

Download Motherboard Buying Guide

Motherboards Explained

The CPU you're planning on pairing with your board will narrow down your options, since the CPU socket on a given motherboard will only work with the chip line it was designed for. For instance, if you're buying an Intel 8th Generation Core processor, you'll need a board with an LGA 1151 socket--and...CPU Socket. The processor's specific socket type (not just the manufacturer) needs to match the socket type used by the board. (In other words, not all Intel processor chips work in all Intel boards...not by a long shot.) Also, not all processors of a given socket type will work in every board that has that socket.Simple but complicated. That's PC motherboards circa 2011. On the one hand, there are fewer players in the motherboard chipset market than ever. With Nvidia pretty much out of the game and small time outfits such as Via long gone, you only have to worry about AMD and Intel chipsets.Intel 300-series motherboards explained: Z390 vs. Z370 vs. H370 vs. B360 vs. H310 Find the perfect Intel 300-series motherboard with this guide.