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BIOS information

2.1 Managing and updating your BIOS



Save a copy of the original motherboard BIOS file to a USB flash disk in case you need to restore the BIOS in the future. Copy the original motherboard BIOS using the ASUS Update utility.

2.1.1 EZ Update

EZ Update is a utility that allows you to automatically update your motherboard's softwares, drivers and the BIOS version easily. With this utility, you can also manually update the saved BIOS and select a boot logo when the system goes into POST.

To launch EZ Update, click **EZ Update** on the AI Suite 3 main menu bar.

The screenshot shows the ASUS EZ Update utility window. On the left, there is a section titled "Check updates from internet:" with a "Check Now" button. Below that, there is a section titled "Manually update boot logo or BIOS:" with a text box and a "..." button. On the right, there is a "Current BIOS" section with fields for Model Name (H97M-E), Version (0201), and Release Date (03/05/2014). Below that is a "Selected BIOS" section. At the bottom, there are three buttons: "Find BIOS", "Select Boot Logo", and "Update BIOS".

Click to automatically update your motherboard's driver, software and firmware

Click to find and select the BIOS from file

Click to select a boot logo

Click to update the BIOS



EZ Update requires an Internet connection either through a network or an ISP (Internet Service Provider).

2.1.2 ASUS EZ Flash 2

The ASUS EZ Flash 2 feature allows you to update the BIOS without using an OS-based utility.



Before you start using this utility, download the latest BIOS file from the ASUS website at www.asus.com.

To update the BIOS using EZ Flash 2:

1. Insert the USB flash disk that contains the latest BIOS file to the USB port.
2. Enter the **Advanced Mode** of the BIOS setup program. Go to the **Tool** menu to select **ASUS EZ Flash 2 Utility** and press <Enter> to enable it.
3. Press the Left/Right arrow keys to switch to the **Drive** field.
4. Press the Up/Down arrow keys to find the USB flash disk that contains the latest BIOS, and then press <Enter>.
5. Press the Left/Right arrow keys to switch to the **Folder Info** field.
6. Press the Up/Down arrow keys to find the BIOS file, and then press <Enter> to perform the BIOS update process. Reboot the system when the update process is done.



- This function supports USB flash disks formatted using FAT32/16 on a single partition only.
 - DO NOT shut down or reset the system while updating the BIOS to prevent system boot failure!
-

2.1.3 ASUS CrashFree BIOS 3 utility

The ASUS CrashFree BIOS 3 is an auto recovery tool that allows you to restore the BIOS file when it fails or gets corrupted during the updating process. You can restore a corrupted BIOS file using the motherboard support DVD or a USB flash drive that contains the updated BIOS file.



- Before using this utility, rename the BIOS file in the removable device into **H97ME.CAP**.
 - The BIOS file in the support DVD may not be the latest version. Download the latest BIOS file from the ASUS website at www.asus.com.
-

Recovering the BIOS

To recover the BIOS:

1. Turn on the system.
2. Insert the support DVD to the optical drive or the USB flash drive that contains the BIOS file to the USB port.
3. The utility automatically checks the devices for the BIOS file. When found, the utility reads the BIOS file and enters ASUS EZ Flash 2 utility automatically.
4. The system requires you to enter BIOS Setup to recover BIOS settings. To ensure system compatibility and stability, we recommend that you press <F5> to load default BIOS values.



DO NOT shut down or reset the system while updating the BIOS! Doing so can cause system boot failure!

2.1.4 ASUS BIOS Updater

ASUS BIOS Updater allows you to update the BIOS in DOS environment.



The screen captures used in this section are for reference only and may not be exactly the same as actually shown on your computer screen.

Before updating BIOS

- Prepare the motherboard support DVD and a USB flash drive.
- Download the latest BIOS file and BIOS Updater from <http://support.asus.com> and save them in your USB flash drive.



NTFS is not supported under FreeDOS environment. Ensure that your USB flash drive is in single partition and in FAT32/16 format.

- Turn off the computer.
- Ensure that your computer has a DVD optical drive.

Booting the system in DOS environment

To boot the system in DOS:

1. Insert the USB flash drive with the latest BIOS file and BIOS Updater to the USB port.
2. Boot your computer then press <F8> to launch the select boot device screen.
3. When the select boot device screen appears, insert the Support DVD into the optical drive then select the optical drive as the boot device.

