



# iPad mini 5 Wi-Fi Home Button Assembly Replacement

How to remove or replace the home button assembly on an iPad mini 5 Wi-Fi.

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# INTRODUCTION

Follow this guide to remove or replace the home button assembly on an iPad mini 5 Wi-Fi. You may need to do this if your home button has stopped working.

Note that the original home button in this device is paired to the logic board, and **swapping in a new button will disable Touch ID functionality**.

**For your safety, discharge the battery below 25% before disassembling your device.** This reduces the risk of a dangerous thermal event if the battery is accidentally damaged during the repair. If your battery is swollen, [take appropriate precautions](#).

Some photos in this guide are from a different model and may contain slight visual discrepancies, but they won't affect the guide procedure.



## TOOLS:

- [Suction Handle](#) (1)
- [iFixit Opening Picks \(Set of 6\)](#) (1)
- [iOpener](#) (1)
- [Phillips #00 Screwdriver](#) (1)
- [Spudger](#) (1)
- [Tweezers](#) (1)
- [iFixit Opening Tool](#) (1)
- [Safety Glasses](#) (1)

*Optional*

- [Packing Tape](#) (1)

*Optional*

- [Screen Vise Clamp](#) (1)

*Optional*



## PARTS:

- [iPad mini 5 Home Button Assembly](#) (1)
  - [iPad 5/6/Air 2/mini 4 Home Button Gasket](#) (1)
- Optional*
- [iPad mini 5 Adhesive Strips](#) (1)

## Step 1 — Apply tape to a cracked screen



- If your display glass is cracked, keep further breakage contained and prevent bodily harm during your repair by taping the glass.
- Lay overlapping strips of clear packing tape over the iPad's display until the whole face is covered.
  - ⓘ This will keep glass shards contained and provide structural integrity when prying and lifting the display.
- Do your best to follow the rest of the guide as described. However, once the glass is broken, it will likely continue to crack as you work, and you may need to use a metal prying tool to scoop the glass out.

**⚠ Wear safety glasses to protect your eyes, and be careful not to damage the LCD screen.**

## Step 2 — Opening Procedure



- [Heat an iOpener](#) and apply it to the left edge for two minutes.

## Step 3

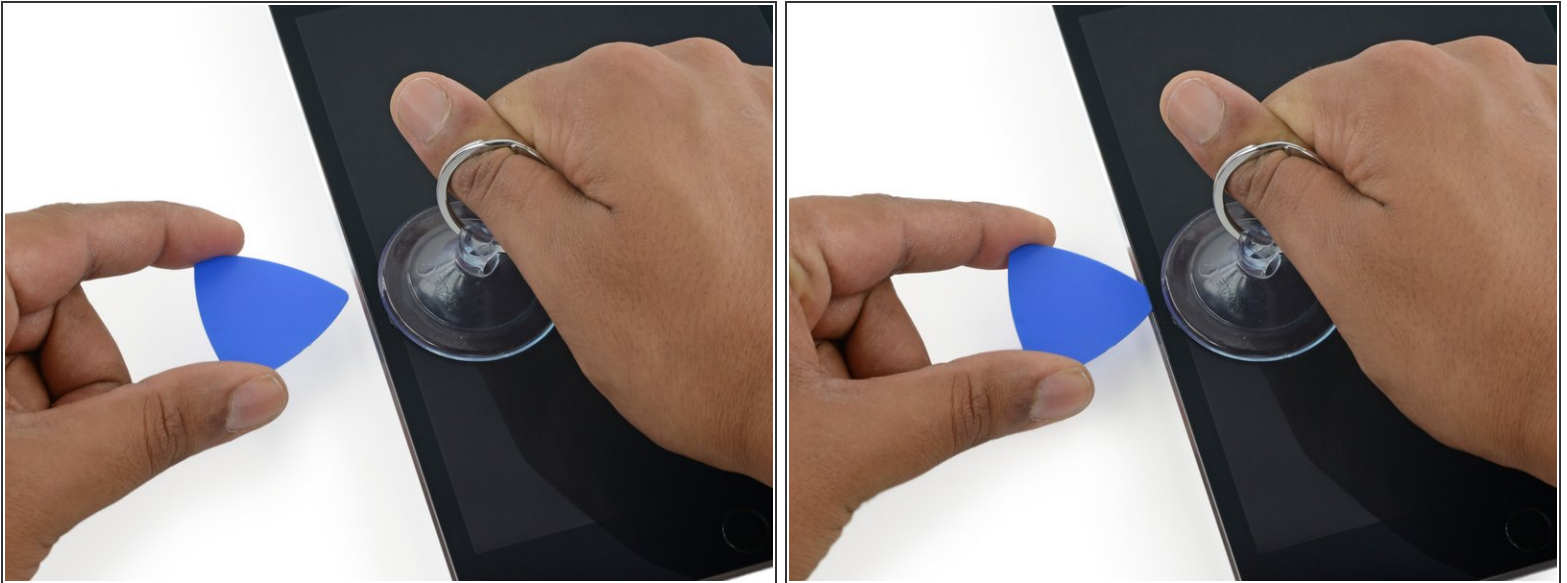


- Apply a suction cup halfway up the heated side.
  - Be sure the cup is completely flat on the screen to get a tight seal.
- While holding the iPad down with one hand, pull up on the suction cup with strong, steady force to create a gap.
  - ⓘ Depending on the age of your device, this may be difficult. If you have trouble, apply more heat and try again.

