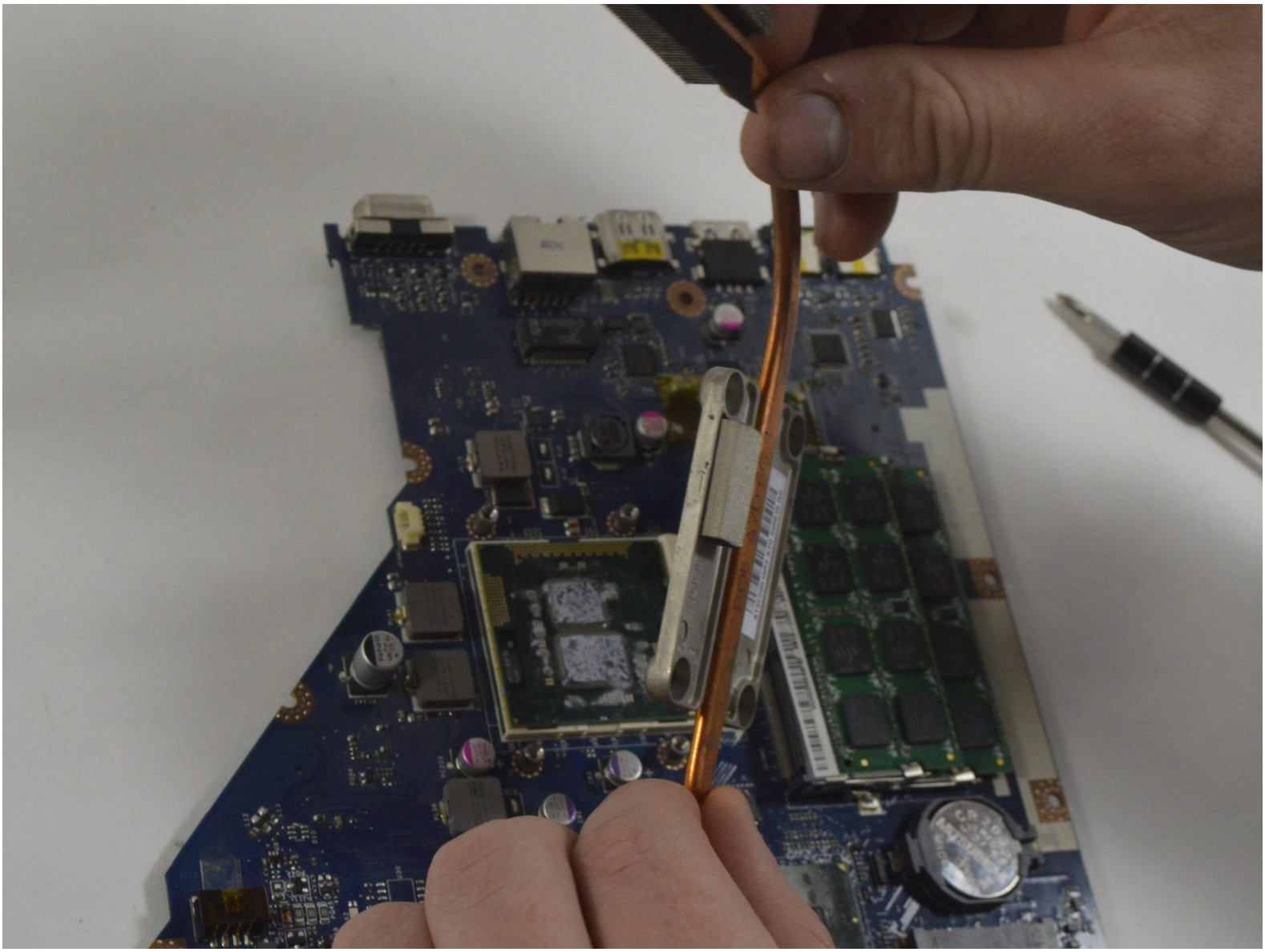
Acer Aspire 5742 Heat Sink/Thermal Paste Replacement

Replacing the heatsink paste on the CPU.

Written By: Claudia Torres



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INTRODUCTION

This is a difficult guide so make sure you are completely prepared before doing it. Note that thorough removal and cleansing of the old heatsink paste and correct application of the new are vital, otherwise you are likely to make matters worse. Always eliminate a clogged fan or cooling vanes as a cause of overheating before replacing the heatsink paste.

Use of an anti-static wrist wrap is highly recommended. Take care not to use too much force especially for the zero insertion force ribbon cables.

