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You can read the recommendations in the user guide, the technical guide or the installation guide for ASROCK H61M-VG3. You'll find the answers to all your questions on the ASROCK H61M-VG3 in the user manual (information, specifications, safety advice, size, accessories, etc.). Detailed instructions for use are in the User's Guide.

**User manual ASROCK H61M-VG3**  
**User guide ASROCK H61M-VG3**  
**Operating instructions ASROCK H61M-VG3**  
**Instructions for use ASROCK H61M-VG3**  
**Instruction manual ASROCK H61M-VG3**

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**ASRock**

H61M-VG3 /  
H61M-VS3

User Manual

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Published October 2012  
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**Manual abstract:**

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.. . 4 Chapter 1: Introduction Thank you for purchasing ASRock H61M-VG3 / H61M-VS3 motherboard, a reliable motherboard produced under ASRock's consistently stringent quality control. It delivers excellent performance with robust design conforming to ASRock's commitment to quality and endurance. In this manual, chapter 1 and 2 contain introduction of the motherboard and step-by-step guide to the hardware installation. Chapter 3 and 4 contain the configuration guide to BIOS setup and information of the Support CD. Because the motherboard specifications and the BIOS software might be updated, the content of this manual will be subject to change without notice. In case any modifications of this manual occur, the updated version will be available on ASRock website without further notice. You may find the latest VGA cards and CPU support lists on ASRock website as well. ASRock website <http://www.asrock.com> If you require technical support related to this motherboard, please visit our website for specific information about the model you are using. [www.asrock.com/support/index.asp](http://www.asrock.com/support/index.asp) 1.1 Package Contents ASRock H61M-VG3 / H61M-VS3 Motherboard (Micro ATX Form Factor) ASRock H61M-VG3 / H61M-VS3

*Quick Installation Guide ASRock H61M-VG3 / H61M-VS3 Support CD 2 x Serial ATA (SATA) Data Cables (Optional) 1 x I/O Panel Shield ASRock Reminds You...*

*To get better performance in Windows® 8 / 8 64-bit / 7 / 7 64-bit / Vista™ / Vista™ 64-bit, it is recommended to set the BIOS option in Storage Configuration to AHCI mode. 5 1.2 Specifications - Micro ATX Form Factor - All Solid Capacitor design (H61M-VG3) - Solid Capacitor for CPU power (H61M-VS3) - Supports 3rd and 2nd Generation Intel® Core™ i7 / i5 / i3 in LGA1155 Package - Supports Intel® Turbo Boost 2.0 Technology - Supports K-Series unlocked CPU - Intel® H61 - Supports Intel® Rapid Start Technology and Smart Connect Technology - Dual Channel DDR3 Memory Technology - 2 x DDR3 DIMM slots - Supports DDR3 1600/1333/1066 non-ECC, un-buffered memory (DDR3 1600 with Intel® Ivy Bridge CPU, DDR3 1333 with Intel® Sandy Bridge CPU) - Max. capacity of system memory: 16GB (see CAUTION 1) - Supports Intel® Extreme Memory Profile (XMP) 1.3 / 1.2 with Intel® Ivy Bridge CPU - 1 x PCI Express 3.0 x16 slot (blue @ x16 mode) \* PCIE 3.0 is only supported with Intel® Ivy Bridge CPU. With Intel® Sandy Bridge CPU, it only supports PCIE 2.*

*0. - 1 x PCI Express 2.0 x1 slot \* Intel® HD Graphics Built-in Visuals and the VGA outputs can be supported only with processors which are GPU integrated. - Supports Intel® HD Graphics Built-in Visuals: Intel® Quick Sync Video 2.0, Intel® InTru™ 3D, Intel® Clear Video HD Technology, Intel® Insider™, Intel® HD Graphics 2500/4000 with Intel® Ivy Bridge CPU - Supports Intel® HD Graphics Built-in Visuals: Intel® Quick Sync Video, Intel® InTru™ 3D, Intel® Clear Video HD Technology, Intel® HD Graphics 2000/3000, Intel® Advanced Vector Extensions (AVX) with Intel® Sandy Bridge CPU - Pixel Shader 5.0, DirectX 11 with Intel® Ivy Bridge CPU. Pixel Shader 4.1, DirectX 10.1 with Intel® Sandy Bridge CPU. - Max. shared memory 1760MB with Intel® Ivy Bridge CPU. Max. shared memory 1759MB with Intel® Sandy Bridge CPU. Platform CPU Chipset Memory Expansion Slot Graphics 6 Audio LAN Rear Panel I/O Connector BIOS Feature Support CD Hardware Monitor - Supports D-Sub with max. resolution up to 2048x1536 @ 75Hz - 5.*

*1 CH HD Audio (Realtek ALC662 Audio Codec) - H61M-VG3 Realtek PCIE x1 Gigabit LAN RTL8111E, speed 10/100/1000 Mb/s - H61M-VS3 Realtek PCIE x1 LAN RTL8105E, speed 10/100 Mb/s - Supports PXE I/O Panel - 1 x PS/2 Mouse Port - 1 x PS/2 Keyboard Port - 1 x VGA Port - 4 x Ready-to-Use USB 2.0 Ports - 1 x RJ-45 LAN Port with LED (ACT/LINK LED and SPEED LED) - HD Audio Jack: Line in/Front Speaker/Microphone - 4 x SATA2 3.*



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0 Gb/s connectors, support NCQ, AHCI and Hot Plug functions - 1 x Power LED header - 1 x Chassis Intrusion header - 1 x CPU Fan connectors (4-pin) - 1 x Chassis Fan connector (3-pin) - 24 pin ATX power connector - 4 pin 12V power connector - Front panel audio connector - 2 x USB 2.0 headers (support 4 USB 2.0 ports) - 32Mb AMI UEFI Legal BIOS with GUI support - Supports "Plug and Play" - ACPI 1.

