NOCTUA NH-C14S
INSTALLATION MANUAL

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! LGA1700, LGA1200 & LGA115x

Dear customer,

Thank you very much for choosing the Noctua NH-C14S.

Succeeding the award-winning NH-C14, the NH-C14S is an elite class top-flow CPU cooler that is extremely efficient, highly compatible and remarkably adjustable – a top-flow solution for the highest demands.

Enjoy your NH-C14S!

Yours sincerely,

Roland Mossig, Noctua CEO

This manual will guide you through the installation process of the SecuFirm2™ mounting system step by step.

Prior to installing the cooler, please consult the compatibility centre on our website (ncc.noctua.at) and verify that the cooler is fully compatible with your motherboard.

Please also make sure that your PC case offers sufficient clearance for the cooler and that there are no compatibility issues with any other components (e.g. tall RAM modules).

Double check that the heatsink and fan clips do not make contact with the VGA card, other PCIe cards, motherboard heatsinks or any other components.

Noctua cannot be held responsible for any damage or losses caused by compatibility issues.

Should you encounter any difficulties, please check the FAQs on our website (www.noctua.at/faqs) and don't hesitate to contact our support team at support@noctua.at.

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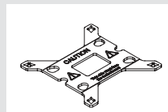
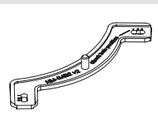
Required mounting parts:



1x NM-IBP4
backplate



2x NM-IMB2
mounting bars

4x NM-ICS1
clip-on spacers

4x NM-ITS1
thumb screws

4x NM-IBT5
bolts

4x NM-IPS1
black plastic spacers for
LGA1200/115x

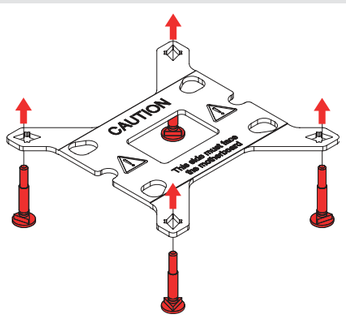
4x NM-IPS3
blue plastic spacers for
LGA1700

1 Removing the motherboard

If you would like to use the cooler on an assembled system and your case does not have a cut-out at the rear side of the motherboard tray, you must first remove the motherboard from the case in order to be able to install the supplied backplate.

2 Setting up the backplate

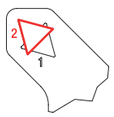
First, identify the side of the backplate that should face the motherboard (marked with caution signs). Then choose the appropriate hole spacing for your socket and insert the four bolts into the backplate from the opposite side (marked with model name, SecuFirm2™ branding and numbers for hole spacing) at the appropriate position.



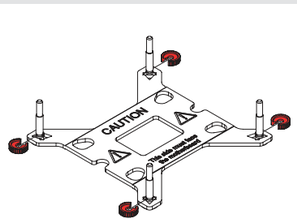
Use hole position 1 for LGA1200/115x (LGA1150, LGA1151, LGA1155, LGA1156) and hole position 2 for LGA1700 (LGA17xx family):

Position 1:
LGA1200/115x

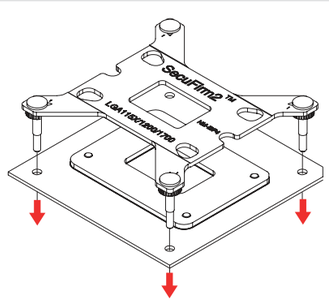
Position 2:
LGA1700



Fix the bolts using the NM-ICS1 clip-on spacers. Note that 2 extra clip-on spacers are supplied in case any are lost or damaged when removing the bolts at a later point.



3 Attaching the backplate



Caution: The supplied backplate will install over the motherboard's stock backplate, so the motherboard's stock backplate must not be taken off.

Place the backplate on the rear side of the motherboard so that the bolts protrude through the mounting holes.