Please select boot device:

↑ and ↓ to move selection
ENTER to select boot device
ESC to boot using defaults

P2: ST3808110AS (76319MB)
aigo miniking (250MB)
UEFI: (FAT) ASUS DRW-2014L1T(4458MB)
P1: ASUS DRW-2014L1T(4458MB)
UEFI: (FAT) aigo miniking (250MB)
Enter Setup

4. When the booting message appears, press <Enter> within five (5) seconds to enter FreeDOS prompt.

```
ISOLINUX 3.20 2006-08-26 Copyright (C) 1994-2005 H. Peter Anvin  
A Bootable DVD/CD is detected. Press ENTER to boot from the DVD/CD.  
If no key is pressed within 5 seconds, the system will boot next priority  
device automatically. boot:
```

5. On the FreeDOS prompt, type **d**: then press <Enter> to switch the disk from Drive C (optical drive) to Drive D (USB flash drive).

```
Welcome to FreeDOS (http://www.freedos.org)!  
C: /> d:  
D: />
```

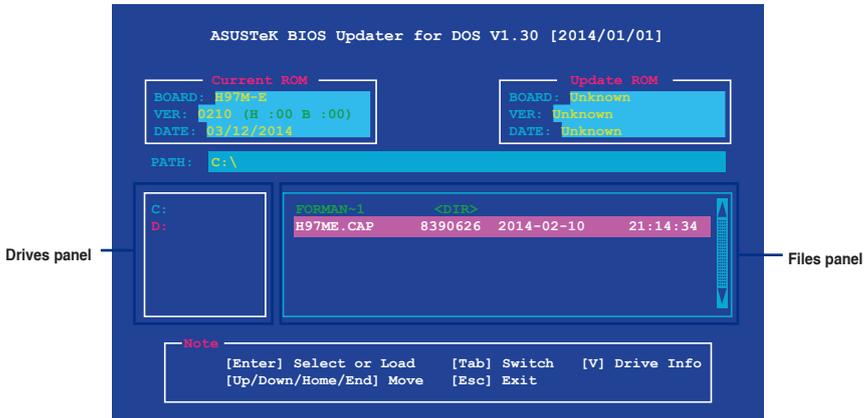
Updating the BIOS file

To update the BIOS file:

1. On the FreeDOS prompt, type **bupdater /pc /g** and press <Enter>.

```
D: /> bupdater /pc /g
```

2. On the BIOS Updater screen, press <Tab> to switch from Files panel to Drives panel then select **D**..



3. Press <Tab> to switch from Drives panel to Files panel then press <Up/Down or Home/End> keys to select the BIOS file and press <Enter>.
4. After the BIOS Updater checks the selected BIOS file, select **Yes** to confirm the BIOS update.



The BIOS Backup feature is not supported due to security regulations.

5. Select **Yes** then press <Enter>. When BIOS update is done, press <ESC> to exit BIOS Updater.
6. Restart your computer.



DO NOT shut down or reset the system while updating the BIOS to prevent system boot failure.



Ensure to load the BIOS default settings to ensure system compatibility and stability. Select the **Load Optimized Defaults** item under the **Exit BIOS** menu. See Chapter 2 of your motherboard user guide for details.

2.2 BIOS setup program

Use the BIOS Setup program to update the BIOS or configure its parameters. The BIOS screens include navigation keys and brief online help to guide you in using the BIOS Setup program.

Entering BIOS Setup at startup

To enter BIOS Setup at startup:

- Press <Delete> or <F2> during the Power-On Self Test (POST). If you do not press <Delete> or <F2>, POST continues with its routines.

Entering BIOS Setup after POST

To enter BIOS Setup after POST:

- Press <Ctrl>+<Alt>+ simultaneously.
- Press the reset button on the system chassis.
- Press the power button to turn the system off then back on. Do this option only if you failed to enter BIOS Setup using the first two options.



Using the power button, reset button, or the <Ctrl>+<Alt>+ keys to force reset from a running operating system can cause damage to your data or system. We recommend you always shut down the system properly from the operating system.



- The BIOS setup screens shown in this section are for reference purposes only, and may not exactly match what you see on your screen.
 - Visit the ASUS website at www.asus.com to download the latest BIOS file for this motherboard.
 - Ensure that a USB mouse is connected to your motherboard if you want to use the mouse to control the BIOS setup program.
 - If the system becomes unstable after changing any BIOS setting, load the default settings to ensure system compatibility and stability. Select the **Load Optimized Defaults** item under the Exit menu or press hotkey F5.
 - If the system fails to boot after changing any BIOS setting, try to clear the CMOS and reset the motherboard to the default value. See section 1.6 **Jumpers** for information on how to erase the RTC RAM.
-

BIOS menu screen

The BIOS setup program can be used under two modes: **EZ Mode** and **Advanced Mode**. Press F7 to change between the two modes.

E Z Mode

By default, the EZ Mode screen appears when you enter the BIOS setup program. The EZ Mode provides you an overview of the basic system information, and allows you to select the display language, system performance mode and boot device priority. To access the Advanced Mode, press F7.