**⚠ Be careful to only lift the glass enough to insert an opening pick—any more and you risk cracking the glass.**



## Step 4



- While holding the glass up with the suction cup, insert the point of an opening pick into the gap between the glass and body of the iPad.

**⚠ Don't insert the opening pick any deeper than 2 mm into the side of the display. Inserting the pick deeper than 2 mm could damage the backlight assembly, LCD display, or touchscreen.**

## Step 5



- Reheat and reapply the iOpener to the left edge for a few minutes.

**⚠ Be careful not to overheat the iOpener during the repair procedure. Always wait at least ten minutes before reheating the iOpener.**

## Step 6



- Insert a second opening pick alongside the first and slide the pick down along the edge of the iPad, releasing the adhesive as you go.

**⚠** Throughout the rest of the procedure, if you encounter significant resistance while sliding the pick, stop and reheat the section you're working on. Applying too much pressure with the pick can crack the glass.

## Step 7



- Continue moving the opening pick down the side of the display to release the adhesive.
- If the opening pick gets stuck in the adhesive, "roll" the pick along the side of the iPad, continuing to release the adhesive.

## Step 8



- Take the first pick you inserted and slide it up toward the top corner of the iPad.

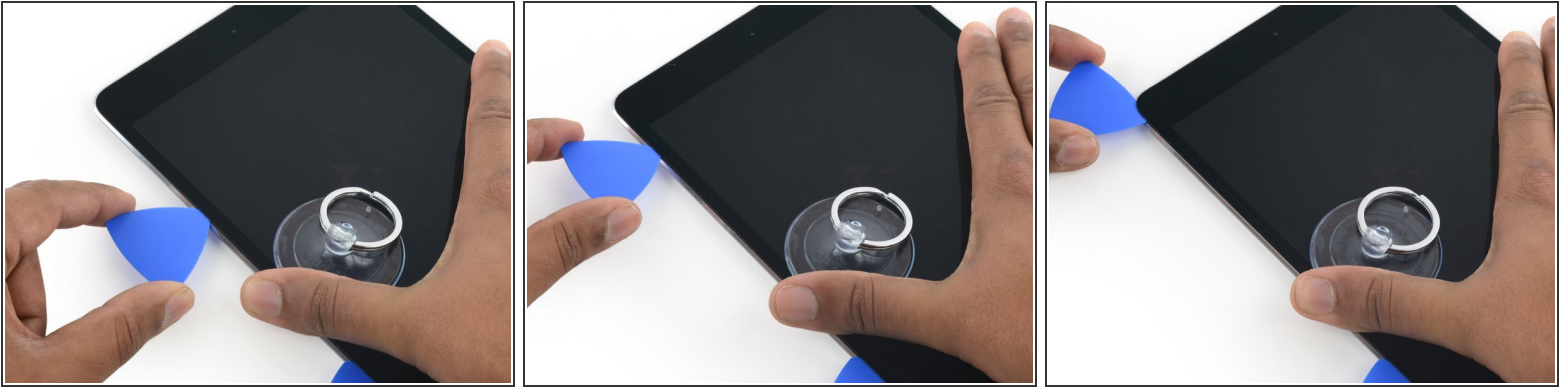
## Step 9



- Reheat the iOpener and place it on the top edge of the iPad, over the front-facing camera.
- ⚠ Be careful not to overheat the iOpener during the repair procedure. Wait at least ten minutes before reheating the iOpener.
- If you have a flexible iOpener, you can bend it to heat both the upper left corner and the upper edge at the same time.



## Step 10



- Slide the opening pick around the top left corner of the iPad to separate the adhesive.

## Step 11



- Slide the opening pick along the top edge of the iPad, stopping just before you reach the camera.
- As you reach the front-facing camera, pull the pick out slightly and continue sliding it across the top edge.

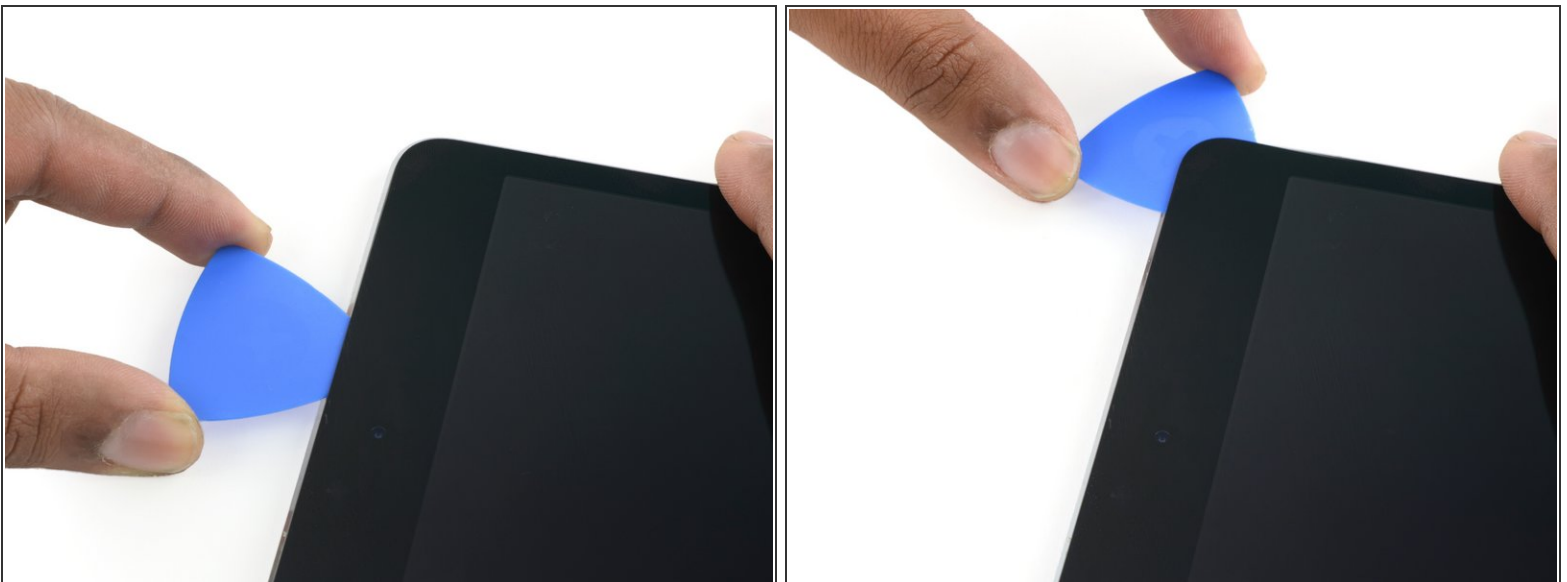
**⚠ Avoid sliding the opening pick over the front-facing camera, as you may smear adhesive onto the lens or damage the camera. The following steps will detail how to best avoid disturbing the front-facing camera.**