4 Installing the mounting bars

Please first choose the correct set of plastic spacers and the correct set of holes on the mounting bars according to whether you are using an LGA1200/LGA115x (LGA1150, LGA1151, LGA1155, LGA1156) or an LGA1700 (LGA17xx family) socket motherboard.

Use the black NM-IPS1 plastic spacers for LGA1200/LGA115x (LGA1150, LGA1151, LGA1155, LGA1156) and the blue NM-IPS3 spacers for LGA1700 (LGA17xx family).

LGA1200/115x

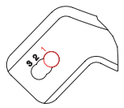
NM-IPS1 (black)

LGA1700

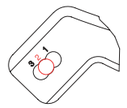
NM-IPS3 (blue)

Use hole position 1 for LGA1200/115x (LGA1150, LGA1151, LGA1155, LGA1156) and hole position 2 for LGA1700 (LGA17xx family):

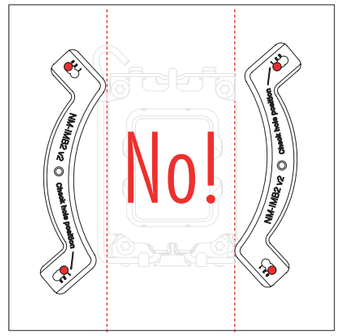
Position 1:
LGA1200/115x



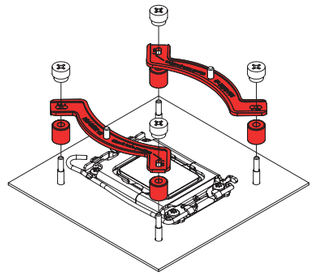
Position 2:
LGA1700



Caution: Make sure to use the correct hole position on both ends of the NM-IMB2 mounting bars so that they will not be misaligned.

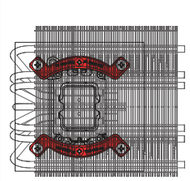


Put the plastic spacers onto the bolts of the backplate, then add the mounting bars.

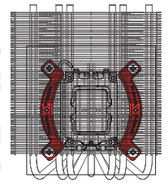


Caution: Choose the alignment of the mounting bars according to the desired final orientation of the cooler.

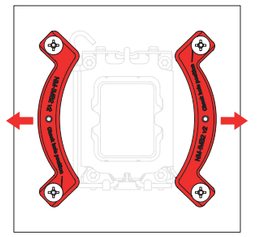
Orientation A



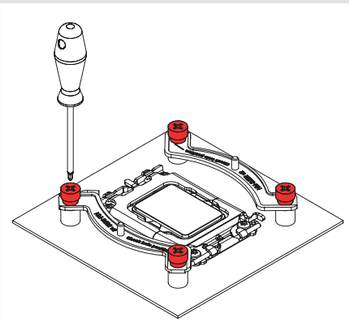
Orientation B



Caution: Make sure that the curved sides of the mounting bars are pointing outwards.



Fix the mounting bars using the four NM-ITS1 thumb screws.

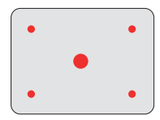


Caution: Gently tighten the screws until they stop, but do not use excessive force (max. torque 0.6 Nm).

5 Applying the thermal paste

If there are residual traces of thermal paste or thermal pads on your CPU, please clean them off first. Then apply the supplied NT-H1 thermal paste onto the CPU as shown in the following images.

For LGA1700 (LGA17xx family), apply 5 small dots; 4 dots with ~2mm diameter near the corners plus 1 dot with 3-4mm diameter in the centre:



For LGA1200/115x (LGA1150, LGA1151, LGA1155, LGA1156) apply a single 4-5mm dot in the centre:

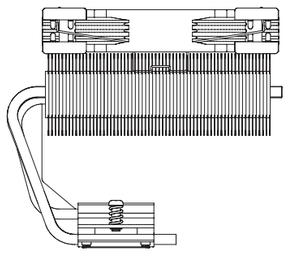
Caution: Applying too much thermal paste will lower heat conductivity and cooling performance!

