

# Fusion™ Flex J3i

3-Drive Mounting System for 2019 and 2023 Mac Pro® • Add Your Own SATA Drives

## Installation Instructions for Fusion Flex J3i

### SATA Drive Compatibility

The Fusion Flex J3i 3-drive mounting system for 2019 and 2023 Mac Pro computers supports any standard 3.5-inch Serial ATA (SATA) hard disk drive, and any standard 2.5-inch SATA SSD.

### You Should Have

The following items should be included in your product package:

- Fusion Flex J3i bracket assembly (assembled), which includes:
  - Primary bracket
  - 3.5-inch drive mounting screws (x8)
  - 2.5-inch SSD mounting plates (x2)
- 2-drive SATA data/power cable assembly
- USB 3.0 to SATA data/power adapter cable
- 2.5-inch SSD mounting screws (x13)
- Installation instructions

The following items are required for installation

- Medium Phillips screwdriver
- Torx T8 screwdriver or key

### Computer Compatibility

- Mac Pro 7,1 (2019)
- Mac Pro 8,1 (2023)

### Contacting Customer Service

The Sonnet Web site located at [www.sonnettech.com](https://www.sonnettech.com) has the most current support information and technical updates. Before contacting Customer Service, please check our Web site for the latest updates and online support files, and check these installation instructions for helpful information.

Email support requests generally receive the fastest responses, and are usually processed within a 24-hour period during normal business hours, excluding holidays. When you contact Customer Service, have the following information available so the customer service staff can better assist you:

- Product name
- Drive model(s)

If further assistance is needed, please contact us at:

Please contact **Sonnet Customer Service** at:

E-mail: [support@sonnettech.com](mailto:support@sonnettech.com)

Tel: 1-949-472-2772

(Monday–Friday, 9 a.m.–5 p.m. Pacific Time)

### Japan Customers

Contact Sonnet Customer Service Japan at:

E-mail: [jp.support@sonnettech.com](mailto:jp.support@sonnettech.com)



### Visit Our Web Site

For the most current product information and online support, visit the Sonnet web site at <https://www.sonnettech.com/>



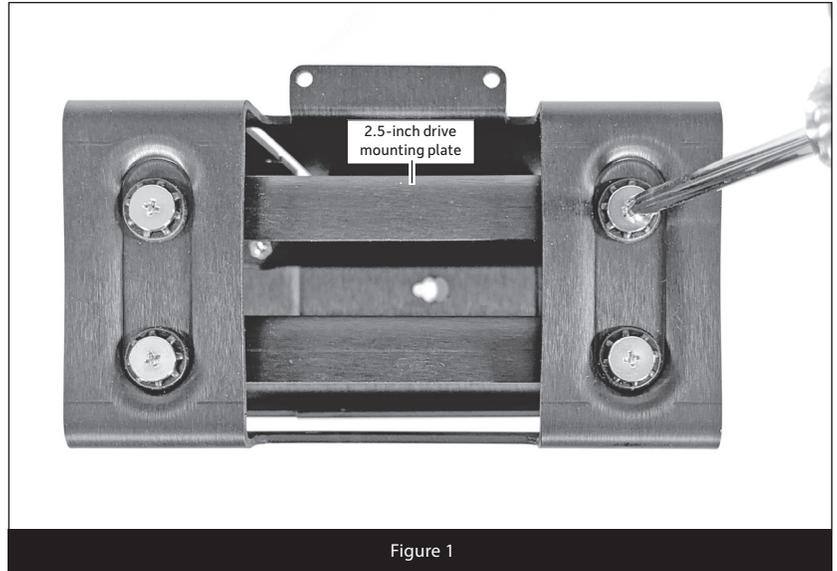
**Support Note:** This document was up to date at the time of printing. However, changes to the hardware may have occurred since then. Please check the Sonnet website for the latest documentation.

1. Go to [www.sonnettech.com/support/kb/kb.php](https://www.sonnettech.com/support/kb/kb.php)
2. Navigate to and click the Fusion Flex J3i link.
3. Click the Manual link.
4. Click the Fusion Flex J3i Installation Instructions [English] link, and then check the Document Version information. If the version listed is later than this document (**revision D**), click the Download Now button for the latest version.

