

# Motherboards

## Types of mother boards

The term FORM FACTOR is used to describe different types of motherboard:

- AT – Stands for Advanced Technology, advanced design from the XT, has a built on keyboard connector (5pin Din).
- Baby AT – Smaller than AT one built in connector keyboard, serial & parallel are connected to the motherboard via cable, they included slots for SIMM & DIMM.
- LPX – Low profile Expansion, a riser expansion slot is used to allow profile systems, the expansion cards are inserted into the riser card instead of directly to the motherboard.
- ATX and Micro ATX, ATX design is flexible for several integrated slots. Power connector is now a P1. The power control to the system now passes through the motherboard allowing for software control of the power (soft power). Power for PSU is now 3.3v supply reducing resistors. The placement for the components on the motherboard allows for better air flow. Micro is designed for smaller PC's., with reduced expansion slots.
- BTX – Balanced Technology Extended – Seen as a replacement for the ATX, developed by Intel to support computer systems with a high power requirement.
- ITX – Developed by VIA technologies. It was a motherboard design with low power requirements this made them popular for home cinema (i.e. no fan).