



Industrial PC

# PPC-A55-121



PN: CS10768-RK3568-121P

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# PPC-A55-121

## Front View



## Rear View



# Side View 1



## Side View 2



## Product Overview

The Cortex®-A55 series PPC-A55-121 (PN: CS10768-RK3568-121P) is a high-quality IP65-compliant industrial panel PC. It features a 12.1" ten-point capacitive touch screen with a resolution of 1024 x 768 pixels and a brightness of 400 cd/m<sup>2</sup>.

### Key Applications

- Human Machine Interface HMI
- Mobile Applications
- Video Processing
- Machine Learning
- Video Gaming
- Process Control
- Process Monitoring
- ATM...

It is available both as an embedded solution and as a device housed in an aluminum casing with bezels, thus facilitating different installation options:

- Installation on an industrial cabinet
- Integration with the existing equipment

The PPC-A55-121 Industrial Panel PC is based around the powerful RK3568 System on Chip (SoC), powered by the Rockchip RK3568 low-power processor which integrates a quad-core Cortex®-A55 processor.

The RK3568 supports multi-format video decoders and has a high-performance RAM (LPDDR4X) capable of sustaining demanding memory bandwidths. It also provides a complete set of peripheral interfaces.

# Ordering Options

Chipsee products can be customized during the ordering process. The product will be shipped with the pre-installed factory defaults if no extra requirements are specified. The table in the [Hardware Features](#) section provides information about the default options bundled with the product.



You can order the [PPC-A55-121](#) from the official [Chipsee Store](#) or from your nearest distributor.

## Operating System

This product comes with a pre-installed OS of your choice. Please see the list below for the supported OSes, which can also be obtained from the [Software Documentation](#) section, along with the detailed installation instructions.

- Debian 11
- Android 11
- Buildroot Linux Qt 5.15



The [Software Documentation](#) section provides a detailed instruction on how to install different OSes on your own. However, bear in mind that Chipsee can't take the responsibility of inadequate installation procedure. If you "brick" your device, please contact Chipsee Technical Support at [support@chipsee.com](mailto:support@chipsee.com) for further assistance

## Optional Features

The PPC-A55-121 Industrial Panel PC does not include 4G/LTE module by default. The module is optional and can be selected at the Chipsee store during the ordering process.

### Warning

Installation, repair, and maintenance tasks should be performed by trained personnel only. Chipsee does not bear any responsibility for damage caused by inadequate handling of the product.

# Hardware Features

The PPC-A55-121 Industrial Panel PC offers a broad range of performance and connectivity options for scalable integration, providing expandability according to future needs. Some of the key features are listed in the table below.

| PPC-A55-121                |   |
|----------------------------|---|
| <b>CPU</b>                 | Rockchip RK3568, Quad-core Cortex-A55 (2.0GHz)  |
| <b>RAM</b>                 | Samsung 2GB LPDDR4X, 4266 Mbps  |
| <b>eMMC</b>                | 16GB  |
| <b>SSD</b>                 | Optional, supports M.2 2280 NVME SSD (PCI-E 3.0 x 2)  |
| <b>Storage</b>             | TF Card, Supports up to 128GB SDHC  |
| <b>Display</b>             | 12.1" LCD, 1024 x 768, High Brightness: 400 cd/m <sup>2</sup>   |
| <b>HDMI</b>                | 1 x HDMI OUT  |
| <b>Touch</b>               | 10-point capacitive touch screen  |
| <b>USB</b>                 | 1 x USB 2.0 HOST, 1 x USB 3.0 HOST, 1 x USB Type-C  |
| <b>LAN</b>                 | 1 x RJ45, GbE   |
| <b>POE</b>                 | N/A   |
| <b>Audio</b>               | 3.5mm Audio In/Out Connector, 2W Internal Speaker   |
| <b>Buzzer</b>              | Yes   |
| <b>RTC</b>                 | High accuracy RTC with farad capacitor, can work 1 week after power off ( <b>default</b> ).<br>High accuracy RTC with lithium coin battery, can work 3 years after power off ( <i>optional</i> ). |
| <b>RS232</b>               | Default to 2 x RS232 (including 1 debug port). Up to 6 x RS232. <sup>1</sup>  |
| <b>RS485</b>               | Default to 2 x RS485. Optionally, these 2 x RS485 can be configured to RS232. <sup>1</sup>  |
| <b>CAN</b>                 | Default to 2 x CAN. Optionally, these 2 x CAN can be configured to RS232.   |
| <b>GPIO</b>                | 8 Channels Isolated IO, 4 x Input and 4 x Output  |
| <b>WiFi/BT</b>             | Integrated WiFi/BT Module   |
| <b>4G/LTE</b>              | Supported, Optional   |
| <b>Power Input</b>         | From 12V to 36V   |
| <b>Current</b>             | 1000mA Max at 12V   |
| <b>Power Consumption</b>   | 12W Typical   |
| <b>Working Temperature</b> | From 0°C to +60°C   |

