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## Thermaltake E550

# Thermaltake CTE E550 TG Mid Tower ATX Case User Manual

Model: CA-1Z8-00MGWN-00

## 1. PRODUCT OVERVIEW

The Thermaltake CTE E550 TG is a mid-tower ATX case designed for optimal thermal efficiency and aesthetic display. It features a unique CTE Form Factor, which positions the motherboard 90 degrees clockwise, allowing for enhanced airflow and component visibility. The case includes three tempered glass panels for an ultra-wide viewing angle and a dual-chamber design for improved cable management and cooling performance.

### Key Features:

- **Aesthetic and Dual Chamber Design:** Three tempered glass panels offer an ultra-wide viewing angle, complemented by a dual-chamber design for enhanced airflow and cable management.
- **Hidden-Connector Motherboard Support:** Compatible with next-generation hidden-connector motherboards from brands like ASUS BTF, MSI PROJECT ZERO, and GIGABYTE PROJECT STEALTH.
- **Flexible Three-Way VGA Installations:** Offers versatile graphics card installation options, including rotational PCIe slots and a floating VGA bracket.
- **Comprehensive Cooling Support:** Accommodates up to six 140mm fans and three 120mm fans, with radiator support up to 420mm for superior thermal management.
- **Convenient I/O Ports:** Features two USB 3.0 Type-A ports, one USB 3.2 Gen 2 Type-C port, and HD Audio ports located on the top panel for easy access.

## 2. SETUP AND INSTALLATION

This section provides general guidelines for assembling your PC components within the CTE E550 TG chassis. Always refer to the specific manuals for your individual components (motherboard, GPU, PSU, etc.) for detailed installation instructions.

### 2.1 Preparing the Chassis

1. **Unpacking:** Carefully remove the chassis from its packaging. Inspect for any damage during transit.

2. **Panel Removal:** The tempered glass panels (front, rear, left side) can be removed to facilitate installation. Gently unlatch or unscrew them as per the chassis design.

## 2.2 Motherboard Installation

The CTE E550 TG supports ATX, Micro-ATX, Mini-ITX, and E-ATX motherboards. It is also designed to support hidden-connector motherboards.

1. Install the necessary standoffs for your motherboard form factor.
2. Carefully place your motherboard onto the standoffs, aligning the screw holes.
3. Secure the motherboard with screws.

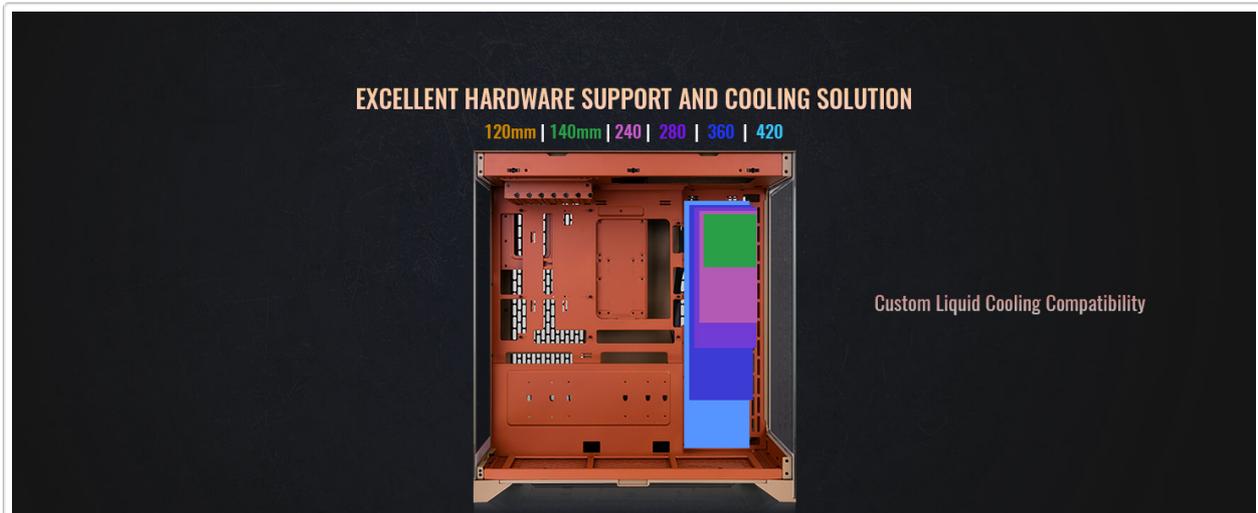


Image: Diagram illustrating motherboard compatibility and the area for hidden-connector motherboards.

