

# ADDING EXTERNAL SATA HARD DRIVES & SSDs TO A COMPUTER WITHOUT USING AN USB TO M.2 SSD ADAPTER

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# SUMMARY

By using low-cost SATA data cables and a separately-purchased SATA power supply, you can add internal (SATA) hard drives and 2.5-in. SSDs outside of your computer. Doing so lets you install SATA drives outside of your computer without incurring the expense and **slowdown** of using USB hard drive adapters or enclosures.

# CONFIGURATION

SATA hard drive or SATA 2.5-in. SSD outside of the computer connects to a SATA data cable which then connects to a SATA data slot on the motherboard of the computer.

The drive that is outside of the computer also is attached a SATA power supply.

The drive that is outside of the computer is cooled by a fan that connects to a separate Molex power supply.

# SATA DATA CABLE(S)

- <https://www.amazon.com/StarTech-com-36in-SATA-Serial-Cable/dp/B0000AZK6R/>
- Note: a SATA data female connector will NOT work with at a SATA data port at the motherboard

# MALE-TO-MALE SATA DATA ADAPTERS

- <https://www.amazon.com/dp/B017QZQFS2?>
- These are needed if you need to connect two SATA data cables together to make a longer one.

# MOLEX POWER SUPPLY

- <https://www.amazon.com/Coolerguys-100-240v-Molex-Power-Adapter/dp/B000MGG6SC/>
- This power supply supplies power to BOTH the SATA power port of the SATA hard drive (or SATA 2.5-in. SSD) AND to the fan for the hard drive (if you are installing a hard drive)

# MOLEX SPLITTER

- <https://www.amazon.com/Computer-Molex-Power-Supply-Splitter/dp/B07945ZZ59/>
- The single power output of the Molex power supply must be shared with both the power port of the hard drive (or the 2.5-in. SSD) and the fan for the hard drive (if you are installing a hard drive)

# MOLEX TO SATA POWER CABLE

- <https://www.amazon.com/Cable-Matters-3-Pack-Molex-Power/dp/B00STNUB04/>
- This cable goes from the Molex splitter to the SATA power port of the hard drive or the SATA power port of the 2.5-in. SSD.

# FAN FOR THE HARD DRIVE

- <https://www.amazon.com/dp/B07FDW4BNX?>