bus) Clock

FSB Clock means CPU external bus clock.

CPU internal clock = CPU FSB Clock x CPU Clock Ratio

I2C Bus

See [SMBus](#).

P1394

P1394 (IEEE 1394) is a standard of high-speed serial peripheral bus. Unlike low or medium speed [USB](#), P1394 supports 50 to 1000Mbit/s and can be used for video camera, disk and LAN.

Parity Bit

The parity mode uses 1 parity bit for each byte, normally it is even parity mode, that is, each time the memory data is updated, parity bit will be adjusted to have even count "1" for each byte. When next time, if memory is read with odd number of "1", the parity error is occurred and this is called single bit error detection.

PBSRAM (Pipelined Burst SRAM)

For Socket 7 CPU, one burst data read requires four QWord (Quad-word, 4x16 = 64 bits). PBSRAM only needs one address decoding time and automatically sends the remaining QWords to CPU according to a predefined sequence. Normally, it is 3-1-1-1, total 6 clocks, which is faster than

asynchronous SRAM. PDSRAM is often used on L2 (level 2) cache of Socket 7 CPU. Slot 1 and Socket 370 CPU do not need PDSRAM.

PC100 DIMM

[SDRAM](#) DIMM that supports 100MHz CPU [FSB](#) bus clock.

PC133 DIMM

[SDRAM](#) DIMM that supports 133MHz CPU [FSB](#) bus clock.

PDF Format

A file format for electronic document, PDF format is independent from platform, you can read PDF file under Windows, Unix, Linux, Mac ... with different PDF reader. You can also read PDF file by web browser such as IE and Netscape, note that you need to install PDF plug-in first (Included in Acrobat Reader).

PnP (Plug and Play)

The PnP specification suggests a standard register interface for both BIOS and operating system (such as Windows 95). These registers are used by BIOS and operating system to configure system resource and prevent any conflicts. The IRQ/DMA/Memory will be automatically allocated by PnP BIOS or operating system. Currently, almost all the PCI cards and most ISA cards are already PnP compliant.

POST (Power-On Self Test)

The BIOS self test procedure after power-on, sometimes, it is the first or the second screen shown on your monitor during system boot.

RDRAM (Rambus DRAM)

Rambus is a memory technology that uses large burst mode data transfer. Theoretically, the data transfer should be high than [SDRAM](#). RDRAM is cascaded in channel operation. For Intel 820, only one RDRAM channel is supported, 16-bit data per channel, and this channel may have maximum 32 RDRAM devices, no matter how many [RIMM](#) sockets.

RIMM

184-pin memory module that supports [RDRAM](#) memory technology. A RIMM memory module may contain up to maximum of 16 RDRAM devices.

SDRAM (Synchronous DRAM)

SDRAM is one of the DRAM technologies that allows DRAM to use the same clock as the CPU host bus ([EDO](#) and FPM are asynchronous and do not have clock signal). It is similar as [PDSRAM](#) to use burst mode transfer. SDRAM comes in 64-bit 168-pin [DIMM](#) and operates at 3.3V. AOpen is the first company to support dual-SDRAM DIMMs onboard (AP5V), from Q1 1996

SIMM (Single In Line Memory Module)

SIMM socket is only 72-pin, and is only single side. The golden finger signals on each side of PCB are identical. That is why it was called Single In Line. SIMM is made by FPM or [EDO](#) DRAM and supports 32-bit data. SIMM had been phased out on current motherboard design.

SMBus (System Management Bus)

SMBus is also called I2C bus. It is a two-wire bus developed for component communication (especially for semiconductor IC). For example, set clock of clock generator for jumper-less motherboard. The data transfer rate of SMBus is only 100Kbit/s, it allows one host to communicate with CPU and many masters and slaves to send/receive message.

SPD (Serial Presence Detect)

SPD is a small ROM or [EEPROM](#) device resided on the [DIMM](#) or [RIMM](#). SPD stores memory module information such as DRAM timing and chip parameters. SPD can be used by [BIOS](#) to decide best timing for this DIMM or RIMM.