The default screen for entering the BIOS setup program can be changed. Refer to the **Setup Mode** item in section 2.8 **Boot menu** for details.

Displays the system information, CPU voltage and CPU/motherboard temperature

Sets the system date and time

Selects the display language of the BIOS setup program



Launches the overlocking (OC) and RAID configuration wizard

Sets the system performance mode

Selects the boot device priority

Selects the boot device priority

Click to set Fan Tuning manually

IRST support setting

Loads optimized default

Saves changes and exits the BIOS setup program

Displays the Advanced mode menus

Displays the X.M.P. status

Displays the CPU/chassis fan speed



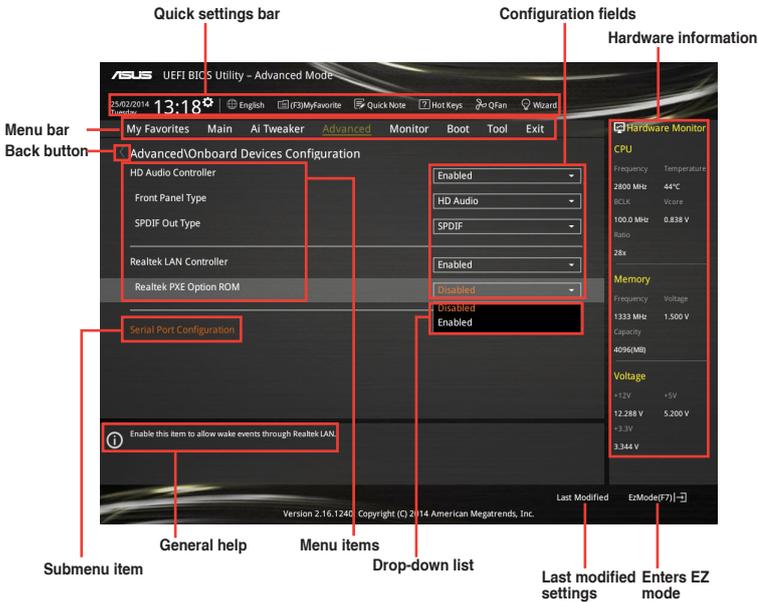
- The boot device options vary depending on the devices you installed to the system.
- The **Boot Menu (F8)** button is available only when the boot device is installed to the system.

Advanced Mode

The Advanced Mode provides advanced options for experienced end-users to configure the BIOS settings. The figure below shows an example of the **Advanced Mode**. Refer to the following sections for the detailed configurations.



To access the EZ Mode, press F7.



Menu bar

The menu bar on top of the screen has the following main items:

My Favorites	For saving the frequently-used system settings and configuration
Main	For changing the basic system configuration
Ai Tweaker	For changing the overclocking settings
Advanced	For changing the advanced system settings
Monitor	For displaying the system temperature, power status, and changing the fan settings
Boot	For changing the system boot configuration
Tool	For configuring options for special functions
Exit	For selecting the exit options and loading default settings

Menu items

The highlighted item on the menu bar displays the specific items for that menu. For example, selecting **Main** shows the Main menu items.

The other items (Ai Tweaker, Advanced, Monitor, Boot, Tool, and Exit) on the menu bar have their respective menu items.

Back button

This button appears when entering a submenu. Press <Esc> or use the USB mouse to click this button to return to the previous menu screen.

Submenu items

A greater than sign (>) before each item on any menu screen means that the item has a submenu. To display the submenu, select the item and press <Enter>.

Drop-down list

Select a menu item and press <Enter> to display a drop-down list with the configuration options for that item.

Scroll bar

A scroll bar appears on the right side of a menu screen when there are items that do not fit on the screen. Press the Up/Down arrow keys or <Page Up> / <Page Down> keys to display the other items on the screen.

Navigation keys

At the bottom right corner of the menu screen are the navigation keys for the BIOS setup program. Use the navigation keys to select items in the menu and change the settings.



For the navigation key, it's only available in English. If you delete the default shortcuts, they will appear on your next system bootup.

General help

At the lower left corner of the menu screen is a brief description of the selected item.

Configuration fields

These fields show the values for the menu items. If an item is user-configurable, you can change the value of the field opposite the item. You cannot select an item that is not user-configurable.

A configurable field is highlighted when selected. To change the value of a field, select it and press <Enter> to display a list of options.