1 Compliance Wake Up Events - Supports jumperfree - SMBIOS 2.3.1 Support - Drivers, Utilities, AntiVirus Software (Trial Version), CyberLink MediaEspresso 6.5 Trial, ASRock MAGIX Multimedia Suite - OEM, Google Chrome Browser and Toolbar - CPU Temperature Sensing - Chassis Temperature Sensing - CPU Fan Tachometer - Chassis Fan Tachometer 7 OS Certifications - CPU Quiet Fan (Allow Chassis Fan Speed Auto-Adjust by CPU Temperature) - CPU Fan Multi-Speed Control - CASE OPEN detection - Voltage Monitoring: +12V, +5V, +3.3V, CPU Vcore - Microsoft® Windows® 8 / 8 64-bit / 7 / 7 64-bit / Vista™ / Vista™ 64-bit / XP / XP 64-bit compliant - FCC, CE, WHQL \* For detailed product information, please visit our website: <http://www.asrock.com> WARNING Please realize that there is a certain risk involved with overclocking, including adjusting the setting in the BIOS, applying Untied Overclocking Technology, or using third-party overclocking tools. Overclocking may affect your system's stability, or even cause damage to the components and devices of your system. It should be done at your own risk and expense. We are not responsible for possible damage caused by overclocking.

**CAUTION! 1.** Due to the operating system limitation, the actual memory size may be less than 4GB for the reservation for system usage under Windows® 8 / 7 / Vista™ / XP. For Windows® OS with 64bit CPU, there is no such limitation. You can use ASRock XFast RAM to utilize the memory that Windows® cannot use. 8 1.3 Unique Features ASRock Extreme Tuning Utility (AXTU) ASRock access at specified times via OMG. You may schedule the starting and ending hours of internet access granted to other users. In order to prevent users from bypassing OMG, guest accounts without permission to modify the system time are required. ASRock Internet Flash ASRock Internet Flash searches for available UEFI firmware updates from our servers. In other words, the system can autodetect the latest UEFI from our servers and flash them without entering Windows® OS.

Please note that you must be running on a DHCP configured computer in order to enable this function. ASRock Dehumidifier Function Users may prevent motherboard damages due to dampness by enabling "Dehumidifier Function". When enabling Dehumidifier Function, the computer will power on automatically to dehumidify the system after entering S4/S5 state. ASRock Fast Boot With ASRock's exclusive Fast Boot technology, it takes less than 1.5 seconds to logon to Windows® 8 from a cold boot.

No more waiting! The speedy boot will completely change your user experience and behavior. 11 ASRock Restart to UEFI Windows® 8 brings the ultimate boot up experience. The lightning boot up speed makes it hard to access the UEFI setup. ASRock Restart to UEFI technology is designed for those requiring frequent UEFI access. It allows users to easily enter the UEFI automatically when turning on the PC next time.

Just simply enable this function; the PC will be assured to access the UEFI directly in the very beginning. ASRock Good Night LED ASRock Good Night LED technology can offer you a better environment by extinguishing the unessential LED. By enabling Good Night LED in BIOS, the Power / HDD / LAN LED will be switched off when system is on. Not only this, Good night LED will automatically switch off Power and Keyboard LED when the system enters into Standby / Hibernation mode as well. 12 1.3 Motherboard Layout (H61M-VG3 / H61M-VS3) 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 SATA\_0 (PORT 0) SATA\_2 (PORT 4) ATXPWR1 PS2 Mouse PS2 Keyboard 32Mb BIOS SATA\_1 (PORT 1) SATA\_3 (PORT 5) 1 USB4\_5 21 1 USB6\_7 20 USB 2.0 T: USB0 B: USB1 CPU\_FAN1 ATX12V1 19 USB 2.0 T: USB2 B: USB3 Top: RJ-45 18 LAN X Fast LAN CII 1 HD\_AUDIO1 17 16 1 DDR3\_A1 (64 bit, 240-pin module) DDR3\_B1 (64 bit, 240-pin module) RoHS X Fast USB DDR3 Intel H61 X Fast RAM VGA1 Bottom: MIC IN Top: LINE IN AUDIO CODEC Center: FRONT 1 CLRCMOS1 PLED1 PCIE1 CMOS BATTERY CHA\_FAN1 1 PLED PWRBTN 10 11 1 HDLED RESET PANEL1 PCIE2 15 14 13 12 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 32Mb SPI Flash SATA2 Connector (SATA\_1 (PORT 1)) SATA2 Connector (SATA\_0 (PORT 0)) SATA2 Connector (SATA\_2 (PORT 4)) SATA2 Connector (SATA\_3 (PORT 5)) USB 2.0 Header (USB6\_7) USB 2.0 Header (USB4\_5) ATX Power Connector (ATXPWR1) 2 x 240-pin DDR3 DIMM Slots (Dual Channel: DDR3\_A1, DDR3\_B1) Clear CMOS Jumper (CLRCMOS1) 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 Power LED Header (PLED1) System Panel Header (PANEL1) Chassis Fan Connector (CHA\_FAN1) Chassis Intrusion Header (CII) PCI Express 3.

0 x16 Slot (PCIE2) PCI Express 2.0 x1 Slot (PCIE1) Front Panel Audio Header (HD\_AUDIO1) 1155-Pin CPU Socket CPU Fan Connector (CPU\_FAN1) ATX 12V Power Connector (ATX12V1) Intel H61 Chipset 13 1.4 I/O Panel (H61M-VG3) 1 2 3 4 5 9 1 \* 2 3 \*\* 4 5 8 7 6 USB 2.0 Ports (USB23) USB 2.0 Ports (USB01) VGA Port PS/2 Keyboard Port (Purple) PS/2 Mouse Port (Green) 6 LAN RJ-45 Port 7 Line In (Light Blue) 8 Front Speaker (Lime) 9 Microphone (Pink) \* There are two LED next to the LAN port. Please refer to the table below for the LAN port LED indications. LAN Port LED Indications Status SPEED LED Description Activity/Link LED Status Description ACT/LINK LED SPEED LED Off No Link Blinking Data Activity On Link Off Orange Green 10Mbps connection 100Mbps connection 1Gbps connection LAN Port \*\* To enable Multi-Streaming function, you need to connect a front panel audio cable to the front panel audio header. Please refer to below steps for the software setting of Multi-Streaming. For Windows® XP: After restarting your computer, you will find "Mixer" tool on your system. Please select "Mixer ToolBox", click "Enable playback multi-streaming", and click "ok". Choose "2CH" or "4CH" and then you are allowed to select "Realtek HDA Primary output" to use Rear Speaker and Front Speaker, or select "Realtek HDA Audio 2nd output" to use front panel audio. Then reboot your system. For Windows® 8 / 7 / Vista™: After restarting your computer, please double-click "Realtek HD Audio Manager" on the system tray. Set "Speaker Configuration" to "Quadraphonic" or "Stereo". Click "Device advanced settings", choose "Make front and rear output devices playbacks two different audio streams simultaneously", and click "ok".