## Step 12



- Leave the opening pick in the iPad slightly past the front-facing camera.
- Take a second pick and insert it to the left of the camera, where the first pick just was. Slide it back to the corner to completely cut any remaining adhesive.
- Leave the second pick in place to prevent the corner adhesive from re-sealing as it cools.

## Step 13



- Insert the previous pick deeper into the iPad and slide it away from the camera toward the corner.

## Step 14



- Leave the three picks in the corners of the iPad to prevent re-adhering of the front panel adhesive.
- Reheat the iOpener and place it on the remaining long side of the iPad —along the volume and lock buttons.

## Step 15



- Insert a new opening pick and slide it down the right edge of the iPad, releasing the adhesive as you go.

## Step 16



- Continue sliding the opening pick down the right edge of the iPad, reheating the edge using an iOpener if necessary.

⚠ Be careful not to slice too deep near the [bottom right corner](#), or you risk damaging the display cable.

## Step 17



- Leave the opening picks in place and reheat the iOpener.
- ⚠ Remember not to overheat the iOpener—no more than once every ten minutes.
- Set the reheated iOpener on the home button end of the iPad and let it rest for a few minutes to soften the adhesive beneath the glass.

## Step 18



- Insert a new opening pick at the bottom right corner of the display, below the last opening pick you used to slice down the right edge.
- Rotate the new pick around the lower right corner of the device.

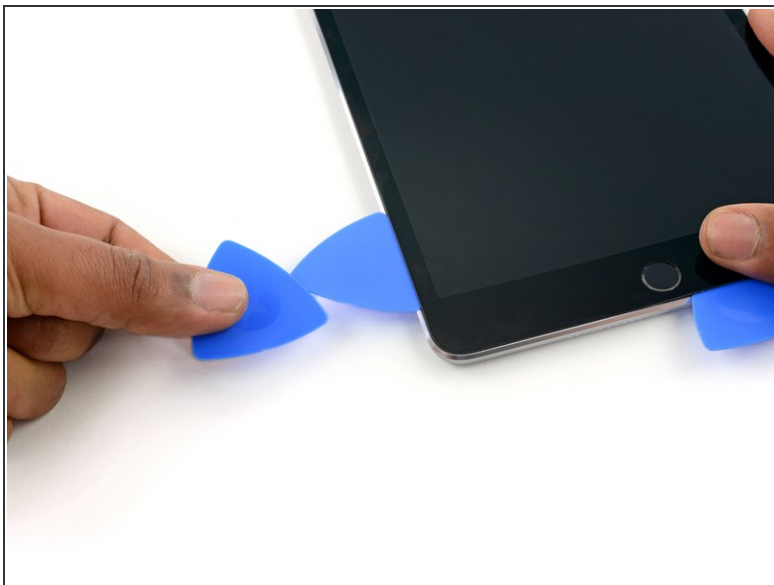
## Step 19



- Slide the pick from the bottom right corner along the lower edge of the device. Stop about half an inch shy of the home button.



## Step 20



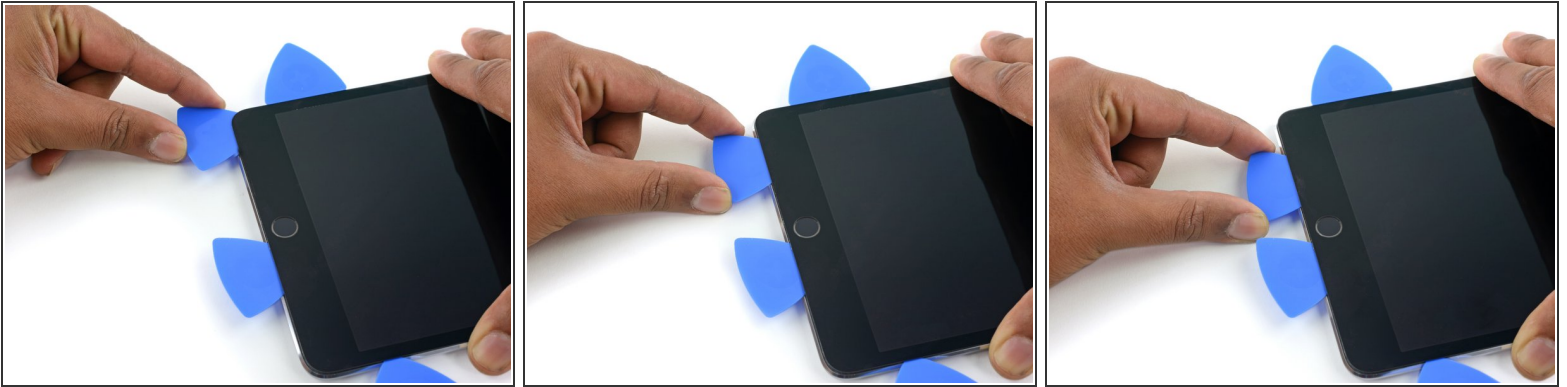
- Insert a final opening pick at the lower left corner of the iPad, directly below the existing one.

