



How to Install an 80mm Fan in your Framework Desktop

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INTRODUCTION

Follow this guide to install a secondary 80mm fan in your Framework Desktop.

The Framework Desktop supports a 80mm fan with a standard 4-pin connector. **For detailed fan requirements, click [here](#).**

The guide shows installing a Noctua NF-A8 80mm fan. If installing a different fan, mileage may vary.

This fan is completely optional. In thermal simulations, Framework saw that there wasn't a significant difference having the 80mm fan vs not.



TOOLS:

- [Framework Desktop Screwdriver](#) (1)

Step 1 — Power down your Desktop



- Before you begin repairs, shut down your Desktop from the operating system and unplug it.
- Make sure your Framework Desktop Screwdriver has the T5 Torx bit (labeled as T5) facing outwards. If it's not, pull the bit out and flip it.

Step 2 — Remove the Top Panel screws



- Use your finger to lift up the two D-rings on the Top Panel screws.

Step 3



- Use your fingers to twist the screw counter-clockwise and loosen it.
- Remove the Top Panel screw.

Step 4



- Repeat the same procedure for the other Top Panel screw.

Step 5 — Remove the Top Panel



- Slide the Top Panel towards the rear of the computer to release the clips securing it to the chassis.
 - ❗ If you're having a hard time gripping the Top Panel, use the screw holes to get a better handhold.
- Lift the Top Panel off the chassis and remove it.

Step 6 — Remove the Front Panel



- Use your fingers to pull the Front Panel off the magnets securing it to the chassis.

Step 7 — Remove the Right Panel



- Use your fingers to grip the top of the Right Panel and slide it upward to release its clips.
- Remove the Right Panel.

Step 8 — Remove the top plate screws



- While holding the Desktop steady, use your Framework Desktop Screwdriver to remove the eight 4.0 mm-long Phillips screws securing the top plate.

Step 9 — Remove the top plate



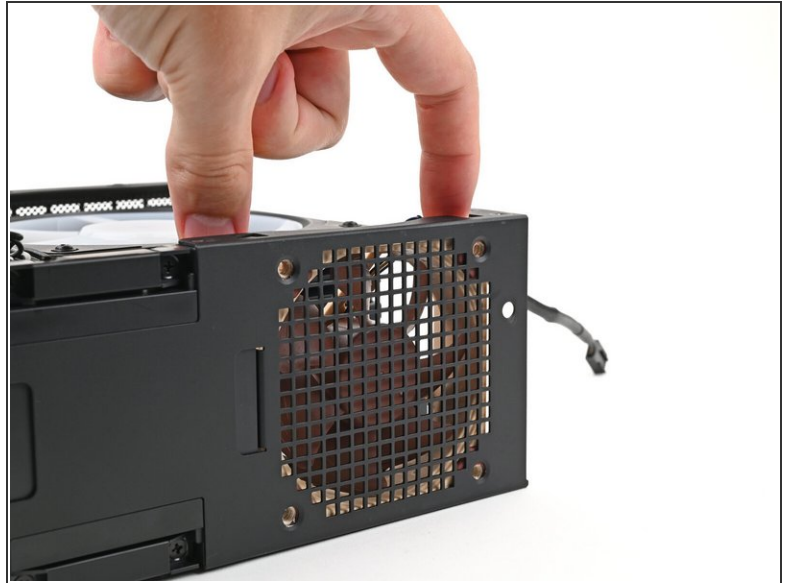
- Lift the top plate off the Desktop and remove it.

Step 10 — Reposition the Desktop



- Lay the right side of the Desktop on your work surface so the Mainboard is facing upward.

Step 11 — Insert the fan



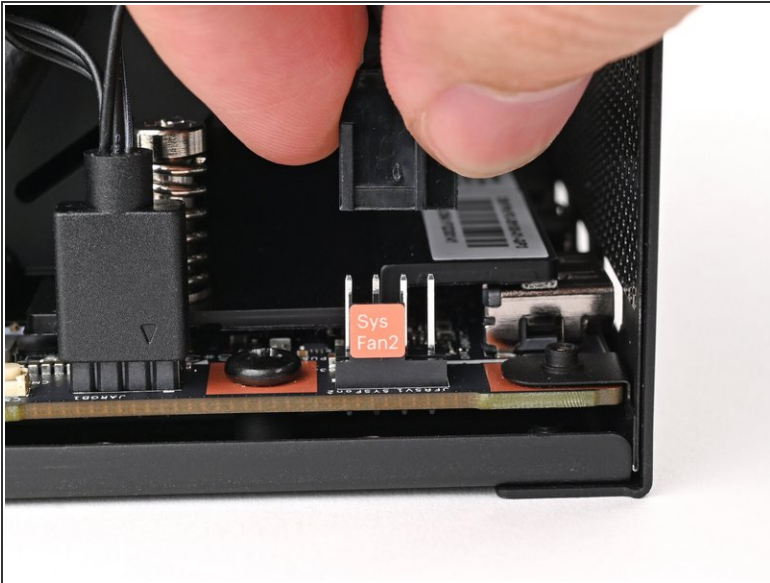
- Orient the fan so its label is facing away from the chassis fan grille and the cable is pointing up.
 - ① If your fan has an arrow indicating airflow direction, make sure it's pointed towards the heatsink.
 - ① If you're using a different fan, orient it such that the fan is blowing into the Desktop, not away.
- Insert the fan into the chassis and along the front plate, making sure that the screw holes in the chassis and the fan are aligned.

