

## Fractal Design FD-C-NOR1X-03

# Fractal Design North XL Chalk White Mesh PC Gaming Case User Manual

Model: FD-C-NOR1X-03

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The Fractal Design North XL is a full-tower PC gaming case designed to accommodate E-ATX, ATX, mATX, and mITX motherboards. It features fine-patterned mesh ventilation and an open front with FSC-certified wood panels, combining aesthetic appeal with effective cooling. This manual provides essential information for the setup, operation, and maintenance of your North XL case.



Image 1.1: Front-side view of the Fractal Design North XL Chalk White Mesh PC Case, showcasing the wooden front panel and mesh side panel.

## 2. KEY FEATURES

- **Aesthetic Design:** Features sleek wood and alloy details for an enhanced gaming station appearance.
- **Motherboard Compatibility:** Supports E-ATX, ATX, mATX, and mITX motherboards.
- **GPU Clearance:** Accommodates GPUs up to 413 mm in length, or up to 380 mm with a 420 mm front radiator.

- **Radiator Support:** Compatible with front radiators up to 420 mm and top radiators up to 360 mm.
- **Included Fans:** Comes with three pre-installed 140 mm Aspect PWM fans for immediate cooling.
- **USB Connectivity:** Includes 3 USB 2.0 ports and 1 USB 3.0 port.

