
Subject: Need some computer advice.

Posted by [emarenot](#) on Fri, 18 Jan 2008 00:28:27 GMT

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I'm looking at this mobo:

http://www.biostar.com.tw/app/en-us/mb/content.php?S_ID=290#

It says that it supports up to 4gb of ram: ddr2 533. Will a mobo rated for this ram speed run ddr2 667? I'm guessing it will "see" and run the 667, but only allow it to run at 533 -yes?

Thanks!

MR

Subject: Re: Need some computer advice.

Posted by [Chris Ludwig](#) on Fri, 18 Jan 2008 04:54:00 GMT

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Hi Mike,

if you are using it for a office machine then it will maybe work fine.
as an audio machine I would run away screaming.

If you read the memory report you will that they say it can use up to 4 gigs i.e 2x 2gigs sticks but they have not tested 2 gigs sticks on their list.

I bet there is a 99% chance they have not tested it with any 2 gigs sticks.

Via chipset and poor quality integrated video = death.

What are you going to be using the machine for?

Chris

mike r wrote:

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> this ram speed run ddr2 667? I'm guessing it will "see" and run the 667,

> but only allow it to run at 533 -yes?

> Thanks!

> MR

>

--

Chris Ludwig

ADK

chrisl@adkproaudio.com <mailto:chrisl@adkproaudio.com>

www.adkproaudio.com <http://www.adkproaudio.com/>

(859) 635-5762

Subject: Re: Need some computer advice.

Posted by [Aaron Allen](#) on Fri, 18 Jan 2008 06:11:21 GMT

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I rather suspect it's how the PCI bus is handled and/or how RAM is accessed. I've had great luck with my trusty old SiS Asus A7s333 mobo for years now. Not too sure I'd try it with a native system, that's an unknown I don't need to attempt, so I probably never will. The same model mobo has also been great in use with server 2003. To be honest I've reached a point with DSP & DSP assisted cards (paris, 0404, pulsar) where the host PC can be just about anything and still work great, so I'm probably dated on my thinking. As of late though I've been getting the quad core itch, and a scratching is coming :)

AA

"Neil" <OIUOI@OI.com> wrote in message news:47903f0e\$1@linux...

>

> Chris Ludwig <chrisl@adkproaudio.com> wrote:

>

>>Via chipset and poor quality integrated video = death.

>

>

> I've always found it interesting how different chipsets play
> nice with some DAW's & not so well with others... I've had 2
> good experiences with VIA chipsets & Cubase, yet I know some
> folks here had some rough times with VIA & Paris. I've had
> one bad experience with Cubase & SiS chipsets, but DeeJ and
> others are using or have used certain Gigabyte mobo's with the
> SiS chipsets with great success.

>

> Weird... so what do the chipsets do or NOT do that makes them
> DAW-friendly under certain software circumstances & NOT so DAW-
> friendly under others???

>

> Or is it not related to the particular DAW app at all, and it's
> more of a driver-related issue?

>

> Neil

Subject: Re: Need some computer advice.
Posted by [Neil](#) on Fri, 18 Jan 2008 06:54:22 GMT
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Chris Ludwig <chrisl@adkproaudio.com> wrote:

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Or is it not related to the particular DAW app at all, and it's more of a driver-related issue?

Neil

Subject: Re: Need some computer advice.
Posted by [Chris Ludwig](#) on Fri, 18 Jan 2008 15:31:32 GMT
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Hi Neil,
DJ's Gigabyte board uses a NVidia Nforce 3 chip set not SiS.

What chip set is used is just the starting point for what will make a motherboard work well or not. It has more to do with how the motherboard manufacturer designs their board around that chip that can make it work well or not.

They all design boards with 3 things in mind business, server and gaming with the majority of the non-budget desktop board focused on gaming. Pro audio and video folks are usually just lucky if they make one that works well and it laid out well for either.

Drivers and Bios design also all can play a big part on how well a certain motherboard works. Also the choice of 3rd party on board components will have a big impact on the boards functionality.

Chris

Neil wrote:

> Chris Ludwig <chrisl@adkproaudio.com> wrote:

>

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> Neil

--

Chris Ludwig

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Subject: Re: Need some computer advice.

Posted by [Chris Ludwig](#) on Fri, 18 Jan 2008 15:58:58 GMT

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Hi Aaron,

Aaron Allen wrote:

> I rather suspect it's how the PCI bus is handled and/or how RAM is accessed.
> I've had great luck with my trusty old SiS Asus A7s333 mobo for years now.

Correct.

That board you have is the only and I mean only SiS chip set based board

that work well for DAWs and it was sadly very short lived.

> Not too sure I'd try it with a native system, that's an unknown I don't need
> to attempt, so I probably never will. The same model mobo has also been
> great in use with server 2003. To be honest I've reached a point with DSP &
> DSP assisted cards (paris, 0404, pulsar) where the host PC can be just about
> anything and still work great, so I'm probably dated on my thinking. As of
> late though I've been getting the quad core itch, and a scratching is coming
> :)

the current Xeon Quad Core e5440 cpu will allow you to run the vast majority of you native plug ins that are multi-threaded at the lowest buffer setting of a sound card. Example would be running at the 32k buffer (0.7ms) on the RME MADI card with all 64 I/O active and assigned and having 70+ magneto plug ins running on the live inputs with 64 tracks on audio recording and 64 tracks playing back. Of course Cubase still isn't fully optimized for more than 4 cores yet.

If you set your buffer to 256(6ms in most sounds cards) you will actually reach the limit of plug ins GUI and/or Cubase's ability to load plug ins. Which is approx 246 magnetos.

Ever sense the dual core and quad core Intel's came out th only thing preventing someone from running a system at its lowest latencies for a project are either poorly written driver of the sound card or DSP card, poorly written host software or poorly written plug ins.

Of course now both PC and Macs have this ability with the only thing holding either back are software developers not optimizing there stuff for multi-core hardware or a few hard makers either not being able to because of limitation in their product or in their mind set.

Pro Tool user actually get an added bonus in that PT software is optimized for multi-core and PTLE systems and PT HD systems work quite well on the 8 core Xeon's hardware. So they get the hardware DSP and the RTAS native going on full steam. Although they can run far less of the same plug in in the hardware DSP than they can native. :)

If/when Vista and or 64 bit OS's get sorted out then things will get even better.

Chris

--

Chris Ludwig

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Subject: Re: Need some computer advice.
Posted by [Neil](#) on Fri, 18 Jan 2008 17:09:50 GMT
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Chris Ludwig <chrisl@adkproaudio.com> wrote:

>Pro audio and video folks are usually just lucky if they make
>one that works well and it laid out well for either.

I got lucky on three I built for DAW applications... (two had VIA chipsets, I don't recall what my very first Paris rig had); and got unlucky with one - my 2nd Cubase rig. Got VERY lucky with an off-the-shelf Gateway (one of the last of the XP boxes at a local Best Buy that I got on closeout the day before the Vista machines came out), I figured I could always use it as a new desktop PC - since mine is probably five years old now - if it didn't work out as a DAW.

Neil

Subject: Re: Need some computer advice.
Posted by [emarenot](#) on Sun, 20 Jan 2008 04:44:40 GMT
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Hey Chris!

Thanks for the response. I'm trying to put together an audio machine to run Reaper. I was looking at that biostar board, but changed directions pretty quick. I posted a parts list, as a new post, just a little bit ago.

Its always kind of daunting to build from scratch, but I had pretty good luck building my Paris rig, so I'm plugging my nose and jumping in!
MR

Chris Ludwig <chrisl@adkproaudio.com> wrote:

>Hi Mike,

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