

Surprise!™

OWNER'S INSTALLATION MANUAL

READ THIS FIRST

What is SURPRISE!?

SURPRISE! is an inexpensive accelerator card for the IBM PC. This card increases the speed at which your computer runs by up to two and one half times. The speed increase in your computer depends upon the configuration of the computer (i.e. what type of video card you have, what application you are running).

SURPRISE! is designed to replace the 8088 chip on the system board of the computer. SURPRISE! requires no slot.

SURPRISE! is also unique in that it is made up of hardware and software. The hardware increases the speed at which the computer runs programs. The software makes DOS and screen functions happen faster. Since most programs often use DOS (to write to the screen, read from the keyboard, and to read and write to the disk), there is an increase in performance.

* In an IBM PC with a monochrome adapter and 640K base memory. Your speed may vary depending upon the options in your computer and the type of software you are using.

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Compatibility With Your Computer

SURPRISE! is compatible with the following computers:

IBM PC*

IBM PC XT*

SURPRISE! requires DOS 2.0 or greater. SURPRISE! is also available for IBM compatible computers (i.e. Compaq, NCR). See your local dealer.

What is Included

Before proceeding with the installation, please check to be sure that all parts have been received in good condition. Carefully remove each item from the box. Before installing SURPRISE! you should become familiar with what is included.

- SURPRISE! Card
- Plastic Case for Chip
- Daughter Board
- Owner's Manual and Help Manual
- Chip Puller
- SURPRISE! Software

Using SURPRISE!

Once the SURPRISE! hardware has been installed, SURPRISE! will start in the fast mode or the slow mode when you turn on your computer (depending on how you set the FAST/SLOW jumper). Installing the SURPRISE! hardware alone will increase the speed at which your computer runs programs.

The SURPRISE! software has two functions: the software will speed up DOS, and you can "toggle" between the fast and slow modes. SURPRISE! will change speeds if you press and hold the keys: "Ctrl" "Alt" and then press "\" (backslash) and release all three keys. SURPRISE! will "beep" once when it is toggled to the slow mode. Two beeps indicate the fast mode. Four beeps are a signal that SURPRISE! is not properly installed.

* IBM PC and IBM PC XT are trademarks of International Business Machines, Inc. Compaq is a trademark of Compaq Computer Corporation. NCR is a trademark of NCR Corporation.

Some applications have a copy-protection scheme that is sensitive to speed. You may have to start SURPRISE! in the slow mode to enter the program. But once you are in the program you can toggle SURPRISE! into the fast mode.

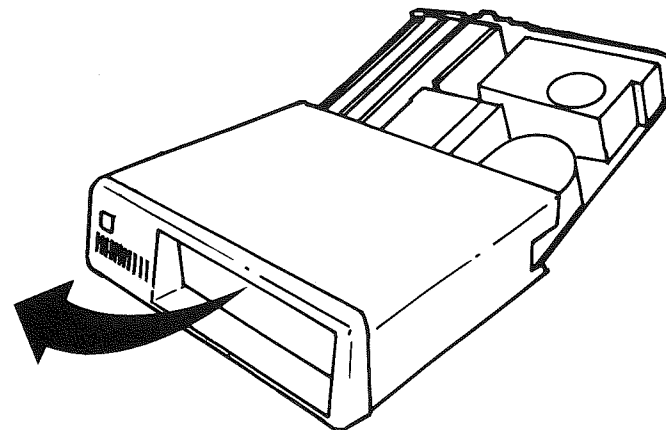
The SURPRISE! software will make a CONFIG.SYS file or add to a current CONFIG.SYS file the statement, "device=surprise.sys". Be sure you install the software on each DOS diskette you use with your computer, and on your working copy of DOS.

Installing SURPRISE!

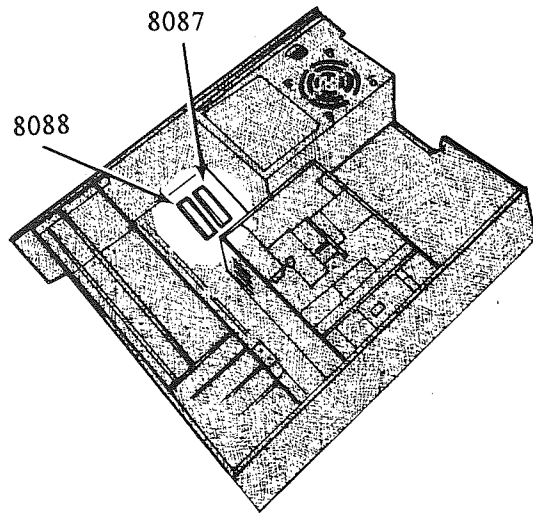
To complete the installation of SURPRISE!, you must install the card and then install the SURPRISE! software. Once SURPRISE! has been installed, and the SURPRISE! driver has been added to your CONFIG.SYS file, you will see how easy it is to increase the speed of your computer.