| PPC-A55-121       |   |
|-------------------|---|
| <b>OS</b>         | Android 11, Debian11, Buildroot Linux Qt 5.15             |
| <b>Dimensions</b> | PPC-A55-121 (PN: CS10768-RK3568-121P): 320 * 260 * 55.5mm |
| <b>Weight</b>     | PPC-A55-121 (PN: CS10768-RK3568-121P): 3100g              |
| <b>Mounting</b>   | PPC-A55-121 (PN: CS10768-RK3568-121P): Panel, VESA        |

Table 157 Key Features

**1(1,2)**This product has 4 x UART by default, 6 x UART channels at most. The default configuration is 2 x RS232 and 2 x RS485, including 1 RS232 debug port. The 2 x CAN can be configured to RS232. UART can be swapped between RS232 and RS485 modes easily, if you need a different RS232/RS485 configuration, please get in touch with the Chipsee Technical Support at [support@chipsee.com](mailto:support@chipsee.com)

## Power Input

The PPC-A55-121 Industrial Panel PC can be powered by a wide range of input voltages: From 12V to 36V DC. The power input connector is a **3-pin, 3.81mm terminal**. The polarity and the pinout is clearly marked on the housing of the product as shown in the figure below.



*Power Input*

Note that the “+” sign represents the positive power input, it is printed at the casing and as a silk-screen on a PCB of the embedded version. The “-” terminal is shorted to the ground.

| Power Input Definition |                |                                   |
|------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------------|
| Pin Number             | Definition     | Description                       |
| Pin 1                  | Positive Input | DC Power <b>Positive Terminal</b> |
| Pin 2                  | Negative Input | DC Power <b>Negative Terminal</b> |
| Pin 3                  | Ground         | <b>Power System Ground</b>        |

Table 158 Power Connector

 **Note**

The system ground “G” is connected to power negative “-” on board.

## Touch Screen

The PPC-A55-121 Industrial Panel PC uses a 10-point capacitive touch screen. However, the Debian OS supports only One-Point touch.

The figure below shows the capacitive touch screen connected to the motherboard via the **USB connector**.



Figure 605: Capacitive Touch Connector

### ⚠ Attention

A capacitive touch screen is susceptible to power noise and Electromagnetic Radiation (EMR). It may cause LCD ripples or even capacitive touch malfunction. If using a capacitive multi-touch test application, you might notice the touch points float erratically across the display. There are several solutions to this problem:

1. Use a high-quality Power Adapter Unit (PSU) with low EMR. You can also provide power from a battery.
2. Make sure that the PPC-A55-121 Power Input connector (pin 3) is properly connected to the Power System Ground to provide sufficient EMI shielding and eliminate the problem entirely.
3. Bad GND problem can also be confirmed by touching pin 3 of the Power Input connector with one hand while operating the capacitive touch screen with the other hand. In this case, the operator's body acts as the Power System Ground.