Last Modified button

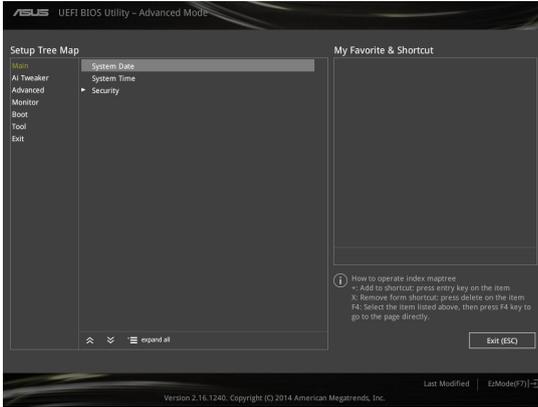
This button shows the items that you last modified and save in BIOS Setup.

Hardware Monitor

At the right side of the menu screen is a brief description of system hardware monitor information.

2.3 My Favorites

MyFavorites is your personal space where you can easily save and access your favorite BIOS items.



Adding items to My Favorites

To add frequently-used BIOS items to My Favorites:

1. Press <F3> on your keyboard.
2. Use the arrow keys to select an item that you want to add. When using a mouse, select the item and double-click on the left button to add it to MyFavorite list.



You cannot add the following items to My Favorites:

- Items with submenu options
 - User-configurable items such as language and boot device order
 - Configuration items such as Memory SPD Information, system time and date
-

2.4 Main menu

The Main menu screen appears when you enter the Advanced Mode of the BIOS Setup program. The Main menu provides you an overview of the basic system information, and allows you to set the system date, time, language, and security settings.



- If you have forgotten your BIOS password, erase the CMOS Real Time Clock (RTC) RAM to clear the BIOS password. See section 1.6 **Jumpers** for information on how to erase the RTC RAM.
- The **Administrator** or **User Password** items on top of the screen show the default **Not Installed**. After you set a password, these items show **Installed**.

2.5 Ai Tweaker menu

The Ai Tweaker menu items allow you to configure overclocking-related items.



Be cautious when changing the settings of the Ai Tweaker menu items. Incorrect field values can cause the system to malfunction.



The configuration options for this section vary depending on the CPU and DIMM model you installed on the motherboard.



Scroll down to display the following items:



2.6 Advanced menu

The Advanced menu items allow you to change the settings for the CPU and other system devices.

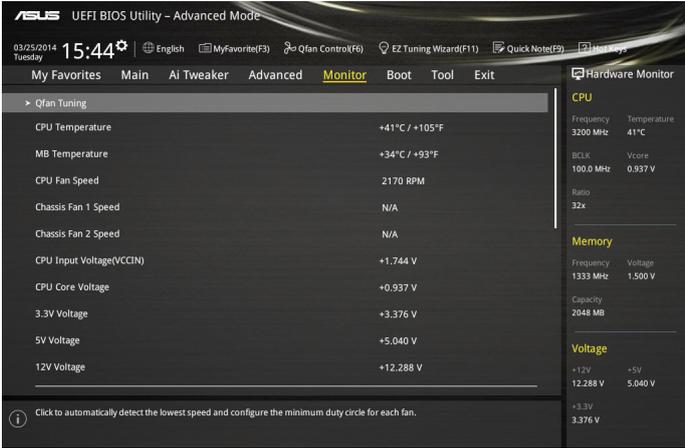


Be cautious when changing the settings of the Advanced menu items. Incorrect field values can cause the system to malfunction.



2.7 Monitor menu

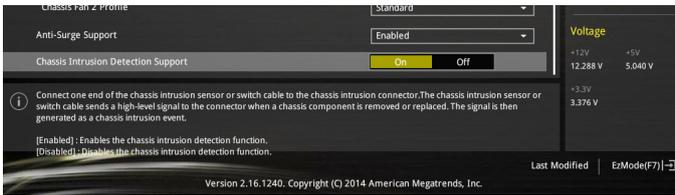
The Monitor menu displays the system temperature/power status, and allows you to change the fan settings.



Scroll down to display the following items:



Scroll down to display the following items:



2.8 Boot menu

The Boot menu items allow you to change the system boot options.

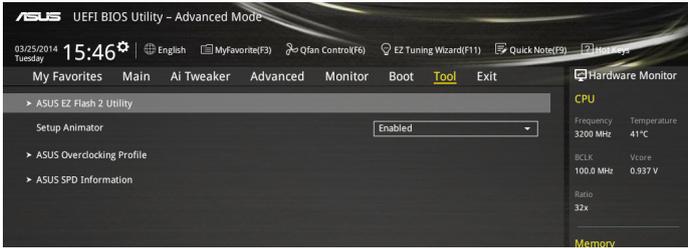


Scroll down to display the following items:



2.9 Tools menu

The Tools menu items allow you to configure options for special functions. Select an item then press <Enter> to display the submenu.



2.10 Exit menu

The Exit menu items allow you to load the optimal default values for the BIOS items, and save or discard your changes to the BIOS items. You can access the EZ Mode from the Exit menu.