## 2.3 Graphics Card (VGA) Installation

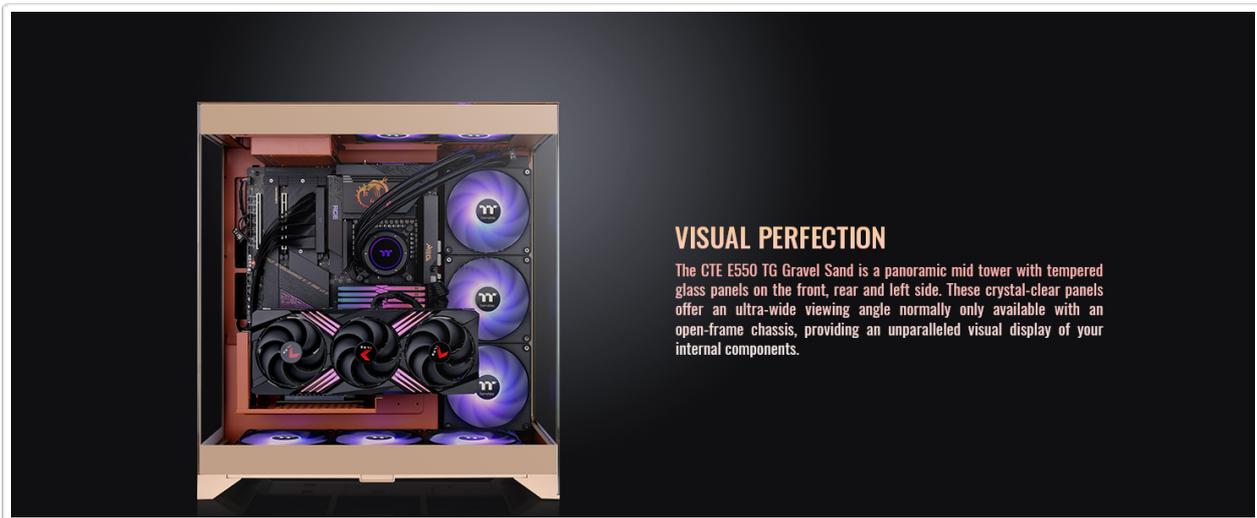
The case offers three flexible ways to install your graphics card:

- **Floating GPU:** Utilizes a floating bracket for a unique display.
- **Up Right:** Standard vertical installation.
- **Up Right Forward:** Vertical installation with the card facing forward.

For vertical installations, a PCIe 4.0 riser cable (sold separately) may be required, especially for the 'Floating GPU' and 'Up Right Forward' configurations.



Image: Visual representation of the three available GPU installation methods.



### VISUAL PERFECTION

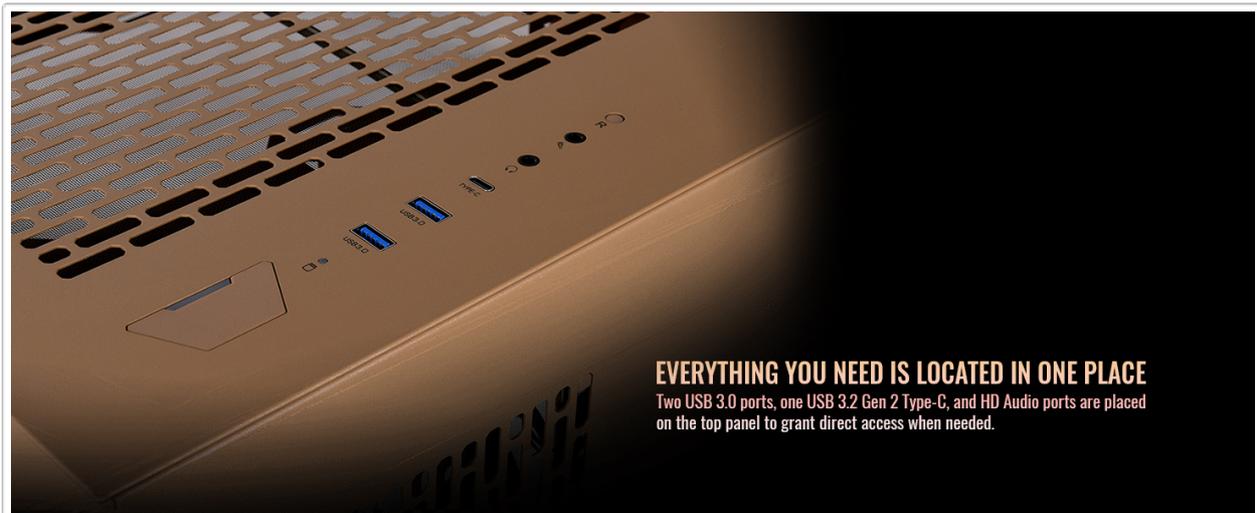
The CTE E550 TG Gravel Sand is a panoramic mid tower with tempered glass panels on the front, rear and left side. These crystal-clear panels offer an ultra-wide viewing angle normally only available with an open-frame chassis, providing an unparalleled visual display of your internal components.