## Step 21



- Slide the pick around the lower left edge of the iPad.

## Step 22



- Continue sliding the pick at the lower left edge of the display toward the center of the iPad, until it is roughly half an inch from the home button.

## Step 23



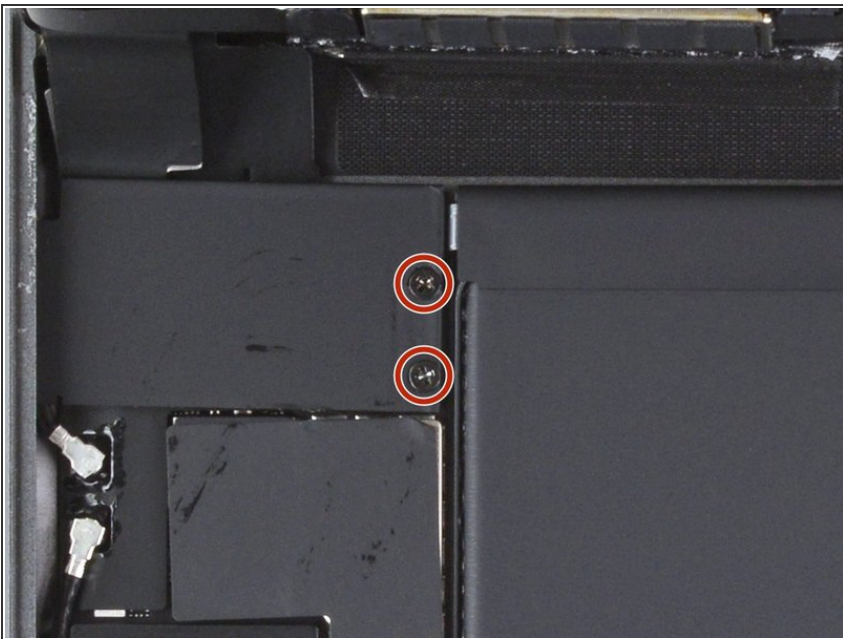
- Twist the two picks at the top edge of the iPad to break up the last of the adhesive holding the display assembly in place.
- Lift the display from the top edge to open the device.

## Step 24 — Hold the screen perpendicular



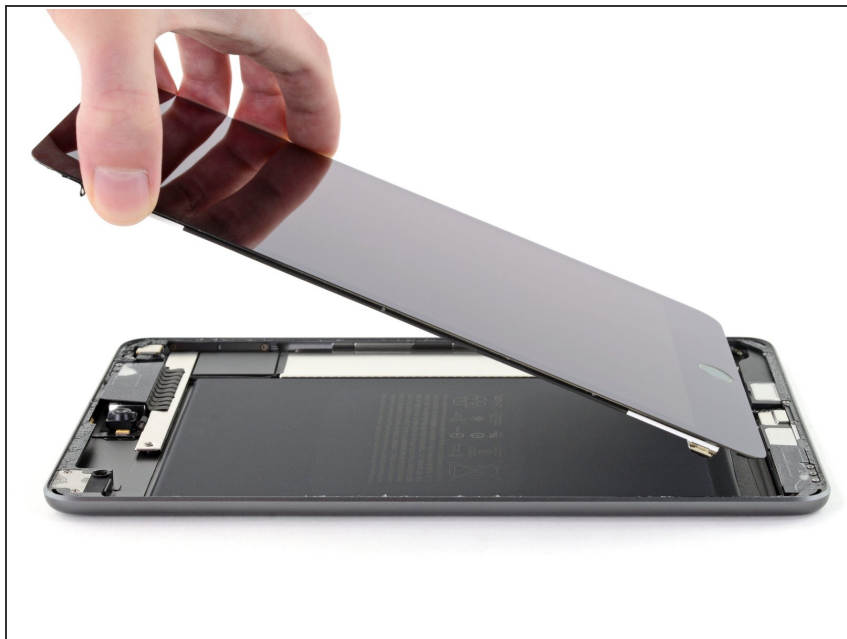
- To avoid stressing any cables, hold the screen perpendicular to the frame.

## Step 25 — Remove the display cable bracket



- ⓘ Continue to hold the screen perpendicular during this step.
- Use a Phillips screwdriver to remove the two 1.3 mm screws securing the display cable bracket.
- ⓘ Throughout this repair, [keep track of each screw](#) and make sure it goes back exactly where it came from.

## Step 26 — Reposition the screen



- ① You'll need to reposition the screen to access the bottom side of the display cable bracket.
- Lower the screen to about 30 degrees above the frame.