TOOLS:

- Heavy-Duty Spudger (1)
- Phillips #0 Screwdriver (1)
- Phillips #00 Screwdriver (1)

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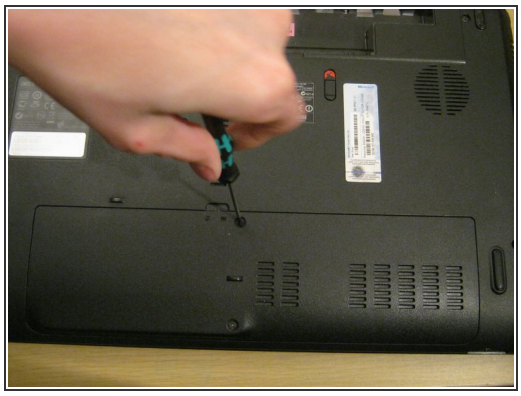
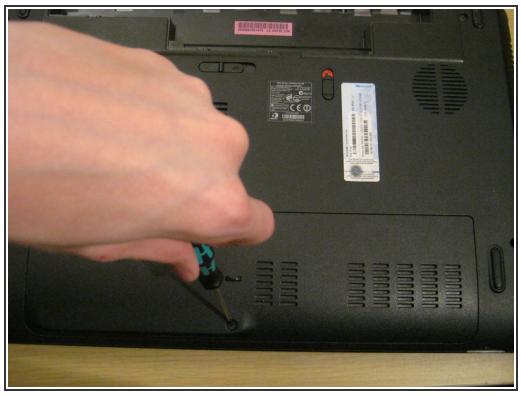
Step 1 — Battery





- Move the battery catch to the "unlocked" position.
- Pull back the second spring-loaded battery catch until the battery pops up.
- Remove the battery.

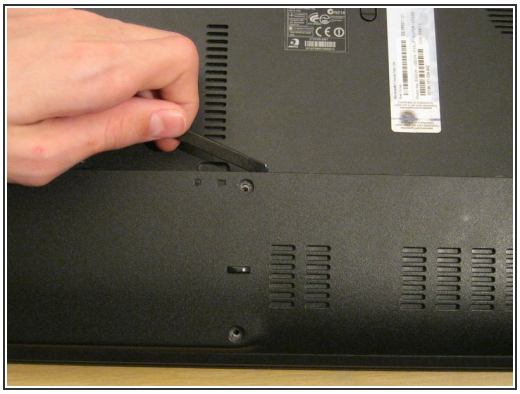
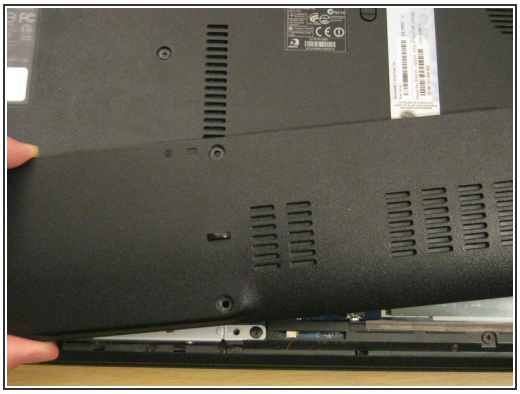
Step 2 — Cover Panel

- Turn the notebook around to face you.
- There are two Phillips #00 screws securing the cover panel to the rest of the notebook. Remove these screws.

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Step 3

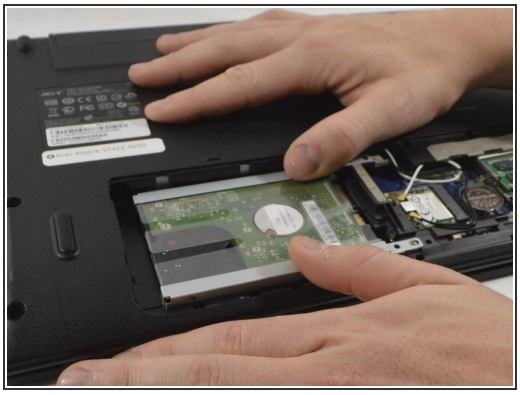




- Use a spudger to release the panel from the plastic retaining clips keeping it in place.

⚠ Do not apply too much force, or you may break the clips.

- Remove the panel and set it aside.

