

Eight Ways to Identify the Counterfeit P2B Motherboard

Dear customers:

First of all, ASUSTeK would like to thank you for the perennial and joyful cooperation among us, and through this we all earn great reputation in the fields of information technology and devices. As we all know, this glorious achievement stands on the basis of excellent quality of our products and credit that ASUSTeK endeavors to maintain. With this effort, we are able to keep our reputation and, of course, reasonable profit. Long ago did us find that some free-riders copied our products and illegally sold these copy products to marketing channels or directly to innocent consumers. Such illicit conduct not only badly injures the benefit of our law-abiding customers and the repute of ASUSTeK's products but hurt consumers' lawful right. In order to stop this disorder of market, ASUSTeK is obliged to provide some discrepant points by which our customers could distinguish the true products from the fake.

Following are the checkpoints that ASUSTeK provides:

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1. Packaging Box:

The fake boards found so far are packed in old style gift boxes now phased-out and no longer in use from the end of Dec. 1998. Graphs below are the comparison of the boxes of a fake and a real one. We point out some differences which might provide our customer with some checkpoints to judge.

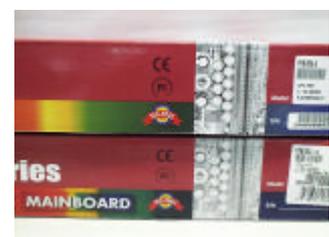
As Graph 1 shows, the fake products still use the elder box, which has been phased out since the end of Jan. 99. The new box is the real one that ASUS now uses. You can easily distinguish. The real box takes away highlight lists, chipset, and other feature descriptions but adds two CPU icons and "MAINBOARD" word. Moreover, the real one's printing is much clearer than that of the fake.



Graph 1

2. View from all sides

Here in Graph 2 present all aspects of the real box and the fake one. In these pictures the real box of ASUSTeK P2B is the upper one. As it shows, the real box is of good printing outcome and you can easily distinguish one from the other.



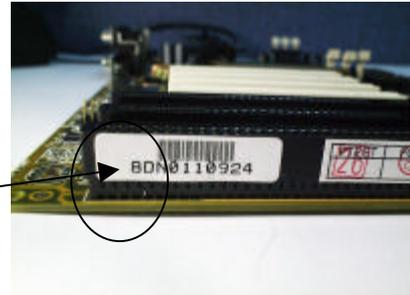
Graph 2

As far as we know, the fake boards' design follows P2B "ver. 1.04". However, the running ASUS P2B is of "ver. 1.10." or higher. They're of the same series name, but there is sure to be some layout design change. Thus, we can tell those fake ones from the true ASUS P2B product. Nevertheless, it is still quite hard for people to tell. We herein point out some layout discrepancies to help our customers dig them out.

3. Fake Board Series number

Graph 3 is the fake board. As you can see, this series number is the same as that printed on the package box, and both of them are wrong and against ASUSTeK's encoding rule, which you could find in our legal declaration.

"8D" is Fake
Graph 3



Graph 4 is the real ASUSTeK P2B motherboard. Its series number encoding is following the rule. We herein ask our customers not to let out our encoding rules so that outlaws may not easily copy it.

Graph 4

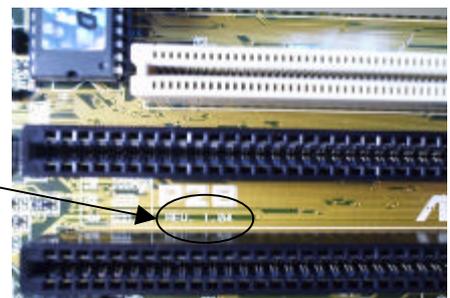


4. Fake Board Version number

This is the fake board. On it we can see its version is of ver. 1.04, which ASUS has no longer shipped to our customers since Dec. 29th, 1998. Therefore, there should be few or none of this version in the market.

"Rev 1.04" is Fake

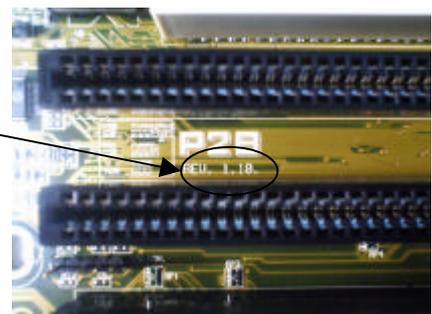
Graph 5



This is the real ASUSTeK P2B motherboard. Its version is of rev. 1.10. or higher., which is shipping to customers now. Please specially pay attention! There is a period following the version number such as "REV. 1.10." .

