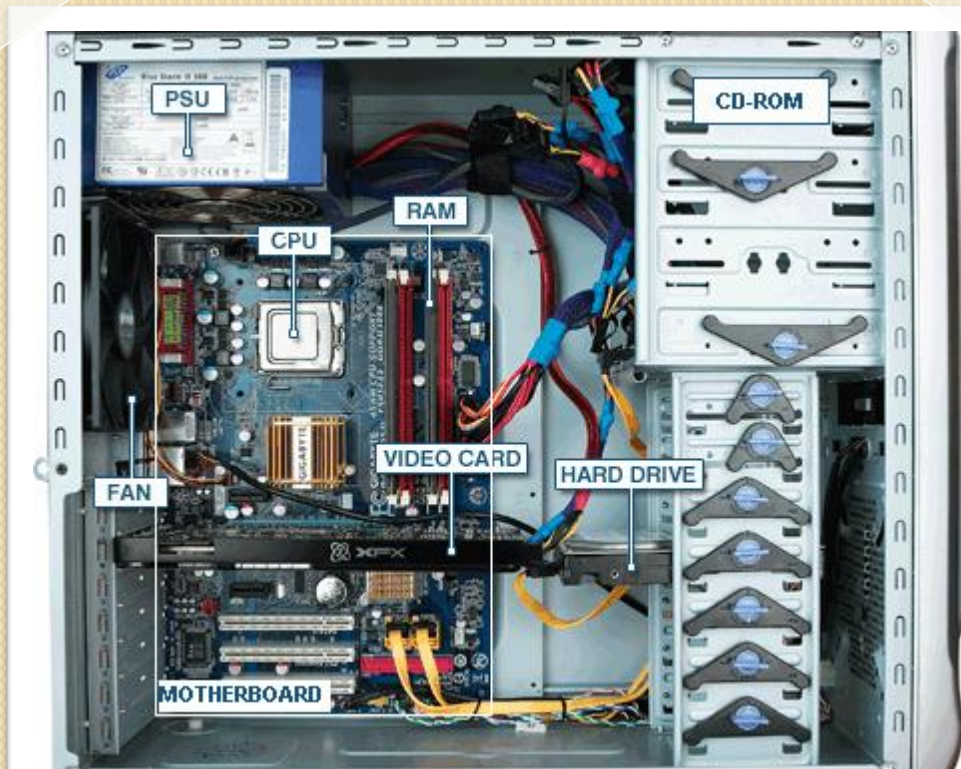


# A Not So Complicated Computer Component Guide

Exploring Computer Science  
Period 3  
September 12, 2011



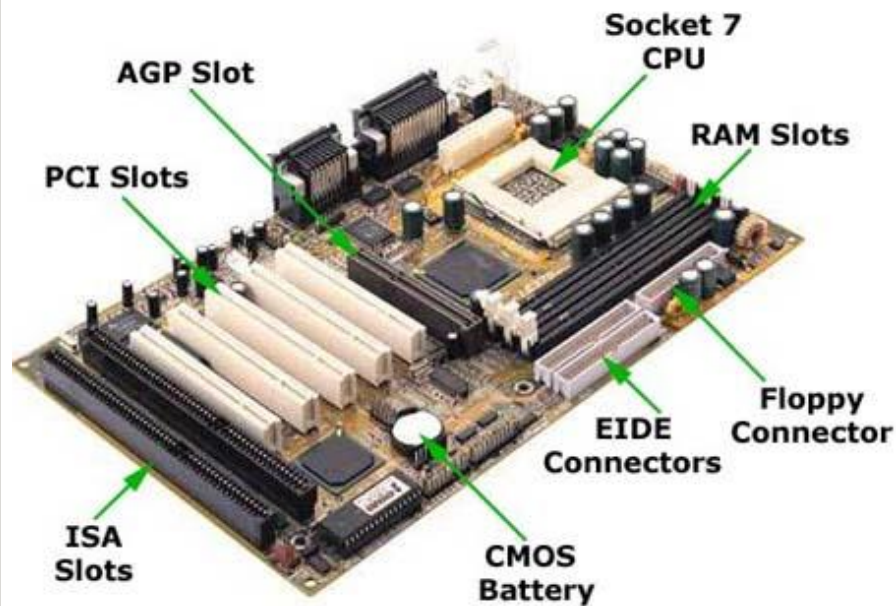
What's inside that metal box?

If your ever curious what's inside or just want to upgrade your computer for that new game, it's helpful to know where everything goes.

Today we will be looking at:

**Motherboard**  
**CPU**  
**RAM**  
**PSU**  
**Hard Drive**  
**Video Card**

# Motherboard

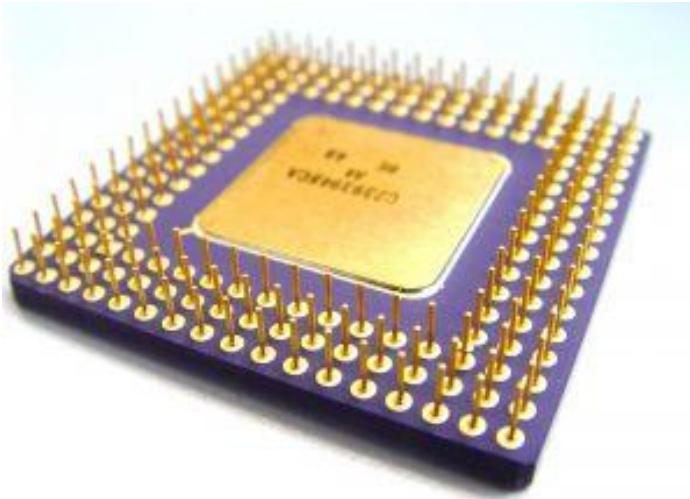


As you can see the mother board is the center of your computer which will essentially be connected to everything as seen in the diagram. It has a lot of removable slots for those upgrading hardware like RAM, Disk Drivers, and Video Cards.

Units of Measurement: N/A

Connections to other Components:  
ALOT

# CPU



The CPU or “Central Processing Unit”. The CPU would be the brain of the computer, which calculates and controls other components. It’s that tiny chip on the motherboard next to the cooling fan.

Units of Measurement: KHz/MHz,  
Bit (8, 16, 32, 64)

Connections to other Components:  
Center of Motherboard

# RAM



RAM or “Random Access Memory”.

This is what is used for a computer’s temporary memory to help out when calculating things. The RAM goes directly on the Motherboard. Enthusiastic gamers, this is one of the things you want upgraded!

Units of Measurement: MB/GB

Connections to other Components:  
Directly connected to the motherboard

# PSU

PSU, or “Power Supply Unit”, is what powers up your whole PC, which located in the back corner of our box. PSU’s are rated by watts they give and insufficient power can cause problems.

Units of Measurement: Watts

Connection to other Components:  
Powers whole PC



[techfuels.com](http://techfuels.com)

# Hard Drive



This is where all your essays from homework assignments and games are stored. Unlike RAM, this part is for long-term use and is connected to the motherboard, did I also mention this thing is screwed everywhere possible?

Units of Measurement: MB/GB

Connection to other Components:  
Connected to the Motherboard

# Video Card



This is the magical device that let's you see pictures on your monitor. It's also the must for gamers that gives you 3D graphics and anti-aliasing, etc. Changing one (depending on compatibility) is simply unplug from motherboard, plug in new one.

Units of Measurement: MHz

Connection to other Components:  
Plugs into Motherboard

**THE END**