## Fusion Flex J3i Installation Instructions

### Drive/SSD Installation Steps

1. Remove the Fusion Flex J3i bracket assembly from its packaging, and set it on its side on a flat, level surface.
2. Using a Philips screwdriver, remove the four screws securing one of the 2.5-inch SSD mounting plates in the primary bracket (two on each side), set aside the screws, and then remove the plate (Figure 1).
3. If you are installing more than one drive or SSD, repeat step 2 to remove the remaining mounting plate. Otherwise, go to the next step.

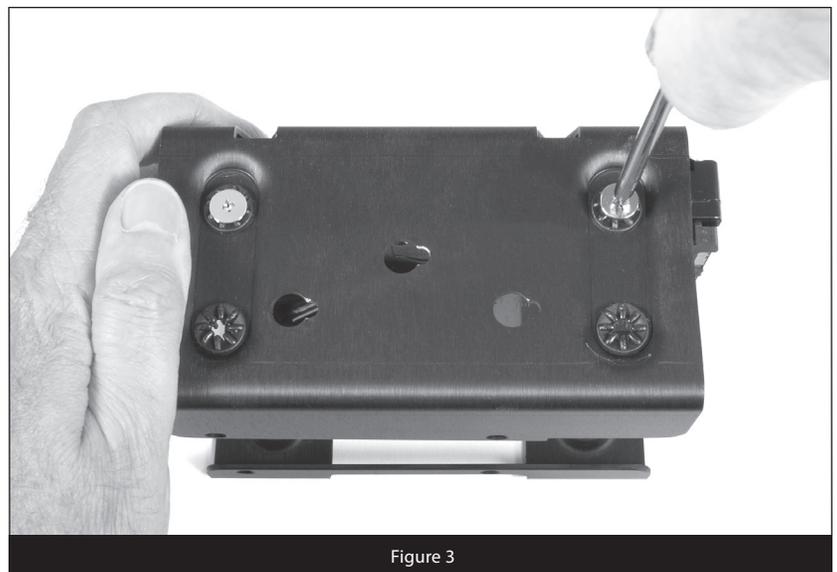
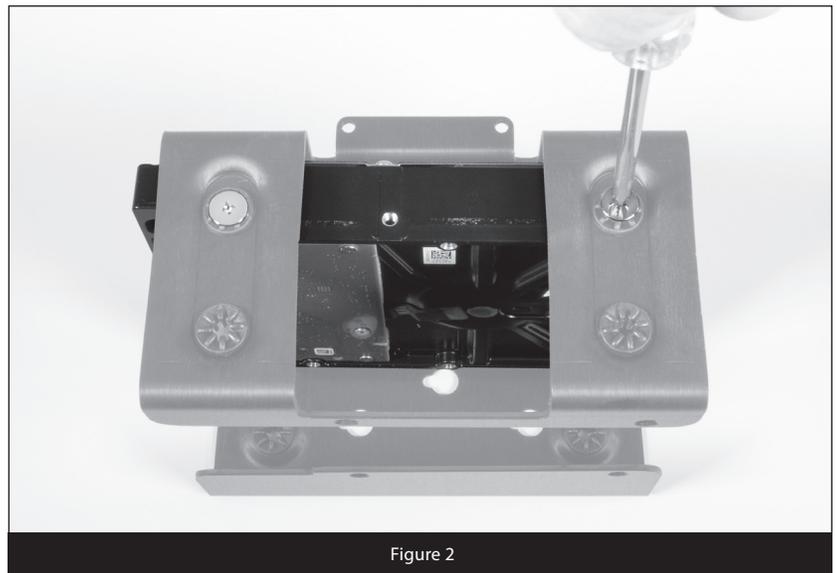


4. If you are installing only 2.5-inch SSDs, skip to step 9. Otherwise, set the primary bracket down with the open side facing up (Figure 2).



