

Appendix H. Troubleshooting (Need Assistance?)

Motherboard Troubleshooting:

Q & A:

Q: Do I need to clear the CMOS before I use a new motherboard to assemble my new computer system?

A: Yes, we highly recommend that you clear the CMOS before installing a new motherboard. Please move the CMOS jumper from its default 1-2 position to 2-3 for a few seconds, and then back. When you boot up your system for the first time, follow the instructions in the user's manual to load the optimized defaults.

Q: If my systems hang when I update the BIOS or set the wrong CPU parameters, what should I do?

A: Whenever you update the BIOS or if the system hangs due to wrong CPU parameters setting, always clear CMOS jumper before booting up again.

Q: How can I get a quick response to my request for technical support?

A: Be sure to follow the guidelines as stated in the "Technical Support Form" section of this manual.

If you have a problem during operation, in order to help our technical support personnel quickly determine the problem with your motherboard and give you the answers you need, before filling in the technical support form, eliminate any peripheral that is not related to the problem, and indicate it on the form. Fax this form to your dealer or to the company where you bought the hardware in order to benefit from our technical support. (You can refer to the examples given below)

Example 1: With a system including: motherboard (with CPU, DRAM, COAST...) HDD, CD-ROM, FDD, VGA CARD, MPEG CARD, SCSI CARD, SOUND CARD, etc. After the system is assembled, if you cannot boot up, check the key components of the system using the procedure described below. First remove all interface cards except the VGA card and try to reboot.

If you still cannot boot up:

Try installing another brand/model VGA card and see if the system will start. If it still does not start, note the VGA card model, motherboard model, Bios identification number, CPU on the technical support form (refer to main instructions), and describe the problem in the problem description space provided.

If you can boot up:

Insert the interface cards you have removed back into the system, one by one and try to start the system each time you insert a card, until the system will not start. Keep the VGA card and the interface card that caused the problem inserted on the motherboard, remove any other cards or peripheral, and start again. If you still cannot start, note the information related to both cards in the add-on Card space provided, and don't forget to indicate the motherboard model, version, BIOS identification number, CPU (refer to main instructions), and give a description of the problem.

Example 2: With a system including the motherboard (with CPU, DRAM, COAST...) HDD, CD-ROM, FDD, VGA CARD, LAN CARD, MPEG CARD, SCSI CARD, SOUND CARD, after assembly and after having installed the Sound Card Driver, when you restart the system, when it runs the Sound Card Driver, it resets automatically. This problem may be due to the Sound Card Driver. During the Starting DOS... procedure, press SHIFT (BY-PASS) key, to skip CONFIG.SYS and AUTOEXEC.BAT; edit CONFIG.SYS with a text editor, and in function the line that loads the Sound Card Driver, add a remark REM, in order to disable the Sound Card Driver. See the example below.

```
CONFIG.SYS:
DEVICE=C:\DOS\HIMEM.SYS
DEVICE=C:\DOS\EMM386.EXE HIGHSCAN
DOS=HIGH, UMB
FILES=40
BUFFERS=36
REM DEVICEHIGH=C:\PLUGPLAY\DWCFGMG.SYS
LASTDRIVE=Z
```

Restart the system. If the system starts and does not reset, you can be sure that the problem is due to the Sound Card Driver. Write down the Sound Card model, motherboard model, BIOS identification number on the technical support file (refer to main instructions), and describe the problem in the space provided.

We will show you how to fill the “**Technical Support Form**”.

Main instructions:

To fill in this “**Technical Support Form**”, refer to the step-by-step instructions given below:

- 1*. **MODEL:** Note the model number given in your user’s manual.

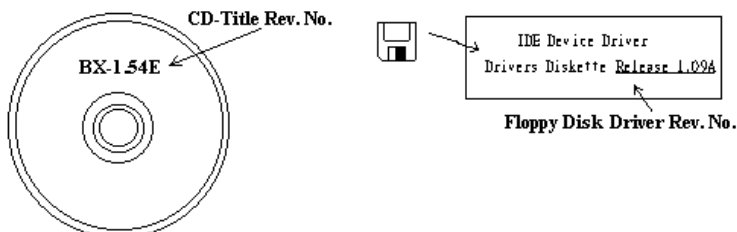
Example: BD7m, BD7L-RAID, etc...

- 2*. **Motherboard model number (REV):** Note the motherboard model number labeled on the motherboard as “REV:*.***”.

