
Subject: OT: Noisy Cooling Fans

Posted by [npsmith82](#) on Sun, 30 Nov 2003 08:09:26 GMT

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I'm starting to get really fed up of the constant whooshing sound coming from under the computer desk, from all the fans inside my PC. If it would help if i posted pictures of the layout inside, i can get them easily.

Here is the spec, if it helps.

Motherboard: K7S5A

Windows XP Professional

AMD Athlon XP 1800+ (1.53 ghz)

GeForce 4 Ti4200 128mb

Primary HD (60 GB)

Secondary HD (80 GB)

512 MB RAM

CD-RW

DVD Drive

It has 5 fans in total, all of which are the generic ones from when the PC was bought a year and a half ago.

- ~ Two cooling the case, from front and back.
- ~ Two on the graphics card.
- ~ One on the processor.

It doesn't help when the graphics card alone has two on it, though they are relatively quiet. I have no easy way of monitoring the temperature inside the base unit, no sensors that i know of. It's also not been fully dusted out properly since i've had it, though i have cleaned all the fans once or twice.

- ~ Would it do much harm if i were to stop any of the fans, even just one?
 - ~ If i left the case panel off the side of the case, would that help cooling if the fans were off.
 - ~ Are there any cooling systems or more efficient fans that are relatively cheap and easy to install? I've seen a water cooling system at the computer store.
-

Subject: OT: Noisy Cooling Fans

Posted by [Xtrm2Matt](#) on Sun, 30 Nov 2003 09:59:32 GMT

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If you have a heat Fan (i don't know the actual name :) but when it gets hotter, the fans speed up. Thats what happens with my CPU fan anyway..

Subject: OT: Noisy Cooling Fans

Posted by [2000_years](#) on Sun, 30 Nov 2003 11:18:31 GMT

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I just use the CPU fan, Graphics card fan and PSU fan. Anything else can be disconnected (as long as you don't live in a hot area.)

Disconnecting them will probably do jack though if you have a noisy CPUfan, so try and buy a whisper)

Subject: OT: Noisy Cooling Fans

Posted by [General Havoc](#) on Sun, 30 Nov 2003 11:45:52 GMT

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Hey, you are in the same situation as i'm in

My PC Spec:

Motherboard: Ga-7DX
Windows XP Professional
AMD Athlon XP 2000+ (1.67 ghz)
GeForce 4 Ti4200 128mb
Primary HD (120 GB)
Secondary HD (20 GB)
768 MB RAM
CD-RW
DVD Drive

Here are my fans:

- 1 rear exhaust fan
- 1 front intake fan
- 1 Power supply fan
- 1 Graphics card fan
- 1 CPU Cooler fan
- 1 chipset fan

The graphics card and chipset fans are silent so they are no problem.

I have disconnected the intake fan as "AMD's Recommended Cooling Guide" suggests it is no help at all and in some situations just circulated warm air.

As for the power supply fan, I'm buying a smart silent one from "dabs.com" as the sleeve bearing on it has worn. It has a thermistor to speed up the fan when the air gets to a certain temperature. I would not recommend replacing the fan in the PSU unless you know what you are doing and have experience with electronics as the capacitors inside the PSU can store a high voltage.

For the rear exhaust fan I will probably buy another smart silent one from "dabs.com" and fit it. In my case, the rear exhaust is designed for a 40mm one, "AMD's Recommended Cooling Guide" suggests a 80mm or bigger so the new one will be better. Although, I will need to drill an array of holes to allow airflow through the 40mm fitting.

PCI bracket or 5 inch bay potentiometer to control the speed. At around 40% speed it is silent whilst offering cooling if your not doing anything too intensive. I turn mine up to around 60% when playing Planetside, it's a really handy feature to have.

That how I plan to silence my PC.

I'd recommend having some sort of speed controller on the noisy ones, a potentiometer or a thermistor so they only run at full speed when needed. Ditch your front intakes as they probably are more trouble than their worth. If you visit some e-tailers such as dabs.com, komplett.co.uk,

some cheap ones don't have one!) and in reality it's only as cool as your ambient room temperature, but more than likely higher.

Here are some pics of the Volcano 11+ Xaser II

<http://www.n00bstories.com/image.fetch.php?id=1082614013> - The main heatsink + fan

<http://www.n00bstories.com/image.fetch.php?id=1106632369> - The 5 inch bay potentiometer

<http://www.n00bstories.com/image.fetch.php?id=1025569255> - The PCI potentiometer bracket

Subject: OT: Noisy Cooling Fans

Posted by [Yano](#) on Sun, 30 Nov 2003 14:00:21 GMT

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Go with water cooling, tad more expensive but worth it

Subject: OT: Noisy Cooling Fans

Posted by [npsmith82](#) on Mon, 01 Dec 2003 00:42:15 GMT

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Thanks for the tips.