Ultra DMA/33

Unlike traditional PIO/DMA mode, which only uses the rising edge of IDE command signal to transfer data. UDMA/33 uses both rising edge and falling edge, the data transfer rate is double of the PIO mode 4 or DMA mode 2.

16.6MB/s x2 = 33MB/s

USB (Universal Serial Bus)

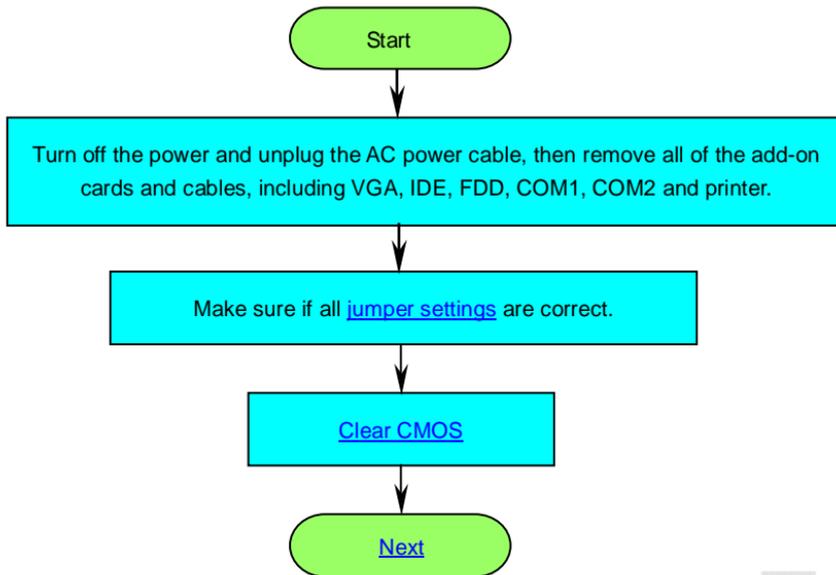
USB is a 4-pin serial peripheral bus that is capable of cascading low/medium speed peripherals (less than 10Mbit/s) such as keyboard, mouse, joystick, scanner, printer and modem. With USB, the traditional complex cables from back panel of your PC can be eliminated.

