Phoenix Technologies, Ltd.®

AwardBIOS™ Version 4.51PG

Post Codes & Error Messages

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POST Codes

NOTE: EISA POST codes are typically output to port address 300h.
ISA POST codes are output to port address 80h.

Code (hex)	Name	Description
C0	Turn Off Chipset Cache	OEM Specific-Cache control
1	Processor Test 1	Processor Status (1FLAGS) Verification. Tests the following processor status flags: carry, zero, sign, overflow, The BIOS sets each flag, verifies they are set, then turns each flag off and verifies it is off.
2	Processor Test 2	Read/Write/Verify all CPU registers except SS, SP, and BP with data pattern FF and 00.
3	Initialize Chips	Disable NMI, PIE, AIE, UEI, SQWV Disable video, parity checking, DMA Reset math coprocessor Clear all page registers, CMOS shutdown byte Initialize timer 0, 1, and 2, including set EISA timer to a known state Initialize DMA controllers 0 and 1 Initialize interrupt controllers 0 and 1 Initialize EISA extended registers.
4	Test Memory Refresh Toggle	RAM must be periodically refreshed to keep the memory from decaying. This function ensures that the memory refresh function is working properly.
5	Blank video, Initialize keyboard	Keyboard controller initialization.
6	Reserved	
7	Test CMOS Interface and Battery Status	Verifies CMOS is working correctly, detects bad battery.
BE	Chipset Default Initialization	Program chipset registers with power on BIOS defaults.
C1	Memory presence test	OEM Specific-Test to size on-board memory
C5	Early Shadow	OEM Specific-Early Shadow enable for fast boot.

C6	Cache presence test	External cache size detection
8	Setup low memory	Early chip set initialization Memory presence test OEM chip set routines Clear low 64K of memory Test first 64K memory.
9	Early Cache Initialization	Cyrix CPU initialization Cache initialization
A	Setup Interrupt Vector Table	Initialize first 120 interrupt vectors with SPURIOUS_INT_HDLR and initialize INT 00h-1Fh according to INT_TBL
B	Test CMOS RAM Checksum	Test CMOS RAM Checksum, if bad, or insert key pressed, load defaults.
C	Initialize keyboard	Detect type of keyboard controller (optional) Set NUM_LOCK status.
D	Initialize Video Interface	Detect CPU clock. Read CMOS location 14h to find out type of video in use. Detect and Initialize Video Adapter.
E	Test Video Memory	Test video memory, write sign-on message to screen. Setup shadow RAM – Enable shadow according to Setup.
F	Test DMA Controller 0	BIOS checksum test. Keyboard detect and initialization
10	Test DMA Controller 1	
11	Test DMA Page Registers	Test DMA Page Registers.
12-13	Reserved	
14	Test Timer Counter 2	Test 8254 Timer 0 Counter 2.
15	Test 8259-1 Mask Bits	Verify 8259 Channel 1 masked interrupts by alternately turning off and on the interrupt lines.
16	Test 8259-2 Mask Bits	Verify 8259 Channel 2 masked interrupts by alternately turning off and on the interrupt lines.

17	Test Stuck 8259's Interrupt Bits	Turn off interrupts then verify no interrupt mask register is on.
18	Test 8259 Interrupt Functionality	Force an interrupt and verify the interrupt occurred.
19	Test Stuck NMI Bits (Parity/IO Check)	Verify NMI can be cleared.
1A		Display CPU clock
1B-1E	Reserved	
1F	Set EISA Mode	If EISA non-volatile memory checksum is good, execute EISA initialization. If not, execute ISA tests an clear EISA mode flag. Test EISA Configuration Memory Integrity (checksum & communication interface).
20	Enable Slot 0	Initialize slot 0 (System Board).
21-2F	Enable Slots 1-15	Initialize slots 1 through 15.
30	Size Base and Extended Memory	Size base memory from 256K to 640K and extended memory above 1MB.
31	Test Base and Extended Memory	Test base memory from 256K to 640K and extended memory above 1MB using various patterns. NOTE: This test is skipped in EISA mode and can be skipped with ESC key in ISA mode.
32	Test EISA Extended Memory	If EISA Mode flag is set then test EISA memory found in slots initialization. NOTE: This test is skipped in ISA mode and can be skipped with ESC key in EISA mode.
33-3B	Reserved	
3C	Setup Enabled	
3D	Initialize & Install Mouse	Detect if mouse is present, initialize mouse, install interrupt vectors.
3E	Setup Cache Controller	Initialize cache controller.

