

5.4.4 RAID Configuration Facts

The process for installing RAID hardware depends on your motherboard. You will need to locate manufacturer directions to learn how to install RAID on your hardware. There are several ways to implement RAID:

Method	Description
Hardware	Hardware RAID uses a special controller card that includes a RAID processor. Hardware RAID is the most expensive method but provides much better performance and is more reliable than other methods.
Software	<p>Software RAID uses a driver and the system CPU for controlling RAID operations. This is the slowest form of RAID.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Some RAID controller cards support RAID configuration, but without the onboard RAID processor. These solutions are classified as software RAID (sometimes called fake RAID) even though you install a controller card to provide RAID capabilities.Many motherboards include built-in (onboard) support for RAID. RAID implemented in this way is typically software/driver RAID.Software RAID uses a driver and the system CPU to control RAID operations. This is the slowest form of RAID.
Operating System	Operating system RAID uses RAID features within the operating system. Like software RAID, the system CPU is used for RAID operations, but performance is typically better than software RAID because of integration with the operating system.

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