6 Fan configuration

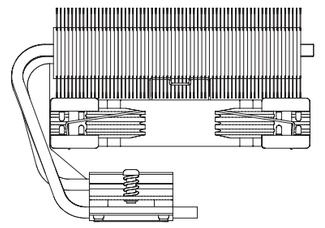
The NH-C14S ships with the fan installed underneath the fins (low profile mode). Alternatively, you can take off the fan and install it on top of the fins to make more room for tall RAM or other components (high clearance mode).

Note that the NH-C14S will provide best performance to noise efficiency in high clearance mode.

You may also add a second NF-A14 fan (optional) using the supplied extra set of fan clips in order to create a dual fan configuration for further improved performance.



High clearance mode



Low profile mode

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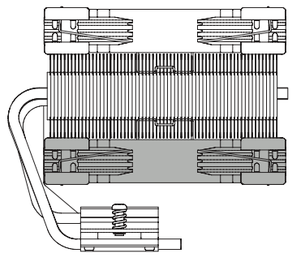


Dual Fan Mode (optional)

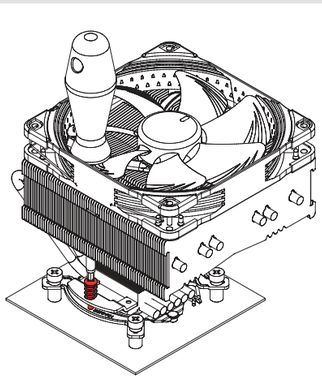
7 Fastening the heatsink to the CPU

Caution: Please first take off the protection cover at the bottom side of the heatsink.

Then put the heatsink onto the CPU and screw it to the screw threads of the mounting bars.

Perform 2-3 turns on each screw, then repeat until both are fully tightened.

Note that you can reach through the blades of the fan(s) using the supplied screw driver. There is thus no need to take off the fan(s) for installation.



Caution: Gently tighten the screws until they stop, but do not use excessive force (max. torque 0.6 Nm).

8 Fan setup

Connect the fan to the motherboard's CPU fan header.

Depending on your CPU and the temperature inside the case, you may interconnect the supplied NA-RC7 Low-Noise Adapter (L.N.A.) in order to further reduce the fan's operating noise.

Caution: When using the L.N.A., check the temperature of your CPU using appropriate software (e.g. the respective applications of your motherboard manufacturer), in order to evade automatic throttling of the CPU due to the increased temperature. If the cooling performance is insufficient, please increase case ventilation or remove the L.N.A.

Adding a second fan

The NH-C14S includes an extra set of fan clips for installing a second NF-A14 fan in push/pull mode in order to further improve cooling performance.

The y-cable supplied with the retail NF-A14 PWM fan can be used to control the speed of both fans via the same mainboard fan header.

For best performance to noise efficiency in dual fan mode, Noctua recommends to run the top fan at 1200rpm or lower (using the supplied Low-Noise Adaptor).

! Transporting your system

As it is not possible to reliably calculate or control the forces that act upon a system during transport (e.g. in shipping), we generally recommend, for safety reasons, taking the cooler off. Noctua cannot be held responsible for any damage that may arise due to excessive stress during transport if you keep the heatsink installed.

! Warranty, support and FAQs

Even with high-grade products and strict quality control, the possibility of defects cannot be eliminated entirely. Therefore, we aim at providing the highest possible level of reliability and convenience by offering a warranty period of 6 years and direct, fast and straightforward RMA service.

Should you encounter any problems with your NH-C14S, please don't hesitate to contact our support team (support@noctua.at).

Please also consult the FAQ section on our website: www.noctua.at/faqs

! LGA20xx

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Enjoy your NH-C14S!

Yours sincerely,

Roland Mossig, Noctua CEO

This manual will guide you through the installation process of the SecuFirm2™ mounting system step by step.

Prior to installing the cooler, please consult the compatibility centre on our website (ncc.noctua.at) and verify that the cooler is fully compatible with your motherboard.