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Then reboot your system. 14 1.5 I/O Panel (H61M-VS3) 1 2 3 4 5 9 1 \* 2 3 \*\* 4 5 8 7 6 USB 2.0 Ports (USB23) USB 2.0 Ports (USB01) VGA Port PS/2 Keyboard Port (Purple) PS/2 Mouse Port (Green) 6 LAN RJ-45 Port 7 Line In (Light Blue) 8 Front Speaker (Lime) 9 Microphone (Pink) \* There are two LED next to the LAN port.

Please refer to the table below for the LAN port LED indications. LAN Port LED Indications Status SPEED LED Description Activity/Link LED Status Description ACT/LINK LED SPEED LED Off No Link Blinking Data Activity On Link Off On 10Mbps connection 100Mbps connection LAN Port \*\* To enable Multi-Streaming function, you need to connect a front panel audio cable to the front panel audio header. Please refer to below steps for the software setting of Multi-Streaming. For Windows® XP: After restarting your computer, you will find "Mixer" tool on your system. Please select "Mixer ToolBox", click "Enable playback multi-streaming", and click "ok". Choose "2CH" or "4CH" and then you are allowed to select "Realtek HDA Primary output" to use Rear Speaker and Front Speaker, or select "Realtek HDA Audio 2nd output" to use front panel audio. Then reboot your system. For Windows® 8 / 7 / Vista™: After restarting your computer, please double-click "Realtek HD Audio Manager" on the system tray. Set "Speaker Configuration" to "Quadraphonic" or "Stereo". Click "Device advanced settings", choose "Make front and rear output devices playbacks two different audio streams simultaneously", and click "ok".

Then reboot your system. 15 Chapter 2: Installation This is a Micro ATX form factor motherboard. Before you install the motherboard, study the configuration of your chassis to ensure that the motherboard fits into it. Make sure to unplug the power cord before installing or removing the motherboard.

Failure to do so may cause physical injuries to you and damages to motherboard components. 2.1 Screw Holes Place screws into the holes indicated by circles to secure the motherboard to the chassis. Do not over-tighten the screws! Doing so may damage the motherboard. 2.2 Pre-installation Precautions

Take note of the following precautions before you install motherboard components or change any motherboard settings.

1. 2. 3. 4. Unplug the power cord from the wall socket before touching any component.

To avoid damaging the motherboard components due to static electricity, NEVER place your motherboard directly on the carpet or the like. Also remember to use a grounded wrist strap or touch a safety grounded object before you handle components. Hold components by the edges and do not touch the ICs.

Whenever you uninstall any component, place it on a grounded antistatic pad or in the bag that comes with the component. Before you install or remove any component, ensure that the power is switched off or the power cord is detached from the power supply.

Failure to do so may cause severe damage to the motherboard, peripherals, and/or components. 16 2.3 CPU Installation For the installation of Intel 1155-Pin CPU, please follow the steps below. Load Plate Load Lever Contact Array Socket Body 1155-Pin Socket Overview Before you insert the 1155-Pin CPU into the socket, please check if the CPU surface is unclean or if there is any bent pin on the socket. Do not force to insert the CPU into the socket if above situation is found. Otherwise, the CPU will be seriously damaged. Step 1. Open the socket: Step 1-1. Disengaging the lever by depressing down and out on the hook to clear retention tab. Step 1-2.

Rotate the load lever to fully open position at approximately 135 degrees. Step 1-3. Rotate the load plate to fully open position at approximately 100 degrees.

Step 2. Remove PnP Cap (Pick and Place Cap). 1. It is recommended to use the cap tab to handle and avoid kicking off the PnP cap. 2. This cap must be placed if returning the motherboard for after service. 17 Step 3.

Insert the 1155-Pin CPU: Step 3-1. Hold the CPU by the edge where is marked with black line. black line Step 3-2. Orient the CPU with IHS (Integrated Heat Sink) up. Locate Pin1 and the two orientation key notches.

orientation key notch Pin1 alignment key Pin1 alignment key orientation key notch 1155-Pin CPU 1155-Pin Socket For proper inserting, please ensure to match the two orientation key notches of the CPU with the two alignment keys of the socket. Step 3-3. Carefully place the CPU into the socket by using a purely vertical motion. Step 3-4. Verify that the CPU is within the socket and properly mated to the orient keys.

Step 4. Close the socket: Step 4-1. Rotate the load plate onto the IHS. Step 4-2. While pressing down lightly on load plate, engage the load lever. 18 2.4

Installation of CPU Fan and Heatsink This motherboard is equipped with 1155-Pin socket that supports Intel 1155-Pin CPU. Please adopt the type of heatsink and cooling fan compliant with Intel 1155Pin CPU to dissipate heat. Before you installed the heatsink, you need to spray thermal interface material between the CPU and the heatsink to improve heat dissipation. Ensure that the CPU and the heatsink are securely fastened and in good contact with each other.

Then connect the CPU fan to the CPU\_FAN connector (CPU\_FAN1, see page 13, No. 19). For proper installation, please kindly refer to the instruction manuals of your CPU fan and heatsink. Below is an example to illustrate the installation of the heatsink for 1155-Pin CPU. Step 1. Apply thermal interface material onto center of IHS on the socket surface. Apply Thermal Interface Material Step 2. Place the heatsink onto the socket. Ensure fan cables are oriented on side closest to the CPU fan connector on the motherboard (CPU\_FAN1, see page 13, No. 19).

Step 3. Align fasteners with the motherboard throughholes. Step 4. Rotate the fastener clockwise, then press down on fastener caps with thumb to install and lock. Repeat with remaining fasteners.

Fan cables on side closest to MB header Fastener slots pointing straight out Press Down (4 Places) If you press down the fasteners without rotating them clockwise, the heatsink cannot be secured on the motherboard. Step 5. Connect fan header with the CPU fan connector on the motherboard. Step 6. Secure excess cable with tie-wrap to ensure cable does not interfere with fan operation or contact other components.

19 2.5 Installation of Memory Modules (DIMM) This motherboard provides two 240-pin DDR3 (Double Data Rate 3) DIMM slots, and supports Dual Channel Memory Technology. For dual channel configuration, you always need to install two identical (the same brand, speed, size and chiptype) memory modules in the DDR3 DIMM slots to activate Dual Channel Memory Technology. Otherwise, it will operate at single channel mode. 1. 2. 3.



