

NZXT RL-KRM22-01

# NZXT Kraken M22 120mm All-in-One RGB CPU Liquid Cooler Instruction Manual

Model: RL-KRM22-01

## INTRODUCTION

The NZXT Kraken M22 120mm All-in-One RGB CPU Liquid Cooler is designed to provide efficient cooling for your CPU while offering customizable RGB lighting effects. This manual will guide you through the installation process, operational details, and maintenance procedures to ensure optimal performance and longevity of your cooler.

## WHAT'S IN THE BOX

- M22 AIO Cooler: fan, hoses, radiator
- Mounting hardware for Intel and AMD sockets
- Installation guide

Note: Specific mounting brackets for AMD AM4/AM5 and Intel LGA1700 are included. Please refer to the installation section for details.

## SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Detail
Brand	NZXT
Model Number	RL-KRM22-01
Product Dimensions	5.98"L x 1.26"W x 4.72"H
Material	Copper, Plastic
Cooling Method	Water
Noise Level	21-38dBA (Fan), 25 Decibels (Pump)

Maximum Rotational Speed	1500 RPM (Fan)
Power Connector Type	4-Pin
Voltage	12 Volts
Compatible Devices	Intel Socket LGA 1200, 115X, 1366, 2011, 2011-3, 2066; AMD AM4, FM2+, FM2, FM1, AM3+, AM3, AM2+, AM2

## SETUP AND INSTALLATION

Follow these steps carefully to install your NZXT Kraken M22 liquid cooler. Ensure your system is powered off and unplugged before beginning installation.

### 1. Prepare the Motherboard

Depending on your CPU socket type (AMD or Intel), you will need to prepare your motherboard accordingly. The Kraken M22 comes with pre-applied thermal paste on the cold plate, simplifying this step.



Figure 1: NZXT Kraken M22 120mm All-in-One Liquid Cooler components.

## For AMD AM4/AM5 Sockets:

1. Remove the existing plastic retention brackets from your motherboard around the CPU socket. Keep the original backplate.
2. Install the four red standoffs onto the backplate screws.
3. Place the two AMD metal brackets onto the standoffs and secure them with screws using a screwdriver.

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Video 1: Installation guide for Thermalright Aqua Elite V3 CPU Cooler series on AMD AM5/AM4 motherboards. This video demonstrates the process of removing motherboard plastic brackets, installing standoffs, and securing metal brackets for AMD sockets, which is similar for the Kraken M22.

## For Intel LGA1700 Sockets:

1. Assemble the Intel backplate by inserting the screws through the outer mounting holes and securing them with blue washers.
2. Install the assembled Intel backplate from the backside of the motherboard, ensuring the backplate screws pass through the motherboard mounting holes.
3. Install four blue standoffs onto the backplate screws from the front side of the motherboard.
4. Install two Intel brackets onto the standoffs, aligning the backplate screws through the LGA1700 holes on the brackets. Secure the brackets with nuts.

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Video 2: Installation guide for Thermalright Aqua Elite V3 CPU Cooler series on Intel LGA1700 motherboards. This video demonstrates the process of assembling the Intel backplate, installing standoffs, and securing metal brackets for Intel LGA1700 sockets, which is similar for the Kraken M22.

## 2. Apply Thermal Compound (if not pre-applied or if reapplying)

The Kraken M22 comes with thermal paste pre-applied to the cold plate. If you need to reapply thermal paste, ensure the CPU surface is clean and apply a pea-sized amount to the center of the CPU's Integrated Heat Spreader (IHS).

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Video 3: Thermalright Aqua Elite V3 CPU Cooler series installation guide. This video demonstrates the application of thermal compound on the CPU IHS, a common procedure for CPU cooler installation.

## 3. Install the Waterblock

1. Carefully remove the protective sticker from the cold plate of the waterblock.
2. Align the waterblock with the mounting holes on the installed brackets and gently place it onto the CPU.
3. Secure the waterblock by tightening the four nuts onto the standoffs in a diagonal pattern until snug. Do not overtighten.



Figure 2: Close-up of the NZXT Kraken M22 waterblock, showing the pre-applied thermal paste and mounting bracket.

#### **4. Install the Radiator and Fans**

Mount the radiator and fan(s) to an available fan mount in your PC case (e.g., front, top, or rear). Ensure proper airflow direction (intake or exhaust) based on your case's cooling strategy.



Figure 3: NZXT Kraken M22 120mm radiator with the included Aer P fan attached.

## 5. Connect Cables

Proper cable management is crucial for aesthetics and airflow. Connect the following cables:

- **Pump Power:** Connect the waterblock's 4-pin PWM header to your motherboard's CPU\_OPT, AIO\_PUMP, or WATER\_PUMP socket.
- **Fan Power:** Connect the fan's 4-pin PWM cable to your motherboard's CPU\_FAN socket.
- **RGB Lighting:** Connect the ARGB lighting cable from the waterblock to a 3-pin 5V ARGB socket on your motherboard.
- **USB Connection:** Connect the micro-USB cable from the waterblock to an available internal USB 2.0 header on your motherboard. This is essential for CAM software control.