The instructions below are for an IBM PC.

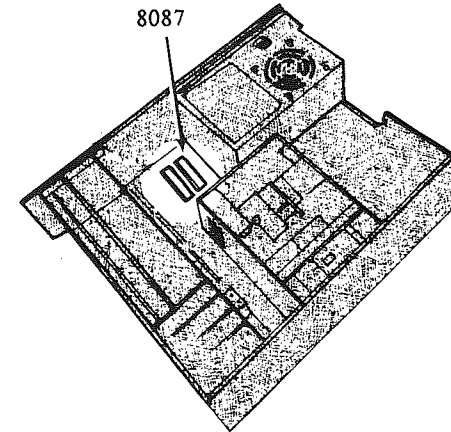
STEP 1 Disconnect the power cables. Remove the cover of the computer.



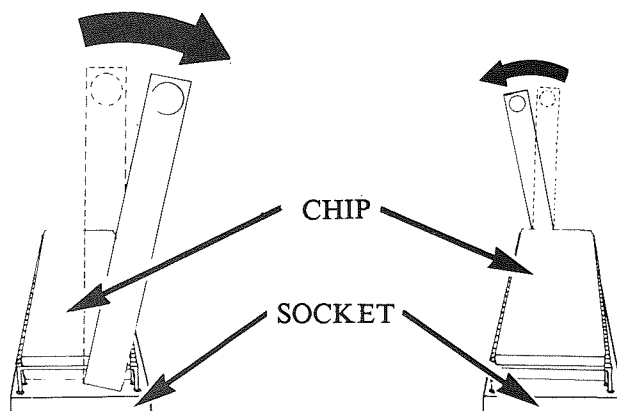
STEP 2 Find the 8088 chip. This chip will always be in a 40 pin socket next to another 40 pin socket (the 8087).



STEP 3 Do you have a chip in the 8087 socket? The 8087 chip usually has a gold box on the top of the chip. If you do have an 8087, refer to "The 8087 and SURPRISE!" in the SURPRISE! Help and Technical Reference Manual. If you do not have an 8087 chip, continue with these instructions.

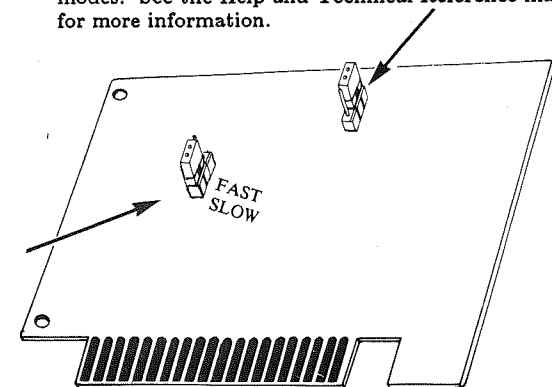


STEP 4 Use the chip puller included with SURPRISE! to remove the 8088 chip. Pry both ends of the chip. BE SURE YOU ARE PRYING THE CHIP OUT OF THE SOCKET, AND NOT THE SOCKET OUT OF THE SYSTEM BOARD. Put the 8088 chip in the plastic case for safe keeping.



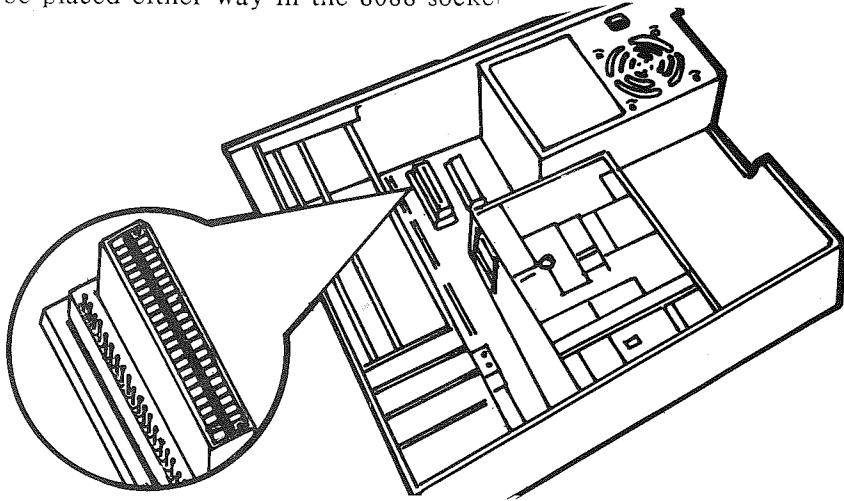
STEP 5 Check the jumpers on the SURPRISE! card. To change a selection, move the jumper so it covers the middle pin and the exposed pin.