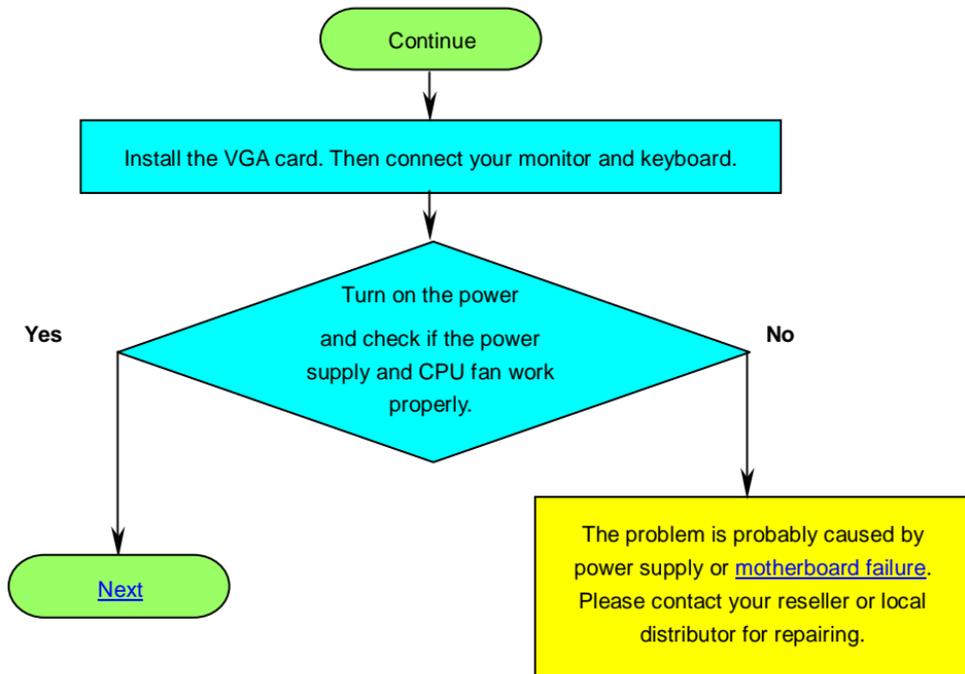
ZIP file

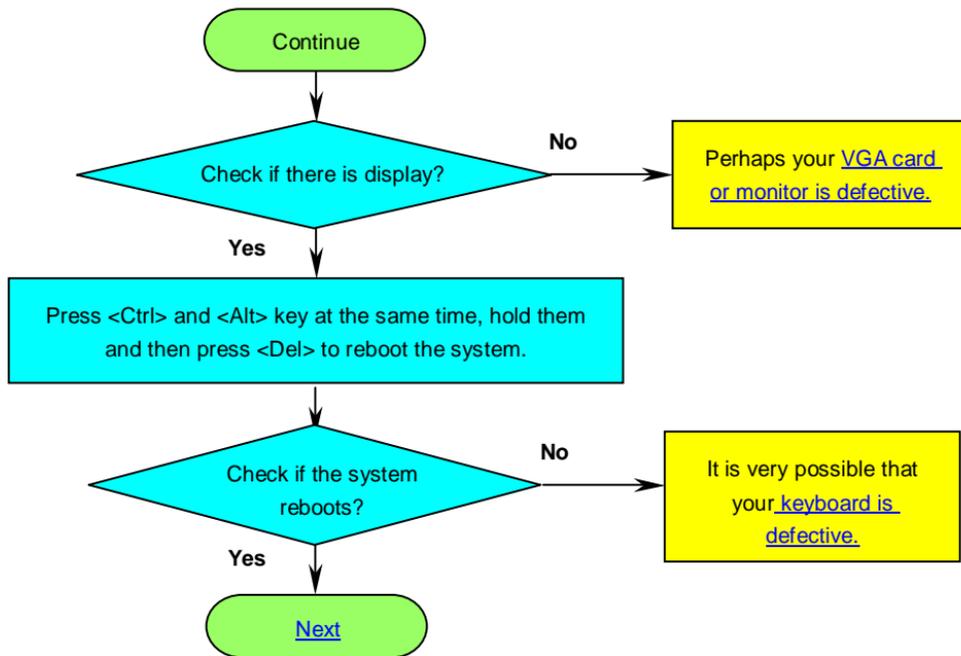
A compressed file format to reduce file size. To unzip file, run shareware PKUNZIP (<http://www.pkware.com/>) for DOS and other operating system or WINZIP (<http://www.winzip.com/>) for windows environment.