Please also make sure that your PC case offers sufficient clearance for the cooler and that there are no compatibility issues with any other components (e.g. tall RAM modules).

Double check that the heatsink and fan clips do not make contact with the VGA card, other PCIe cards, motherboard heatsinks or any other components.

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Required mounting parts:

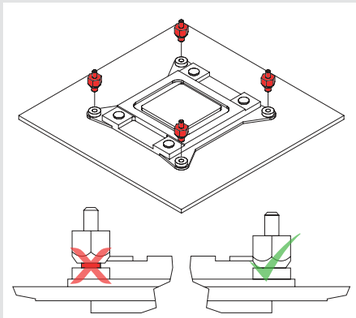
2x NM-IMB2 mounting bars

4x NM-IBT2 bolts

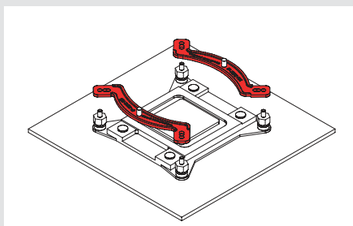
4x NM-ITS1 thumb screws

1 Installing the mounting bars

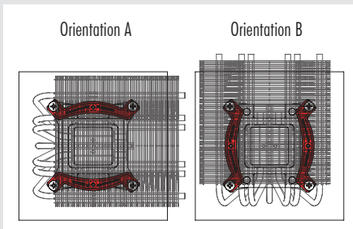
First screw the NM-IBT2 bolts into the screw threads of the LGA20xx socket frame.



Then put the NM-IMB2 mounting bars onto the bolts.



Caution: Choose the alignment of the mounting bars according to the desired final orientation of the cooler:



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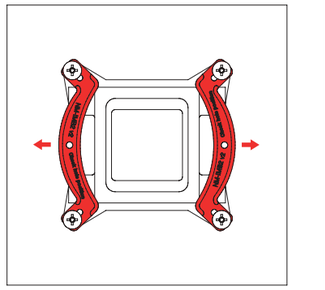
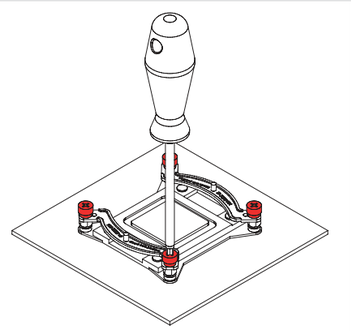


Fix the mounting bars using the four NM-ITS1 thumb screws.

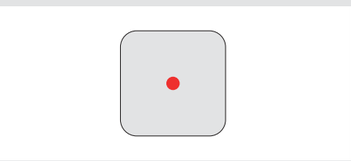


Caution: Gently tighten the screws until they stop, but do not use excessive force (max. torque 0.6 Nm).

2 Applying the thermal paste

If there are residual traces of thermal paste or thermal pads on your CPU, please clean them off first.

Then press a small drop with 4-5mm diameter of NT-H1 thermal paste onto the centre of the heatspreader.



Caution: Applying too much thermal paste will lower heat conductivity and cooling performance!

3 Fan configuration

Please refer to step 6 of the LGA1700, LGA1200 & LGA115x installation manual.

4 Fastening the heatsink to the CPU

Please refer to step 7 of the LGA1700, LGA1200 & LGA115x installation manual.

5 Fastening the heatsink to the CPU

Please refer to step 8 of the LGA1700, LGA1200 & LGA115x installation manual.