Step 4 — Hard drive

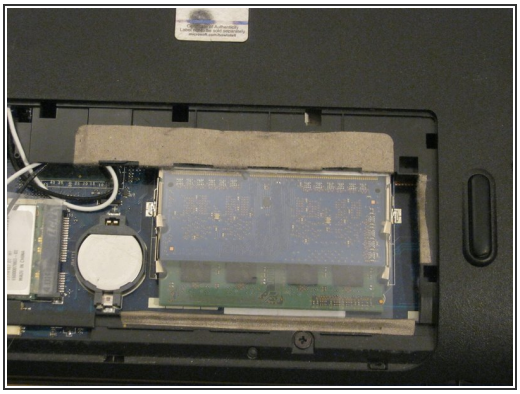
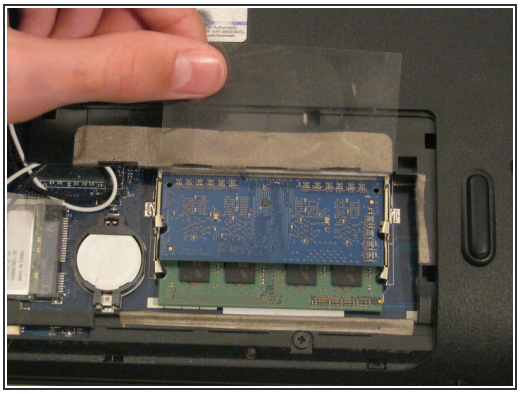
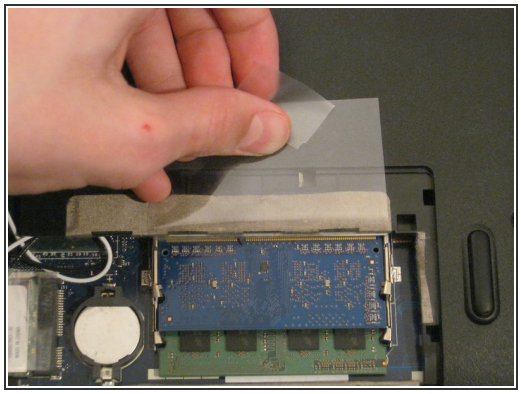

- Unscrew the Phillips #00 screw which retains the hard drive in place.
- Gently slide the hard drive to the left in order to disengage the SATA connectors.

ⓘ It may be quite stiff, in which case you can ease the hard drive out of the SATA connectors by inserting a spudger between the hard drive and the connector block.

- Lift the drive out of the notebook.

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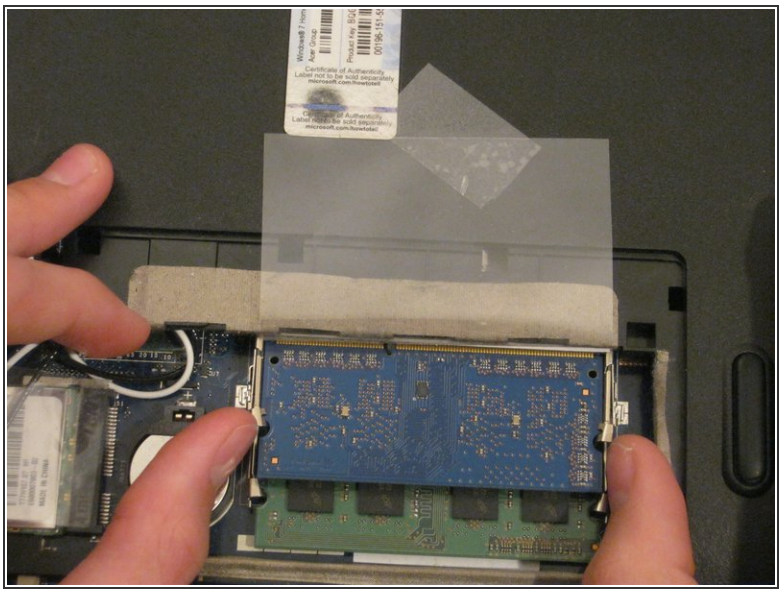
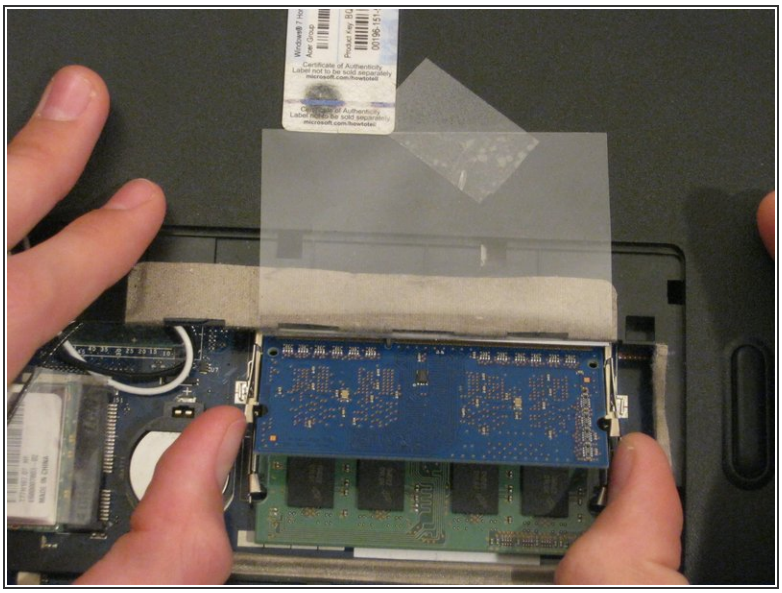
Step 5 — RAM

- The RAM is protected by a transparent cellophane cover.
- Lift this cover away from the RAM. It will not come free from the RAM.

ⓘ You may wish to use some Scotch tape to hold the cover in place while you work.

