Subject: Renegade freezes with new video card Posted by Bearxor on Fri, 18 Apr 2003 21:27:18 GMT

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Well... there are so many issues here that could be causing the problem, its difficult to know where to start.

Lets start at the hardware level. I'm assuming, since you have an older Duron 800, that your chipset is either a KT133 or KT133A. These were probably the most common chipsets out around the release of the Duron 800. What other expansion cards do you have in your computer?

If you have the PCI slot directly underneath your AGP slot full, pull it out. You should never have a PCI card installed in the slot below your AGP slot. Not only have there been conflicts with IRQ sharing (which have been resolved for a while now, but on older boards like the 133A, may still be present), but it just doesnt make sence for cooling reasons. How is the fan supposed to circulate air with a sound or network card blocking the intake? And where is the air supposed to go after its been blown onto the heatsink?

Do you have a Sound Blaster Live? There are documented problems with SBLive cards and VIA's southbridge chipset that was used on the KT133 boards. Please flash your BIOS to TRY and fix that problem if this is your situation.

Check your ram timings. If it is set at CAS2, try bumping it up to CAS3. It may be cheaper generic RAM that can't handle fast timings. Make sure things like 4-Way interweave are disbaled.

Disable AGP 4X and/or fastwrites. I would try diabling fastwrites first. If that doesn't work, turn off AGP 4X in BIOS. The card should default to AGP 2X. The performance difference with a 128MB card will be negligible.

Try these few simple things first, and if none of them work, come back and give more info on your system config, like your motherboard, what cards you have installed in which slots, what kind of hard drives your using, wethere you have the hard drive and the CD-ROM on the same IDE channel or different ones, etc, etc.