



# DEFINE XL COMPUTER CASE



**USER'S MANUAL**

## **Thank you and congratulations on your purchase of your new Fractal Design Define XL ATX Computer Case!**

Before using the case, please take the time to read these instructions carefully.

### **Limited Warranty and Limitation of Liability**

This product is guaranteed for twelve (12) months from the date of delivery to end-user against defects in materials or workmanship. During this period, the product will either be repaired or replaced, upon our discretion. The product must be returned to the agent from whom it was purchased with shipping prepaid. The warranty does not cover

- A. A product which has been used for hire purposes, misused, handled carelessly or other than in accordance with any instructions provided with respects to it use.
- B. A product with damages from acts of nature such as lightning, fire, flood or earthquake are not covered by the warranty.
- C. product where the serial number have been removed or tampered with

### **About Fractal Design – our concept**

The concept of Fractal Design is to provide products with an extraordinary design level, without compromising the important factors of quality, functionality and pricing. The computer of today has come to play a central role in most people's home, creating a demand for appealing design of the computer itself and its accessories. Our main product areas are computer enclosures, power supplies and related accessories

### **Designed and engineered in Sweden**

All Fractal Design products have been thoroughly designed, tested and specified in our Swedish head quarter. The well known ideas of Scandinavian design can be found through all of our products; a minimalistic but yet striking design - less is more.

## Introduction

Fractal Design's Define XL offers a stylish case packed with features, all to an affordable price tag.

## Features

- Flexible thermal chamber design, for more information see page 5
- Stylish front panel with noise insulated door
- Unique ModuVent feature which allows you to either have the fan hole in side panel closed for optimal silence or open for optimal ventilation
- Effective noise absorbing material mounted on side panels
- 14 ODD/HDD drive bays
  - 10x internal 3,5" HDD-bays with easy to use trays equipped with anti vibration silicone pads
  - 4x external 5,25" bays
- Black painted interior with white painted HDD-bays and PCI-slots for a stylish look
- Optimal air flow cooling system
  - 2 front 120/140mm intake fans with removable, washable filter (one 140mm included, one optional)
  - 1 top 180mm exhaust fan (included)
  - 1 rear 120mm exhaust fan (included)
  - 1 side 140/120mm intake fan (optional)
  - 1 front 120mm intake fan with removable, washable filter (optional)
  - A fan controller able to control up to three (3) fans is included.
- Easy cable management through the rubber-covered holes in the motherboard plate.
- A hole in the motherboard tray for easy mounting of CPU coolers that needs a back plate. The hole is big enough to also accommodate Core i7 back plates.
- Top, front mounted ports provides convenient connections:
  - 2x USB 2.0
  - 2x USB 3.0
  - Audio In and Out (HDA and AC'97 compatible)
- Water cooling holes for external water cooling products
- Quality feets with anti-vibration material
- Compatibility
  - Mini-ITX, Micro ATX, ATX and E-ATX
  - 7+1 expansion slots
  - ATX PSU (not included). Anti-vibration pads to avoid vibrations from PSU
- Case dimensions
  - 21" (H) x 9"(W) x 20.5" (D)
  - 530 mm (H) x 230 mm (W) x 521 mm (D)

## Installation guide

Please read through this entire manual before proceeding with the installation.

1. Install the motherboard using the supplied M/B stands (11pcs) and the M/B screws (11pcs). The appearance of the supplied stands and screws is printed on the Accessory Box. Please consult the manual of the motherboard.
2. Remove the PSU Backplate (4 screws) and install the PSU using the supplied PSU screws (4pcs). The appearance of the supplied screws is printed on the Accessory Box.
3. Install the 3,5-inch hard drive(s) in the metal HDD-trays using the supplied HDD screws (40pcs in total, 4pcs per HDD). The silicone grommets mounted on the HDD-tray will absorb most of the vibrations from the HDD. You can also install 2,5-inch SSD drives using the attached SSD-screws (4pcs). The appearance of the supplied stands and screws is printed on the Accessory Box. Please consult the manual of the hard drive(s).
4. Connect the peripheral cables to IDE-connected drives if you have such (older HDD and optical drives).
5. Connect the SATA power connectors to SATA-connected drives (newer HDD and optical drives)
6. Connect the floppy connector or Cardreader if you have such a unit.
7. Install and secure CPU, RAM, Heatsink, necessary cooling products and any optional input cards. (Consult the manuals for each product for instructions).
8. Consult the motherboard's manual to attach all the cables from the front panel to the right inputs in the motherboard. These cables include power switch, power LED, reset button, audio I/O, USB inputs and e-sata input.
9. Install optional cooling fans in the front, side or top of the case.
10. Connect all cooling fans to either the motherboard, fancontroller or PSU.
11. Connect the AC power cord to the PSU and turn on the on/off switch.

### **How to mount the optional 120mm fan in the 5.25" ODD Bays:**

Push both the left clips to the left, and pull them out at the same time. The whole frame should swivel out. Now, remove it from the ODD bays.

Mount the fan by pushing it into the mounting clips. Make sure the cable is routed correctly.

Put the right side in first, using the right clips and the small cutout in the ODD bay as a guide. Gently push the left side inwards until you hear a click, and the frame should be secured in the ODD bay.

### **Using the rotatable HDD cage:**

Included in the chassis is a rotatable/removable HDD cage. The user can choose to either use it in default position with HDD connectors mounted backwards for optimum cable management, or mount it sideways for best cooling performance with HDD's mounted.

If the user chooses to have the HDD's mounted sideways, please move the silicon grommets to position marked "C" on the HDD tray. For optimum airflow for high end graphics or overclocking we suggest removing the HDD cage from the chassis, letting the front mounted fan blow air straight inside the chassis.

### **How to remove/exchange the included 140mm fans in the front fan frame:**

Push both the left clips to the left, and pull them out at the same time. Make sure to not use excessive force, the fan filter is swivelling out easier when using less force. The whole frame should swivel out. Now, remove the entire frame from the front.

Mount the fan by pushing it into the mounting clips. Make sure the cables are routed correctly.

Put the right side in first, aligning the hinges with the cutout on the side steel frame. Pull the fan-cables through the hole in the middle to the right. Push the left side in until you hear a click and the frame should be secured in the front.

### **Information about Thermal Chambers and Overclocking:**

We have a configurable thermal chamber design divided into three chambers in the chassis, to ensure optimal configuration flexibility,

These chambers are:

- Main Chamber, CPU/Ram/Graphics
- PSU Chamber
- HDD Chamber (Lower)

The main chamber are cooled using the front 140mm fan and/or the (optional) side-mounted 140/120mm fan, with rear exhaust being the 140mm back fan and the 180mm top mounted fan. The Main chamber also has a HDD cage, which can optionally be rotated to optimize airflow, or removed to further optimize airflow or make room for larger graphic cards.

The PSU Chamber is made to support a PSU mounted with either the fan up or down. If you decide to use the PSU with the fan mounted upwards, make sure to remove the lid closing off the PSU chamber from the main chamber. A rule of thumb is, the PSU should be turned to take fresh air from outside when a quiet PC is wanted, or turned upwards when more cooling is wanted. A precise answer is next to impossible and we leave it to the assembler to work out the best option.

The lower HDD chamber uses the lower 140mm fan in the front for air intake. The airflow is, by default, pushed through the HDD bays, cooling the HDD's and then warm air is going out through the cable routing holes to the back, going out on the back side holes. We do provide the flexibility to remove the wall to the PSU chamber, so the air can go straight into the PSU chamber and out above the PSU.