Do not change this jumper unless you hear 4 "beeps" when you toggle SURPRISE! between the fast and slow modes. See the Help and Technical Reference manual for more information.



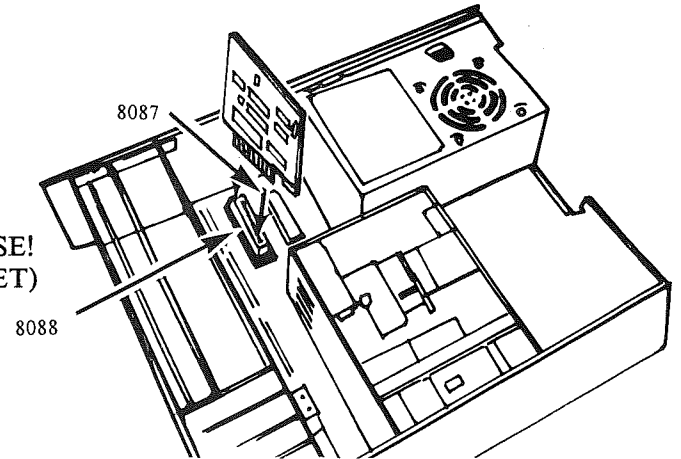
This jumper affects how SURPRISE! starts. We recommend you leave the jumper on SLOW. After SURPRISE! is started you can toggle between fast and slow. If you have a non-DOS operating system, set this jumper for FAST.

STEP 6 Seat the SURPRISE! daughter board in the 8088 socket (not the 8087 socket!). Check to be sure all of the pins are going into the socket and are not being bent under the daughter board. The daughter board is symmetrical and can be placed either way in the 8088 socket.

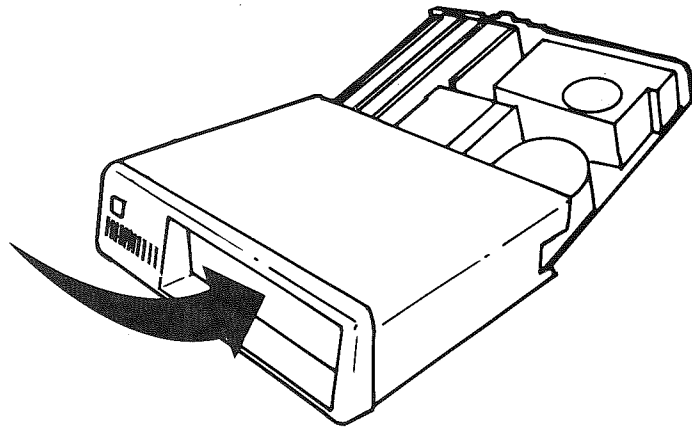


STEP 7 Seat the the card edge of SURPRISE! in the daughter board. SURPRISE! fits in the IBM PC or XT with the chip side of the board facing the other cards in the computer. Because of the physical dimensions of SURPRISE!, it is not possible to install the board other way.

(SEAT SURPRISE!
IN THIS SOCKET)



STEP 8 Replace the cover of the computer.



STEP 9 Insert the SURPRISE! software into drive A: and type:

A: <ENTER>

INSTALL <ENTER>

This will take you to the beginning of the software installation.

Federal Communications Commission Radio Frequency Interference Statement

Warning:

This equipment generates, uses, and can radiate radio frequency energy and if not installed and used in accordance with the instructions manual, may cause interference to radio communications. It has been tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class B computing device pursuant to Subpart J of Part 15 of FCC Rules, which are designed to provide reasonable protection against such interference when operated in a residential environment. However, there is no guaranty that interference will not occur in a particular installation. If this equipment does cause interference to radio or television reception, which can be determined by turning the equipment off and on, the user is encouraged to try to correct the interference by one or more of the following measures:

- Reorient the receiving antenna
- Relocate the computer with respect to the receiver
- Move the computer away from the receiver
- Plug the computer into a different outlet so that the computer and receiver are on different branch circuits.

If necessary, the user should consult the dealer or an experienced radio/television technician for additional suggestions. The user may find helpful a booklet prepared by the FCC, "How to Identify and Resolve Radio-TV Interference Problems."

The booklet is available from the U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington D.C. 20402, Stock No. 004-000-00345-4.

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