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GIGABYTE GV-N295-18I-B

GIGABYTE GTX-295 Graphics Card User Manual

Model: GV-N295-18I-B

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1. Introduction

This manual provides essential information for the installation, operation, and maintenance of your**GIGABYTE GeForce GTX 295 Graphics Card** (Model: GV-N295-18I-B). This high-performance graphics card is designed to deliver exceptional visual experiences for gaming and multimedia applications.
Key features include:

- Powered by NVIDIA GeForce GTX 295 GPU.
- Supports PCI Express 2.0 interface for high-speed data transfer.
- Full compatibility with Microsoft DirectX 10 and OpenGL 2.1 for advanced graphics rendering.
- Equipped with NVIDIA PureVideo HD technology for superior video playback quality.
- Features versatile output options including dual-link DVI-I, D-sub (via adapter), and HDMI, with HDCP support.
- Comes with 1792MB GDDR3 SDRAM for robust memory performance.

Figure 1: GIGABYTE GTX 295 Graphics Card and its retail packaging. The box features the GIGABYTE logo, NVIDIA GeForce GTX 295 branding, and a stylized image of a character, indicating its gaming focus. The card itself is dark, with a fan and various ports visible.

2. Setup and Installation

Follow these steps carefully to install your GIGABYTE GTX 295 Graphics Card into your computer system.

1. **Prepare Your System:** Power off your computer completely and unplug the power cord from the wall outlet. Disconnect all peripherals.
2. **Open the Computer Case:** Remove the side panel of your computer case to access the motherboard and expansion slots.
3. **Locate PCI Express Slot:** Identify an available PCI Express 2.0 x16 slot on your motherboard. This is typically the longest slot.
4. **Remove Slot Cover:** Remove the metal slot cover corresponding to the chosen PCI Express slot from the back of your computer case.
5. **Insert the Graphics Card:** Carefully align the graphics card with the PCI Express slot. Press down firmly and evenly until the card is fully seated in the slot. Ensure the retention clip (if present) locks the card in place.
6. **Secure the Card:** Secure the graphics card to the computer case using the screw or latch mechanism provided by your case manufacturer.
7. **Connect Power Cables:** The GTX 295 requires external power. Connect the necessary PCI Express power connectors from your power supply unit (PSU) to the corresponding ports on the graphics card. Refer to your PSU manual for power cable identification.
8. **Close the Case:** Replace the side panel of your computer case and secure it.
9. **Connect Display:** Connect your monitor to one of the available output ports (DVI-I or HDMI) on the graphics card. If using a D-sub (VGA) monitor, use the appropriate adapter.
10. **Power On and Install Drivers:** Plug in the power cord and power on your computer. Once the operating system loads, install the latest graphics drivers for the NVIDIA GeForce GTX 295 from the official GIGABYTE or NVIDIA website. This is crucial for optimal performance.

3. Operating Your Graphics Card

Once installed and drivers are updated, your GIGABYTE GTX 295 graphics card will automatically handle graphics processing for your system. Here are some operational aspects:

- **Driver Updates:** Regularly check the GIGABYTE or NVIDIA website for the latest driver updates. Keeping your drivers current ensures optimal performance, stability, and compatibility with new software and games.
- **Display Settings:** Adjust display resolution, refresh rate, and multiple monitor configurations through your operating system's display settings or the NVIDIA Control Panel, which is installed with the drivers.
- **Gaming and Applications:** The card is designed to accelerate 3D graphics and video processing. Ensure your games and applications are configured to utilize the dedicated graphics card for the best experience.
- **PureVideo HD:** Leverage NVIDIA PureVideo HD technology for enhanced high-definition video playback, providing crisp images and smooth video.
- **DirectX 10 & OpenGL 2.1:** The card fully supports these APIs, enabling advanced graphical features in compatible software.

4. Maintenance

Proper maintenance can extend the lifespan and ensure optimal performance of your graphics card.

- **Dust Removal:** Periodically (e.g., every 6-12 months), power off and unplug your computer. Open the case and use compressed air to gently blow dust off the graphics card's heatsink and fan. Accumulation of dust can impede cooling and lead to overheating.
- **Ventilation:** Ensure your computer case has adequate airflow. Do not block the ventilation openings of your computer. Good airflow helps dissipate heat generated by the graphics card.
- **Temperature Monitoring:** Use monitoring software (often included with drivers or third-party utilities) to keep an eye on the graphics card's temperature, especially during heavy loads. Excessive temperatures can indicate poor cooling or dust buildup.
- **Avoid Physical Stress:** Do not apply excessive force to the card or its connectors. Handle the card by its edges.

5. Troubleshooting

If you encounter issues with your GIGABYTE GTX 295 Graphics Card, refer to the following common problems and solutions:

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
No display output / Black screen	• Card not seated properly. • Power cables not connected. • Monitor cable loose or faulty. • Incorrect input selected on monitor.	• Reseat the graphics card firmly in its slot. • Ensure all PCI Express power connectors are securely attached. • Check monitor cable connections and try a different cable. • Verify monitor input source (e.g., DVI, HDMI).

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
System crashes / Freezes during use	• Outdated or corrupted drivers. • Overheating. • Insufficient power supply.	• Update graphics drivers to the latest version. • Clean dust from the card's fan and heatsink. Ensure good case ventilation. • Verify your PSU meets the minimum wattage requirements for the GTX 295.
Artifacts or distorted display	• Driver issue. • Overheating. • Faulty card (rare).	• Reinstall graphics drivers cleanly. • Check temperatures and improve cooling. • If issues persist, contact GIGABYTE support.
Fan not spinning or making unusual noise	• Dust obstruction. • Fan failure.	• Clean the fan blades and surrounding area. • If the fan is faulty, contact GIGABYTE support for repair or replacement options.

6. Technical Specifications

Detailed specifications for the GIGABYTE GeForce GTX 295 Graphics Card (Model: GV-N295-18I-B):

Feature	Detail
Brand	GIGABYTE
Model Number	GV-N295-18I-B
Graphics Processor	NVIDIA GeForce GTX 295
Graphics Coprocessor	geforce
Memory Size	1792 MB GDDR3 SDRAM
Interface	PCI Express 2.0 x16
Video Output Interface	DVI, HDMI, VGA (via adapter)
DirectX Support	DirectX 10
OpenGL Support	OpenGL 2.1
Item Weight	4 pounds
Package Dimensions	13 x 10.6 x 3 inches
Manufacturer	Gigabyte
Date First Available	February 17, 2009

7. Warranty and Support

For warranty information and technical support, please refer to the official GIGABYTE website or the documentation included with your product at the time of purchase. GIGABYTE provides support for their products to ensure customer satisfaction.

You can typically find support resources, driver downloads, and contact information on the official GIGABYTE support page. For the most up-to-date information, visit the **GIGABYTE Store on Amazon** or the main GIGABYTE website. When contacting support, please have your product model number (GV-N295-18I-B) and serial number ready.

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