! Transporting your system

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NOCTUA NH-C14S INSTALLATION MANUAL

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! AMD (AM4 & AM5)

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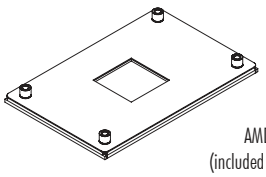
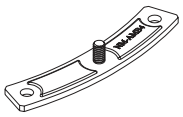
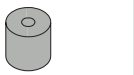
Required mounting parts:



AMD stock backplate
(included with the motherboard)



2x NM-AMB4
mounting bars

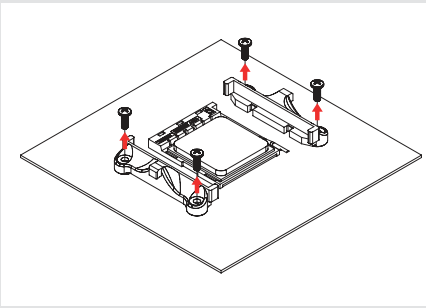


4x NM-APS4
grey plastic spacers

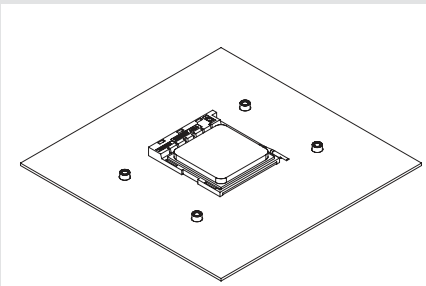
4x NM-ALS1
long screws

1 Removing the stock retention module – putting the backplate in place

If your motherboard comes with a pre-installed CPU cooler retention module, please first remove it by unscrewing it from the backplate. The SecuFirm2™ mounting system will install directly to the stock backplate, so please keep it in place.

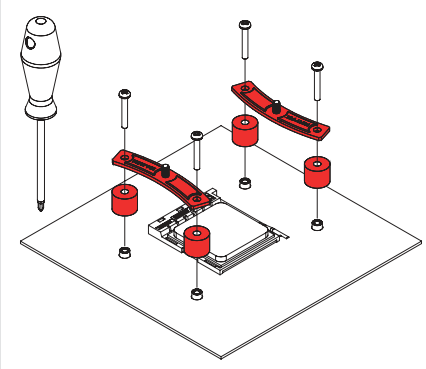


If your motherboard does not come with a pre-installed CPU cooler retention module, the AMD stock backplate should be included with the motherboard accessories. Please put the backplate on the rear side of the motherboard so that the screw threads of the backplate stick through the mounting holes of the motherboard as shown below. If your motherboard does not include a stock backplate, please contact our Noctua service team at support@noctua.at.

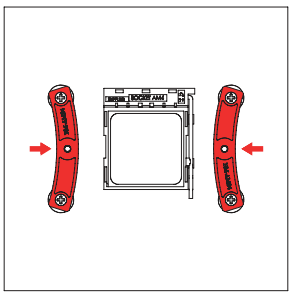


2 Attaching the mounting bars

First put the plastic spacers onto the screw threads of the backplate, then fix the NM-AMB4 mounting bars using the four NM-ALS1 long screws.



Make sure that the curved sides of the mounting bars are pointing inwards.

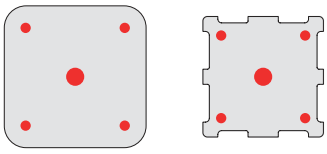


Caution: Gently tighten the screws until they stop, but do not use excessive force (max. torque 0.6 Nm).

3 Applying the thermal paste

If there are residual traces of thermal paste or thermal pads on your CPU, please clean them off first.

Apply 5 small dots; 4 small dots with ~2mm diameter near the corners plus 1 dot with 3-4mm diameter in the centre:



AM4 AM5

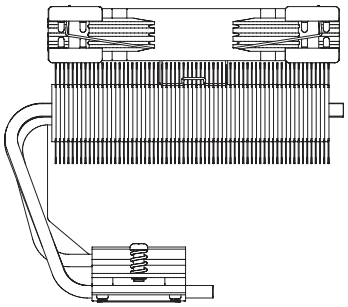
Caution: Applying too much thermal paste will lower heat conductivity and cooling performance!

4 Fan configuration

The NH-C14S ships with the fan installed underneath the fins (lowprofile mode). Alternatively, you can take off the fan and install it on top of the fins to make more room for tall RAM or other components (high-clearance mode).

