Subject: Fix or Replace 1GHz G4
Posted by nick.rhind on Wed, 08 Mar 2017 21:34:49 GMT

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I have a 1GHz mirrored-door G4 (M8689) that I need to run a piece of legacy
lab equipment. It boots up fine and seems to run well, but after several
minutes the monitor turns off and, a few moments later, the computer shuts
down. For what it is worth, the fan has been running constantly for the
past few months. If anyone has any advice about how to repair the poor old
thing, I would greatly appreciate it. If not, suggestions for a good
source for a replacement would be useful. My online searches have not but
fruitful.

Thanks,
Nick

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Subject: Re: Fix or Replace 1GHz G4
Posted by Mike K. on Wed, 08 Mar 2017 22:26:12 GMT

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* nick.rhind wrote on 2017-03-08 21:34 +0000:
> I have a 1GHz mirrored-door G4 (M8689) that I need to run a piece of
> legacy lab equipment. It boots up fine and seems to run well, but
> after several minutes the monitor turns off and, a few moments later,
> the computer shuts down. For what it is worth, the fan has been
> running constantly for the past few months. If anyone has any advice
> about how to repair the poor old thing, I would greatly appreciate it.

I had a similar problem several years ago with a 'Pismo' PowerBook G3 --
it would freeze up when left idling for more than 10 seconds. It

performed just fine otherwise. It sounds like maybe this is something like what you're experiencing.

Since I didn't want to spend money on new parts, I used a little freeware app called "Jiggler" to simulate mouse movement. It's freeware: <http://www.sticksoftware.com/software/Jiggler.html>.

I never did diagnose the issue with the Pismo, and only used it for several months before recycling it, so I wouldn't recommend it as a long-term solution. It may work as a stopgap until you can get the machine replaced.

> If not, suggestions for a good source for a replacement would be
> useful. My online searches have not but fruitful.

Given it's not clear exactly what's causing the issue, and the age of the machine, it's probably more economical to buy a replacement than try to diagnose and source parts.

I checked UK eBay, and there are quite a few G4s floating around on there for reasonable prices; there are also higher spec G4s, including dual 1.25GHz machines, quite cheap. I imagine you could find a replacement machine on your own eBay. LEM Swap might also be a good shout -- you might even get one free for shipping.

Hope that helps.

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   Mike | <http://koralatov.com>
      * 15" 'Penryn' MacBook Pro 2.66 * 27" 'Lynnfield' iMac 2.66 *
         * 20" iMac G4 * 'Key Lime' iBook G3 466 * G4 Cube 500 *

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Subject: Re: Fix or Replace 1GHz G4
Posted by JoeTaxpayer on Thu, 20 Apr 2017 12:27:20 GMT
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The G4 was great, but in my case, the power supplies died, and 4 G4s went to Mac heaven.

I'd check if the G5 can handle the SW you're concerned about. This was my solution, and the G5 was easily found at a reasonable price. In my case, it was a Video capture device that needed Leopard. And the G5 was less than $200. You do need to make the leap to Sata drives, but they are very cheap, and the migration, easy.

On Wednesday, March 8, 2017 at 4:41:23 PM UTC-5, nick.rhind wrote:
>
> I have a 1GHz mirrored-door G4 (M8689) that I need to run a piece of
> legacy lab equipment. It boots up fine and seems to run well, but after
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Subject: Re: Fix or Replace 1GHz G4
Posted by Charles Lenington[1] on Sat, 22 Apr 2017 20:47:29 GMT

On 4/20/17 7:27 AM, JoeTaxpayer wrote:
> The G4 was great, but in my case, the power supplies died, and 4 G4s
> went to Mac heaven.
>

Did you try the pc atx power supply hack?

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