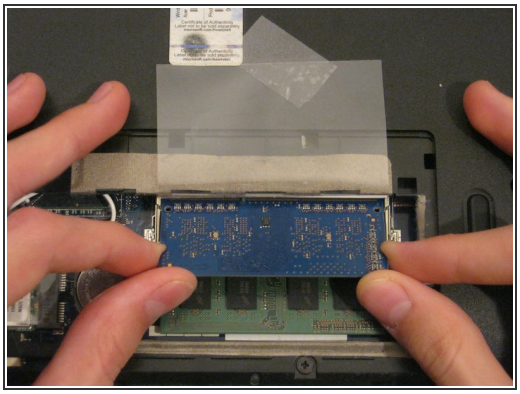
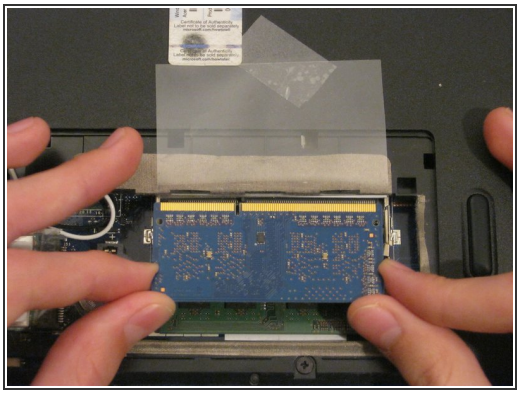
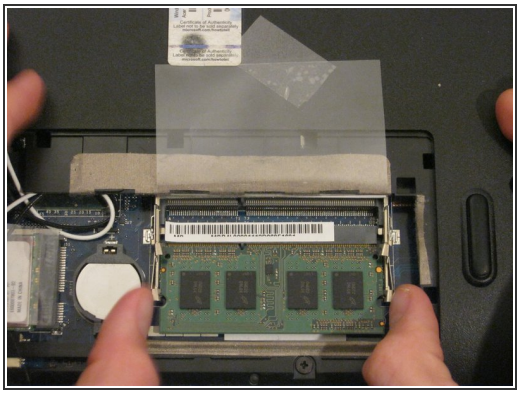
Step 6

- Pull back the retaining clips either side of the RAM.
- It will spring up, ready to be removed.

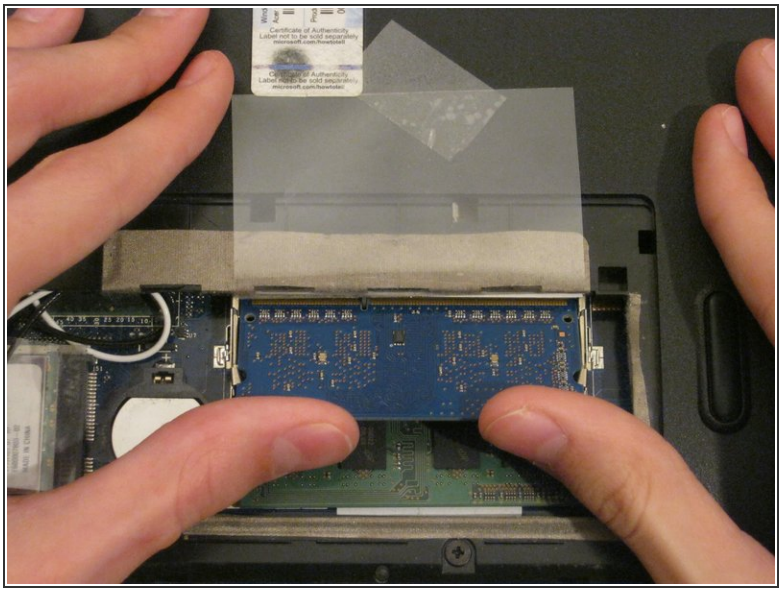
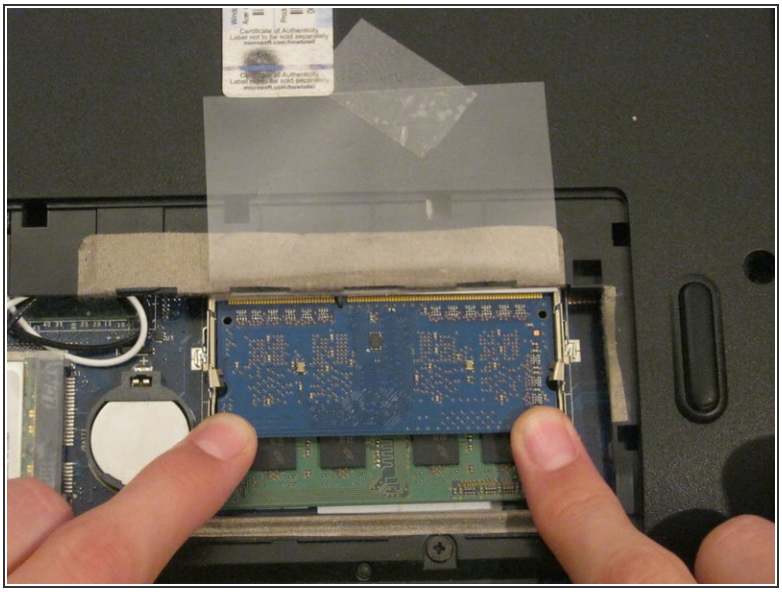
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Step 7

- Hold on to opposite edges of the RAM chip and gently pull it diagonally upwards to remove it from the computer.
- Repeat steps 5 and 6 for the second RAM chip if necessary.

