

Super NES All-In-One Classic Video Game Player

Appendix

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FAQ:

Q: How long did it take you to build your Super NES Player?

A: It's hard to say, because so much was in planning stages. If I had to do it again following the same procedure, I would say it would be a 2 weekend project; one weekend with the physical build, and another weekend setting up the frontend and games.

Q: You used a 16 GB SD card for a Hard Drive, is going to be quick enough, and could I use a different size card?

A: I was worried about this as well, but it actually tested out very well, every time I boot up, the internal computer loads in less than a minute (I'm only using a class 4 speed card as well). As for the Size, 16 GB is highly recommended. You can go smaller if you wish, but the SD card hard drive will not accept anything larger than 16 GB.

Q: I don't have a Super NES, could I use a NES or Genesis instead?

A: Well, I am sure it will all fit in an NES, but the NES controllers have fewer buttons. I used the Super NES because the controllers are very universal. The Sega Genesis is a very funny size, so I don't know if everything could fit. Also, as a clarification, this is a US model of Super NES. The European/Asian models look different.

Q: How well does everything run?

A: I am able to run my emulator at 100% speed. The N64 emulator is the only exception, as it can be choppy occasionally. Also, certain N64 games will not work because there is no good emulation available for the game.

Q: I was wondering about your motherboard. Can you give the details on the important criteria?

A: Picking the right motherboard is essential to making this project work. I'm not expecting the exact model I used to always be available, but here are the criteria I found to be critical:

- 1) It is a mini ITX board. This refers to the size of the motherboard, and until smaller motherboard becomes available, it is your only option.
- 2) It has HDMI video out. This is a common feature of mini ITX boards, but you want to be sure it is there.
- 3) It has an external DC power supply. This means it will come with a "brick" power supply like a laptop has. These can also be bought separately.
- 4) It is shorter than 4mm high. You only have to worry about the height of the CPU heatsink. The one I bought has no fan because it does not get hot enough to need one. If you get a motherboard like this, keep in mind you need to be using it in a cool area. If you are worried about it overheating, you can always just buy a little 60 mm fan; there will be a little extra room to make that fit.

Q: You say you did this for around \$200, isn't this a little more expensive than that?

A: It did cost me around \$200, but I had a number of things lying around, such as a Super NES, controllers, computer case wires and switches. I also am not including the optional wireless controllers for player 3 and 4. That was an extra \$35. I am a savvy shopper, and I posted some of the websites I purchase from on the resources section.

Here is a quick breakdown of what I purchased:

Motherboard	\$100
SD Card	\$15
SD Card Hard Drive	\$19
USB Super NES Controller Adapter	\$15
1 GB of RAM	\$34
HDMI Cable	\$3
HDMI Adaptors	<u>\$8</u>
TOTAL:	\$194

Emulators:

Here are some common Emulators I use. You can easily find all of them using a Google search:

Nintendo	FCEUX
Super Nintendo	ZSNES, BSNES
Arcade Games	MAME
Sega Genesis/Game Gear/ Mega Drive	Kega Fusion
Neo Geo	Nebula, Kawaks, MAME
Commodore 64	Vice 64
Gameboy/Gameboy Advance	Visualboy Advance

Resource List:

Here are some web sites I personally used to help me through this build:

Shopping:

Monoprice.com	Great for picking up cheap HDMI cable, adaptors, and other cables
DealExtreme.com	The place to get an SD Card hard drive
Superbiiz.com/	It is where I found my motherboard for the cheapest
Newegg.com	Great online computer store with cheap prices

Emulation Help

Arcadecontrols.com	Easily the best resource for building emulator devices. It is geared to arcade machines, but everything I needed was on the forums here.
forums.emulator-zone.com	Great place to ask when an emulator is not working right.

Thanks and good luck!