

What's Inside Your Computer?

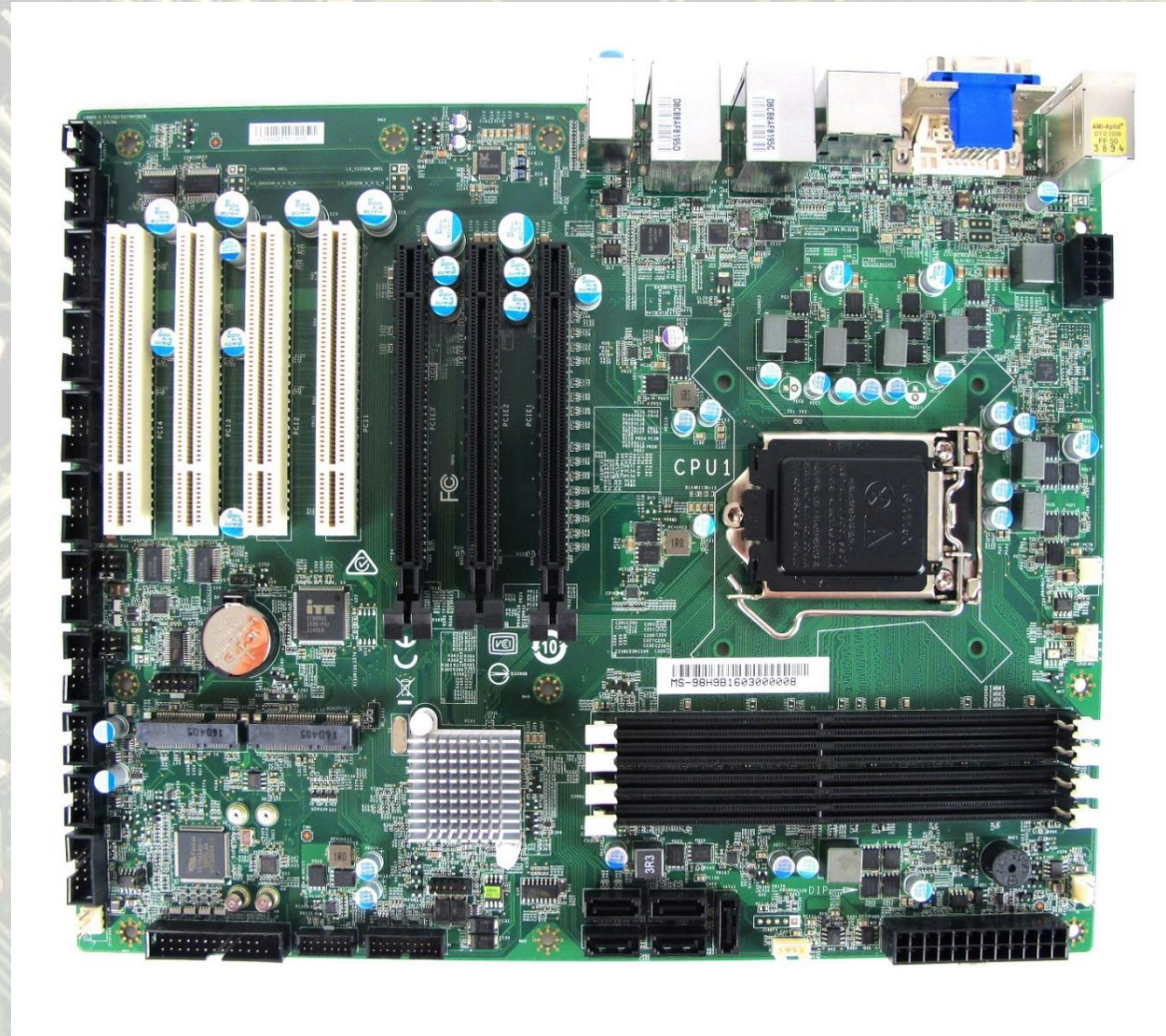


Windsor Senior Computer Users Group August 9, 2021

Your Computer is composed of several components

- Motherboard
- CPU and Fan
- Memory
- Hard Drive
- Power Supply
- Case

Motherboard



Motherboard

Your Motherboard is the basis of your computer. It has several main parts.

- BIOS/UEFI
- Has circuits to connect all the parts
- Holds the CPU
- Has connectors to other devices
- Battery to power the internal clock

Internal Motherboard Connectors

- CPU Socket
- Hard drive controller
- Memory slots
- Expansion slots
- Power Connector

CPU

- The CPU (Central Processing Unit) is the brain of your computer.
- CPUs for computers are made by Intel and AMD.



Memory

- Memory is the workspace for the computer.
- When our computer turns off, the memory contents are lost.



Hard Drive

- The hard drive is long term storage including when the computer is off
- Hard drive has become a term that no longer may reflect the actual technology
- There are currently 3 forms of storage – mechanical, SSD and NVMe



Expansion Slots

- Expansion slots exist to provide the ability to add additional hardware that may not have come with your computer.



Power Supply

- The power supply converts 120 Volt AC from the wall to 3.3, 5 and 12 Volt DC to power the various parts of the computer.
- The Power Supply also includes an exhaust fan to cool the PC.



Optical Drive

- Your computer may include a CD or DVD player. Since software and entertainment tends to be delivered over the Internet, they are becoming less common.



Case

- The case holds all the parts of your computer.