Image: A PCIe riser cable facilitating a vertical GPU mount.

## 2.4 Storage Device Installation

The right chamber of the CTE E550 TG provides dedicated space for storage devices.

- Install up to two 3.5" hard drives in the HDD Cage.
- Install two 2.5" drives or one 3.5" drive on the Drive Plate.



### EVERYTHING YOU NEED IS LOCATED IN ONE PLACE

Two USB 3.0 ports, one USB 3.2 Gen 2 Type-C, and HD Audio ports are placed on the top panel to grant direct access when needed.

Image: Locations for SSDs and HDDs within the chassis's right chamber.

## 2.5 Cooling System Installation

The CTE E550 TG offers extensive cooling support for both air and liquid cooling solutions.

- **Fan Support:** Up to six 140mm fans and three 120mm fans can be installed.
- **Radiator Support:** Radiators up to 420mm in length can be installed on the bottom and motherboard side. AIO compatibility extends to 420mm/360mm radiators on the M/B side.

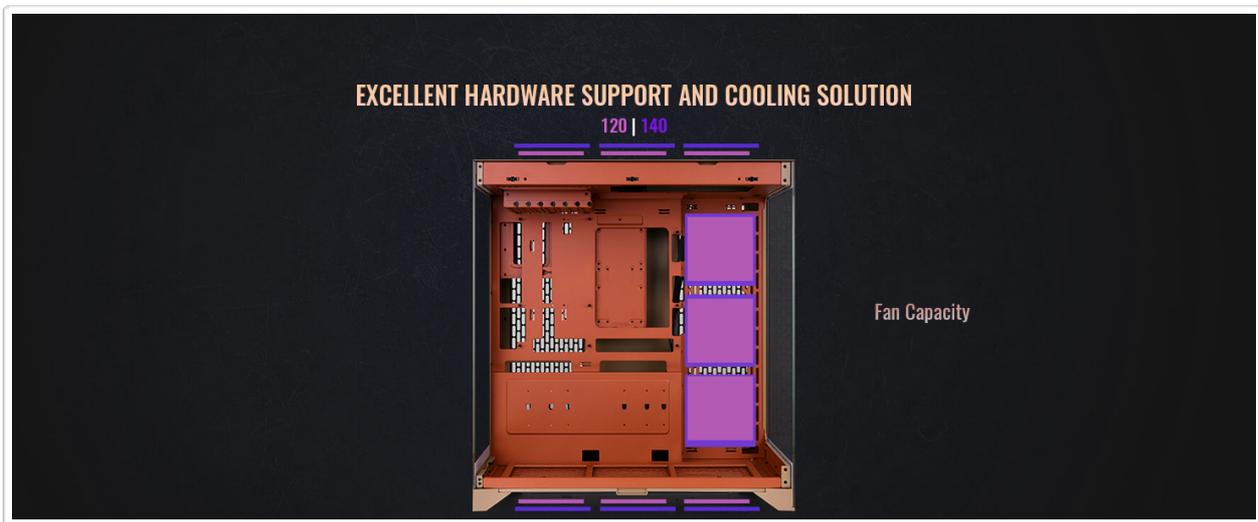


Image: Overview of fan and radiator mounting points for optimal cooling.