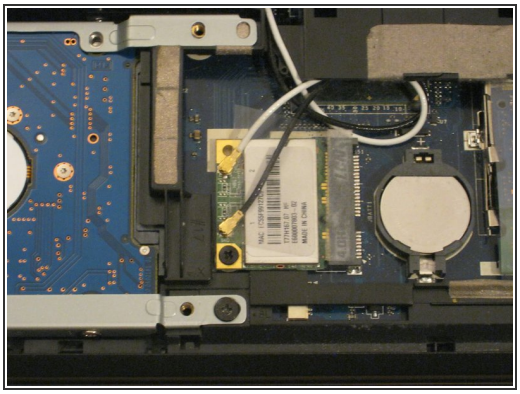
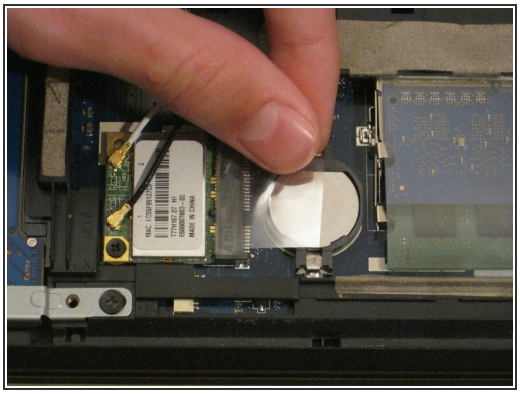
Step 8

- When reinserting RAM, push it diagonally downwards until almost all of the gold connector strip is inside the socket.
- Push gently down on the RAM until the retaining clips click back over it.

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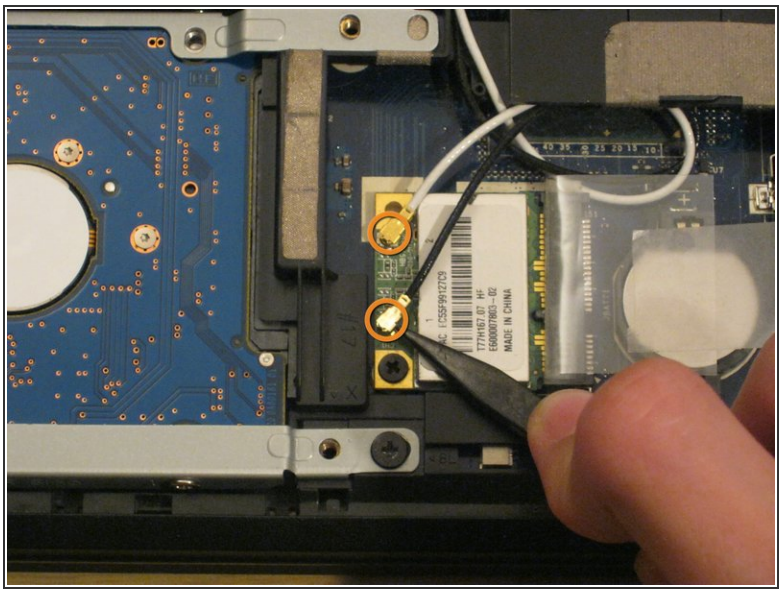
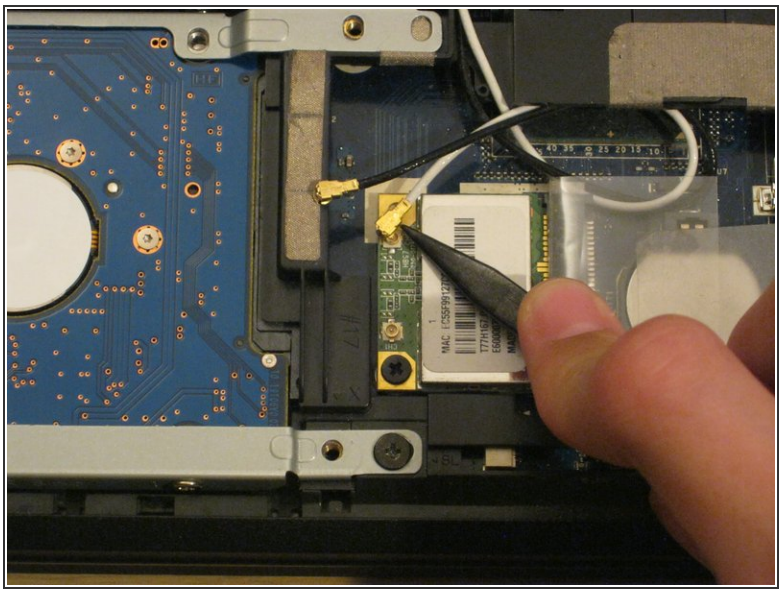
Step 9 — WLAN Card


- The WLAN card is protected by a transparent cellophane cover.
- Lift this cover away from the WLAN card. It will not come free from the WLAN card socket.