Example: REV: 1.01

- 3*. **BIOS ID and Part Number:** See the on screen message.

4. **DRIVER REV:** Note the driver version number indicated on the DEVICE DRIVER disk (if any) as “Release *.***”. For example:



- 5*. **OS/APPLICATION:** Indicate the operating system and applications you are running on the system.

Example: MS-DOS® 6.22, Windows® 98 SE, Windows® 2000, etc....

- 6*. **CPU:** Indicate the brand and the speed (MHz) of your CPU.

Example:(A) In the “Brand” space, write “Intel”, in the “Specifications” space, write “ Pentium® 4 1.9GHz” .

7. **HDD:** Indicate the brand and specifications of your HDD(s), specify if the HDD is using ☐IDE1 or ☐IDE2. If you know the disk capacity, indicate it and check (“✓”) “☐”; in case you give no indication, we will consider that your HDD is “☒IDE1” Master.

Example: In the “HDD” space, check the box, in the Brand space, write “Seagate”, in the Specifications space, write “ST31621A (1.6GB)”.

8. **CD-ROM Drive:** Indicate the brand and specifications of your CD-ROM drive. Specify if it uses ☐IDE1 or ☐IDE2 . and check (“✓”) “☐”; in case you give no indication, we will consider that your CD-ROM is “☒IDE2” Master.

Example: In the “CD-ROM drive” space, check the box, in the Brand space, write “Mitsumi”, in the Specifications space, write “FX-400D”.

9. **System Memory (DDR SDRAM):** Indicate the brand and specifications (DDR DIMM) of your system memory. Such as Density, Description, Module Components, Module Part Number, CAS Latency, and Speed (MHz).

For example: In the Brand space, write “**Micron**”, in the Specifications space, write: **Density:** 128MB, **Description:** SS 16 Megx72 2.5V ECC Gold, **Module Components:** (9) 16 Megx 8, **Module Part Number:** MT9VDDT1672AG, **CAS Latency:** 2, **Speed (MHz):** 200 MHz.

Please give us the detailed information of your DDR SDRAM module; it will help us to simulate the problems you met.

10. **ADD-ON CARD:** Indicate which add-on cards you are *absolutely sure* are related to the problem.

If you cannot identify the problem’s origin, indicate all the add-on cards inserted into your system.

Note

Items between the “*” are absolutely necessary.

Technical Support Form

 Company Name:

☎ Phone Number:

🗣️ Contact Person:

 Fax Number:

 **E-mail Address:**

Model	*	BIOS ID #	*
Motherboard Model No.		DRIVER REV	
OS/Application	*		
Hardware Name	Brand	Specifications	
CPU	*		
HDD	☐ IDE1 ☐ IDE2		
CD-ROM-Drive	☐ IDE1 ☐ IDE2		
System Memory			
ADD-ON CARD			

Problem Description:

[illegible]

Appendix I. How to Get Technical Support

(From our website) <http://www.abit.com.tw>

(In North America) <http://www.abit-usa.com>

(In Europe) <http://www.abit.nl>

Thank you for choosing ABIT products. ABIT sells all our products through distributors, resellers and system integrators; we have no direct sales to end-users. Before sending email for tech support please check with your resellers or integrators if you need any services, they are the ones who sold you your system and they should know best as to what can be done, how they serve you is a good reference for future purchases.

We appreciate every customer and would like to provide the best service to you. Providing fast service to our customers is our top priority. However we receive many phone calls and a huge amount of email from all over the world. At the present time it is impossible for us to respond to every single inquiry. Therefore it is quite possible that if you send an email to us that you may not receive a response.

We have done many compatibility tests and reliability tests to make sure our products have the best quality and compatibility. In case you need service or technical support, please understand the constraint we have and **always check with the reseller who sold the product to you first.**

To expedite service, we recommend that you follow the procedures outlined below before contacting us. With your help, we can meet our commitment to provide the best service to the **greatest number of ABIT customers:**

1. **Check the Manual.** It sounds simple but we have taken a lot of care in making a well-written and thorough manual. It is full of information that doesn't only pertain to motherboards. The CD-ROM included with your board will have the manual as well as drivers. If you don't have either one, go to our Program Download Area of the Website or FTP server.
2. **Download latest BIOS, software or drivers.** Please go to our Program Download area on our Website to check to see if you have the latest BIOS. They are developed over periods of time to fix bugs or incompatibilities. **Also please make sure you have the latest drivers from your peripheral cards makers!**
3. **Check the ABIT Technical Terms Guide and FAQ on our Website.** We are trying to expand and make the FAQs more helpful and information rich. Let us know if you have any suggestions. For hot topics check out our HOT FAQ!