## 2.6 Cable Management

The dual-chamber design provides ample space in the right chamber for effective cable management. Utilize the numerous anchor points and included Velcro straps/cable ties to ensure a neat and organized setup.

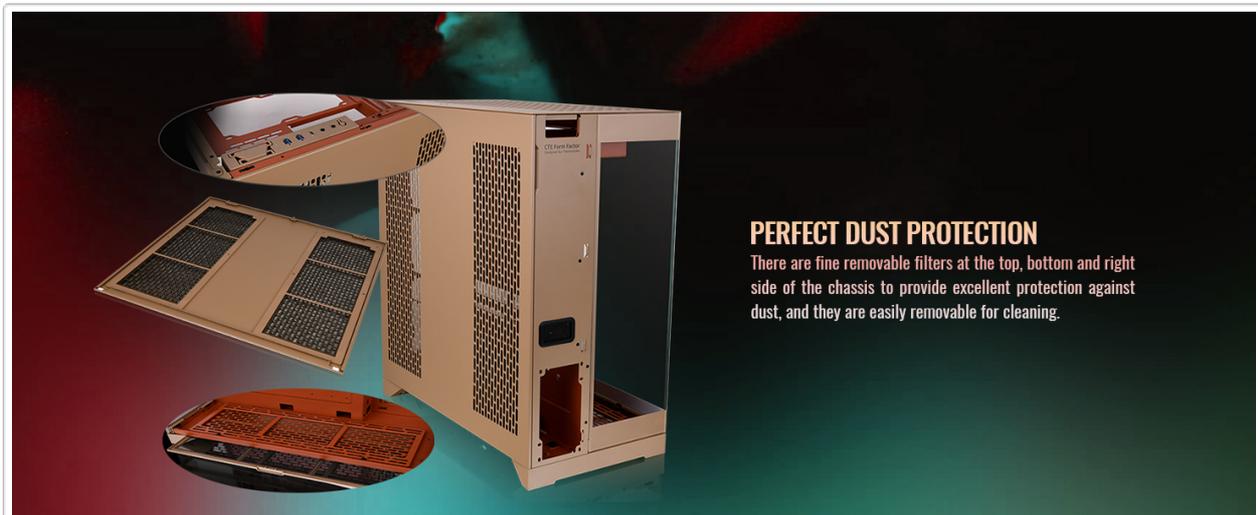


Image: Designated anchor points for cable routing and management.

## 2.7 Power Supply Unit (PSU) Installation

The PSU is typically mounted at the bottom of the chassis. Ensure proper orientation for airflow and secure it with screws.



Image: A complete PC build within the CTE E550 TG chassis.

### 3. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

Once all components are installed and secured, and all cables are connected, you can power on your system.

#### 3.1 Power On/Off

Locate the power button on the top panel of the chassis. Press it once to power on your system. To power off, you can either shut down via your operating system or press and hold the power button for a few seconds.

#### 3.2 Front I/O Ports

The top panel provides convenient access to essential input/output ports:

- 2 x USB 3.0 Type-A ports
- 1 x USB 3.2 Gen 2 Type-C port
- HD Audio (headphone and microphone jacks)

