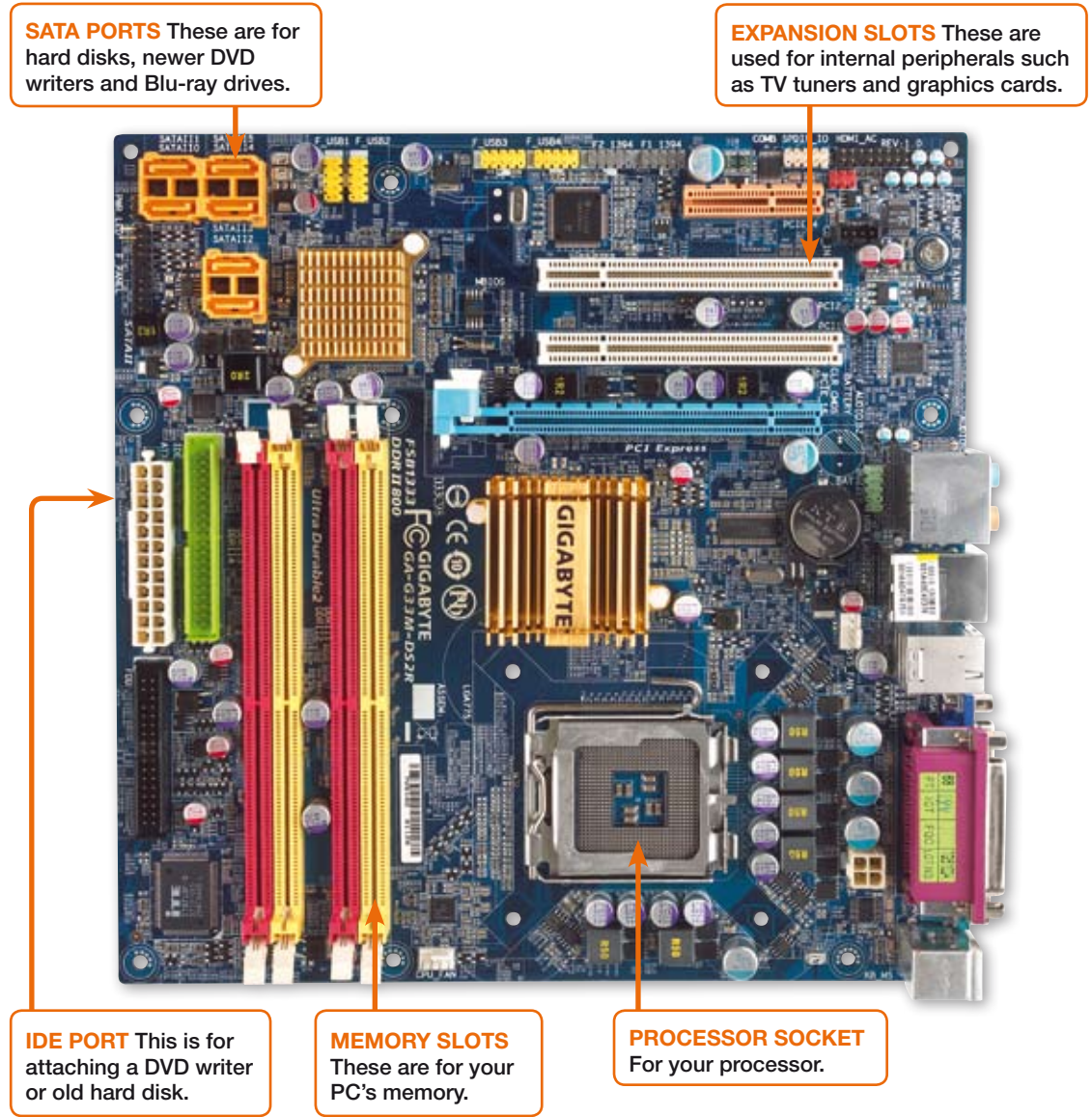


Installing the motherboard



TIP
Blanking plates can be difficult to fit. Push them in until they click, but don't worry if they're not entirely level around the sides.

HOW TO... Install the motherboard

1 UNPACK THE BOARD
Open your motherboard's box. You'll see lots of cables, a driver CD, a metal blanking plate with holes cut out and a manual. Take these components out and put them to one side, as you'll need them later on.

The motherboard will be inside an anti-static bag and resting on top of anti-static foam. Slide the motherboard out of the bag, but leave it attached to the foam for now. Place the motherboard and foam on top of the anti-static bag, and take out the metal blanking plate.

2 MEASURE BLANKING PLATE
The blanking plate fits into the case, and gives you access only to the ports that your motherboard has. However, some motherboard manufacturers use generic blanking plates that fit their entire range of boards. With these, you may need to remove some metal covers to give access to your motherboard's ports.

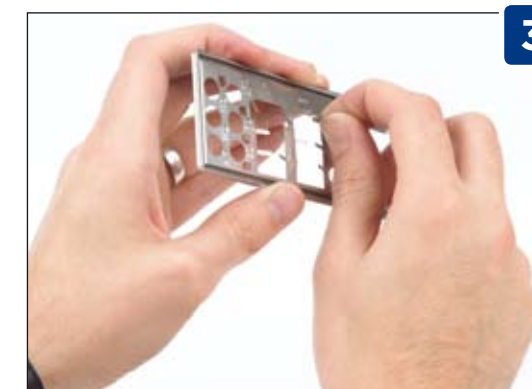
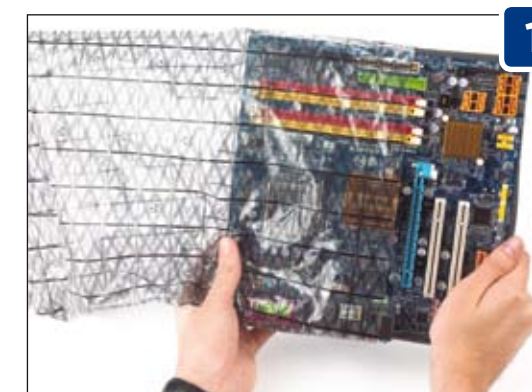
The easiest way to see is to hold the blanking plate up to the motherboard until the cutouts

match the ports on your board. The blanking plate should be pushed against the motherboard with the ridge pointing out, so any text is readable. It will only fit one way, so manoeuvre it until it's the right way. Make a note of any ports that are covered.

3 REMOVE UNNECESSARY BITS
If you need to remove any parts of the blanking plate, you should do that now. You'll have two options for doing this. First, you may have to remove a bit of metal, in a similar way to the metal blanking plates on your case. These should be rocked gently out until the metal snaps.

Second, some ports may be covered by a flap. In this case, the flap should be bent inwards (towards where the motherboard will be). Make sure that you bend it far enough for the motherboard's port to be given enough clearance to pass underneath.

4 INSTALL THE BLANKING PLATE
From the inside of the case, you need to take the blanking plate and push it into the gap at



TIP
Motherboards can require a bit of force to be inserted. Push from the sides of the board; don't force any components, as this could cause damage.