You may wish to use some Scotch tape to hold the cover in place while you work.

Step 10

- Use the pointy end of a spudger to remove the antenna connectors from the WLAN card.

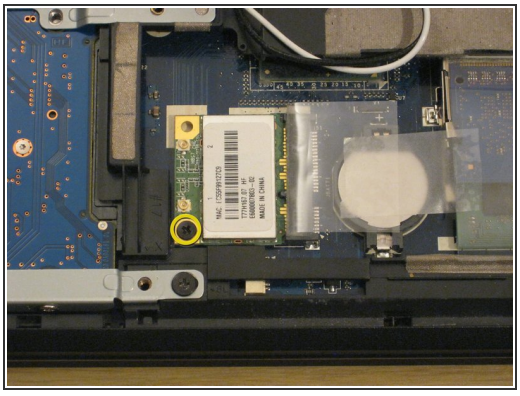
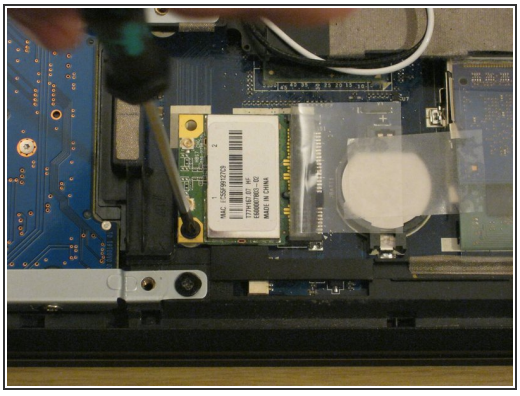
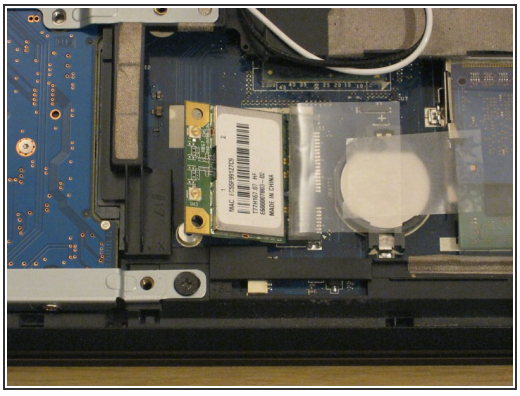
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Step 11




You may find it useful to pull the antenna cables out from under the plastic retaining clip so you can move them out of the way while you work.

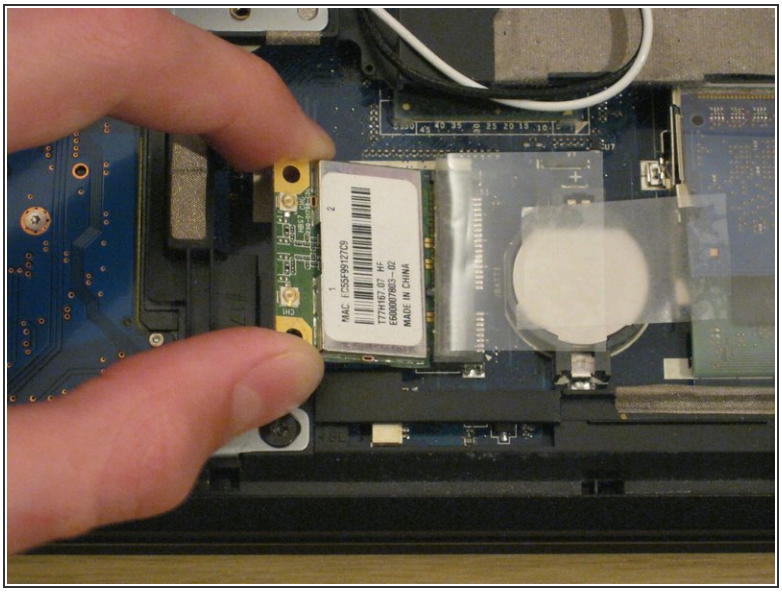
Step 12

- There is one Phillips #00 screw keeping the WLAN card attached to the notebook.
- Remove this screw.
- The WLAN card will spring up from the notebook at an angle.