# Connectivity

There are many connectivity options available on the PPC-A55-121 industrial PC. It has 1 x USB 2.0 HOST, 1 x USB 3.0 HOST, 1 x USB Type-C, 1 x network connector (RJ45) supporting up to 1 Gbps, 8 x GPIO, 2 x CAN and 4 x UART terminals (RS232/485).

## RS232+RS485+CAN+GPIO Connector

The serial communication interfaces (RS485, RS232, and CAN) are routed to a **24-pin 3.81mm terminal**, as illustrated in the figure below. Serial communication on both RS485 and RS232 interfaces can reach up to 115200 kbps.



*Isolated GPIO reduced schematic*



The table below offers a detailed description of every pin:

| RS232 / RS485 / CAN / GPIO Pin Definition: |             |                              |
|--|-------------|------------------------------|
| Pin Number                                 | Definition  | Description                  |
| Pin 1                                      | CAN0_H      | CAN H signal                 |
| Pin 2                                      | CAN1_H      | CAN H signal                 |
| Pin 3                                      | CAN0_L      | CAN L signal                 |
| Pin 4                                      | CAN1_L      | CAN L signal                 |
| Pin 5                                      | RS485_4-    | CPU UART4, RS485 -(B) signal |
| Pin 6                                      | IN4         | Isolated Input 4             |
| Pin 7                                      | RS485_4+    | CPU UART4, RS485 +(A) signal |
| Pin 8                                      | IN3         | Isolated Input 3             |
| Pin 9                                      | RS485_3-    | CPU UART3, RS485 -(B) signal |
| Pin 10                                     | IN2         | Isolated Input 2             |
| Pin 11                                     | RS485_3+    | CPU UART3, RS485 +(A) signal |
| Pin 12                                     | IN1         | Isolated Input 1             |
| Pin 13                                     | RS232_0_RXD | CPU UART0, RS232 RXD signal  |
| Pin 14                                     | OUT4        | Isolated Output 4            |
| Pin 15                                     | RS232_0_TXD | CPU UART0, RS232 TXD signal  |
| Pin 16                                     | OUT3        | Isolated Output 3            |
| Pin 17                                     | RS232_2_RXD | CPU UART2, Debug RXD signal  |
| Pin 18                                     | OUT2        | Isolated Output 2            |
| Pin 19                                     | RS232_2_TXD | CPU UART2, Debug TXD signal  |
| Pin 20                                     | OUT1        | Isolated Output 1            |
| Pin 21                                     | GND         | System Ground                |

| RS232 / RS485 / CAN / GPIO Pin Definition: |         |                                       |
|--|---------|---------------------------------------|
| Pin 22                                     | GND_ISO | Isolated Ground                       |
| Pin 23                                     | VCC5V   | System 5V output, up to 1A            |
| Pin 24                                     | VDD_ISO | Isolated Power Input, supports 5V~24V |

Table 159 Connectivity Section

 **Attention**

- The 120Ω match resistor for **CAN** bus is **NOT mounted** by default.
- The 120Ω match resistor for **RS485** is **already mounted** by default.
- This product supports changing 2 x RS485 to 2 x RS232, supports changing 2 x CAN to 2 x RS232, providing up to 6 x RS232 (including one debug port).
- The GPIO has been optical isolated and it uses the 24V logic by default. You can use an external isolated power input but the power input range should be from 5V to 24V DC.
- The 4 GPIO output channels can drive at most 500mA current on each channel.

## USB Connectors

There are 2 x **USB HOST** and 1 x **USB DEVICE** (for flashing OS) ports onboard: 1 x USB 2.0 HOST, 1 x USB 3.0 HOST, 1 x USB Type-C , as shown in the figures below.



*USB 2.0 HOST Port (embedded / enclosed PC version)*



*USB 3.0 HOST Port (embedded / enclosed PC version)*



*USB Type-C Port (embedded / enclosed PC version)***⚠ Warning**

Be careful not to touch surrounding electronic components accidentally while plugging USB devices into the embedded IPC version.

## LAN Connectors

**LAN (RJ45) connector** provides 1 x RJ45 Ethernet connectivity over standardized Ethernet cables as shown in the figure below. The integrated Ethernet interface supports up to 1 Gbps data throughput.