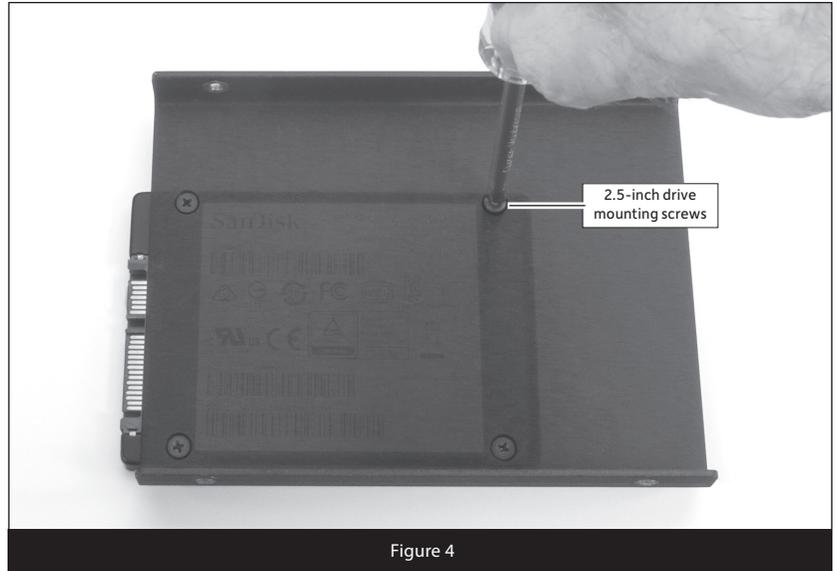
**Support Note:** When installing a single 3.5-inch drive plus one or two 2.5-inch SSDs, you must install the 3.5-inch drive at the top position (near the tab) in the primary bracket. If you install the 3.5-inch drive in the middle position, the SATA data/power cable will not reach the SSD installed in the top position.

5. Remove a 3.5-inch drive from its packaging, handling the drive by its edges. Insert the drive into the primary bracket with the drive's top label facing the top of the bracket and its connectors on the left, and then align the holes in the bracket with the screw holes in the drive (Figure 2).
6. Using two of the previously removed 3.5-inch drive mounting screws, secure the drive to the primary bracket, turning them hand tight (Figure 2).
7. Supporting the drive, turn over the bracket. Using two of the previously removed 3.5-inch drive mounting screws, finish securing the drive to the primary bracket, turning them hand tight (Figure 3).
8. If you are installing a second 3.5-inch drive, repeat steps 5-7 and then skip to step 16. If you are installing a 2.5-inch SSD, go to the next step. If you are done installing drives, skip to "Shut Down and Open Computer" on page 4.