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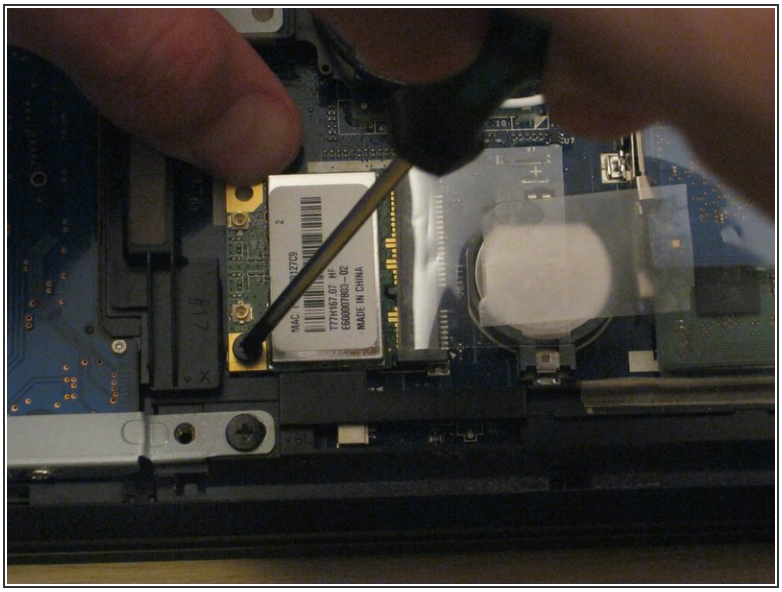
Step 13

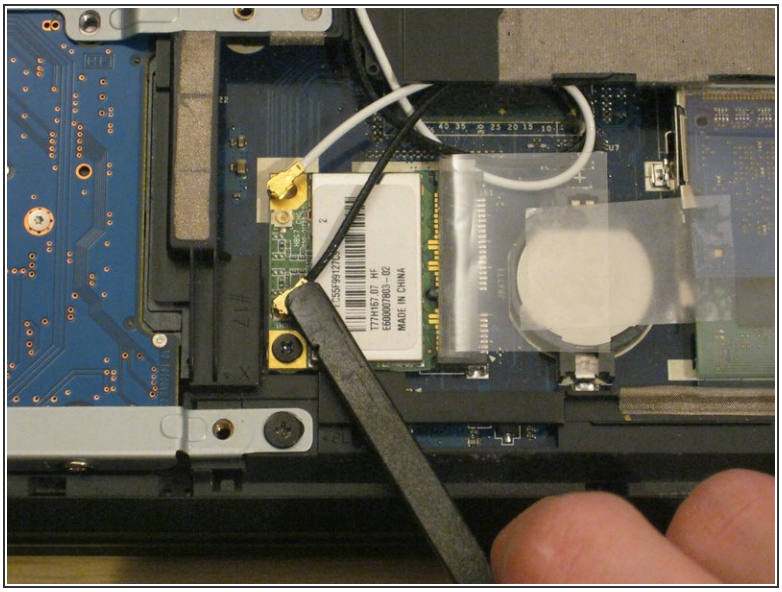




- Just like RAM, hold the WLAN card by the edges and pull it out at an angle.

Step 14



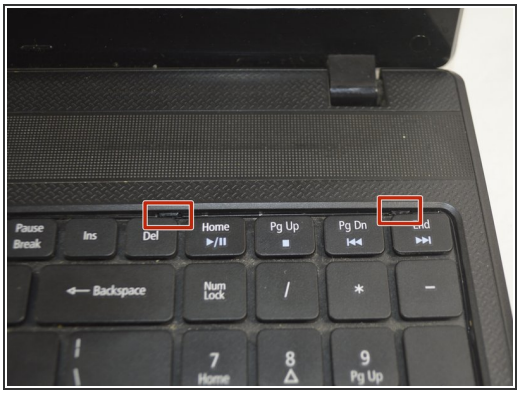


When you're installing the new WLAN card, you might want to hold it down with one hand while you put the screw in with the other.

- You might also want to put the antenna cables back in using the flat end of a spudger.

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Step 15 — Keyboard







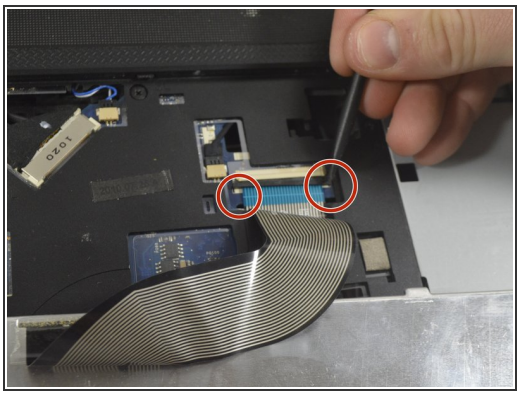
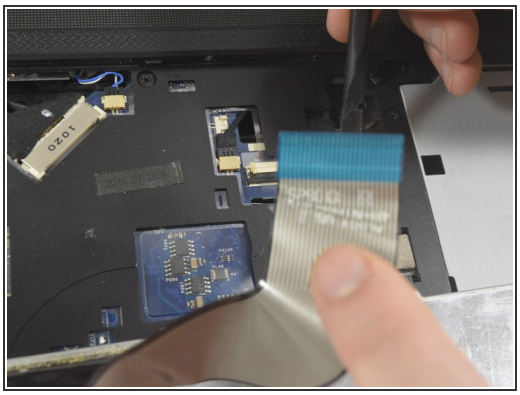
- Unfold the laptop so that you are looking at the keyboard.
- At the top right of the keyboard you will notice two clips above the 'Del' and 'End' keys.
- Using your spudger, press these clips in to unlock the keyboard from the laptop