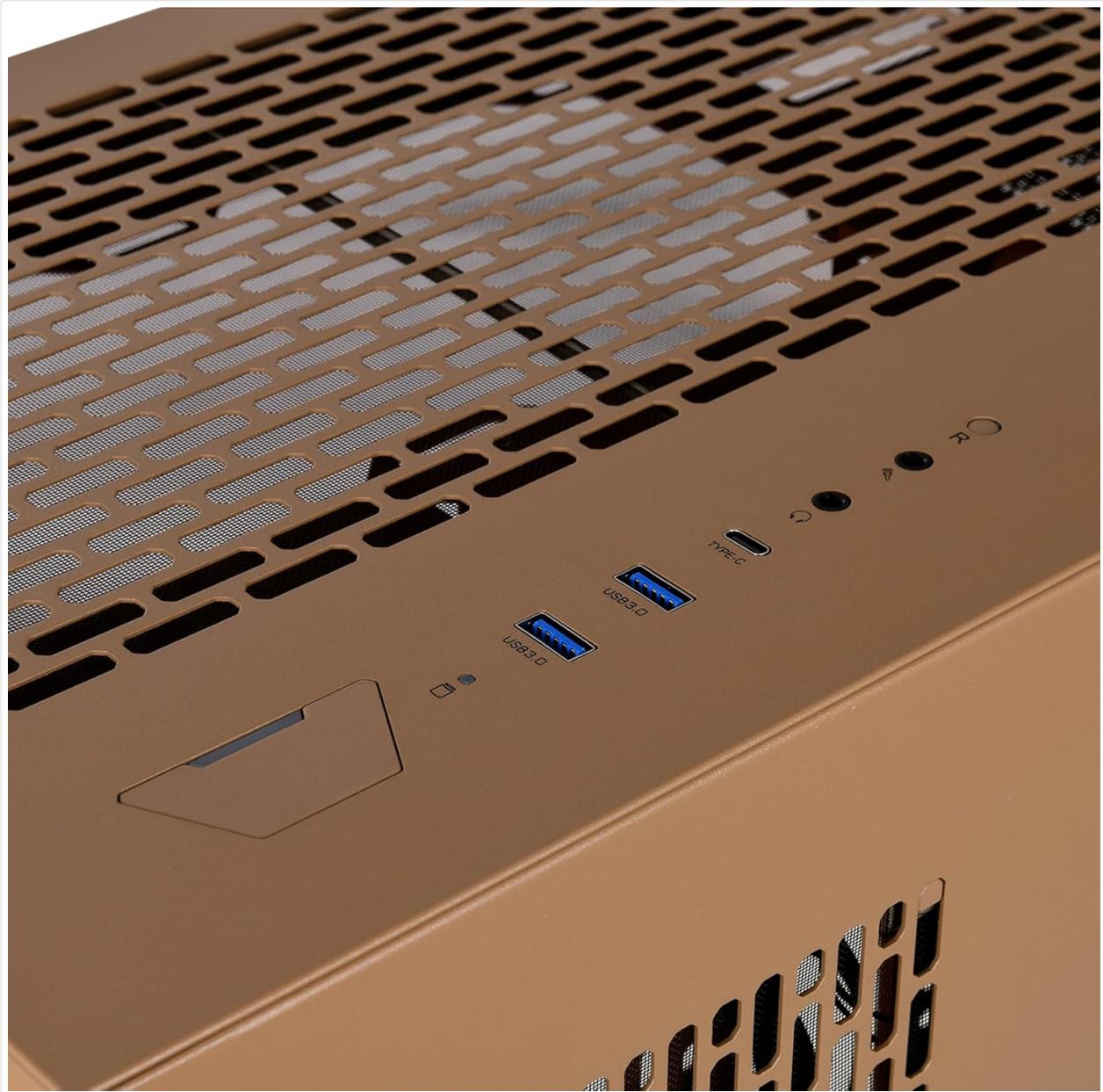


Image: Detailed view of the top I/O panel with USB 3.0, USB-C, and audio ports.

## 4. MAINTENANCE

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

### 4.1 Dust Filter Cleaning

The CTE E550 TG is equipped with fine removable dust filters at the top, bottom, and right side of the chassis. These filters prevent dust accumulation inside the case and are easily removable for cleaning.

1. Gently remove the dust filters from their respective locations.
2. Clean the filters using compressed air, a soft brush, or by rinsing with water (ensure they are completely dry before reinstallation).
3. Reinstall the clean dust filters.



Image: Removable dust filters for easy cleaning and maintenance.

## 4.2 Tempered Glass Cleaning

Use a soft, lint-free cloth and a non-abrasive glass cleaner to clean the tempered glass panels. Avoid harsh chemicals that may damage the glass or coatings.

## 5. TROUBLESHOOTING

This section addresses common issues you might encounter during or after building your system.

### 5.1 System Not Powering On

- Ensure the power supply unit (PSU) is properly connected to the wall outlet and the PSU switch is in the 'ON' position.
- Verify all power cables from the PSU are correctly connected to the motherboard, CPU, and graphics card.
- Check that the front panel power switch cable is correctly connected to the motherboard's front panel header.
- Due to the top-mounted I/O panel, ensure the power button is not accidentally pressed or obstructed.

### 5.2 Insufficient Cable Length for Peripherals

- The motherboard's rear I/O ports are oriented upwards in this chassis. You may require longer cables or extension cables for peripherals such as monitors, keyboards, mice, and network connections.
- Consider using KVM switches or USB hubs with longer integrated cables if multiple extensions are needed.