Step 12 — Install the fan screws



- Use your Framework Desktop Screwdriver to install the four screws securing the secondary fan.
 - ① Most fans of this type use self-tapping screws that will carve threads into your fan's screw holes. This is normal and necessary for the fan to be secured.

Step 13 — Connect the fan



- Orient the fan cable so its two vertical lines are facing you.
- Slide the fan cable over the four-pronged connector labeled "Sys Fan 2," making sure the orange label slots between the vertical lines.
- ① You can also connect the cable into the ["Sys Fan 1" slot](#) depending on the cable's length and orientation.

Step 14 — Reposition the cable



- Move the fan cable underneath the heat sink and tuck it behind the silver screw post.

Step 15 — Reposition the Desktop



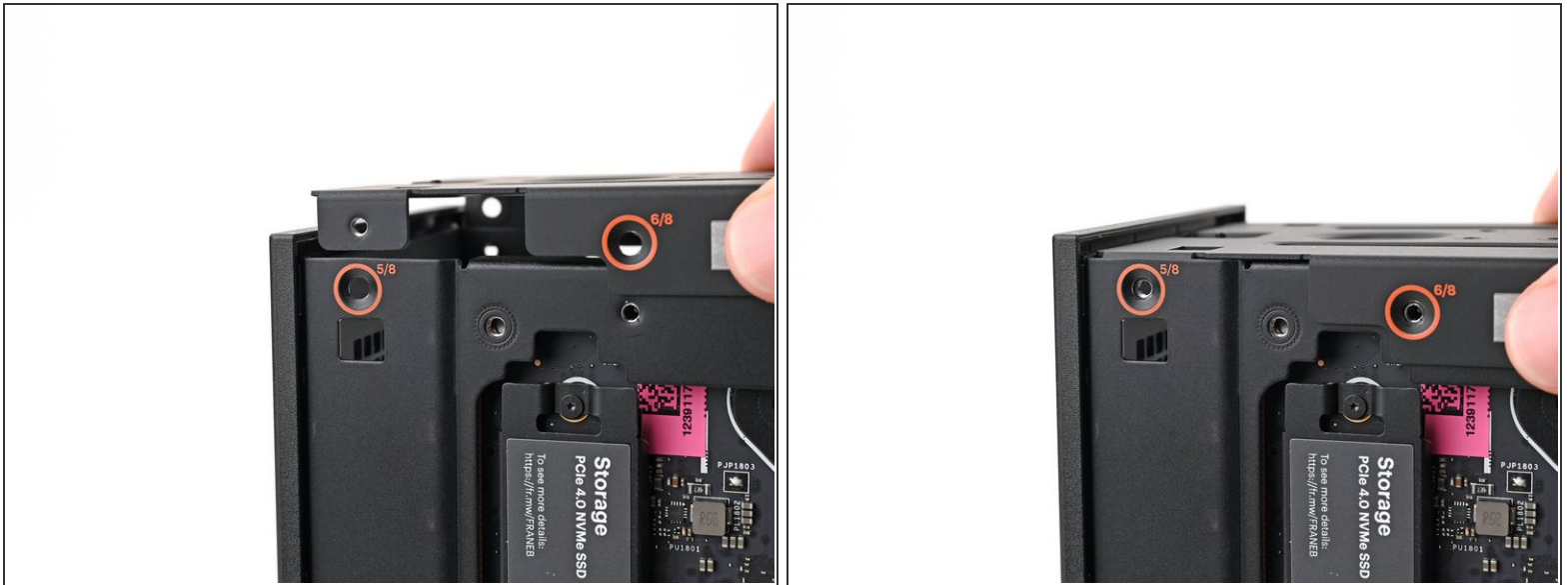
- Rotate the Desktop so it sits upright on your work surface.

Step 16 — Place the top plate



- Place the top plate on top of the Desktop, making sure it slots into the chassis so the orange circles are visible.

Step 17



- Make sure the matching screw hole on the top plate labeled " 5/8" is slotted on the inside of the Chassis so that the orange circle is visible.