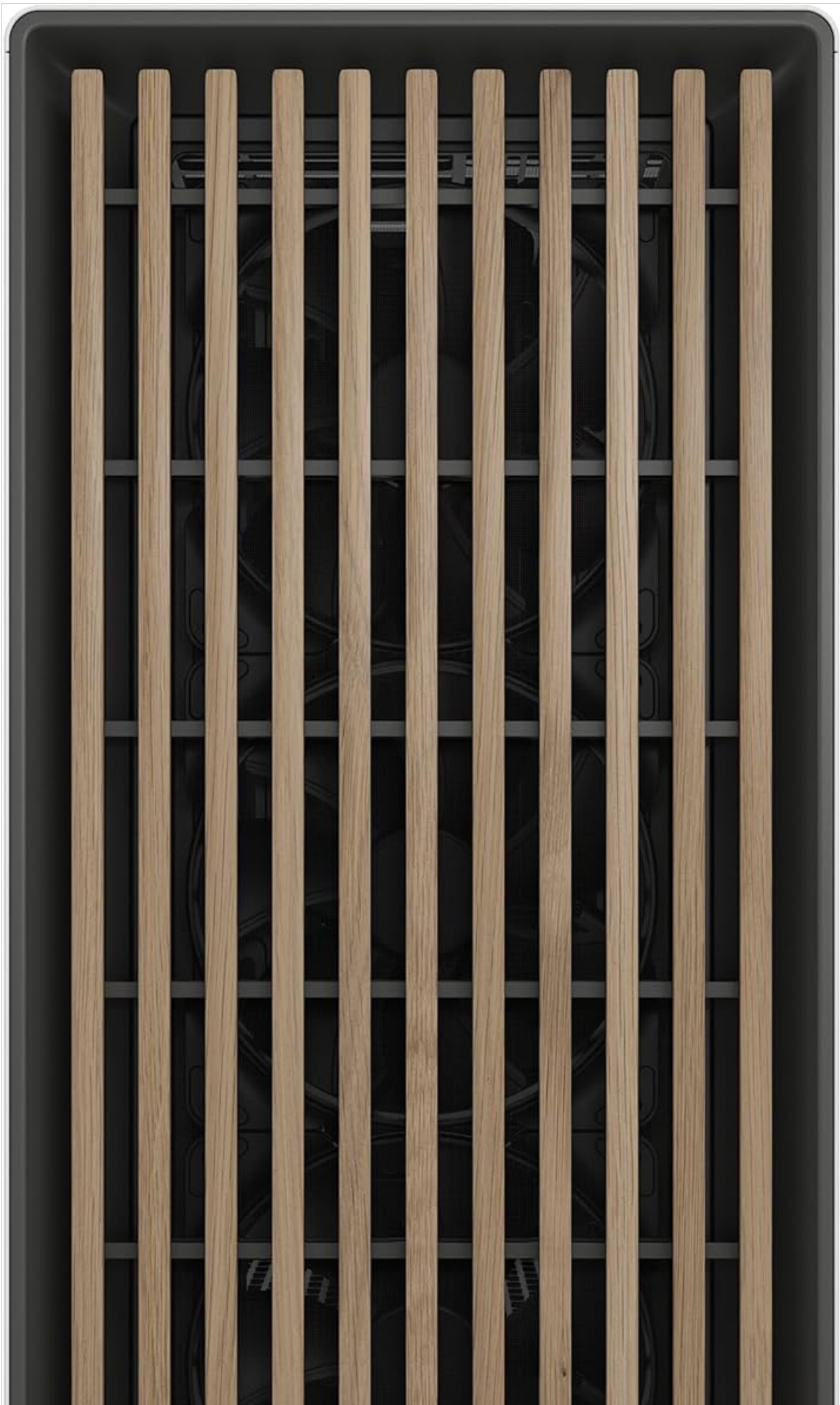




Image 2.1: Internal view of the PC case, illustrating the spacious layout for component installation.

### 3. SETUP INSTRUCTIONS

Follow these steps for initial assembly and component installation.

1. **Unpacking:** Carefully remove the case from its packaging. Inspect for any shipping damage.
2. **Side Panel Removal:** Remove the side panels to access the interior. The mesh side panel can be unlatched, and the opposite panel typically slides off after unscrewing thumbscrews.
3. **Motherboard Installation:** Install your E-ATX, ATX, mATX, or mITX motherboard onto the pre-installed standoffs. Secure with screws.
4. **Power Supply Unit (PSU) Installation:** Mount the PSU in the designated bottom compartment. Ensure proper orientation for airflow.
5. **Storage Drive Installation:** Install 2.5-inch or 3.5-inch storage drives into the drive bays or mounting points.
6. **Graphics Card (GPU) Installation:** Insert your GPU into the appropriate PCIe slot on the motherboard and secure it.
7. **Cooling System Installation:** Install any additional fans or liquid cooling radiators. The case supports front radiators up to 420 mm and top radiators up to 360 mm.
8. **Cable Management:** Route all power and data cables through the designated cutouts for a clean build and optimal airflow.
9. **Front I/O Connections:** Connect the front panel USB, audio, power, and reset cables to your motherboard.
10. **Final Inspection:** Double-check all connections and ensure no loose cables obstruct fans. Reattach side panels.





Image 3.1: Exploded view of the Fractal Design North XL case, showing its various removable components and internal structure.

## 4. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

Once assembled, connect your peripherals and power cable. Press the power button on the front I/O panel to start your system. The North XL is designed for optimal airflow, utilizing its mesh panels and pre-installed fans to maintain component temperatures. Ensure the case is placed in an area with adequate ventilation.





Image 4.1: Detail of the top I/O panel, featuring power button, USB ports, and audio jacks.

## 5. MAINTENANCE

Regular maintenance helps ensure optimal performance and longevity of your PC components.

- **Dust Filter Cleaning:** The North XL includes removable dust filters. Periodically remove and clean these filters using compressed air or by washing them with water and allowing them to dry completely before reinstallation.
- **Interior Cleaning:** Use compressed air to remove dust accumulation from internal components such as fans, heatsinks, and circuit boards. Ensure the system is powered off and unplugged before cleaning.
- **Exterior Cleaning:** Wipe the exterior surfaces with a soft, damp cloth. Avoid abrasive cleaners or solvents.





Image 5.1: Side view of the PC case, highlighting the mesh panel for airflow and ease of cleaning.

## 6. TROUBLESHOOTING

This section addresses common issues you might encounter.

- **System Not Powering On:**

- Verify the power cable is securely connected to both the PSU and the wall outlet.
- Ensure the PSU switch is in the 'ON' position.