### 5.3 Graphics Card Thermal Performance Issues

- If using a vertically mounted GPU, especially in the 'Floating GPU' orientation, some graphics card cooling apparatuses may not perform optimally.
- Consider purchasing a high-quality PCIe riser cable if you experience higher-than-expected GPU temperatures in vertical configurations.

### 5.4 Damaged or Missing Parts

- If any parts, such as tempered glass panels, arrive scratched or damaged, contact Thermaltake customer support immediately for assistance.

## 6. SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Specification
Model Name	E550 TG Gravel Sand
Item Model Number	CA-1Z8-00MGWN-00
Case Type	Mid Tower
Motherboard Compatibility	ATX, Micro-ATX, Mini-ITX, E-ATX (up to 10.6 inches)
Material	Aluminum, Tempered Glass
Product Dimensions (LxWxH)	20.2 x 21.99 x 10.63 inches
Item Weight	32 pounds
I/O Ports	2 x USB 3.0, 1 x USB 3.2 Gen 2 Type-C, HD Audio
Power Supply Mounting Type	Bottom Mount
CPU Cooler Max Height	166mm
VGA Length Limitation	415mm (with radiator), 465mm (without radiator)

### 6.1 Fan Support List

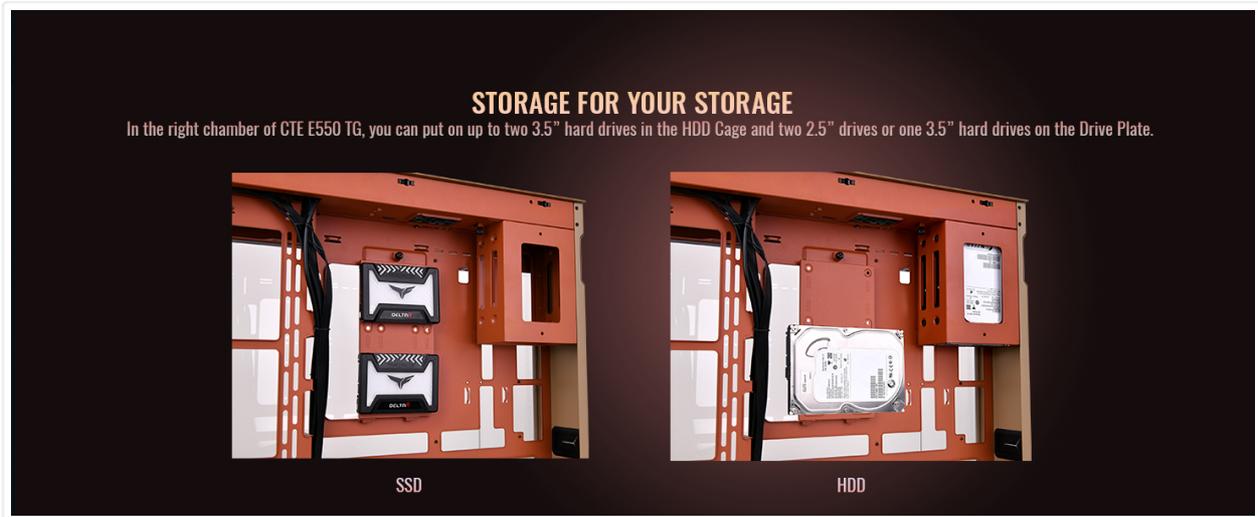


Image: Comprehensive fan support configurations for the chassis.

### 6.2 Radiator Support List



Image: Detailed radiator compatibility for custom liquid cooling and AIO solutions.

## 7. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

### 7.1 Warranty Information

The Thermaltake CTE E550 TG Mid Tower ATX Case comes with a **3-Year Warranty**. This warranty covers manufacturing defects and ensures the product meets quality standards. Please retain your proof of purchase for warranty claims.

### 7.2 Customer Support

For technical assistance, warranty claims, or inquiries regarding damaged/missing parts, please contact Thermaltake customer support through their official website or the retailer where the product was purchased. Provide your product model number (CA-1Z8-00MGWN-00) and a detailed description of the issue for efficient service.

You can visit the official Thermaltake website for support resources: [www.thermaltake.com](http://www.thermaltake.com)