

## What is discussed in the build guides?

The EasyPCBuilder Build Guides describe what the latest, most relevant and suited parts to your build. Our goal is to get you the best overall value, performance and reliability for the computer that you wish to build.

The guide also aims to explain the fundamentals of computers and building in terms that are easy to understand, and aim to give you total confidence in all computer building aspects going forward, regardless of your age or experience.

We have our best advice, tips and tricks in these guides for you. See the dot points below for the **64 EasyPCBuilder tips, tricks and advice** that will help you when building your computer with EasyPCBuilder.

## Central Processing Unit (CPU)

- Comparisons between Intel and AMD and the reasoning behind our preferences
- The brand, speed and CPU range recommended to ensure the best value for money
- Identifying CPU's that allow you to enhance the CPU speed (Overclock)
- The current range of CPU's new to the market and identification of newly superseded models (and their differences)
- The differences between the main consumer range and high performance CPU's
- Reasons why purchasing the most expensive CPU doesn't translate to better gaming performance

## Motherboards

- Identification of motherboard chipsets and their differences
- What the chipset on the motherboard does and how this affects computer performance
- Identifying the current range of motherboard chipsets on the market and identification of newly superseded models (and their differences)
- The chipset to use that is best for gaming and why
- Explaining SLI Graphic card configuration
- The chipset to choose where you wish to enhance the CPU speed (Overclock)
- Wireless connection considerations with motherboards
- Brands to consider and what their features are
- General explanation of PCI Express slots, their different speeds and the device usage for these speeds

## Random Access Memory (RAM)

- Brand preference and why
- How to purchase cheaper RAM that will give you better speed
- What speed of RAM to consider for your build (out of the multiple compatible ones)
- When to consider 'Low Profile' RAM for your build
- Voltages of RAM to ensure the best performance from your computer
- The benefits of purchasing 2x RAM sticks of same total size than one individual RAM stick
- The Latency assignment 'CL' of RAM sticks and which one is right for you

## Graphics Processing Unit (GPU)

- The major GPU players (AMD and Nvidia) and the reasons for choosing either
- Reference designs, and the changes that manufacturers can make to them in terms of cooling, speed and overall performance
- Overclocked graphics cards 'out of the box' why they do this, and what it means for you
- The difference between 2GB and 4GB cards in terms of speed, is it double?
- What is the right card for a gaming computer, considering all of the categories
- Whether to spend extra on a graphics card in place of CPU, HDD, SSD or RAM

## Solid State Drives (SSD's) (Excl \$500 Office PC and \$600 Gaming PC)

- What does an SSD do and why should you consider building with one
- The general SSD technology explained
- A cost comparison to traditional Hard Disk Drives (HDD) and the cost, overall size and speed considerations to make when building
- The best SSD/HDD configurations to choose for data redundancy
- The best brand to consider
- The suggested size for a Gaming PC
- The best way to combine SSD and HDD use
- The optimum way to store your files between your SSD and HDD to ensure the best speeds for your computer

## Hard Disk Drives (HDD's)

- What does a HDD do and why should you consider building with one
- The general HDD technology explained
- Considerations to make with hard drive spindle speed
- HDD cache and why it matters what you choose
- The best HDD configurations to choose for data redundancy
- Why warranty matters with HDD's
- What manufacturers you should choose to ensure the best reliability for your data

## Aftermarket CPU Coolers (Excl \$500 Office PC and \$600 Gaming PC)

- Why consider an aftermarket CPU cooler (noise, temperature, efficiency, overclocking)
- How to check your cooler processor compatibility (where you choose a cooler other than those recommended by EasyPCBuilder)
- When to install your Aftermarket CPU cooler and why
- The physical size of aftermarket CPU coolers and how to choose a case that will fit it
- Thermal paste application and the best process

## Computer Cases

- Considerations with the physical size of the case
- Will the length of the graphics card fit
- Is the aftermarket CPU cooler too tall for my case
- Is the form factors of my case compatible with my motherboard
- Case size and ventilation
- Power supply mounting positions and which is best
- Cases that support concealed cable management
- Fan controls for noise and temperature control of your PC

## Power Supply Units (PSU's)

- The 80+ power certification and what it means in terms of quality and savings
- Ensuring your power supply protects your investment, in place of putting it in danger
- Power supply efficiency and the cost savings
- Required minimum power rating for an Office, Gaming or power gaming PC
- The difference between modular and modular supplies and why you could choose them
- Fan types and their locations
- Power supply connectors available
- Recommended manufacturers and the reasons why

## Also with bonus sections on:

1. Recommended sound cards for your build
2. How to install your operating system: Step-by-Step guide
3. Alternative component options where your local store does not have stock