- Check that the front panel power button cable is correctly connected to the motherboard.
- **Excessive Noise:**
  - Identify the source of the noise (e.g., fan, hard drive).
  - Ensure all fans are free from obstructions and securely mounted.
  - Clean dust from fans and filters.
- **Overheating Components:**
  - Ensure all case fans are operating correctly and oriented for optimal airflow.
  - Verify CPU cooler and GPU cooler are properly installed and functioning.
  - Clean dust filters and internal components to improve airflow.
- **USB Ports Not Functioning:**
  - Check that the front panel USB cables are correctly connected to the motherboard headers.
  - Ensure motherboard drivers are up to date.

## 7. SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Specification
Model Name	North XL
Item Model Number	FD-C-NOR1X-03
Brand	Fractal Design
Case Type	Full Tower
Motherboard Compatibility	E-ATX, ATX, mATX, mITX
Color	Chalk White
Material	Stainless Steel
Product Dimensions (LxWxH)	20.8 x 10.4 x 21 inches (52.8 x 26.4 x 53.3 cm)
Item Weight	11 pounds (5 kg)
Cooling Method	Air, Water
Power Supply Mounting Type	Bottom Mount
Included Fans	Three 140mm Aspect PWM Fans
USB 2.0 Ports	3
USB 3.0 Ports	1





Image 7.1: Diagram illustrating the key dimensions of the Fractal Design North XL PC Case.

## 8. WARRANTY INFORMATION

Fractal Design products are covered by a limited warranty. For specific terms and conditions, including warranty duration and claim procedures, please refer to the official Fractal Design website or the warranty card included with your product. Keep your proof of purchase for warranty claims.

## 9. SUPPORT

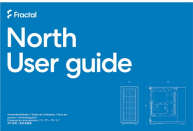
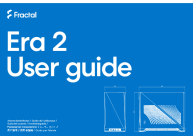
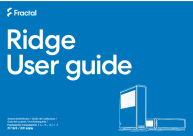
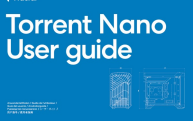
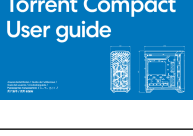
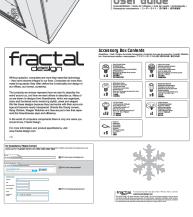
For technical assistance, product inquiries, or further support, please visit the official Fractal Design support page:

**Fractal Design Support**

You may also find helpful resources, FAQs, and driver downloads on their website.

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## Related Documents - FD-C-NOR1X-03

	<p><a href="#">Fractal Design North PC Case User Guide: Specs &amp; Build Instructions</a></p> <p>Official user guide for the Fractal Design North ATX Airflow Mid Tower PC Gaming Case. Features include detailed specifications, component overview, and building instructions for PC enthusiasts. Learn about its Chalk White and Wood Oak variants, mesh side panels, and compatibility with ATX, mATX, and Mini-ITX motherboards.</p>
	<p><a href="#">Fractal Era 2 User Guide: PC Case Assembly and Specifications</a></p> <p>Detailed user manual for the Fractal Era 2 computer case, covering specifications, component overview, step-by-step building instructions, optional configurations, and support resources from Fractal Design.</p>
	<p><a href="#">Fractal Design Ridge PC Case User Manual and Builder's Guide</a></p> <p>Comprehensive guide for the Fractal Design Ridge PC case, covering specifications, assembly, configurations (air/water cooling, home theater), accessories, and support. Optimize your compact PC build.</p>
	<p><a href="#">Fractal Design Torrent Nano User Guide</a></p> <p>This user guide provides comprehensive information for the Fractal Design Torrent Nano PC case, detailing specifications, component compatibility, and build configurations for optimal airflow and performance.</p>
	<p><a href="#">Fractal Torrent Compact PC Case User Guide</a></p> <p>The official user guide for the Fractal Torrent Compact PC case, offering detailed specifications, assembly instructions, and build configuration examples for PC enthusiasts.</p>
	<p><a href="#">Fractal Design Focus G PC Case Assembly Guide</a></p> <p>Comprehensive guide to assembling a PC using the Fractal Design Focus G Minitower case, covering accessory contents and step-by-step installation instructions.</p>