Note that the NH-C14S will provide best performance to noise efficiency in high-clearance mode.

You may also add a second NF-A14 fan (optional) using the supplied extra set of fan clips in order to create a dual fan configuration for further improved performance.



High-clearance mode

NOCTUA NH-C14S
INSTALLATION MANUAL

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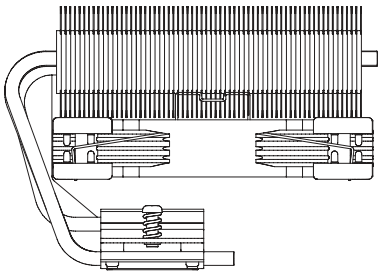
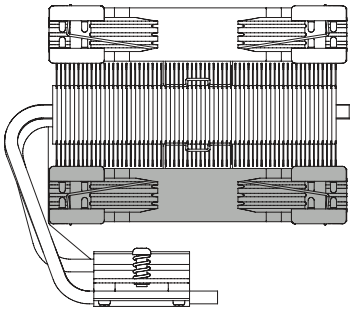


Low-profile mode

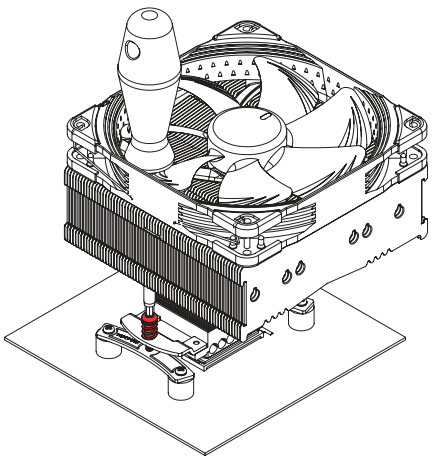


Dual fan mode (optional)

5 Fastening the heatsink to the CPU

Caution: Please first take off the protection cover at the bottom side of the heatsink.

Then put the heatsink onto the CPU and screw it to the screw threads of the mounting bars. Perform 2-3 turns on each screw, then repeat until both are fully tightened. Note that you can reach through the blades of the fan(s) using the supplied screwdriver. There is thus no need to take off the fan(s) for installation.



Caution: Gently tighten the screws until they stop, but don't use excessive force (max. torque 0.6 Nm).

6 Fan setup

Connect the fan to the motherboard's CPU fan header.

Depending on your CPU and the temperature inside the case, you may interconnect the supplied NA-RC7 Low-Noise Adaptor (L.N.A.) in order to further reduce the fan's operating noise.

Caution: When using the L.N.A., check the temperature of your CPU using appropriate software (e.g. the respective applications of your motherboard manufacturer), in order to evade automatic throttling of the CPU due to the increased temperature.

If the cooling performance is insufficent, please increase case ventilation or remove the L.N.A.

Adding a second fan

The NH-C14S includes an extra set of fan clips for installing a second NF-A14 fan in push/pull mode in order to further improve cooling performance.

The y-cable supplied with the retail NF-A14 PWM fan can be used to control the speed of both fans via the same motherboard fan header.

For best performance to noise efficiency in dual fan mode, Noctua recommends to run the top fan at 1200rpm or lower (using the supplied Low-Noise Adaptor).

! Transporting your system

As it is not possible to reliably calculate or control the forces that act upon a system during transport (e.g. in shipping), we generally recommend, for safety reasons, taking the cooler off.

Noctua cannot be held responsible for any damage that may arise due to excessive stress during transport if you keep the heatsink installed.

! Warranty, support and FAQs

Even with high-grade products and strict quality control, the possibility of defects cannot be eliminated entirely.

Therefore, we aim at providing the highest possible level of reliability and convenience by offering a warranty period of 6 years and direct, fast and straightforward RMA service.

Should you encounter any problems with your NH-C14S, please don't hesitate to contact our support team (support@noctua.at).

Please also consult the FAQ section on our website:
www.noctua.at/faqs

22 PAP