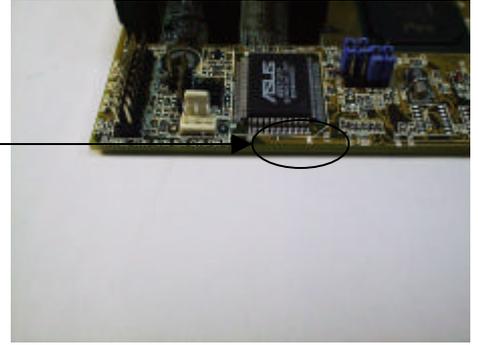
ASUS "Rev 1.10."

Graph 6



5. Fake Board PCB Script

As the picture shows, beside the ASIC are some scripts. However, there's not any printing words beside ASIC on real ASUS P2B.



Graph 7

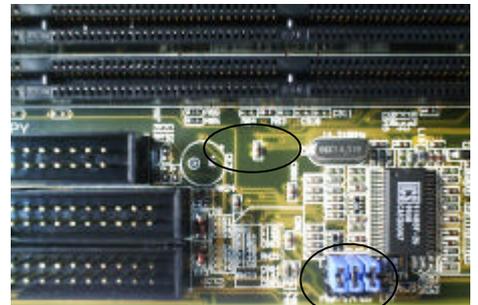
This picture is of the real ASUSTeK P2B motherboard, and we can see no script on it at all.



Graph 8

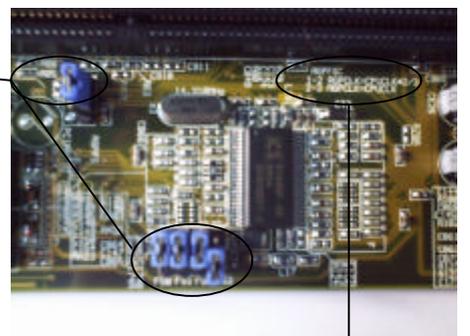
6. Fake Board Bus freq. Jumper

This is the fake board. The most outstanding difference we can see is that the bus frequency jumpers are only three in number, but the real board has four on board. Moreover, the layout near the clock generator is different; for example, there should still be another jumper beside the DIMM slot.



Graph 9

In the picture we can see five jumpers on real board instead of three on the fake boards. What is more, there are an AGP frequency jumper and three lines beside the DIMM slots describing how to adjust the jumper to co-work with the system.



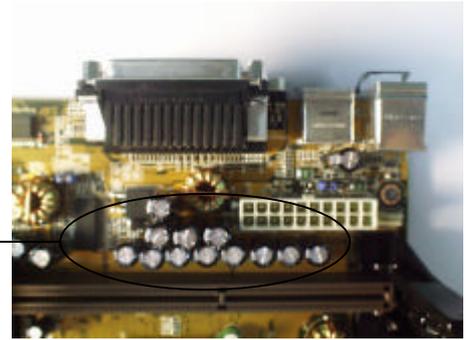
Graph 10

7. Fake Board CPU Slot Layout

This picture of a fake board shows the layout around the CPU slot. Arrangement of capacitors, if compared with the real board, is obviously different.

Fake

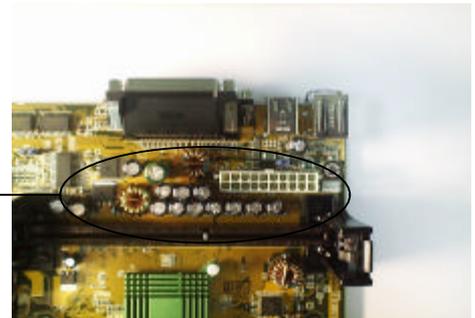
Graph 11



Layout of “ver.1.10.” is a little changed around CPU slot. And we can judge any board by this.

ASUS

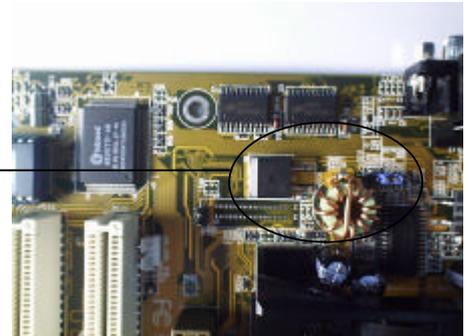
Graph 12



8. Fake Board Multi-I/O layout

In this picture we can see the layout of a fake board around Multi I/O chip, and it is a little different from the real ASUS board. The most obvious difference is the location of the jumper. Please refer to Graph 14 of the real ASUS P2B board on the next page.

Graph 13



In this picture we can see V I/O jumper's location on the real ASUS P2B motherboard.

Graph 14

