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ASUS Z97-P

ASUS Z97-P LGA 1150 Motherboard User Manual

Model: Z97-P

1. INTRODUCTION

This manual provides detailed instructions for the installation, configuration, and maintenance of your ASUS Z97-P LGA 1150 motherboard. Please read this manual thoroughly before proceeding with installation to ensure proper setup and operation.

2. Open the CPU socket lever and lift the metal load plate.
3. Carefully align the CPU with the socket, ensuring the gold triangle on the CPU matches the triangle on the socket. Do not force the CPU into the socket.
4. Lower the load plate and secure it with the lever.
5. Install the CPU cooler according to its manufacturer's instructions.

3.2. RAM Installation

The Z97-P motherboard supports DDR3 memory modules. For optimal performance, install modules in matched pairs for dual-channel operation.

1. Open the clips at both ends of the DIMM slot.
2. Align the notch on the DDR3 memory module with the key in the DIMM slot.
3. Press down firmly on both ends of the memory module until the clips snap into place.

3.3. Storage Device Installation

The motherboard supports both SATA and M.2 storage devices.

- **SATA Drives:** Connect SATA data cables from your storage drives (HDDs/SSDs) to the SATA ports on the motherboard. Connect power cables from your power supply to the drives.
- **M.2 Drive:** Insert the M.2 SSD into the M.2 slot, ensuring it is fully seated. Secure it with the provided screw. The M.2 slot supports lightning-fast 10Gb/s data transfer.

3.4. Expansion Card Installation

Insert PCIe expansion cards (e.g., graphics cards, network cards) into the appropriate PCIe slots. Ensure the card is fully seated and secured with a screw to the chassis.

3.5. Power Connections

- Connect the 24-pin ATX power connector from your power supply to the main power socket on the motherboard.
- Connect the 8-pin CPU power connector to the corresponding socket near the CPU.

3.6. Front Panel Connections

Connect the cables from your computer case's front panel (USB ports, audio jacks, power button, reset button, LED indicators) to the corresponding headers on the motherboard. Refer to the motherboard diagram for exact pin assignments.

4. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

After physical installation, configure the system for first use.

4.1. First Boot and BIOS/UEFI Access

Upon powering on your system for the first time, press the **DEL** key or **F2** key repeatedly during startup to enter the UEFI BIOS Utility. The Z97-P features a media-acclaimed UEFI BIOS with an EZ Tuning Wizard for simplified configuration.

4.2. BIOS/UEFI Configuration

Within the UEFI BIOS, you can configure various system settings, including:

- **Boot Order:** Set the priority of your storage devices for booting the operating system.
- **System Time/Date:** Adjust the system clock.
- **Fan Control:** Utilize Fan Expert 2+ for ultimate cooling and quietness, adjusting fan speeds based on temperature.
- **Overclocking:** Advanced users can adjust CPU and memory frequencies for enhanced performance.

4.3. Driver Installation

After installing your operating system, install the necessary drivers for the motherboard components. These typically include:

- Chipset drivers
- Audio drivers
- LAN (network) drivers
- USB drivers

Drivers can usually be found on the ASUS support website for your specific motherboard model.

5. MAINTENANCE

Regular maintenance helps ensure the longevity and stable operation of your motherboard.

5.1. Cleaning

Periodically clean dust from inside your computer case, especially from fans and heatsinks. Use compressed air and ensure the system is powered off and unplugged before cleaning.

5.2. BIOS/UEFI Updates

ASUS may release BIOS/UEFI updates to improve stability, compatibility, or add new features. Check the ASUS support website for your model for the latest updates and follow the provided instructions carefully. Incorrect BIOS updates can render the motherboard inoperable.

5.3. Driver Updates

Keep your system drivers updated to ensure optimal performance and compatibility with new software and hardware. Regularly check the ASUS support website for the latest driver versions.

6. TROUBLESHOOTING

This section provides solutions to common issues you might encounter.

6.1. No Power

- Ensure the power supply is connected to the motherboard (24-pin ATX and 8-pin CPU connectors) and the wall outlet.
- Check the power supply switch is in the 'ON' position.
- Verify the front panel power button cable is correctly connected to the motherboard header.

6.2. No Display Output

- Ensure your monitor is connected to the correct video output (either integrated graphics on the

motherboard or a dedicated graphics card).

- Reseat the graphics card and memory modules.
- Try booting with only one RAM stick installed.

6.3. System Fails to Boot

- Check all power and data cables are securely connected.
- Verify that the CPU and CPU cooler are correctly installed.
- Clear the CMOS by removing the motherboard battery for a few minutes or using the CMOS clear jumper (refer to the motherboard diagram).

6.4. Component Not Recognized

- Ensure the component (e.g., RAM, storage drive, expansion card) is properly seated in its slot.
- Check for updated drivers for the component and the motherboard chipset.
- Verify compatibility of the component with the motherboard specifications.

7. SPECIFICATIONS

Key technical specifications for the ASUS Z97-P motherboard:

Feature	Specification
Brand	ASUS
Model Name	Z97-P
CPU Socket	LGA 1150
Compatible Processors	Intel Core i3-4xxx, Intel Core i5-4xxx, Intel Core i7-4xxx, Intel Core i5-5xxx, Intel Core i7-5xxx
Chipset Type	Intel Z97
RAM Memory Technology	DDR3 SDRAM
Memory Clock Speed	1600 MHz
Memory Storage Capacity (Max)	32 GB
Number of USB 2.0 Ports	2
Product Dimensions (LxWxH)	10.24 x 2.03 x 10.63 inches
Item Weight	2.5 pounds
Date First Available	June 25, 2014

8. WARRANTY INFORMATION

For detailed warranty information regarding your ASUS Z97-P motherboard, please refer to the warranty card included with your product or visit the official ASUS support website. Warranty terms and conditions may vary by region.

9. TECHNICAL SUPPORT

If you encounter issues that cannot be resolved using this manual, please contact ASUS technical support. You can find support resources, FAQs, driver downloads, and contact information on the official ASUS website:

[Visit ASUS Support Website](#)