Step 18 — Install the top plate screws



- While holding the Desktop steady, use your Framework Desktop Screwdriver to install the eight 4.0 mm-long Phillips screws securing the top plate.

Step 19 — Install the Right Panel



- Slide the Right Panel onto the right edge of the chassis, from top to bottom, and press it flat to ensure its clips are slotted into place.
 - ❗ There should be a [small gap](#) between the bottom of the Right Panel and the silver base.
- Push the Right Panel towards the base of the computer to engage the clips.

Step 20 — Install the Front Panel



- Lay the bottom of the Front Panel on the small, protruding lip in the silver base to align [its tabs](#).
- Press the Front Panel flat to the chassis and let it align to the magnets.

Step 21 — Install the Left Panel



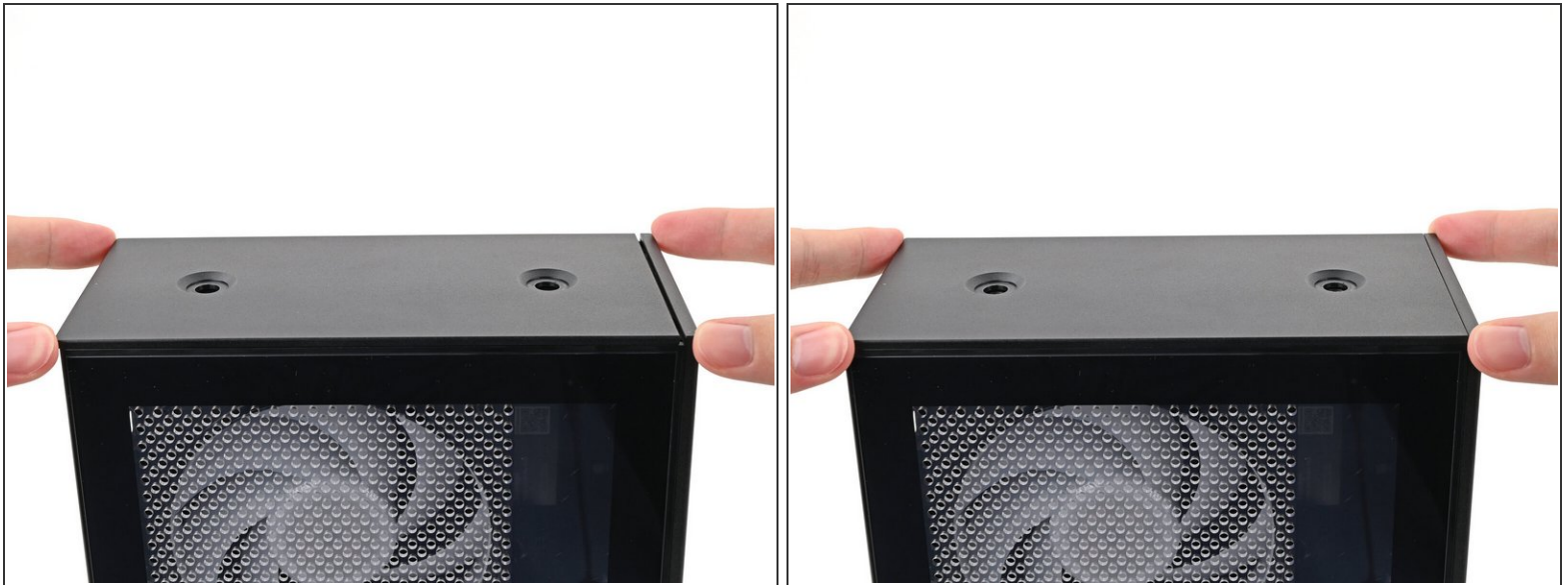
- Slide the Left Panel onto the left edge of the chassis and press it flat to ensure its clips are slotted into place.
 - ❗ There should be a [small gap](#) between the bottom of the Left Panel and the silver base.
- Push the Left Panel towards the base of the computer to close the gap and engage the clips.

Step 22 — Install the Top Panel



- Orient the Top Panel so its arrow is pointing towards the rear of the computer.
- While holding the Top Panel at a slight downward angle, slide it across the top of the chassis (from rear to front) until you feel its clips catch.
 - ❗ There should be a [small gap](#) between the Top Panel and the front of the Desktop.
- Lay the Top Panel flat on the chassis to align the remaining clips.

Step 23



- While securing the computer with one hand, use the other hand to slide the Top Panel towards the front of the computer to close the gap and engage the clips.

Step 24 — Install the top panel screws



- Insert the top panel screw into its hole and twist clockwise until it feels snug.

Step 25



- Repeat the same procedure for the other top panel screw.

Step 26



- Use your finger to close the two D-rings on the top panel screws.

If you need help, [contact Framework support](#).