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*It is not allowed to install a DDR or DDR2 memory module into DDR3 slot; otherwise, this motherboard and DIMM may be damaged. If you install only one memory module or two non-identical memory modules, it is unable to activate the Dual Channel Memory Technology. Some DDR3 1GB double-sided DIMMs with 16 chips may not work on this motherboard.*

*It is not recommended to install them on this motherboard. Installing a DIMM Please make sure to disconnect power supply before adding or removing DIMMs or the system components. Step 1. Unlock a DIMM slot by pressing the retaining clips outward. Step 2. Align a DIMM on the slot such that the notch on the DIMM matches the break on the slot. The DIMM only fits in one correct orientation. It will cause permanent damage to the motherboard and the DIMM if you force the DIMM into the slot at incorrect orientation. Step 3. Firmly insert the DIMM into the slot until the retaining clips at both ends fully snap back in place and the DIMM is properly seated.*

**20 2.6 Expansion Slots (PCI Express Slots)** *There are 2 PCI Express slots on this motherboard. PCIE slots: PCIE1 (PCIE 2.0 x1 slot) is used for PCI Express cards with x1 lane width cards, such as Gigabit LAN card, SATA2 card, etc. PCIE2 (PCIE 3.*

*0 x16 slot) is used for PCI Express x16 lane width graphics cards. Only PCIE2 slot supports Gen 3 speed. To run the PCI Express in Gen 3 speed, please install an Ivy Bridge CPU. If you install a Sandy Bridge CPU, the PCI Express will run only at PCI Express Gen 2 speed. Installing an expansion card Step 1. Before installing the expansion card, please make sure that the power supply is switched off or the power cord is unplugged. Please read the documentation of the expansion card and make necessary hardware settings for the card before you start the installation. Remove the system unit cover (if your motherboard is already installed in a chassis). Remove the bracket facing the slot that you intend to use. Keep the screws for later use. Align the card connector with the slot and press firmly until the card is completely seated on the slot. Fasten the card to the chassis with screws. Replace the system cover. Step 2. Step 3.*

*Step 4. Step 5. Step 6. 21 2.7 Multi Monitor Feature This motherboard supports multi monitor upgrade. With the internal VGA output support and external add-on PCI Express VGA cards, you can easily enjoy the benefits of multi monitor feature. Please refer to the following steps to set up a multi monitor environment: 1. Install the PCI Express VGA card on PCIE2 slot. Please refer to page 21 for proper expansion card installation procedures for details. 2. Connect D-Sub monitor cable to D-Sub port on the I/O panel. Then connect other monitor cables to the corresponding connectors of the add-on PCI Express VGA card on PCIE2 slot. VGA port 3. Boot your system. Press <F2> or <Del> to enter UEFI setup.*

*Enter "Onboard VGA Share Memory" option to adjust the memory capability to [32MB], [64MB], [128MB], [256MB] or [512MB] to enable the function of D-sub. Please make sure that the value you select is less than the total capability of the system memory. If you do not adjust the UEFI setup, the default value of "Onboard VGA Share Memory", [Auto], will disable D-Sub function when the add-on VGA card is inserted to this motherboard. 4. Install the onboard VGA driver and the add-on PCI Express VGA card driver to your system.*

*If you have installed the drivers already, there is no need to install them again. 5. Set up a multi-monitor display. For Windows® XP / XP 64-bit OS: Right click the desktop, choose "Properties", and select the "Settings" tab so that you can adjust the parameters of the multi-monitor according to the steps below. A. Click the "Identify" button to display a large number on each monitor. B. Right-click the display icon in the Display Properties dialog that you wish to be your primary monitor, and then select "Primary". When you use multiple monitors with your card, one monitor will always be Primary, and all additional monitors will be designated as Secondary. 22 C.*

*Select the display icon identified by the number 2. D. Click "Extend my Windows desktop onto this monitor". E. Right-click the display icon and select "Attached", if necessary. F. Set the "Screen Resolution" and "Color Quality" as appropriate for the second monitor. Click "Apply" or "OK" to apply these new values. G. Repeat steps C through E for the display icon identified by the number one, two and three.*

*For Windows® 8 / 8 64-bit / 7 / 7 64-bit / Vista™ / Vista™ 64-bit OS: Right click the desktop, choose "Personalize", and select the "Display Settings" tab so that you can adjust the parameters of the multi-monitor according to the steps below. A. Click the number "2" icon. B. Click the items "This is my main monitor" and "Extend the desktop onto this monitor".*

*C. Click "OK" to save your change. D. Repeat steps A through C for the display icon identified by the number three. 6.*

*Use multi monitor. Click and drag the display icons to positions representing the physical setup of your monitors that you would like to use. The placement of display icons determines how you move items from one monitor to another. 23 2.8 Jumpers Setup The illustration shows how jumpers are setup. When the jumper cap is placed on pins, the jumper is "Short". If no jumper cap is placed on pins, the jumper is "Open". The illustration shows a 3-pin jumper whose pin1 and pin2 are "Short" when jumper cap is placed on these 2 pins. Jumper Setting Clear CMOS Jumper (CLRCMOS1) (see p.13, No.*

*10) Description Note: CLRCMOS1 allows you to clear the data in CMOS. To clear and reset the system parameters to default setup, please turn off the computer and unplug the power cord from the power supply. After waiting for 15 seconds, use a jumper cap to short pin2 and pin3 on CLRCMOS1 for 5 seconds. However, please do not clear the CMOS right after you update the BIOS. If you need to clear the CMOS when you just finish updating the BIOS, you must boot up the system first, and then shut it down before you do the clear-CMOS action. Please be noted that the password, date, time and user default profile will be cleared only if the CMOS battery is removed. If you clear the CMOS, the case open may be detected. Please adjust the BIOS option "Clear Status" to clear the record of previous chassis intrusion status. Default Clear CMOS 24 2.9 Onboard Headers and Connectors Onboard headers and connectors are NOT jumpers.*

*Do NOT place jumper caps over these headers and connectors. Placing jumper caps over the headers and connectors will cause permanent damage of the motherboard! Serial ATA2 Connectors (SATA\_0 (PORT 0): SATA\_0 (PORT 0) see p.*



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Please select CD-ROM as the boot device.