4. **Internet Newsgroups.** They are a great source of information and many people there can offer help. ABIT's Internet News group, **alt.comp.periphs.mainboard.abit**, is an ideal forum for the public to exchange information and discuss experiences they have had with ABIT products. Many times you will see that your question has already been asked before. This is a public Internet news group and it is reserved for free discussions. Here is a list of some of the more popular ones:

alt.comp.periphs.mainboard.abit

comp.svs.ibm.pc.hardware.chips

alt.comp.hardware.overclocking

alt.comp.hardware.homebuilt

alt.comp.hardware.pc-homebuilt

5. **Ask your reseller.** Your ABIT authorized distributor should be able to provide the fastest solution to your technical problem. We sell our products through distributors who sell to resellers and stores. Your reseller should be very familiar with your system configuration and should be able to solve your problem much more efficiently than we could. After all, your reseller regards you as an important customer who may purchase more products and who can urge your friends to buy from him or her as well. They integrated and sold the system to you. They should know best what your system configuration is and your problem. They should have reasonable return or refund policies. How they serve you is also a good reference for your next purchase.
6. **Contacting ABIT.** If you feel that you need to contact ABIT directly you can send email to the ABIT technical support department. First, please contact the support team for the branch office closest to you. They will be more familiar with local conditions and problems and will have better insight as to which resellers offer what products and services. Due to the huge number of emails coming in every day and other reasons, such as the time required for problem reproduction, we will not be able to reply to every email. Please understand that we are selling through distribution channels and don't have the resources to serve every end-user. However, we will try to do our best to help every customer. Please also remember that for many of our technical support team English is a second language, you will have a better chance of getting a helpful answer if your question can be understood in the first place. Be sure to use very, simple, concise language that clearly states the problem, avoid rambling or flowery language and always list your system components. Here is the contact information for our branch offices:

In North America and South America please contact:

ABIT Computer (USA) Corporation

46808 Lakeview Blvd.

Fremont, California 94538, U.S.A.

sales@abit-usa.com

technical@abit-usa.com

Tel: 1-510-623-0500

Fax: 1-510-623-1092

In the UK and Ireland:

ABIT Computer Corporation Ltd.

Unit 3, 24-26 Boulton Road

Stevenage, Herts SG1 4QX, UK

abituksales@compuserve.com

abituktech@compuserve.com

Tel: 44-1438-228888

Fax: 44-1438-226333

In Germany and Benelux (Belgium, Netherlands, Luxembourg) countries:

AMOR Computer B.V. (ABIT's European Office)

Van Coehoornstraat 7,

5916 PH Venlo, The Netherlands

sales@abit.nl

technical@abit.nl

Tel: 31-77-3204428

Fax: 31-77-3204420

All other territories not covered above please contact:

Taiwan Head Office

When contacting our headquarters please note we are located in Taiwan and we are 8+ GMT time. In addition, we have holidays that may be different from those in your country.

ABIT Computer Corporation

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Hsi Chi, Taipei Hsien, Taiwan

sales@abit.com.tw

market@abit.com.tw

technical@abit.com.tw

Tel: 886-2-2698-1888

Fax: 886-2-2698-1811

7. **RMA Service.** If your system has been working but it just stopped, but you have not installed any new software or hardware recently, it is likely that you have a defective component. Please contact the reseller from whom you bought the product. You should be able to get RMA service there.
8. **Reporting Compatibility Problems to ABIT.** Because of tremendous number of email messages we receive every day, we are forced to give greater weight to certain types of messages than to others. For this reason, any compatibility problem that is reported to us, giving detailed system configuration information and error symptoms will receive the highest priority. For the other questions, we regret that we may not be able to reply directly. But your questions may be posted to the Internet news group in order that a larger number of users can have the benefit of the information. Please check the news group from time to time.
9. The information listed below are some **chipset vendors' WEB site addresses** for your reference:
ALi's WEB site: <http://www.ali.com.tw/>
HighPoint Technology Inc.'s WEB site: <http://www.highpoint-tech.com/>
Intel's WEB site: <http://www.intel.com/>
SiS' WEB site: <http://www.sis.com.tw/>
VIA's WEB site: <http://www.via.com.tw/>

Thank you, ABIT Computer Corporation

<http://www.abit.com.tw>