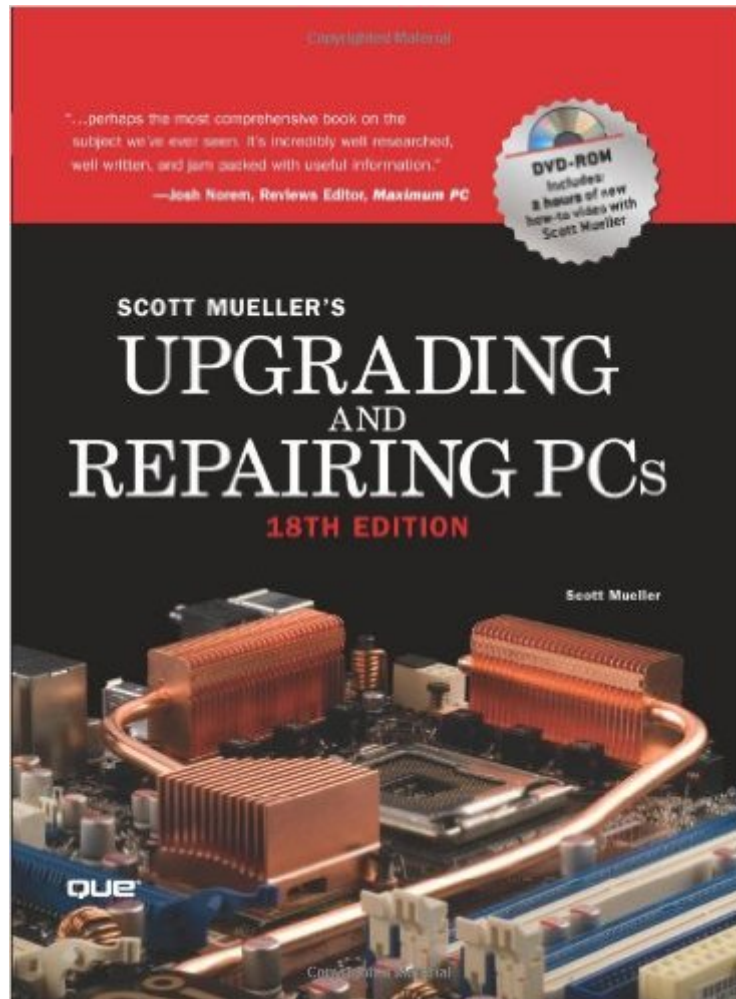


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# Upgrading And Repairing PCs (18th Edition)



## Synopsis

"...perhaps the most comprehensive book on the subject we've ever seen. It's incredibly well researched, well written, and jam packed with useful information."--Josh Norem, Reviews Editor, Maximum PC

Upgrading and Repairing PCs is the definitive guide to the inner workings of your PC. Whether you're adding a faster processor or bigger hard drive, tracking down a problem, or just want to understand how the components of your computer work together, this book explains everything you need to know. Trust the one book that has become the de facto standard among PC professionals and enthusiasts around the world.

World-renowned PC hardware expert Scott Mueller has taught thousands in his week-long seminars and millions through his books, videos, and magazine articles. Major changes in the PC hardware industry--including coverage of new Core 2 processors from Intel, Socket AM2 processors from AMD, and significant advances in motherboard chipsets, Blu-ray, and HD-DVD--make Upgrading and Repairing PCs, 18th Edition, an indispensable addition to every serious computer user's bookshelf...that is, if it ever leaves their desks. Readers from around the world trust their computers to Scott. Upgrading and Repairing PCs is found on the desks of teachers, students, hobbyists, repair technicians, and even law enforcement agencies that use this book to aid them in tracking criminals.

New in This Book

- Deep coverage of the new Core 2 (8th gen or "886") processors, featuring the new "Core Microarchitecture"
- Cutting edge coverage of quad-core desktop (Kentsfield) processor versions
- Detailed coverage of AMD's Socket AM2 processors
- Coverage of evolutionary changes in chipsets, including new versions of Intel's 9xx series chipsets and new 3x series Intel chipsets; coverage of new chipsets from Nvidia, VIA, and SiS has also been added
- Coverage of the new DTX and Mini-DTX motherboard form factors from the newly formed alliance between AMD and ATI
- Beefed-up coverage of Blu-ray and HD-DVD drives/players
- Extensive coverage of new GPUs in addition to heavy-duty coverage of SLI and Crossfire
- Building a PC from scratch--from assembling the hardware to BIOS setup and installing Microsoft Windows XP or Vista

On the DVD

- DVD contains 2 hours of all new, studio-quality video--playable in your set-top DVD player and your computer!
- Scott digs deep into networking, showing all the components needed to build a SOHO (Small Office Home Office) network. Coverage includes network adapters, routers, switches, access points, cable/DSL modems, and cabling. Upgrading an existing network to gigabit speeds is also covered, as well as the latest wireless network technology. The DVD also contains a previously published edition of the book as well as technical reference material, a glossary, and an acronym index.