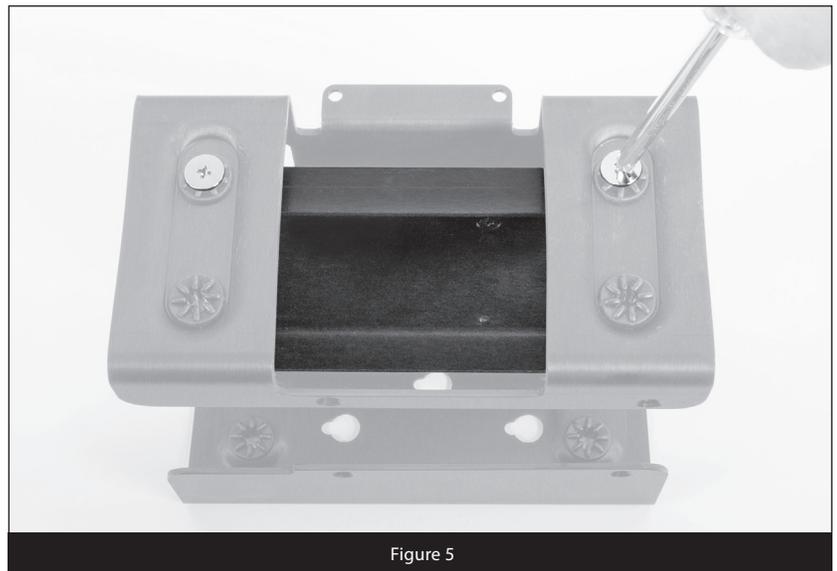


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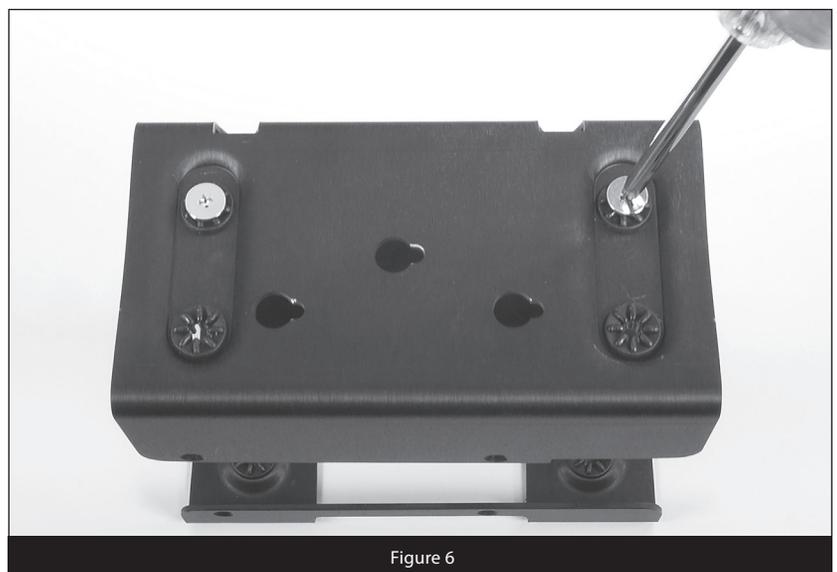
9. Remove a 2.5-inch SSD from its packaging, and then set it down with the bottom label facing up and its connectors facing left (Figure 4).
10. Place the 2.5-inch SSD mounting plate on top of the SSD as shown, aligning the holes in the plate with the screw holes in the SSD (Figure 4).
11. Using four of the provided 2.5-inch SSD mounting screws, secure the SSD to the mounting plate (Figure 4); do not overtighten the screws.



12. Insert the SSD mounting plate into the primary bracket with the SSD's top label facing the top of the bracket and its connectors on the left, and then align the screw holes in the mounting plate with the holes in the primary bracket (Figure 5).
13. Using two of the previously removed 3.5-inch drive mounting screws, secure the 2.5-inch SSD mounting plate to the primary bracket, turning the screws hand tight (Figure 5).



14. Supporting the mounting plate, turn over the bracket. Using two of the previously removed 3.5-inch drive mounting screws, finish securing the 2.5-inch SSD mounting plate to the primary bracket, turning the screws hand tight (Figure 6).
15. If you are installing a second 2.5-inch SSD, repeat steps 9-14 and then go to step 16; otherwise, go to the next step.



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16. If you are installing a third drive (2.5-inch SSD), turn the primary bracket so the bottom is face up and the installed drive's connectors facing left (Figure 7). Otherwise, go to "Shut Down and Open Computer" below.
17. Remove the 2.5-inch SSD from its packaging, and then set it down with its bottom label facing up and its connectors facing left (Figure 7).
18. Insert the SSD into the primary bracket as shown, aligning the SSD's screw holes with the mounting holes in the bracket (Figure 7).
19. While holding the SSD against the bracket, use four of the provided 2.5-inch SSD mounting screws to secure the SSD to the bracket (Figure 7); do not overtighten the screws.