C. When you see the message on the screen, "Do you want to generate Serial ATA driver diskette [YN]?", press <Y>. D. Then you will see these messages, Please insert a diskette into the floppy drive. WARNING! Formatting the floppy diskette will lose ALL data in it! Start to format and copy files [YN]? Please insert a floppy diskette into the floppy drive, and press <Y>.

E. The system will start to format the floppy diskette and copy SATA / SATA2 drivers into the floppy diskette. 32 STEP 3: Install Windows® XP / XP 64-bit OS on your system. After making a SATA / SATA2 driver diskette, you can start to install Windows® XP / XP 64-bit on your system. At the beginning of Windows® setup, press F6 to install a third-party AHCI driver.

When prompted, insert the SATA / SATA2 driver diskette containing the Intel® AHCI driver. After reading the floppy disk, the driver will be presented. Select the driver to install according to the mode you choose and the OS you install. Using SATA / SATA2 HDDs without NCQ function STEP 1: Set up UEFI. A. Enter UEFI SETUP UTILITY Advanced screen Storage Configuration. B. Set the option "SATA Mode Selection" to [IDE]. STEP 2: Install Windows® XP / XP 64-bit OS on your system. 2.

14.2 Installing Windows® 8 / 8 64-bit / 7 / 7 64-bit / Vista™ / Vista™ 64-bit Without RAID Functions If you want to install Windows® 8 / 8 64-bit / 7 / 7 64-bit / Vista™ / Vista™ 64-bit OS on your SATA / SATA2 HDDs without RAID functions, please follow below steps. Using SATA / SATA2 HDDs with NCQ function STEP 1: Set Up UEFI. A. Enter UEFI SETUP UTILITY Advanced screen Storage Configuration. B. Set the option "SATA Mode Selection" to [AHCI]. STEP 2: Install Windows® 8 / 8 64-bit / 7 / 7 64-bit / Vista™ / Vista™ 64-bit OS on your system. Using SATA / SATA2 HDDs without NCQ function STEP 1: Set up UEFI. A.

Enter UEFI SETUP UTILITY Advanced screen Storage Configuration. B. Set the option "SATA Mode Selection" to [IDE]. STEP 2: Install Windows® 8 / 8 64-bit / 7 / 7 64-bit / Vista™ / Vista™ 64-bit OS on your system. 33 2.

15 ASRock XFast 555 ASRock's unique XFast 555 Technology includes three tools that allow users to experience huge performance boosts. There is XFast RAM for 5 times better system speed, XFast LAN for 5 times faster LAN speed and XFast USB for 5 times faster USB speed. 34 2.15.1 ASRock XFast RAM ASRock XFast RAM is a new function that is included in ASRock Extreme Tuning Utility (AXTU).

It fully utilizes the memory space that cannot be used under Windows® 32-bit OS. ASRock XFast RAM shortens the loading time of previously visited websites, making web surfing faster than ever. And it also boosts the speed of Adobe Photoshop 5 times faster. Another advantage of ASRock XFast RAM is that it reduces the frequency of accessing your SSDs or HDDs in order to extend their lifespan. 35 XFast RAM Settings You may find the XFast RAM setup page in the left panel of ASRock Extreme Tuning utility. First select the desired drive and disk size to create a virtual drive. To access more than 4GB of RAM in Windows® 32-bit OS, please leave PAE mode set to ON. In the options section, users may enable and assign the size of a partition for Ready Boost if they're using a 32-bit OS. We suggest setting the size of Ready Boost one to three times larger than your RAM for optimized performance. Normally, when the memory being used by all the existing processes exceeds the available RAM, the operating system moves pages (4-KB pieces) of one or more virtual address spaces to the computer's hard disk.

By enabling Memory Pagefile, the system puts the pages into the virtual drive instead of the hard disk drive to accelerate performance speed. 36 Lastly, select the files that are supposed to go in the virtual drive to speed up the system's performance. Such as temporary files created by computer programs when they cannot allocate enough memory for its tasks. Or internet cache files including html, images, Cascading Style Sheets and JavaScript scripts from IE, Firefox and Google Chrome. Click Backup XFast RAM if you wish to make a backup. Then click on the APPLY button to activate XFast RAM. Click on STOP if you wish to deactivate XFastRAM. The virtual disk will appear once you restart the system. 37 2.15.

2 ASRock XFast LAN ASRock XFast LAN provides several special features for faster internet access. For example, LAN Application Prioritization allows you to configure your application's priority ideally or add new programs to the priority list. Traffic Shaping helps you watch Youtube HD videos and download files simultaneously without hiccups. And in the status window there's Real-Time Analysis of Your Data so you can easily recognize the data streams you are transferring currently. 38 ASRock XFast LAN UI Overview The default status window Low Latency Mode switch arrow down = currently Open slot on (if needed) configuration arrow up = always on Download activity display dialog no arrow = off TX shaping indicator Show/hide slot activation area Variance of ping time Graphs Transfer rate in % for slots 1-10 Open Current Connections window Ping time in ms Number of TCP/UDP/TCP+UDP connections Download CPS rate Upload CPS rate Upload activity display Right click for more options 39 Close Windows Hides the status window.

Can also be done by double clicking on the status window. Reopen by right clicking on the XFast LAN icon on the bottom right and selecting Open windows. Window settings Users may configure the skin and effects of the user interface. Make the keyboard LEDs display Traffic Shaping information. Or display the XFast LAN status window on a Logitech gamer keyboard instead of Windows desktop.

Traffic Shaping Traffic Shaping is used to optimize or guarantee performance, improve latency, and/or increase usable bandwidth for some kinds of packets by delaying other kinds of packets that meet certain criteria. In other words, it increases the speed while keeping the overall ping time low. cFos Speed Test Quickly test the upload and download speed of your Internet connection. Speed Guide This guide can either help you get the maximum out of your connection or solve problems with speed, ping time or connections. Current Connection Shows the details of current internet connections. Usage Graph Displays the Usage Graph. Options Configure settings such as program prioritization, language and update the program. Documentation Opens detailed help for XFast LAN in a browser. 40 Adding a new application and changing its priority Click search and choose a new program you wish to add. You can also type in a short description for the program.

Set the priority for the program and TX Limit then click Add to confirm. Hit the switch button to change configurations or Delete to remove the application from the priority list.



