

How Motherboards Work

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Part 1: How Motherboards Work

Answer the following questions (be sure to define all terms used):

1) Here are 4 components commonly found on a motherboard—explain briefly what they do.

Microprocessor

Socket

Chipset

BIOS chip

Real Time Clock

2) Motherboards have *expansion slots* to allow the user to add new hardware, such as a sound card, to the system. They also have *ports*, or sockets, where equipment like hard drives, or external devices like printers can be attached. Explain what each of the following slots or ports are used for.

PCI

AGP

IDE (or ATA)

USB

PCI Express

3) Explain why the motherboard must be chosen to match the microprocessor that will be used in the computer.
