

# Install Memory (RAM), performing a RAM Upgrade, installing DIMMS

## Locating the DIMM slots

note: Disconnect the power and remove your PC's cover, see our guide.

After removing the cover the first thing to do is to locate the DIMM slots on your motherboard. fig 1.1 below gives you an idea of what you are looking for.

Unless you are installing a new motherboard then your slots will already have at least one dimm module installed, if this is the case then install the new memory module into the empty slot next to the module that is already installed.

If your motherboard does not have any memory installed then refer to your motherboard's manual for details about which slot to use.

note: Motherboards vary, although there are three slots in our example your motherboard may have a different amount of slots.

## DIMM Installation

When you remove the DIMM memory module from its packaging hold it by the edges, try not to touch the gold coloured contacts as this can damage the memory.

Take a look at the images below on the right, as you can see we have pointed out certain parts of the DIMM memory module and the DIMM slot.

In Fig 1.2 the notches we have marked as A are used for the ejector clip on the DIMM slot (see later).

The notches we have marked as B are used to align the memory module with the DIMM slot keys C as shown in Fig 1.3

In Fig 1.3 you can see the ejector clips (D), using your finger push these into the down position as shown in Fig 1.3 this allows the memory to be inserted.

## DIMM Installation II

Now you are ready to install the module, ensuring the notches line up with the keys see Fig 1.4 gently but firmly push the memory into the slot until it is seated fully, the ejector clips should rise to the vertical position as shown in Fig 1.5.

Now your memory is installed, ensure you haven't loosened any cables while you have been working and also ensure that the memory module is fully seated and the ejector clips are in the vertical position.

Replace the cover of your PC, connect your peripherals and boot the machine (turn it on - don't kick it :o)) your bios should recognise the memory instantly, to check this you can go to the control panel of your operating system (windows/unix).

If your machine just beeps at you when you turn it on then the chances are that the memory is not inserted correctly, if this is the case disconnect all peripherals and follow the steps again.

For further information see our guide to Post Beep Codes.