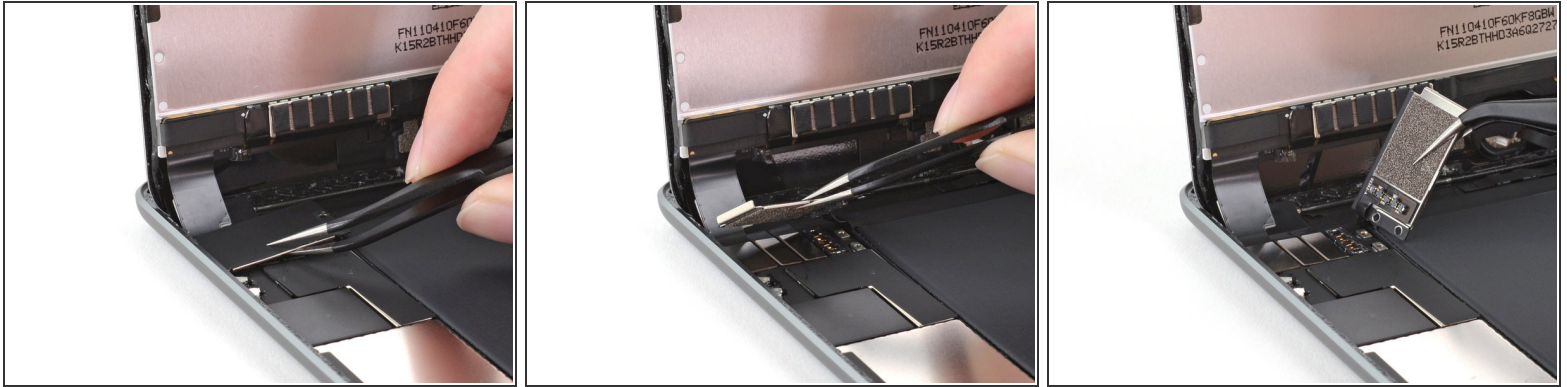
## Step 27 — Disconnect the battery



- ⓘ The battery press connector is attached to the underside of the display cable bracket on the screw hole side.
- Insert the flat end of a spudger under the display cable bracket and lift up to disconnect the battery press connector from the logic board.
  - ⚠ Take care to pry only under the edge of the connector to prevent damaging the socket itself and surrounding components.
  - ★ To re-attach [press connectors](#) like this one, carefully align and press down on one side until it clicks into place, then repeat on the other side. Do not press down on the middle. If the connector is misaligned, the pins can bend, causing permanent damage.
  - ⚠ Don't try to remove the display cable bracket as it's attached to the battery by the battery cable.



## Step 28 — Rotate the display cable bracket



**i** The display cable bracket is secured by a clip under the edge of the frame.

- Use a pair of tweezers to pull the display cable bracket's clip out from under the frame's edge.
- Rotate the display cable bracket toward the battery.

**⚠** Don't bend the battery cable too much past vertical to avoid damaging it. You only need enough space to disconnect the display press connectors and prevent the battery connector from making contact with its socket during the repair.

## Step 29 — Disconnect the display press connectors



- Use the pointed end of a spudger to disconnect the digitizer press connector from the logic board.

## Step 30



- Use the pointed end of a spudger to disconnect the second and third display press connectors.

## Step 31 — Remove the screen



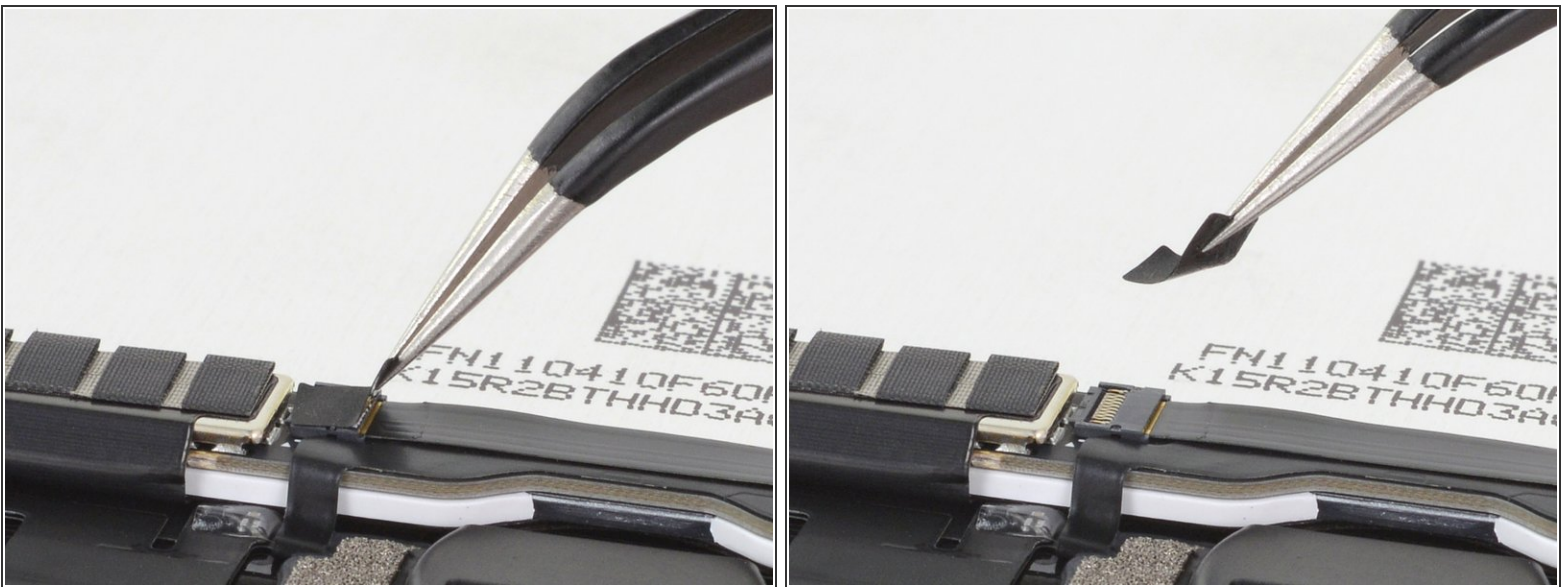
- Lift and remove the screen.

