

# ASRock A75 Extreme6

## PERFORMANCE & AFFORDABILITY

TEXT // BRYAN CHAN

With the introduction of AMD's A-Series Accelerated Processing Units (APUs), mainstream users are now blessed with the option to create a computer that offers great performance at a price point that doesn't break the bank. Designed to be used with motherboards with the FM1 socket, the performance of APUs largely depend on the platform they are paired with, which is why ASRock has launched a number of powerful motherboards, of which the ASRock A75 Extreme6 is one.

At first glance, you'll notice that this motherboard sports eight SATA 6 Gb/s ports and four USB3 ports. There aren't any SATA 3Gb/s ports to be found anywhere, indicating that SATA 6 Gb/s technology is indeed becoming more mainstream. Apart from that, you'll also see three PCI Express slots which enable you to fit-in three discrete graphics cards and run them in a three-way CrossFireX configuration. The option to run on a Dual Graphics configuration is also present, making this motherboard a rather flexible platform.

In terms of layout, we found that this motherboard has a simple, yet effective one. There's plenty of space between the three PCI Express slots, giving good breathing room for a multiple graphics card set up. At the CPU and RAM sockets, there's more than enough space to fit in both, stock CPU coolers and those from third parties. Taking a look at the rear I/O panel, the usual lineup of ports can be found including four USB3 ports, a PS/2 port, 7.1 audio output connectors, VGA, HDMI and a DVI-D port. There's also a Clear CMOS button should you need to reset your motherboard to its default settings.

To see what this motherboard is capable of, we ran our resident benchmarks to get some solid numbers. We managed to get a score of 10,985 in PCMark05, 2571 in PCMark7 and 6808 in PCMark Vantage. Though the scores indicate that this motherboard has generally good performance, we decided to run AMD's Fusion software that apparently shuts down other non-

### AT A GLANCE

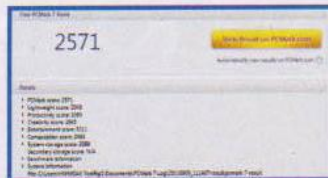
**PROCESSOR**  
AMD A4, A6, A8 (FM1)

**CHIPSET**  
AMD A75

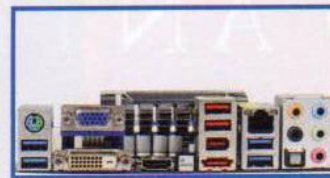
**CROSSFIREX**  
Yes

**SATA3 / USB3**  
Yes / Yes

**PRICE**  
RM440



A score of 2571 is expected from a motherboard that caters to mainstream users



There's a multitude of ports at your disposal on the rear of this board

essential software and boosts the clock speed of the processor to give users an easy way to obtain better performance. With Fusion enabled, we once again ran our most stressful benchmark, PCMark7 and obtained a score of 2621. An increase of 50 points was slightly disappointing for us, but then again, this board was developed for the AMD APU which mainly caters to mainstream users who are not usually so power hungry.

That doesn't mean that power users are neglected. ASRock has also bundled another piece of software, known as the ASRock Extreme Tuning Utility (AXTU). This is a multi-purpose software that allows you to tweak nearly everything from CPU fan speed

to CPU core clock speed. It gives more experienced users the freedom to squeeze every ounce of performance out of this motherboard. All said and done, if you're looking for a stable and powerful platform to house your new APU system, the ASRock A75 Extreme6 is a solid choice.

**SPECIFICATIONS MODEL** ASRock A75 Extreme6 // **MEMORY SUPPORT** Up to 32GB DDR3 2400(O.C)/1866(O.C)/1600(O.C)/1333/1066/800 non-ECC (Dual Channel DDR3 memory technology) // **DRIVES** 8x SATA3 6.0 Gb/s // **SLOTS** 3x PCI Express 2.0 x16, 1x PCI Express 2.0 x1, 3x PCI slots // **I/O** 1x PS/2 mouse/keyboard port, 1x VGA/D-Sub, 1x HDMI, 1x Optical S/PDIF-out, 2x Ready-to-Use USB 2 ports, 1x eSATA3, 4x Ready-to-Use USB 3 ports, 1x RJ-45 LAN with LED (ACT/LINK LED and SPEED LED), 1x IEEE 1394, 1x Clear CMOS Switch with LED, HD Audio Jack: Rear Speaker / Central / Bass / Line-in / Front Speaker / Microphone // **FORM FACTOR** ATX // **WARRANTY** 3-years // **CONTACT** AMT PC Distributors Sdn Bhd // **HW Power Marketing** Sdn Bhd // Zeon Powertech Marketing Sdn Bhd // **TELEPHONE** (03) 3344 1124 / (03) 2148 1307 / (019) 217 2618 // **URL** www.asrock.com

A great motherboard for mainstream users

**Verdict:**

**SILVER**

**HWM**

MALAYSIA

FEATURES: 8.5  
PERFORMANCE: 8.0  
VALUE: 8.5

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