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41 2.15.3 ASRock XFast USB Not only does ASRock XFast USB boost up the performance of USB 2.0 storage devices, but also USB 3.0 devices. Users may experience up to five times faster USB data transfer speed! 42 ASRock XFast USB UI Overview Hide the XFast USB window Select your language Select a connected USB storage device Select Normal mode or Turbo mode Click to activate/ deactivate Turbo mode Click to safely remove the USB hard drive Plug in your USB storage device and XFast USB automatically sets it to Turbo mode! 43 Chapter 3: UEFI SETUP UTILITY 3.1 Introduction This section explains how to use the UEFI SETUP UTILITY to configure your system. The UEFI chip on the motherboard stores the UEFI SETUP UTILITY.

You may run the UEFI SETUP UTILITY when you start up the computer. Please press <F2> or <Del> during the Power-On-Self-Test (POST) to enter the UEFI SETUP UTILITY, otherwise, POST will continue with its test routines. If you wish to enter the UEFI SETUP UTILITY after POST, restart the system by pressing <Ctl> + <Alt> + <Delete>, or by pressing the reset button on the system chassis. You may also restart by turning the system off and then back on. Because the UEFI software is constantly being updated, the following UEFI setup screens and descriptions are for reference purpose only, and they may not exactly match what you see on your screen.

3.1.1 UEFI Menu Bar The top of the screen has a menu bar with the following selections: Main To set up the system time/date information OC Tweaker To set up overclocking features Advanced To set up the advanced UEFI features Tool Useful tools H/W Monitor To display current hardware status Boot To set up the default system device to locate and load the Operating System Security To set up the security features Exit To exit the current screen or the UEFI SETUP UTILITY Use <> key or < > key to choose among the selections on the menu bar, and then press <Enter> to get into the sub screen. You can also use the mouse to click your required item. 44 3.

1.2 Navigation Keys Please check the following table for the function description of each navigation key. Navigation Key(s) // + / - <Tab> <Enter> <PGUP> <PGDN> <HOME> <END> <F1> <F7> <F9> <F10> <F12> <ESC> Function Description Moves cursor left or right to select Screens Moves cursor up or down to select items To change option for the selected items Switch to next function To bring up the selected screen Go to the previous page Go to the next page Go to the top of the screen Go to the bottom of the screen To display the General Help Screen Discard changes and exit the UEFI SETUP UTILITY Load optimal default values for all the settings Save changes and exit the UEFI SETUP UTILITY Print screen Jump to the Exit Screen or exit the current screen 3.2 Main Screen When you enter the UEFI SETUP UTILITY, the Main screen will appear and display the system overview. H61M-VG3 45 H61M-VS3 46 3.3 OC Tweaker Screen In the OC Tweaker screen, you can set up overclocking features. CPU Configuration CPU Ratio Use this item to change the ratio value of this motherboard. Intel SpeedStep Technology Intel SpeedStep technology is Intel's new power saving technology. Processors can switch between multiple frequencies and voltage points to enable power saving. The default value is [Enabled].

Configuration options: [Enabled] and [Disabled]. If you install Windows® Vista™ / 7 / 8 and want to enable this function, please set this item to [Enabled]. This item will be hidden if the current CPU does not support Intel SpeedStep technology. Please note that enabling this function may reduce CPU voltage and lead to system stability or compatibility issues with some power supplies. Please set this item to [Disabled] if above issues occur. Intel Turbo Boost Technology Use this item to enable or disable Intel Turbo Boost Mode Technology. Turbo Boost Mode allows processor cores to run faster than marked frequency in specific conditions. The default value is [Enabled]. Long Duration Power Limit Use this item to configure long duration power limit in watts. The default value is [Auto].

Long Duration Maintained Use this item to configure time window which the long duration power is maintained. The default value is [Auto]. 47 Short Duration Power Limit Use this item to configure short duration power limit in watts. The default value is [Auto]. Primary Plane Current Limit Use this item to configure the maximum instantaneous current allowed for the primary plane.

The default value is [Auto]. Secondary Plane Current Limit Use this item to configure the maximum instantaneous current allowed for the secondary plane. The default value is [Auto]. GT OverClocking Support Use this item to enable or disable GT OverClocking Support. The default value is [Disabled].

DRAM Timing Configuration Load XMP Setting Use this to load XMP setting. Configuration options: [Auto], [Default], [Profile 1] and [Profile 2]. The default value is [Auto]. DRAM Frequency If [Auto] is selected, the motherboard will detect the memory module(s) inserted and assign the appropriate frequency automatically. DRAM Configuration DRAM tCL Use this item to change CAS# Latency (tCL) Auto/Manual setting. The default is [Auto]. DRAM tRCD Use this item to change RAS# to CAS# Delay (tRCD) Auto/Manual setting. The default is [Auto]. 48 DRAM tRP Use this item to change Row Precharge Time (tRP) Auto/Manual setting. The default is [Auto].

DRAM tRAS Use this item to change RAS# Active Time (tRAS) Auto/Manual setting. The default is [Auto]. Command Rate (CR) Use this item to change Command Rate (CR) Auto/Manual setting. The default is [Auto]. DRAM tWR Use this item to change Write Recovery Time (tWR) Auto/Manual setting. The default is [Auto]. DRAM tRFC Use this item to change Refresh Cycle Time (tRFC) Auto/Manual setting. The default is [Auto]. DRAM tRRD Use this item to change RAS to RAS Delay (tRRD) Auto/Manual setting. The default is [Auto].

DRAM tWTR Use this item to change Write to Read Delay (tWTR) Auto/Manual setting. The default is [Auto]. DRAM tRTP Use this item to change Read to Precharge (tRTP) Auto/Manual setting. The default is [Auto]. DRAM tFAW Use this item to change Four Activate Window (tFAW) Auto/Manual setting. The default is [Auto]. DRAM tCWL Use this item to change CAS# Write Latency (tCWL) Auto/Manual setting. The default is [Auto]. ODT WR (CHA) Use this item to change ODT WR (CHA) setting. The default is [Auto].

ODT WR (CHB) Use this item to change ODT WR (CHB) setting. The default is [Auto]. ODT NOM (CHA) Use this item to change ODT NOM (CHA) setting. The default is [Auto]. ODT NOM (CHB) Use this item to change ODT NOM (CHB) setting. The default is [Auto]. 49 MRC Fast Boot Use this item to enable or disable MRC Fast Boot. The default is [Enabled]. Voltage Configuration DRAM Voltage Use this to select DRAM Voltage. The default value is [Auto].