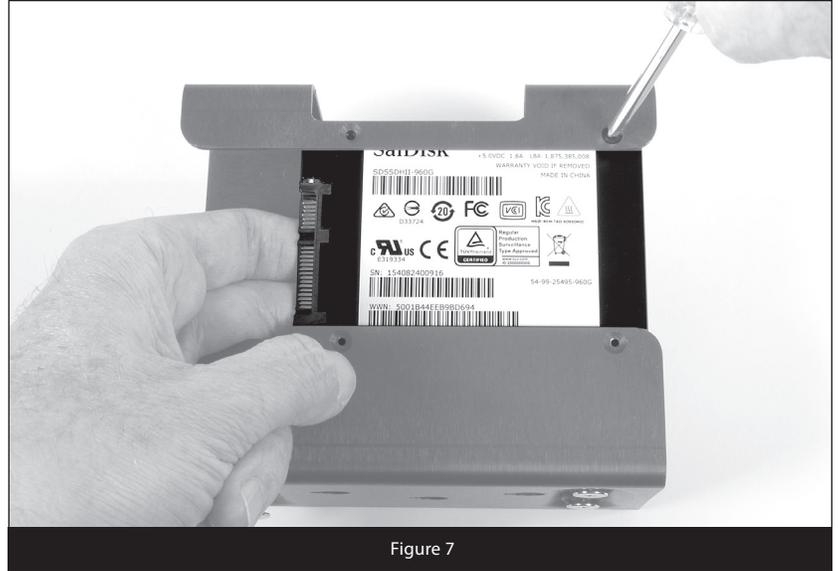


Figure 7

### Shut Down and Open Computer

1. Shut down your Mac Pro and wait 5–10 minutes to allow it to cool.
2. If you need to move the computer to a different area where you can work freely, disconnect any connected cables, move the computer, then reconnect the power cord between the computer and an electrical outlet. (For the Mac Pro Rackmount, slide the computer out of the rack. Note: You can install the Fusion Flex J3i while the Mac Pro remains installed in the rack.)
3. Touch the metal on the outside of the computer to discharge any potentially damaging static electricity.
4. Disconnect the power cord from the computer, and then remove and set aside the computer's housing. (For the Mac Pro Rackmount, remove the top cover.)

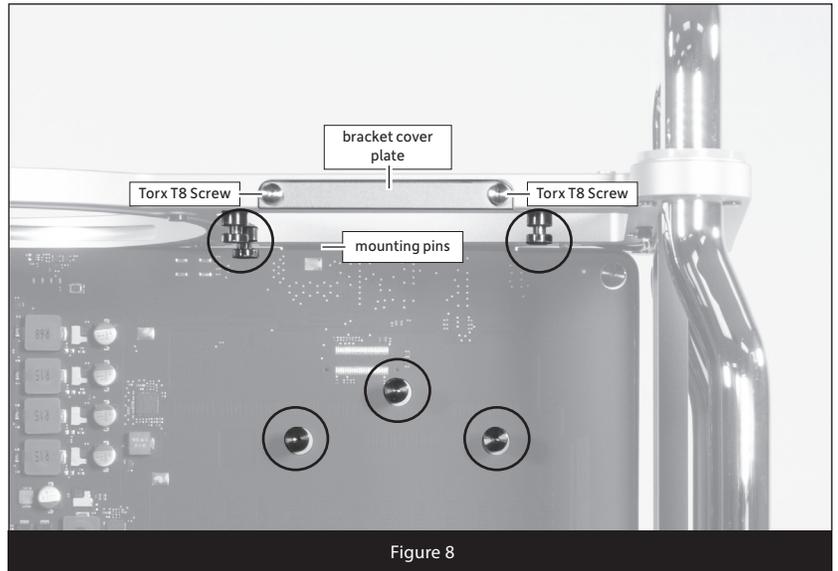


Figure 8

### Install Assembled Fusion Flex J3i

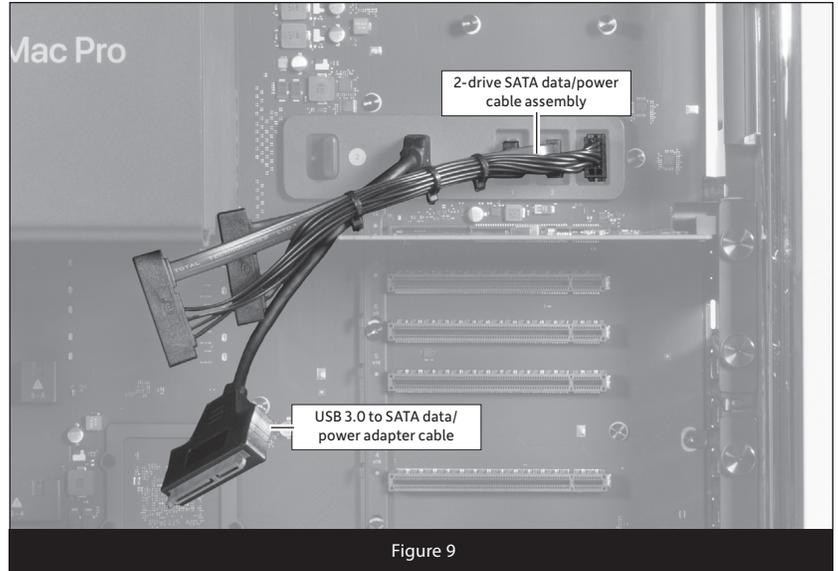


**Support Note:** Although these instructions show the installation of the Fusion Flex J3i into a Mac Pro desktop computer, the installation steps are the same for the Mac Pro Rackmount; when facing the back of the rackmount computer, the mounting location inside is the bottom right corner.