General Havoc, where can i see "AMD's Recommended Cooling Guide"?

Subject: OT: Noisy Cooling Fans

Posted by [Yano](#) on Mon, 01 Dec 2003 00:46:31 GMT

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I think he might be talking about this
<http://yano7.com/PDF/AMD%20Cooling%20Guide.pdf>
or this
<http://yano7.com/PDF/AMD%20Cooling%20Guide%202.pdf>

Subject: OT: Noisy Cooling Fans
Posted by [Majiin Vegeta](#) on Mon, 01 Dec 2003 01:28:29 GMT
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i took my case off and unplugged the 2 venting fans.. its alot quieter now
damn fan kept making this WHIRRRR noise every time i turnt it on.. it needs replacing

Subject: OT: Noisy Cooling Fans
Posted by [echo](#) on Mon, 01 Dec 2003 02:36:48 GMT
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There are several ways the problem can be addressed; five cooling fans seem to indicate a problem with case design. As long as temperatures remain in the acceptable range, you may wish to alter the fan power supply line to supply 7 volts instead of 12. My second suggestion would be to switch to panaflo fans as they are more quiet but also cost more. The third pathway would be to mod fan enclosures for 120mm fans as they push an adequate amount of air at a lower voltage. In the extreme case, it may be time to switch to a new case that is better designed.

Subject: OT: Noisy Cooling Fans
Posted by [Creed3020](#) on Wed, 03 Dec 2003 02:08:30 GMT
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I love my computer when it turns on. That whosh just tells me there is something powerful in there requiring that much ventilation. Though my computer would be considered silent compared to my friend's he has 4 Vantec Tornado's. His house is HUGE and you can hear the computer all the way in the basement. Also the house lights dim when you turn his on.

At 5700 RPM these things are dangerous...
<http://www.n00bstories.com/image.fetch.php?id=1122058039>

Subject: OT: Noisy Cooling Fans
Posted by [Yano](#) on Wed, 03 Dec 2003 02:55:49 GMT
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I was doing some stuff in my PC while it was on, and one 3,500RPM fan nicked my finger and gave me a nasty little cut

Subject: OT: Noisy Cooling Fans
Posted by [Creed3020](#) on Wed, 03 Dec 2003 22:29:23 GMT
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YanoI was doing some stuff in my PC while it was on, and one 3,500RPM fan nicked my finger and gave me a nasty little cut

Ya I've gotten a few nasty ones just from slower ones...hehe

My friend put fan covers on those so fast. He was so scared of losing a finger.

He was once working on a Tt fan I forget what model and still has the scar on his nuckle to prove it...

Subject: OT: Noisy Cooling Fans
Posted by [General Havoc](#) on Thu, 04 Dec 2003 00:09:55 GMT
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Yeah I did that with a 7000RPM fan It was a cheap thing with no grill, I was in pain for a day or two, now I have fan grills on my CPU coolers.

Yano posted the cooling guide PDF I was looking at. I bough two of those silent case fans from dabs.com - I'll let you know if they are any good when they arrive as I've ordered a Freeview digital TV (Hauppauge WinTv Nova-t PCI) card for my PC and I want to be able to run my PC whilst watching a TV hooked to the S-Video out port, atm it is noisyas hell.

Hopefully after all my modding it should be no louder than a PS2.

EDIT: dab.com corrected to dabs.com

Subject: OT: Noisy Cooling Fans
Posted by [npsmith82](#) on Thu, 04 Dec 2003 11:44:45 GMT
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General HavocI'll let you know if they are any good when they arrive. Hopefully after all my modding it should be no louder than a PS2.

Excellent, thanks. That's the kinda ambient volume i'm willing to accept with this computer.

Subject: OT: Noisy Cooling Fans
Posted by [snipesimo](#) on Thu, 04 Dec 2003 20:48:48 GMT
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All I can say is you don't need 2 on the GFX. I also know don't fuck up while your down there, I broke a fin off my 2400+ fan and ignored it, now its fried. I can't say that thats definately what

caused it, but a 130F CPU doesn't help anything. God bless the AMD 3 year warranty!

Subject: OT: Noisy Cooling Fans

Posted by [DanSolo](#) on Fri, 05 Dec 2003 13:51:27 GMT

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well you have a few options.

Firstly i would recommend either changing you fans for papst models which are very quiet and are completely balanced to cut down on vibration noise. buying rubber shims that fit between the heat sink and the fan also cut down on noise,

http://www.overclockers.co.uk/acatalog/Online_Catalogue_Papst_Fans_61.html

Secondly you could get fan size adapters so that you could mount say, an 80mm fan onto a 60mm heatsink, this will cut the noise as the fan can spin at a lower rpm, while pushing a larger/equal amount of air.

http://www.overclockers.co.uk/acatalog/Online_Catalogue_Fan_Grills_and_Fan_Accessories_34.html

Also picking up a fan control module to fit in one of your 5 inch drive bays so you can control each fans speed/noise output individually.