3F	Reserved	
BF	Chipset Initialization	Program chipset registers with Setup values
40		Display virus protect disable or enable
41	Initialize Floppy Drive & Controller	Initialize floppy disk drive controller and any drives.
42	Initialize Hard Drive & Controller	initialize hard drive controller and any drives.
43	Detect & Initialize Serial/Parallel Ports	Initialize any serial and parallel ports (also game port).
44	Reserved	
45	Detect & Initialize Math Coprocessor	Initialize math coprocessor.
46	Reserved	
47	Reserved	
48-4D	Reserved	
4E	Manufacturing POST Loop or Display Messages	Reboot if Manufacturing POST Loop pin is set. Otherwise display any messages (i.e., any non-fatal errors that were detected during POST) and enter Setup.
4F	Security Check	Ask password security (optional).
50	Write CMOS	Write all CMOS values back to RAM and clear screen.
51	Pre-boot Enable	Enable parity checker Enable NMI, Enable cache before boot.
52	Initialize Option ROMs	Initialize any option ROMs present from C8000h to EFFFFh. NOTE: When FSCAN option is enabled, ROMs initialize from C8000h to F7FFFh.
53	Initialize Time Value	Initialize time value in 40h: BIOS area.
60	Setup Virus	Setup virus protect according to

	Protect	Setup
61	Set Boot Speed	Set system speed for boot
62	Setup NumLock	Setup NumLock status according to Setup
63	Boot Attempt	Set low stack Boot via INT 19h.
B0	Spurious	If interrupt occurs in protected mode.
B1	Unclaimed NMI	If unmasked NMI occurs, display Press F1 to disable NMI, F2 reboot.
E1-EF	Setup Pages	E1- Page 1, E2 - Page 2, etc.
FF	Boot	

Error Messages

During the power-on self test (POST), the BIOS either sounds a beep code or displays a message when it detects a correctable error.

Following is a list of POST messages for the ISA BIOS kernel. Specific chipset ports and BIOS extensions may include additional messages. An error message may be followed by a prompt to press F1 to continue or press DEL to enter Setup.

Beep

Currently the only beep code indicates that a video error has occurred and the BIOS cannot initialize the video screen to display any additional information. This beep code consists of a single long beep followed by two short beeps. Any other beeps are probably a RAM problem.

BIOS ROM checksum error - System halted

The checksum of the BIOS code in the BIOS chip is incorrect, indicating the BIOS code may have become corrupt. Contact your system dealer to replace the BIOS.

CMOS battery failed

CMOS battery is no longer functional. Contact your system dealer for a replacement battery.

CMOS checksum error - Defaults loaded

Checksum of CMOS is incorrect, so the system loads the default equipment configuration. A checksum error may indicate that CMOS has become corrupt. This error may have been caused by a weak battery. Check the battery and replace if necessary.

CPU at nnnn

Displays the running speed of the CPU.

Display switch is set incorrectly.

The display switch on the motherboard can be set to either monochrome or color. This message indicates the switch is set to a different setting than indicated in Setup. Determine which setting is correct, and then either turn off the system and change the jumper, or enter Setup and change the VIDEO selection.

Press ESC to skip memory test

The user may press Esc to skip the full memory test.

Floppy disk(s) fail

Cannot find or initialize the floppy drive controller or the drive. Make sure the controller is installed correctly. If no floppy drives are installed, be sure the Diskette Drive selection in Setup is set to NONE or AUTO.

HARD DISK initializing
Please wait a moment...

Some hard drives require extra time to initialize.

HARD DISK INSTALL FAILURE

Cannot find or initialize the hard drive controller or the drive. Make sure the controller is installed correctly. If no hard drives are installed, be sure the Hard Drive selection in Setup is set to NONE.

Hard disk(s) diagnosis fail

The system may run specific disk diagnostic routines. This message appears if one or more hard disks return an error when the diagnostics run.

Keyboard error or no keyboard present

Cannot initialize the keyboard. Make sure the keyboard is attached correctly and no keys are pressed during POST. To purposely configure the system without a keyboard, set the error halt condition in Setup to HALT ON ALL, BUT KEYBOARD. The BIOS then ignores the missing keyboard during POST.

Keyboard is locked out - Unlock the key

This message usually indicates that one or more keys have been pressed during the keyboard tests. Be sure no objects are resting on the keyboard.

Memory Test :

This message displays during a full memory test, counting down the memory areas being tested.

Memory test fail

If POST detects an error during memory testing, additional information appears giving specifics about the type and location of the memory error.

Override enabled - Defaults loaded

If the system cannot boot using the current CMOS configuration, the BIOS can override the current configuration with a set of BIOS defaults designed for the most stable, minimal-performance system operations.

Press TAB to show POST screen

System OEMs may replace the Phoenix Technologies AwardBIOS POST display with their own proprietary display. Including this message in the OEM display permits the operator to switch between the OEM display and the default POST display.

Primary master hard disk fail

POST detects an error in the primary master IDE hard drive.

Primary slave hard disk fail

POST detects an error in the secondary master IDE hard drive.

Resuming from disk, Press TAB to show POST screen

Phoenix Technologies offers a save-to-disk feature for notebook computers. This message may appear when the operator re-starts the system after a save-to-disk shut-down. See the Press TAB ... message above for a description of this feature.

Secondary master hard disk fail

POST detects an error in the primary slave IDE hard drive.

Secondary slave hard disk fail

POST detects an error in the secondary slave IDE hard drive.