

Nvidia's triple-fan GPU cooler was one step along the way to a slimmer RTX 5090

Nvidia has posted a new video showcasing a history of Founders Edition graphics card designs that explores the design of its new RTX 5090 and confirms a previously leaked prototype that used an unconventionally large four-slot design.

As noted by *VideoCardz*, the prototype "Titan ADA" card first revealed by leaker Kopite7kimi included a triple-fan cooling system, and earlier this month, Gamers Nexus tested and tore down a working version of the prototype.

In the video published today, Nvidia's EVP of system products, Andrew Bell, explains that Nvidia cards were trending larger and larger, and they wanted to change that. "We didn't like the idea of it taking up four slots; it was big, it was unwieldy, it worked in a limited number of chassis," Bell said.

Bell says that the prototype triple-fan cooling system influenced Nvidia's Blackwell architecture. However, the latest RTX 5090 Founders Edition card that we are currently testing achieves its goals through a modular four-part design with a separate I/O board that allows air to flow through for a more efficient and compact cooler. According to Nvidia, these changes are why the new 5090 fits in two slots on the motherboard compared to the previous three-slot 4090.

<https://www.theverge.com/2025/1/22/24349781/nvidia-quad-slot-titan-ada-4090-gpu-cooler-prototype-real>