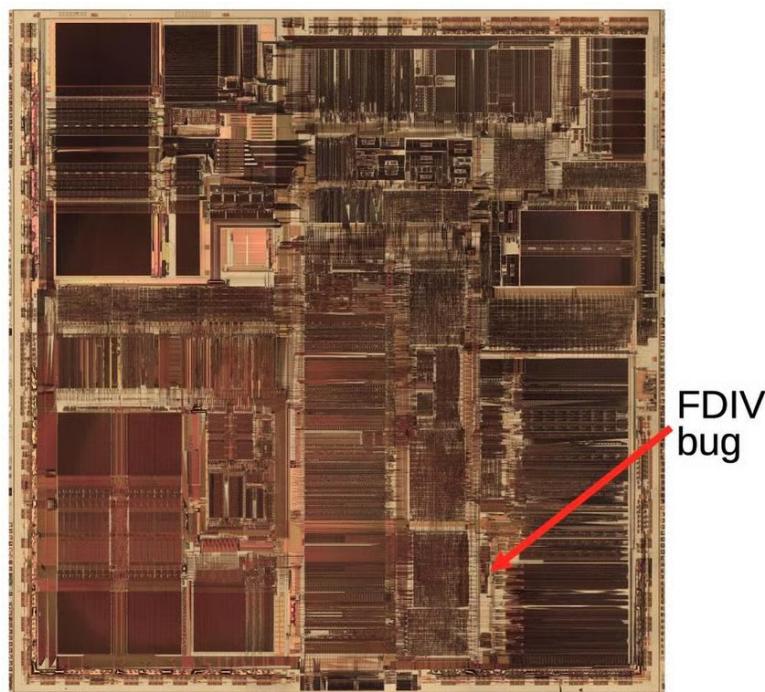




"An extremely minor technical problem"

A fascinating deep dive look at one of the most well-known bugs in computing history, the 1993 Pentium FDIV bug. [Ken Shirriff actually grabbed a microscope](#) to analyze the processor and mapped out exactly what happened on the hardware level, and the details of Intel's (surprising) fix.



Also, an interesting detail of what ended up being Intel's self-own:

The problem might have quietly ended here, except that Intel decided to restrict which customers could get a replacement. If a customer couldn't convince an Intel engineer that they needed the accuracy, they couldn't get a fixed Pentium. Users were irate to be stuck with faulty chips so they took their complaints to online groups.

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19th January 2026

"Before I knew it I had four dam...

18th January 2026

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Marcin Wichary © 2022-2025

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