Whether you're building a hot new PC for home or work, or nursing an aging and ailing PC back to health, these materials prove to be worth their weight in gold to the serious PC

technician or hobbyist. [www.upgradingandrepairingpcs.com](http://www.upgradingandrepairingpcs.com) If you don't have a DVD player or only have a set-top DVD, visit [www.upgradingandrepairingpcs.com](http://www.upgradingandrepairingpcs.com) to download all the video from the DVD in Windows Media Player format as well as the PDFs and other materials on the DVD! Plus, check out monthly articles, FAQs, and video from earlier editions you might have missed!

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## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I purchased the 21st Edition of Upgrading and Repairing PCs, based upon reviews of previous editions of the book. I have built a few desktop PCs (reading other books and materials online to do so) and have replaced internal parts including memory, hard drives, video and sound cards, over

the past 12 years. I consider myself an advanced intermediate in terms of upgrading and repairing PCs, with a desire to learn more. Getting a book with the latest information on this subject was important to me. This 21st edition, is the first I've seen from this author, is impressive and fit my needs perfectly! Who should buy this book? I think this book would be useful to anyone from a beginner to a strong intermediate PC user who is interested in building and repairing PCs. Those preparing to take specific IT related tests like the A+ Certification Exam, would also find it helpful and undoubtedly it is or will be used as a textbook for either high school or college students. What is included? You get this comprehensive hardbound book along with 45 days of FREE online access to the online edition of this book (code at back of the book) and a 2 hour DVD in which the author shows the components of a PC build and how they go together. His hands on approach is easy to understand and pleasant to watch. What will I learn with this book? Twenty chapters cover everything from the Development of the PC to PC Diagnostics, Testing and Maintenance. Networking, hardware types and functions, and building and upgrading systems are also covered. Basically anything hardware related - not software - for PCs is comprehensively covered by this 1000+ page book. Is it overly technical?

If you know me, you'll know that I'm a software guy. Specifically, I'm a software developer. I don't want to build my own PC. I want to turn it on and have it work. When it doesn't work right, I start to get really nervous. I hate to open up the case and look inside any of my PCs. And I can't tell you how many times I've seriously hosed my machine by attempting to install a new piece of hardware or memory. Bottom line... I don't like hardware. So why am I reviewing a book on PC hardware? Because fear is no excuse for not understanding the device that allows me to make my living. Having worked a little with this book, I can honestly say that I would have saved myself a lot of grief if I knew about this book earlier. It is amazing. Scott Mueller covers everything you can think of that you'll find in your PC. He also includes both the "what is" and "how to" details of the devices. For instance, you can read the chapters on magnetic storage and hard disk storage to understand how a hard drive works. He then takes you from the theoretical knowledge to the practical information on how to install a new hard drive in your PC. When I had to install a hard drive about a year ago after a drive failure, I truly had no clue as to what I was doing. While I was successful, it was an extremely stressful experience. If I had been able to review these chapters beforehand, I could have actually learned from the process instead of running scared through the ordeal. In this 15th anniversary edition, there is also a DVD with two hours of video related to the book. I haven't had the time yet to review the DVD material, but I have no doubt that it will be of the same high quality

as the book.

I have purchased three of the last five revisions of this book, and bought the latest as a matter of course when it first became available. It's the first one where I have wished that I had looked at it physically before purchase, because I would have not purchased it had I done so. For many years, this volume has been an industry standard, on the desktops of tech support personnel, PC purchasing agents, vocational educators, and hobbyists. It has grown like Topsy with each revision, steadily becoming larger and larger as more and more detail regarding newer releases in x86-compatible desktop and mobile CPUs, bus types, form factors, and compatibility issues evolved. However, previous standards are described often in mind-numbing and wordy detail as well. While some editing has taken place, it's not nearly enough. If you have one of the last two or three editions of this book, don't buy this one. It's just more paper weighing down your already sagging bookshelf. If you are starting from scratch, this may still be a useful book, but be warned: it's a colossal aggregation of data, much of it of historical interest only. Much of the "legacy" data is of primary interest to embedded systems designers and developers, but Mueller is strictly a desktop person: embedded people will be frustrated with this volume. Also, Mueller is wholly Microsoft-centric, meaning that there is a lot of DOS and NT stuff in here but no Unix, Unix-like (Linux or Free/Open/NetBSD), or embeddable (VxWorks or QNX) information whatsoever.

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