If you want to keep some case fans in the pc, make sure that the output fans have a larger CFM than the intake fans, this will create a negative pressure in the case and enhance cooling further.

Hope this is of help and apologies if i have repeated anyone else's suggestions, i don't have time to read all replies as i'm at work and the vultures are watching

Dan

Subject: OT: Noisy Cooling Fans

Posted by [npsmith82](#) on Sat, 06 Dec 2003 04:35:06 GMT

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Okay, well i just decided to open the case up and give it a major dust out. It's unbelievable how much crap gets caught in the fans over 2 years - I swear i could've filled a pint glass with the amount of dust fluff i removed.

The original hope was to make the whole system a little quieter, but unfortunately it's had no effect.

Now... after removing/cleaning/replacing all the fans i've noticed that they're all basic ball bearing

fans, except for one that's designed to be super quiet (a case fan at the front).

Finally decided to invest in some quiet fans and a controlling module i can adjust the speed of them from the front of the case.

General Havoc, lemme know how it goes when your fans arrive. I've also looked at my power unit in the case, and i see that it's not got a venting thing on the base, like the AMD Cooling Guide recommended, i'll probably get me one of them too.

GeForce 4 Ti4200 128MB: This has two fans on it, that aren't directly cooling anything, it's weird, here's a screenshot. I'm undecided whether i should unplug these two fans on the gfx card, but they gotta be there for a good reason... any tips?

Subject: OT: Noisy Cooling Fans
Posted by [snipesimo](#) on Sat, 06 Dec 2003 05:09:50 GMT
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Unless your overclocking that much cooling on that GFX is unnecessary, as seen by this picture of another ti4200:
<http://www.newegg.com/app/Showimage.asp?image=14-260-016-08.JPG/14-260-016-09.JPG/14-260-016-05.jpg/14-260-016-02.jpg>

Subject: OT: Noisy Cooling Fans
Posted by [General Havoc](#) on Sat, 06 Dec 2003 15:40:27 GMT
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I'll let you know when they arrive, should be next week.

Your graphics card is using a jacket type cooler, this means that instead of seperate memory and core coolers, you have one big piece of metal with two fans to get rid of the heat. Mine is like the one in the image in the last post, but has memory sinks too.

You may be fine without the fans, but it depends. You can always use a Zalman or Thermaltake heat jacket, that has a heat pipe and cools down the geaphics card without any fans.

The best way is to test if your graphics card is getting too hot is to play one of your 3D games for a hour or so (running 3DMark will do) and check that you don't get white pixels onthe graphics or texture glitches. If you do then it needs some cooling.

Subject: OT: Noisy Cooling Fans
Posted by [Creed3020](#) on Sun, 07 Dec 2003 20:35:56 GMT
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I have that same card and mine is o/c but has no where near that much cooling. I did mod it with a

new Tt copper heatsinks and ram sinks but that is a large heatsink.

My guess is that one fan is on top of the GPU and the other is on top of some of the ram chips. But I really couldn't be sure.

Subject: OT: Noisy Cooling Fans

Posted by [npsmith82](#) on Mon, 08 Dec 2003 01:52:27 GMT

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I really wish i knew of a UK based website that was AS good as newegg.com. I've been browsing there for all the decent stuff, then to realise they don't deliver outside of the United States.

Mainly for SILENT cooling fans or similar (one i have been checking is the CoolerMaster.com website). Anyone peeps suggest any?

Subject: OT: Noisy Cooling Fans

Posted by [General Havoc](#) on Mon, 08 Dec 2003 21:12:41 GMT

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<http://www.quietpc.com/uk> Offer quiet cooling products. Dabs.com also sell the stuff made by quiet pc so I'd check the prices there too. Coolmaster, Thermaltake and Zalman offer silent cooling too, you need to buy them from an e-tailer.

Ones I have used are:

<http://www.dabs.com> (Main one I use)

<http://www.ebuyer.com> (Cheaper for specific components)

<http://www.komplett.co.uk>

<http://www.coolcasemods.com> (Good for modding stuff)

<http://www.over-clock.co.uk> (Good for modding stuff)

<http://www.tekheads.com>

Subject: OT: Noisy Cooling Fans

Posted by [Blazer](#) on Tue, 09 Dec 2003 16:38:17 GMT

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Get the Antec "Quiet Case" (<http://shop.store.yahoo.com/getapc/anso38blquca.html>). Someone at work has one of these, and you totally cannot hear it running at all. I dont know what kind of CPU fan he had, but the entire system was completely quiet...pretty neat.