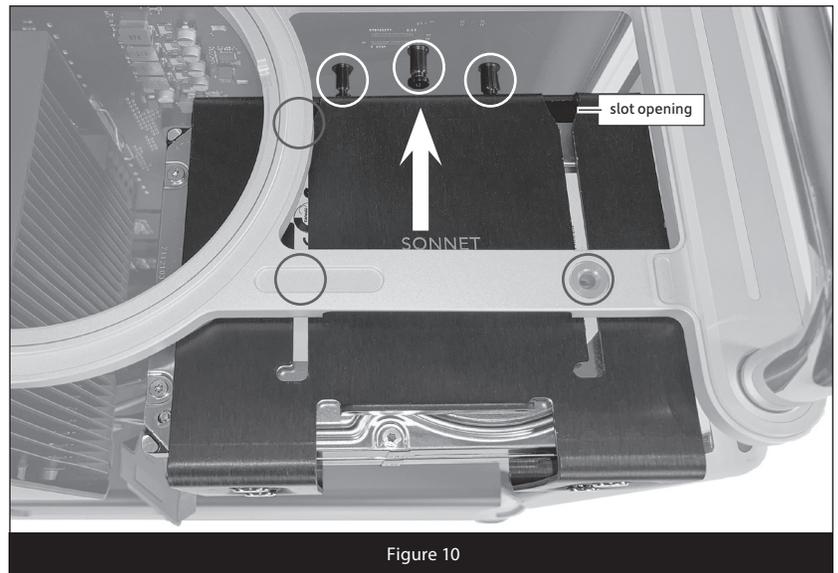
1. Using a Torx T8 screwdriver or key, remove the two screws securing the bracket cover plate at the top of the frame (Figure 8). Set aside the screws and plate.
2. Make note of the three bracket mounting pins on the frame and the three mounting pins on the logic board; you will secure the Fusion Flex J3i assembly inside the computer using these pins (Figure 8).

## Fusion Flex J3i Installation Instructions

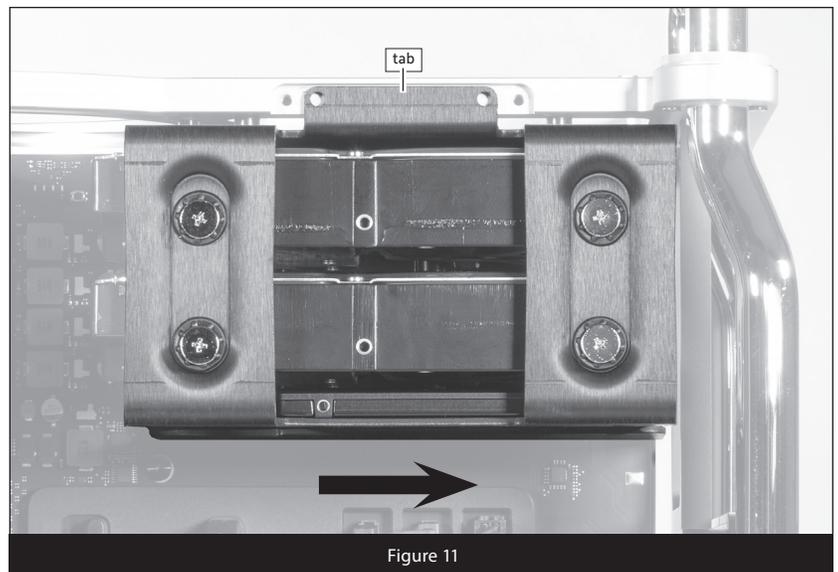
3. Plug in the 2-drive SATA data/power cable assembly cable to the corresponding ports on the logic board (Figure 9); make sure the connectors are plugged in securely.
4. If you did not install a third drive (2.5-inch SSD), go to the next step. Otherwise, plug in the USB 3.0 to SATA data/power adapter to the USB port on the logic board (Figure 9); make sure the connector is plugged in securely.



5. Holding the Fusion Flex J3i with the product's name on top, align the slot openings on top of the primary bracket with the front two mounting pins on the computer frame, and then slide the bracket straight back on to all three frame mounting pins (Figure 10). Push the bracket all the way back on to the logic board mounting pins.