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Video 4: Thermalright Aqua Elite V3 CPU Cooler series installation guide. This video demonstrates connecting PWM power cables for fans and pump, and ARGB lighting cables to the motherboard, which is similar for the Kraken M22.

## OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

The NZXT Kraken M22 is controlled via the NZXT CAM software. Ensure CAM software is installed on your

Windows 10 operating system.

- **CAM Software:** Download and install the NZXT CAM software from the official NZXT website.
- **Monitoring:** Use CAM to monitor pump speed, liquid temperature, CPU temperature, and other system conditions.
- **RGB Lighting:** Customize the infinity mirror RGB lighting effects on the pump. CAM offers numerous customizable presets and reactive modes that can respond to system conditions or audio output.
- **Fan Control:** Adjust fan curves and pump speeds to balance cooling performance and noise levels according to your preferences.

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Video 5: Product Demonstration Video by Amazon Product Imaging. This video showcases the RGB lighting effects and monitoring capabilities of NZXT Kraken coolers, which are managed through the CAM software.

## MAINTENANCE

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Regular maintenance helps ensure the longevity and efficiency of your liquid cooler.

- **Dust Cleaning:** Periodically clean dust from the radiator fins and fan blades using compressed air. Ensure fans are not spinning during cleaning.
- **Cable Management:** Regularly check cable connections to ensure they are secure and not obstructing airflow.
- **Software Updates:** Keep your NZXT CAM software updated to benefit from the latest features and performance optimizations.

## TROUBLESHOOTING

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If you encounter issues with your Kraken M22, consider the following:

- **Overheating CPU:**
  - Ensure the waterblock is securely mounted to the CPU with adequate mounting pressure.
  - Verify that thermal paste is properly applied and evenly spread.
  - Check if the pump is running (listen for a faint hum or check CAM software).
  - Confirm that radiator fans are spinning and correctly oriented for optimal airflow.
- **RGB Lighting Not Working:**
  - Ensure the ARGB cable is securely connected to the motherboard's 3-pin 5V ARGB header.
  - Verify the USB cable from the waterblock is connected to an internal USB 2.0 header.
  - Check CAM software settings for lighting control.
- **Pump or Fan Not Spinning:**
  - Ensure all power cables (PWM for pump and fan) are correctly connected to the motherboard.
  - Check BIOS/UEFI settings to ensure fan headers are enabled and set to PWM mode.

## WARRANTY AND SUPPORT




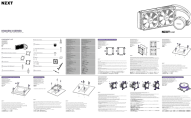


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The NZXT Kraken M22 120mm Liquid Cooler comes with a 6-year warranty, ensuring long-term reliability and support.

- **Warranty Period:** 6 years from the date of purchase.

- **Customer Support:** For technical assistance or warranty claims, please visit the official NZXT support website or contact their customer service.

## Related Documents - RL-KRM22-01

	<p><a href="#">NZXT Kraken M22 Installation Guide and Warranty Information</a></p> <p>Detailed instructions for installing the NZXT Kraken M22 liquid CPU cooler, including component lists, step-by-step guides for Intel and AMD sockets, and warranty information.</p>
	<p><a href="#">NZXT Kraken Z RGB Series Liquid Cooler Installation Guide</a></p> <p>A comprehensive guide for installing the NZXT Kraken Z RGB Series liquid CPU cooler. Covers component identification, preparation for Intel and AMD platforms, detailed installation steps, cable connections, software setup, and warranty information.</p>
	<p><a href="#">NZXT Kraken Z RGB Series LCD Liquid Cooler Installation and Warranty Guide</a></p> <p>Comprehensive guide for installing the NZXT Kraken Z RGB Series LCD Liquid Cooler, including preparation, installation steps for Intel and AMD platforms, fan setup, and detailed warranty information.</p>
	<p><a href="#">NZXT Kraken X Series Liquid Cooler Installation and Warranty Guide</a></p> <p>Comprehensive guide for installing the NZXT Kraken X Series liquid cooler, including component lists, step-by-step instructions, connection details, software setup, and warranty information.</p>
	<p><a href="#">NZXT Kraken X Series 240/280/360mm AIO RGB Liquid Cooler Installation Guide and Manual</a></p> <p>Comprehensive installation guide and manual for the NZXT Kraken X Series AIO RGB liquid CPU coolers (X53, X63, X73). Includes component list, step-by-step installation for Intel and AMD, radiator mounting, connections, warranty, and support information.</p>
	<p><a href="#">NZXT Kraken Elite Liquid Cooler Installation and Warranty Guide</a></p> <p>Comprehensive guide for installing the NZXT Kraken Elite 240/280/360mm liquid cooler with LCD. Includes component lists, hardware introduction, installation steps for Intel and AMD sockets, radiator and fan mounting, powering instructions, NZXT CAM software download, and warranty information.</p>