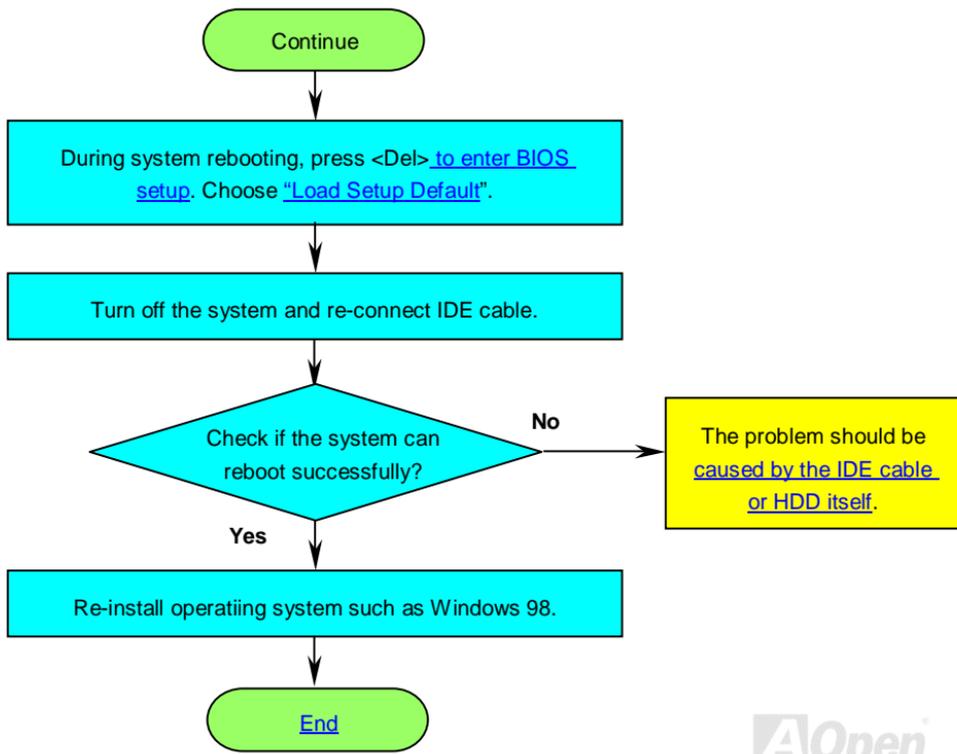


Troubleshooting











Technical Support

Dear Customer,

Thanks for choosing AOpen products. To provide the best and fastest service to our customer is our first priority. However, we receive numerous emails and phone-calls worldwide everyday, it is very hard for us to serve everyone on time. We recommend you follow the procedures below and seek help before contact us. With your help, we can then continue to provide the best quality service to more customers.

Thanks very much for your understanding!

AOpen Technical Supporting Team

1

Online Manual: Please check the manual carefully and make sure the jumper settings and installation procedure are correct.

<http://www.aopen.com.tw/tech/download/manual/default.htm>

2

Test Report: We recommend to choose board/card/device from the compatibility test reports for assembling your PC.

<http://www.aopen.com.tw/tech/report/default.htm>

3

FAQ: The latest FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions) may contain a solution to your problem.

<http://www.aopen.com.tw/tech/faq/default.htm>

4

Download Software: Check out this table to get the latest updated BIOS/utility and drivers.

<http://www.aopen.com.tw/tech/download/default.htm>

5

News Group: Your problem probably had been answered by our support engineer or professional users on the news group.

<http://www.aopen.com.tw/tech/newsgrp/default.htm>

6

Contact Distributors/Resellers: We sell our products through resellers and integrators. They should know your system configuration very well and should be able to solve your problem more efficiently than us. After all, their attitude of service is an important reference for you if next time you want to buy something else from them.

7

Contact Us: Please prepare detail system configuration and error symptom before contacting us. The **part number**, **serial number** and **BIOS version** are also very helpful.

Part Number and Serial Number

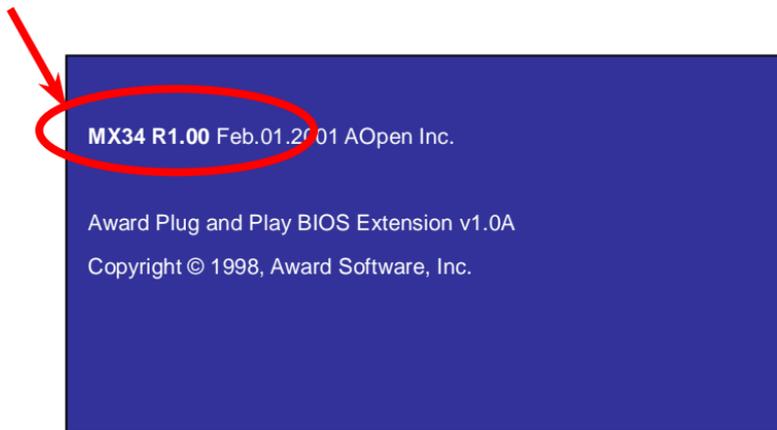
The Part Number and Serial number are printed on bar code label. You can find this bar code label on the outside packing, on ISA/CPU slot or on component side of PCB. For example:



P/N: 91.88110.201 is part number, **S/N: 91949378KN73** is serial number

Model name and BIOS version

Model name and BIOS version can be found on upper left corner of first boot screen ([POST](#) screen).
For example:



MX34 is model name of motherboard, **R1.00** is BIOS version.

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