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50 3.4 Advanced Screen In this section, you may set the configurations for the following items: CPU Configuration, North Bridge Configuration, South Bridge Configuration, Storage Configuration, Intel(R) Rapid Start Technology, Intel(R) Smart Connect Technology, ACPI Configuration and USB Configuration. Setting wrong values in this section may cause the system to malfunction. 51 3.4.1 CPU Configuration Intel Hyper Threading Technology To enable this feature, a computer system with an Intel processor that supports Hyper-Threading technology and an operating system that includes optimization for this technology, such as Microsoft® Windows® XP / Vista™ / 7 / 8 is required. Set to [Enabled] if using Microsoft® Windows® XP, Vista™, 7, 8, or Linux kernel version 2.4.18 or higher. This option will be hidden if the installed CPU does not support Hyper-Threading technology.

Active Processor Cores Use this item to select the number of cores to enable in each processor package. The default value is [All]. Enhance Halt State (C1E) All processors support the Halt State (C1). The C1 state is supported through the native processor instructions HLT and MWAIT and requires no hardware support from the chipset. In the C1 power state, the processor maintains the context of the system caches.

CPU C3 State Support Use this to enable or disable CPU C3 (ACPI C2) report to OS. CPU C6 State Support Use this to enable or disable CPU C6 (ACPI C3) report to OS. Package C State Support Selected option will program into C State package limit register. The default value is [Auto]. CPU Thermal Throttling You may select [Enabled] to enable CPU internal thermal control mechanism to keep the CPU from overheating.

No-Execute Memory Protection No-Execution (NX) Memory Protection Technology is an enhancement 52 to the IA-32 Intel Architecture. An IA-32 processor with "No Execute (NX) Memory Protection" can prevent data pages from being used by malicious software to execute codes. This option will be hidden if the current CPU does not support No-Execute Memory Protection. Intel Virtualization Technology When this option is set to [Enabled], a VMM (Virtual Machine Architecture) can utilize the additional hardware capabilities provided by Vanderpool Technology. This option will be hidden if the installed CPU does not support Intel Virtualization Technology. Hardware Prefetcher Use this item to turn on/off the MLC streamer prefetcher. Adjacent Cache Line Prefetch Use this item to turn on/off prefetching of adjacent cache lines. 53 3.4.2 North Bridge Configuration Primary Graphics Adapter This allows you to select [Onboard] or [PCI Express] as the boot graphic adapter priority.

The default value is [PCI Express]. VT-d Use this to enable or disable Intel® VT-d technology (Intel® Virtualization Technology for Directed I/O). The default value of this feature is [Disabled]. PCIE2 Link Speed This allows you to select PCIE2 Link Speed. The default value is [Auto]. Share Memory This allows you to set onboard VGA share memory feature. The default value is [Auto]. IGPU Multi-Monitor This allows you to enable or disable IGPU Multi-Monitor. The default value is [Enabled]. If you install the PCI Express card under Windows® XP / Vista™ OS, please disable this option.

Render Standby Use this to enable or disable Render Standby by Internal Graphics Device. The default value is [Enabled]. 54 3.4.3 South Bridge Configuration Onboard HD Audio Select [Auto], [Enabled] or [Disabled] for the onboard HD Audio feature.

If you select [Auto], the onboard HD Audio will be disabled when PCI Sound Card is plugged. Front Panel Select [Auto] or [Disabled] for the onboard HD Audio Front Panel. Onboard LAN This allows you to enable or disable the Onboard LAN feature. Restore on AC/Power Loss This allows you to set the power state after an unexpected AC/power loss. If [Power Off] is selected, the AC/power remains off when the power recovers.

If [Power On] is selected, the AC/power resumes and the system starts to boot up when the power recovers. Good Night LED Use this item to enable or disable Power LED and LAN LED. 55 3.4.4 Storage Configuration SATA Controller(s) Use this item to enable or disable the SATA Controller feature. SATA Mode Selection Use this to select SATA mode. Configuration options: [IDE Mode], [AHCI Mode] and [Disabled]. The default value is [AHCI Mode]. AHCI (Advanced Host Controller Interface) supports NCQ and other new features that will improve SATA disk performance but IDE mode does not have these advantages. SATA Aggressive Link Power Management Use this item to configure SATA Aggressive Link Power Management.

Hard Disk S.M.A.R.T. Use this item to enable or disable the S.M.A.R.T.

(Self-Monitoring, Analysis, and Reporting Technology) feature. Configuration options: [Disabled] and [Enabled]. 56 3.4.5 Intel(R) Rapid Start Technology Intel(R) Rapid Start Technology Use this item to enable or disable Intel(R) Rapid Start Technology.

Intel(R) Rapid Start Technology is a new zero power hibernation mode which allows users to resume in just 5-6 seconds. The default is [Enabled]. Entry After Select a time to enable RTC wake timer at S3 entry. The default is [10 minutes]. Active Page Threshold Support This allows you to enable or disable Active Page Threshold Support.

The default is [Disabled]. 57 3.4.6 Intel(R) Smart Connect Technology Intel(R) Smart Connect Technology Use this item to enable or disable Intel(R) Smart Connect Technology. Intel(R) Smart Connect Technology keeps your e-mail and social networks, such as Twitter, Facebook, etc. updated automatically while the computer is in sleep mode. The default is [Enabled]. 58 3.4.7 ACPI Configuration Check Ready Bit Use this item to enable or disable the feature Check Ready Bit.

ACPI HPET Table Use this item to enable or disable ACPI HPET Table. The default value is [Enabled]. Please set this option to [Enabled] if you plan to use this motherboard to submit Windows® certification. PS/2 Keyboard Power On Use this item to enable or disable PS/2 keyboard to turn on the system from the power-soft-off mode. PCIE Device Power On Use this item to enable or disable PCIE devices to turn on the system from the power-soft-off mode. RTC Alarm Power On Use this item to enable or disable RTC (Real Time Clock) to power on the system. USB Keyboard/Remote Power On Use this item to enable or disable USB Keyboard/Remote to turn on the system from the power-soft-off mode. USB Mouse Power On Use this item to enable or disable USB Mouse to turn on the system from the power-soft-off mode. 59 CSM Please disable CSM when you enable Fast Boot option. The default value is [Enabled].

