Instructions

1. Start with the **motherboard**. Lay this out in front of you and find where the CPU goes.

2. Take the **CPU** - be careful! Hold it by the sides. If you touch the gold pins underneath it can destroy the connections and make the CPU useless.

3. Place the CPU in its place and then use the lever to lock it in place.

4. Take the **CPU fan**. This gets stuck on top of the CPU using a special glue. It's then screwed into place. This is really important - without a fan the CPU will get far too hot and stop working.

5. Take the **RAM memory** chip. This goes in the memory slot on the motherboard.

6. Add the **graphics card** to the motherboard. The graphics card goes in the bottom PCI slot on the motherboard.

7. Put the motherboard in the **case**. You screw it into place using special screws which stop the motherboard touching the metal case directly. This will cause a short circuit, which will destroy the CPU and memory.

8. Add the **Power Supply Unit** to the bottom of the case. This is the unit that has a plug attached. A cable goes from the PSU to the motherboard to provide power.

9. Add a **hard drive**. A cable goes from the hard drive to the motherboard so that data can be moved from the hard drive to RAM. Another cable goes from the PSU to the hard drive to provide power to it. Sometimes people add CD or DVD drives as well. These are important if you need to load programs from discs.

10. You're nearly done now. The next is to **close the case up**. Then plug in a monitor, mouse and keyboard to the computer - you won't see it do anything without those.

11. Then **plug the computer in** and turn it on. With a bit of luck it will work first time...

12. You'll have to install the **operating system** on the machine when it first loads, so you'll need a disc of some kind to do that.