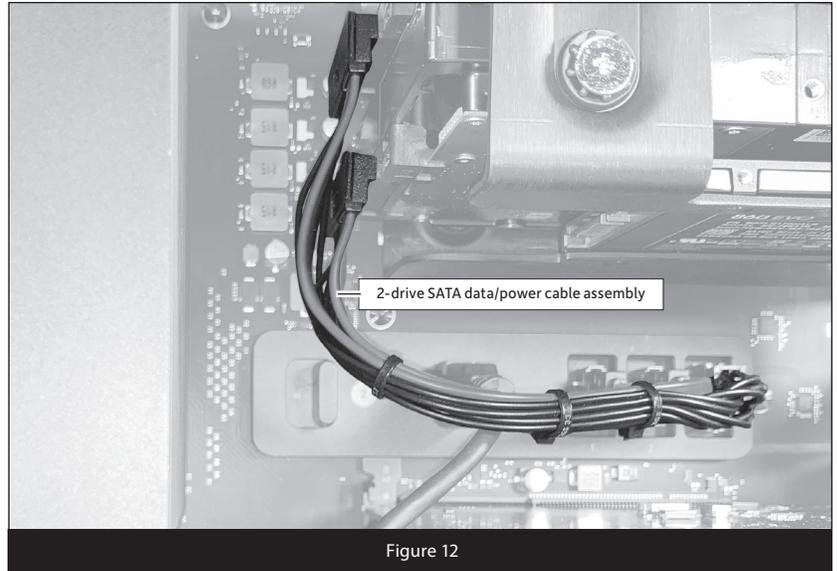


6. With the Fusion Flex J3i primary bracket's top tab against the computer's frame, slide the bracket to the right until it stops; the tab should be centered between the two screw holes in the frame (Figure 11).

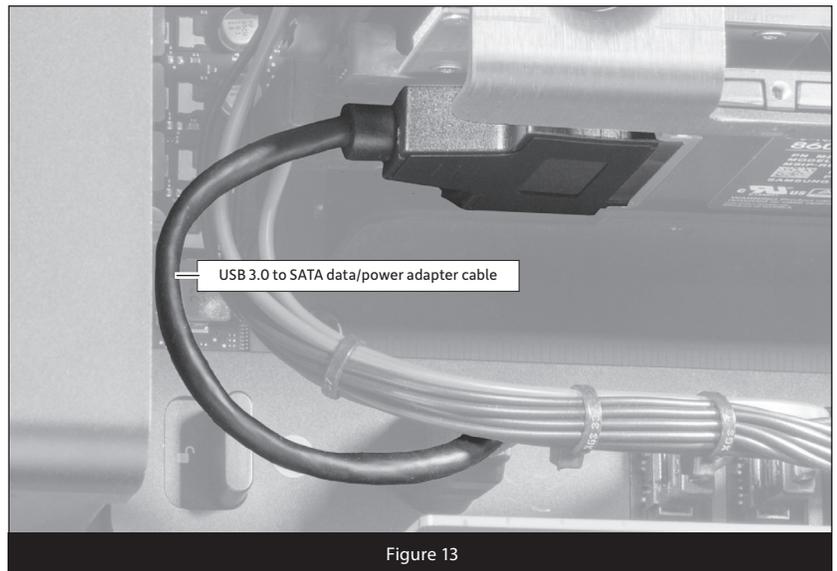


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7. Plug in the 2-drive SATA data/power cable assembly's connectors to the corresponding connectors of the top two drives (Figure 12); make sure the connectors are plugged in securely.



8. If you did not install a third drive (2.5-inch SSD), skip to the next step. Otherwise, plug in the USB 3.0 to SATA data/power adapter cable to the SSD (Figure 13).



9. Place the computer's bracket cover plate over the Fusion Flex J3i's top tab, aligning the cover plate's holes with the screw holes in the computer's frame (Figure 14).

10. Insert both previously removed Torx T8 screws and screw them into the frame part way, and then tighten one side, then the other, going back and forth so the cover plate stays level (Figure 14); do not overtighten the screws.

### Close Computer

Replace the cover and return the computer to your computing area if necessary, and then reconnect the power cord and peripheral cables to the computer. Your installation is complete.

### Format Drives

Use Disk Utility to format installed drives.