## Step 32 — Screen reassembly information



- ✦ During reassembly, remove any remaining adhesive and residue from the perimeters of the frame and the screen. Then, apply new adhesive to secure the screen to the frame.
  - Don't remove the black tape on the left, right, and upper edges of the display. These hold the display to the front glass.
- ✦ [Follow this guide](#) if you are using a pre-cut adhesive card. [Follow this guide](#) if you are using custom-cut adhesives.

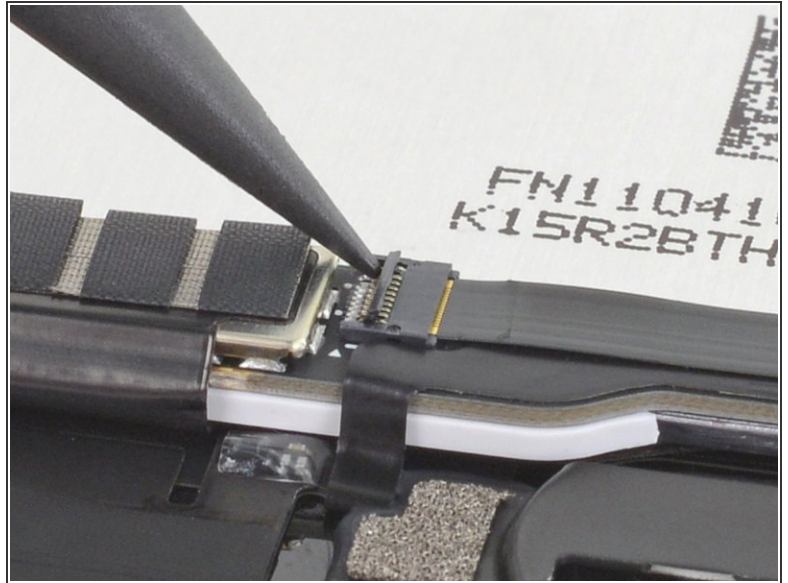
## Step 33 — Remove the ZIF connector sticker



- Use a pair of tweezers to remove the sticker covering the home button assembly ZIF connector.

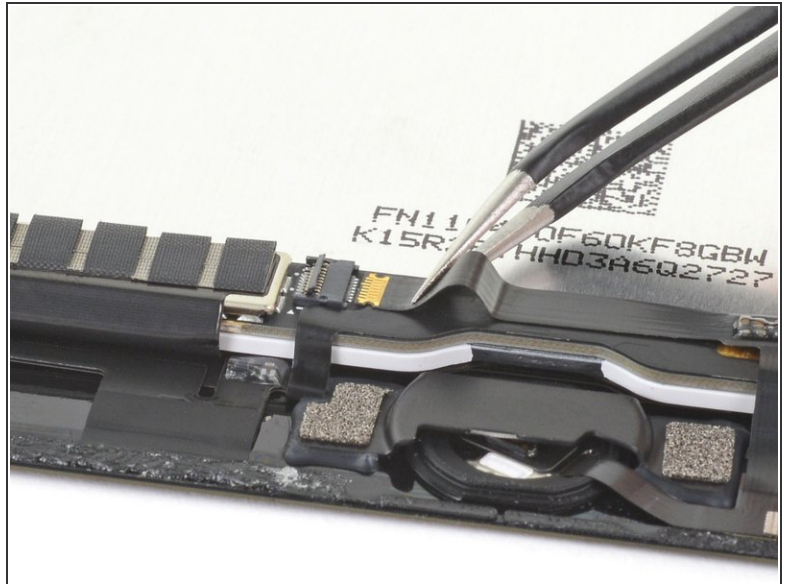
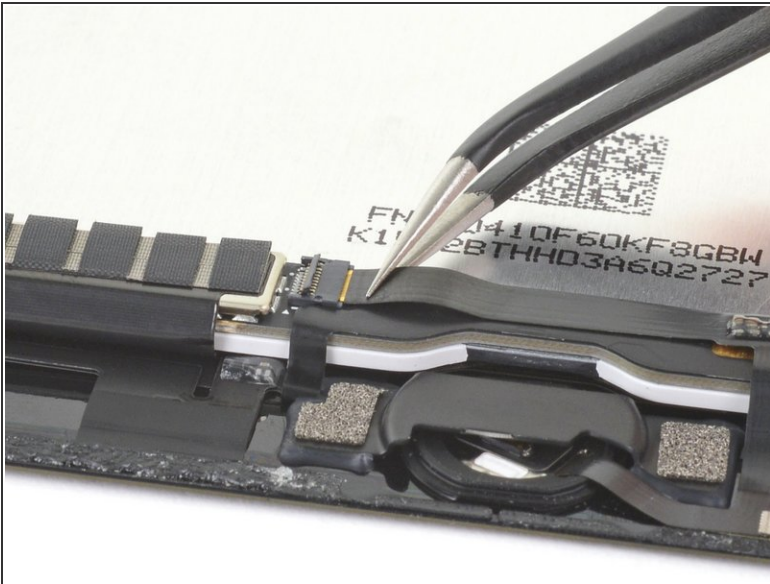


