

4-2 BIOS Update Utilities

GIGABYTE motherboards provide two unique BIOS update tools, Q-Flash™ and @BIOS™. GIGABYTE Q-Flash and @BIOS are easy-to-use and allow you to update the BIOS without the need to enter MS-DOS mode. Additionally, this motherboard features the DualBIOS™ design, which enhances protection for the safety and stability of your computer by adding one more physical BIOS chip.



What is DualBIOS™?

Motherboards that support DualBIOS have two BIOS onboard, a main BIOS and a backup BIOS. Normally, the system works on the main BIOS. However, if the main BIOS is corrupted or damaged, the backup BIOS will take over on the next system boot and copy the BIOS file to the main BIOS to ensure normal system operation. For the sake of system safety, users cannot update the backup BIOS manually.



What is Q-Flash™?

With Q-Flash you can update the system BIOS without having to enter operating systems like MS-DOS or Windows first. Embedded in the BIOS, the Q-Flash tool frees you from the hassles of going through complicated BIOS flashing process.



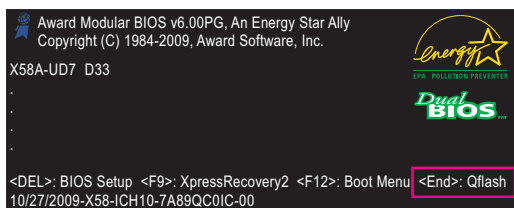
What is @BIOS™?

@BIOS allows you to update the system BIOS while in the Windows environment. @BIOS will download the latest BIOS file from the nearest @BIOS server site and update the BIOS.

4-2-1 Updating the BIOS with the Q-Flash Utility

A. Before You Begin

1. From GIGABYTE's website, download the latest compressed BIOS update file that matches your motherboard model.
2. Extract the file and save the new BIOS file (e.g. x58aud7.f1) to your floppy disk, USB flash drive, or hard drive. Note: The USB flash drive or hard drive must use FAT32/16/12 file system.
3. Restart the system. During the POST, press the <End> key to enter Q-Flash. Note: You can access Q-Flash by either pressing the <End> key during the POST or pressing the <F8> key in BIOS Setup. However, if the BIOS update file is saved to a hard drive in RAID/AHCI mode or a hard drive attached to an independent IDE/SATA controller, use the <End> key during the POST to access Q-Flash.



Because BIOS flashing is potentially risky, please do it with caution. Inadequate BIOS flashing may result in system malfunction.

B. Updating the BIOS

When updating the BIOS, choose the location where the BIOS file is saved. The following procedure assumes that you save the BIOS file to a floppy disk.

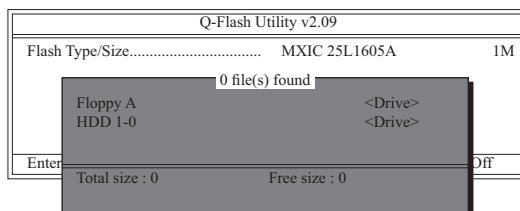
Step 1:

1. Insert the floppy disk containing the BIOS file into the floppy disk drive. In the main menu of Q-Flash, use the up or down arrow key to select **Update BIOS from Drive** and press <Enter>.



- The **Save Main BIOS to Drive** option allows you to save the current BIOS file.
- Q-Flash only supports USB flash drive or hard drives using FAT32/16/12 file system.
- If the BIOS update file is saved to a hard drive in RAID/AHCI mode or a hard drive attached to an independent IDE/SATA controller, use the <End> key during the POST to access Q-Flash.

2. Select **Floppy A** and press <Enter>.



3. Select the BIOS update file and press <Enter>.



Make sure the BIOS update file matches your motherboard model.

Step 2:

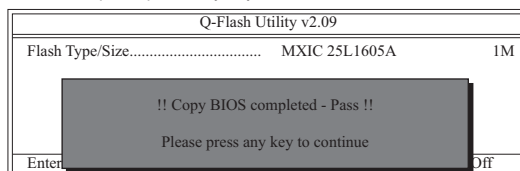
The process of the system reading the BIOS file from the floppy disk is displayed on the screen. When the message "Are you sure to update BIOS?" appears, press <Enter> to begin the BIOS update. The monitor will display the update process.



- **Do not turn off or restart the system when the system is reading/updating the BIOS.**
- **Do not remove the floppy disk, USB flash drive, or hard drive when the system is updating the BIOS.**

Step 3:

When the update process is complete, press any key to return to the main menu.

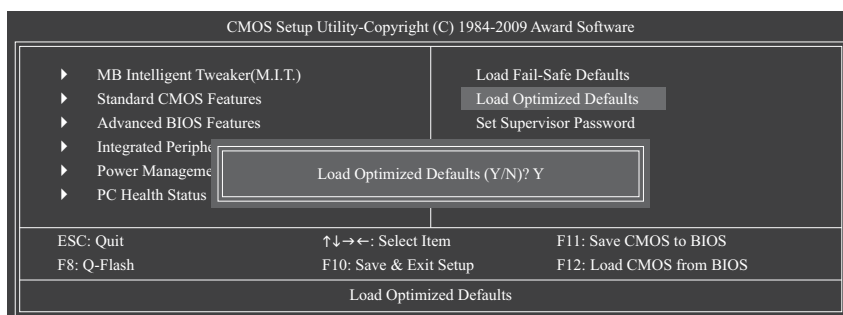


Step 4:

Press <Esc> and then <Enter> to exit Q-Flash and reboot the system. As the system boots, you should see the new BIOS version is present on the POST screen.

Step 5:

During the POST, press <Delete> to enter BIOS Setup. Select **Load Optimized Defaults** and press <Enter> to load BIOS defaults. System will re-detect all peripheral devices after a BIOS update, so we recommend that you reload BIOS defaults.



Press <Y> to load BIOS defaults

Step 6:

Select **Save & Exit Setup** and then press <Y> to save settings to CMOS and exit BIOS Setup. The procedure is complete after the system restarts.