3.4.8 USB Configuration USB 2.0 Controller Use this item to enable or disable the use of USB 2.0 controller.

Legacy USB Support Use this option to select legacy support for USB devices. There are four configuration options: [Enabled], [Auto], [Disabled] and [UEFI Setup Only].



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The default value is [Enabled]. Please refer to below descriptions for the details of these four options: [Enabled] - Enables support for legacy USB. [Auto] - Enables legacy support if USB devices are connected.

[Disabled] - USB devices are not allowed to use under legacy OS and UEFI setup when [Disabled] is selected. If you have USB compatibility issue, it is recommended to select [Disabled] to enter OS. [UEFI Setup Only] - USB devices are allowed to use only under UEFI setup and Windows / Linux OS. 60 3.5 Tool OMG(Online Management Guard) Administrators are able to establish an internet curfew or restrict internet access at specified times via OMG. You may schedule the starting and ending hours of internet access granted to other users. In order to prevent users from bypassing OMG, guest accounts without permission to modify the system time are required. UEFI Update Utility Instant Flash Instant Flash is a UEFI flash utility embedded in Flash ROM. This convenient UEFI update tool allows you to update system UEFI without entering operating systems first like MS-DOS or Windows®. Just save the new UEFI file to your USB flash drive, floppy disk or hard drive and launch this tool, then you can update your UEFI only in a few clicks without preparing an additional floppy diskette or other complicated flash utility.

Please be noted that the USB flash drive or hard drive must use FAT32/16/12 file system. If you execute Instant Flash utility, the utility will show the UEFI files and their respective information. Select the proper UEFI file to update your UEFI, and reboot your system after the UEFI update process is completed. Internet Flash Internet Flash searches for available UEFI firmware updates from our servers. In other words, the system can auto-detect the latest UEFI from our servers and flash them without entering Windows OS. Please note that you must be running on a DHCP configured computer in order to enable this function. 61 Network Configuration Internet Setting Use this item to set up the internet connection mode. Configuration options: [DHCP (Auto IP)] and [PPPOE]. UEFI Download Server Use this item to select UEFI firmware download server for Internet Flash. Configuration options: [Asia], [Europe], [USA] and [China].

Dehumidifier Function Users may prevent motherboard damages due to dampness by enabling "Dehumidifier Function". When enabling Dehumidifier Function, the computer will power on automatically to dehumidify the system after entering S4/S5 state. Dehumidifier Period This allows users to configure the period of time until the computer powers on and enables "Dehumidifier" after entering S4/S5 state. Dehumidifier Duration This allows users to configure the duration of the dehumidifying process before it returns to S4/S5 state. Dehumidifier CPU Fan Setting Use this setting to configure CPU fan speed while "Dehumidifier" is enabled.

Would you like to save current setting user defaults? In this option, you are allowed to load and save three user defaults according to your own requirements.

62 3.6 Hardware Health Event Monitoring Screen In this section, it allows you to monitor the status of the hardware on your system, including the parameters of the CPU temperature, motherboard temperature, CPU fan speed, chassis fan speed, and the critical voltage. CPU Fan Setting This allows you to set the CPU fan speed. Configuration options: [Full On] and [Automatic Mode].

The default is value [Full On]. Case Open Feature This allows you to enable or disable case open detection feature. The default is value [Enabled]. Clear Status This option appears only when the case open has been detected. Use this option to keep or clear the record of previous chassis intrusion status. 63 3.7 Boot Screen In this section, it will display the available devices on your system for you to configure the boot settings and the boot priority. Fast Boot Fast Boot minimizes your computer's boot time. There are three configuration options: [Disabled], [Fast] and [Ultra Fast]. The default value is [Disabled].

Please refer to below descriptions for the details of these three options: [Disabled] - Disable Fast Boot. [Fast] - The only restriction is you may not boot by using an USB flash drive. [Ultra Fast] - There are a few restrictions. 1. Only supports Windows® 8 UEFI operating system. 2. You will not be able to enter BIOS Setup (Clear CMOS or run utility in Widows® to enter BIOS Setup). 3. If you are using an external graphics card, the VBIOS must support UEFI GOP in order to boot. Boot From Onboard LAN Use this item to enable or disable the Boot From Onboard LAN feature.

Setup Prompt Timeout This shows the number of seconds to wait for setup activation key. 65535(0xFFFF) means indefinite waiting. Bootup Num-Lock If this item is set to [On], it will automatically activate the Numeric Lock function after boot-up. 64 Full Screen Logo Use this item to enable or disable OEM Logo. The default value is [Enabled].

AddOn ROM Display Use this option to adjust AddOn ROM Display. If you enable the option "Full Screen Logo" but you want to see the AddOn ROM information when the system boots, please select [Enabled]. Configuration options: [Enabled] and [Disabled]. The default value is [Enabled]. Boot Failure Guard Enable or disable the feature of Boot Failure Guard.

@@@ Select [Yes] to save the changes and exit the UEFI SETUP UTILITY. @@ Select [Yes] to exit the UEFI SETUP UTILITY without saving any changes. Discard Changes When you select this option, the following message "Discard changes?" will pop-out. Select [Yes] to discard all changes. Load UEFI Defaults Load UEFI default values for all the setup questions. F9 key can be used for this operation. Launch EFI Shell from filesystem device Attempts to Launch EFI Shell application (Shell64.efi) from one of the available filesystem devices. 67 Chapter 4: Software Support 4.1 Install Operating System This motherboard supports various Microsoft® Windows® operating systems: 8 / 8 64-bit / 7 / 7 64-bit / VistaTM / VistaTM 64-bit / XP / XP 64-bit.

Because motherboard settings and hardware options vary, use the setup procedures in this chapter for general reference only. Refer to your OS documentation for more information. 4.2 Support CD Information The Support CD that came with the motherboard contains necessary drivers and useful utilities that enhance the motherboard features. 4.2.1 Running The Support CD To begin using the support CD, insert the CD into your CD-ROM drive. The CD automatically displays the Main Menu if "AUTORUN" is enabled in your computer. If the Main Menu did not appear automatically, locate and double click on the file "ASSETUP.EXE" from the BIN folder in the Support CD to display the menus.

4.2.2 Drivers Menu The Drivers Menu shows the available devices drivers if the system detects installed devices. Please install the necessary drivers to activate the devices.



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