## Step 34 — Unlock the ZIF connector



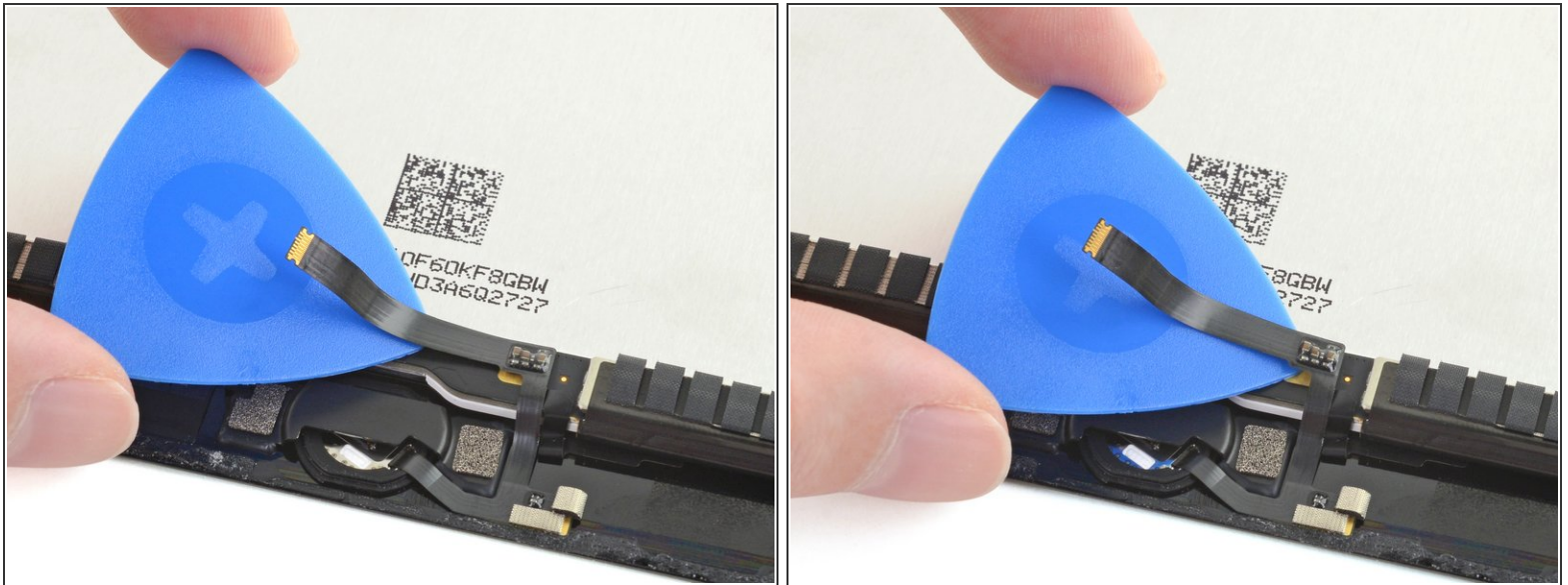
- Use the pointed end of a spudger, an opening tool, or your fingernail to flip up the small, hinged locking flap on the home button assembly [ZIF connector](#).

## Step 35 — Unplug the home button assembly ZIF connector



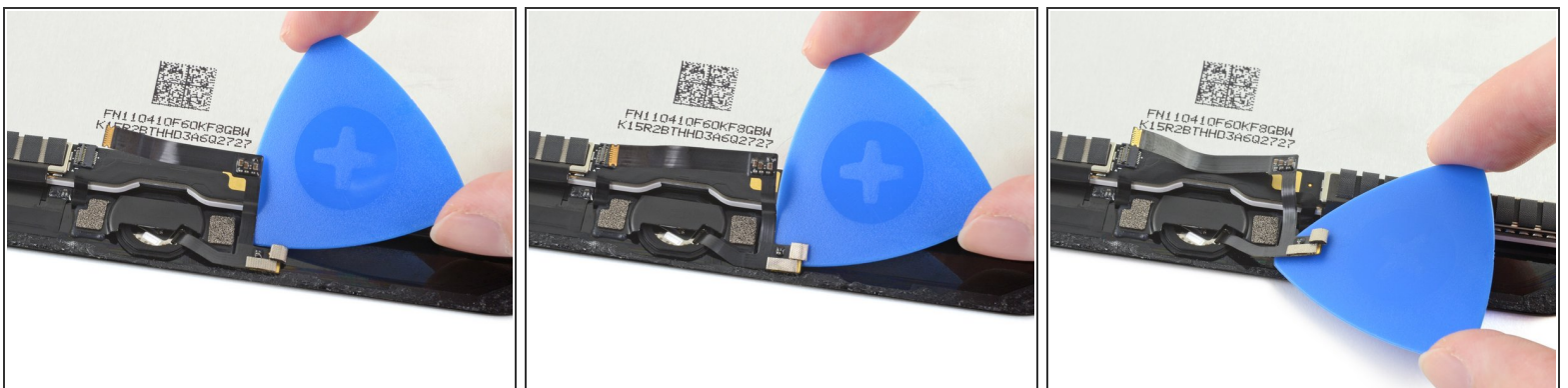
- Use a pair of tweezers to pull the home button assembly cable out of the ZIF connector.

