The following quick steps will guide you through testing the absolute bare minimum essentials of your motherboard before installing it into a system chassis. Visual aids are provided to assist you during the following procedures.

To reduce the risk of fire, electrostatic, shock, and injury always follow basic safety precautions. It is recommended that you use electrostatic discharge (ESD) countermeasures such as an ESD wrist strap or anti-static mat when handling computer components.

After removing the EVGA nForce 730a from its packaging, place it on to a nonconductive surface. For example: wood, cardboard box, or an anti-static mat.

Unscrew the socket lever and lift up the socket plate. Remove the LGA 775 protective cover and carefully install your Intel processor making sure to properly align the notches. 

Eliminate stress from the processor and avoid lifting pressure, favoring the method to keep pressure on the original position.

Plug in one keyboard into a USB port or PS2 port.

Install one stick of system memory (DIMM) in to the DIMM slot of your choice.

Insert your graphics card into either the PCI-E 16 slot or the PCI slot. The type of slot depends on the graphic card type. Connect a monitor to the display port of the graphic card.

Plug in power connectors to both the graphics card and hard disk drive. Power connector types will vary depending on the hard disk drive and graphic card's power requirements.

Press the onboard Clear CMOS button.

Press the red Power Button.

On the power supply, flip the power switch to the ON position. When power is on, the motherboard will boot up and the power button will light up. Press the blue Power Button to begin powering up the system. At this final stage, you should now be greeted with the POST screen on your monitor.
Install the CPU
1. Unlock the socket by pressing the lever sideways, then lift it up to a 90° angle.
2. Lift the load plate. There is a protective socket cover on the load plate to protect the socket when there is no CPU installed.
3. Remove the protective socket cover from the load plate. (Save this protective piece, as it is needed whenever transporting or shipping the motherboard.)
4. Align the notches in the CPU with the notches on the socket.
5. Lower the CPU straight into the socket. Close the lid plate and engage the socket lever.
6. The CPU will need a proper mounting solution, please refer to the manual that came with your heatsink for detailed instructions.

Install System Memory (DIMMs)
1. This motherboard supports up to four 240-pin DDR2 memory modules. Having matched pairs is highly recommended for dual channel configurations.
2. For dual channel configurations use DIMM slots 1 and 2, 3 and 4, or 1 through 4. It is recommended to use the "Black Slots" if running in 2 Dimm Mode.
* Use matching color slots for dual channel

Install Graphics Card
1. This motherboard has one PCI Express X16 slot for a discrete graphics card or you can choose to use the onboard graphics processor for video output.
2. Connect power cables to the motherboard and any other peripherals in your system.
* Remember to plug in your PCI-E power cables to your graphics card(s) if necessary.
3. Connect the front panel headers and any other headers that are going to be in use.

Connect Peripherals
1. Connect your peripheral devices such as hard drives, floppy drive, and DVD-ROM drives to the motherboard.

Cables
- Floppy
- IDE
- SATA
- 8 pin 12v power
- 24 pin ATX power
- IDE Channel
- SATA ports
- Floppy Channel

Please see the manual for more details.