*RJ45 LAN Connector*

### Note

Use CAT5 or better cables to achieve full data throughput over maximum distance defined by the 1000BASE-T standard (100m).

## WiFi & BT Module

The PPC-A55-121 Industrial Panel PC is equipped with the popular **Realtek RTL8821CS WiFi/BT module** which supports BT/BLE 2.1/3.0/4.2, as well as 802.11ac/abgn 433Mbps 2.4/5.8 GHz Wireless LAN (WLAN).



Figure 606: *RTL8821CS WiFi/BT Module*

The PPC-A55-121 includes an SMA connector for an external WiFi/BT antenna, as illustrated in the figure below.



*WiFi+BT Antenna SMA*

## 4G/LTE Module

The PPC-A55-121 Industrial Panel PC is equipped with a **mini-PCIe connector** that can connect a 4G/LTE module. The customer will also need a SIM Card Holder and a 4G/LTE Antenna Connector to ensure 4G/LTE works on the PPC-A55-121. SIM card does **NOT** support hot plug. **Power off** before inserting or removing SIM card.



Figure 607: mini-PCIe Connector & 4G Module



Figure 608: SIM Card Holder & 4G Antenna



SIM Card Direction

### ⚠ Attention

The product does not come shipped with the 4G/LTE module by default. The customer can choose the 4G/LTE module option when placing an order, we will install all the necessary components.

## M.2 SSD Slot

There is a M.2 slot on the PPC-A55-121 that allows an optional SSD. The M.2 slot is capable of holding a PCI-E 3.0 x 2, 2280 NVME SSD. The PPC-A55-121 does not come shipped with an SSD by default, if you want a different configuration you can consult us when placing an order.



*M.2 2280 Slot for PCI-E 3.0 x 2 NVME SSD*

## TF Card & SIM Card Slot

The PPC-A55-121 Industrial Panel PC features 1 x **TF Card (micro SD) slot** and 1 x **SIM Card slot**. TF Card can address up to 128GB of storage.



*TF (micro SD) Card & SIM Card Slot*

 **Note**

The product does not come shipped with the TF Card by default.

# Audio Connectors

The PPC-A55-121 Industrial Panel PC features some audio peripherals. It has a **3.5mm audio input/output jack**, an **internal speaker**, as well as a small **buzzer**.



*Audio Connector (enclosed PC version)*

The miniature 2W embedded speaker is handy for audio reproduction, the small buzzer can play alarm/notification sounds.



*Figure 609: 2W Micro Speaker and Buzzer*

## ⚠ Attention

By plugging in the headphone cable, the internal speaker will be disabled automatically.

## HDMI Connector

The PPC-A55-121 Industrial Panel PC is equipped with 1 x HDMI OUT port. The HDMI connector allows connecting an additional (external) monitor. HDMI output resolution can be configured by the software.



*HDMI Connector*

## PROG Button

The PPC-A55-121 Industrial Panel PC has one button on the board marked as PROG, as shown in the figure below.

When the button is pressed before powering up, the PPC-A55-121 will enter MASKROM mode. In this mode you can use a USB Type-C cable to upgrade its operating system. You can use this feature to flash another OS to the internal eMMC.

When the button is not pressed before and during power up, the PPC-A55-121 will boot normally.

There is no need to press the button during regular operation. However, if you need to flash the OS in MASKROM mode, the button will be used. Please refer to the [software documents](#) for more information.



*PROG Button*

# Mounting Procedure

You can mount PPC-A55-121 with VESA mounting: **100 x 100** mm, 4 x **M4** (6mm) screws.

You can also mount PPC-A55-121 with panel mounting method.

## Attention

Please make sure the display is not exposed to high pressure when mounting into an enclosure.

You can find detailed information about mounting in the [Mount IPC Guide](#).

## Mechanical Specifications

For PPC-A55-121, the outer mechanical dimensions are 320 \* 260 \* 55.5mm (W x L x H).

## Disclaimer

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