## Step 36 — Separate the home button assembly cable



- i The home button assembly cable is secured to the screen with light adhesive.
- Use an opening pick to separate the home button assembly cable from the screen.

## Step 37



- Use an opening pick to continue separating the home button assembly cable from the screen.



## Step 38 — Pry off the home button bracket



- Use a plastic opening tool to pry the home button bracket off of the screen.
- Use a pair of tweezers to lift and remove the home button bracket.
- ☑ When reinstalling this bracket, use high bond glue such as [E6000](#) to secure it to the screen.
  - Use a [small clamp](#) to hold the bracket to the screen during the curing duration.

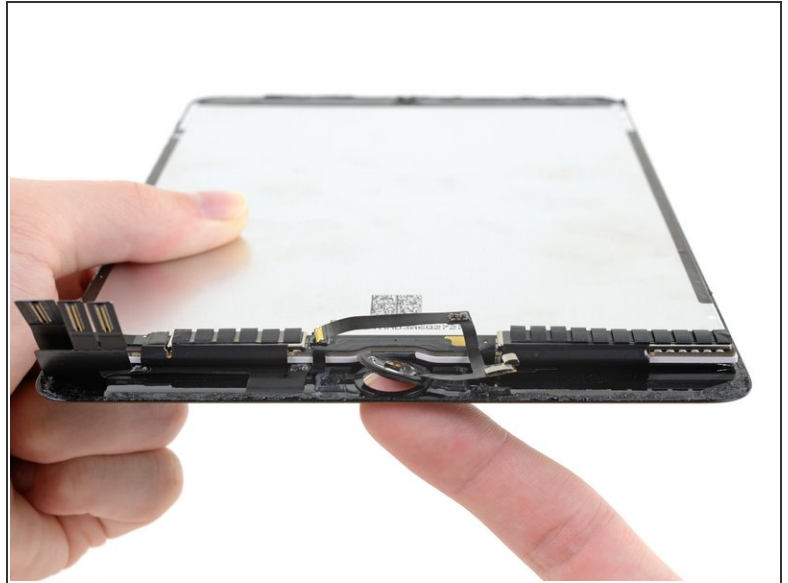
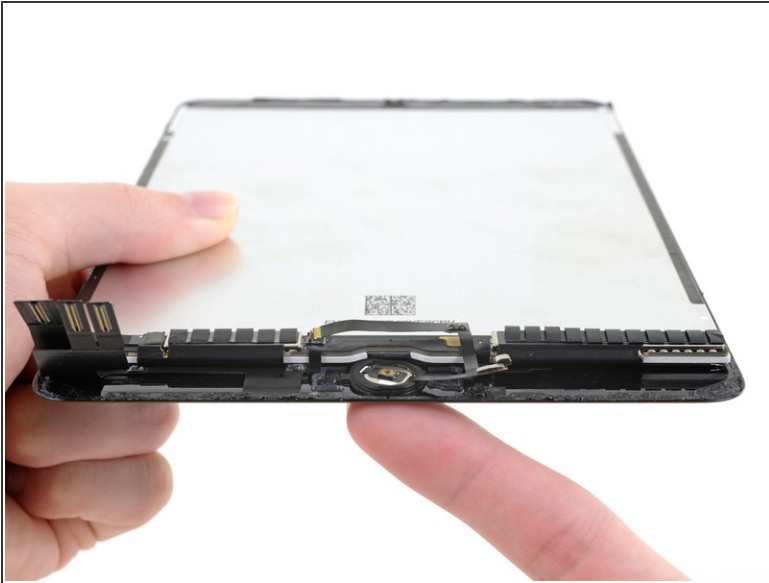
⚠ Make sure to support the other edges of the screen while clamping the bracket to avoid breaking the screen.


## Step 39 — Heat the bottom of the screen



- Heat an iOpener and apply it to the bottom of the screen for two minutes to weaken the adhesive holding the home button in place.
- ⓘ A hair dryer, heat gun, or hot plate may also be used, but be careful not to overheat the display—it is susceptible to heat damage.


## Step 40 — Remove the home button assembly



 The home button is held in place by a thin, delicate rubber gasket that is lightly adhered to the screen.

- Slowly push the home button up and out through the back of the screen.

 The home button will be hot. Wait until it's cool enough to touch before pushing it up.

 Be careful to not push the gasket past its tearing point. If the adhesive is adequately heated, it will separate with gentle pressure.

## Step 41



- Lift and remove the home button assembly.

**i** You can reuse the home button gasket if it's sufficiently tacky. Otherwise, replace the black rubber gasket:

- Peel the gasket off of the home button. Then, thread it past the cable to remove it.
- Apply a replacement gasket to the home button.

**i** The iPad mini 4's replacement gasket fits on the iPad mini 5, but it is slightly larger. Make sure it doesn't overlap the screen's adhesive so that the screen can be properly adhered to the frame.

**★** To install the home button:

- Rotate the home button so that the home button cable sits where it was before disassembly. Make sure the home button cable can be inserted into its ZIF connector.
- Center the home button so that it fits into its slot in the screen. Then, press down firmly on the gasket to adhere it to the screen.

Compare your new replacement part to the original part—you may need to transfer remaining components or remove adhesive backings from the new part before installing.

**To reassemble your device, follow these instructions in reverse order.**

Take your e-waste to an [R2 or e-Stewards certified recycler](#).

Repair didn't go as planned? Try some [basic troubleshooting](#), or ask our [iPad mini 5 Answers community](#) for help.