  ⚠ Be careful not to press too forcefully on these clips with the spudger as they may break
- Slide the spudger along the top of the keyboard until the keyboard is able to easily be lifted up out of the laptop

  ⚠ Do NOT attempt to fully remove the keyboard as there is still a cable on its backside connected to the computer that can be damaged

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Step 16

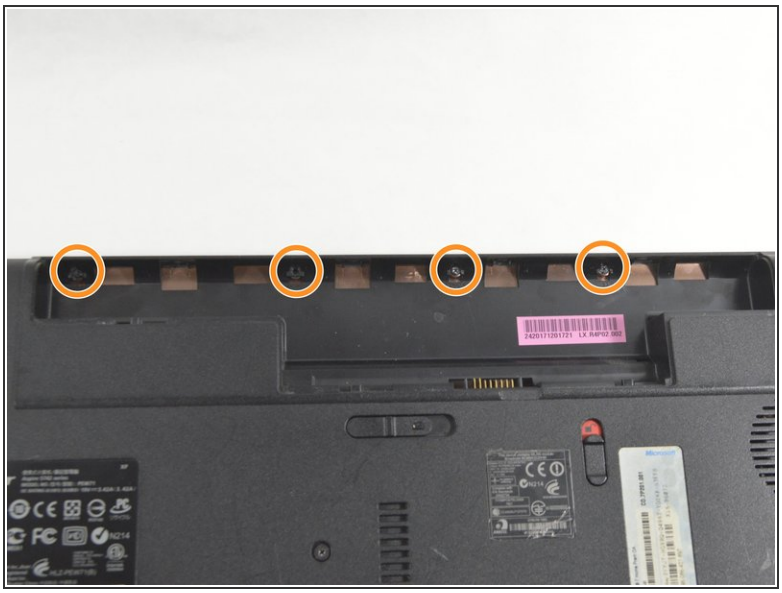
Now that the keyboard is outside of the laptop, you will see a ribbon cable coming from the back of the keyboard connected to the laptop.

- To detach this cable you must use the pointed edge of the spudger to press down on the locking mechanisms on each side.

  Do not use too much pressure when disconnecting the ZIF connector.

- After unlocking both sides of the ZIF connector remove the keyboard for replacement.

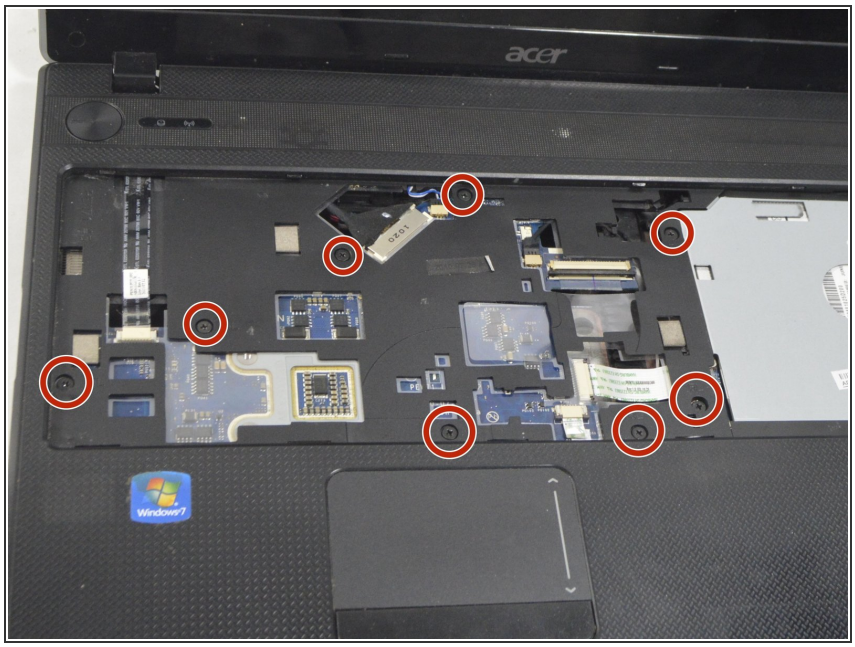
Step 17 — Motherboard

- Remove the 10 Phillips #0 screws on the bottom cover.
- Remove the 4 Phillips #00 screws from under the battery.

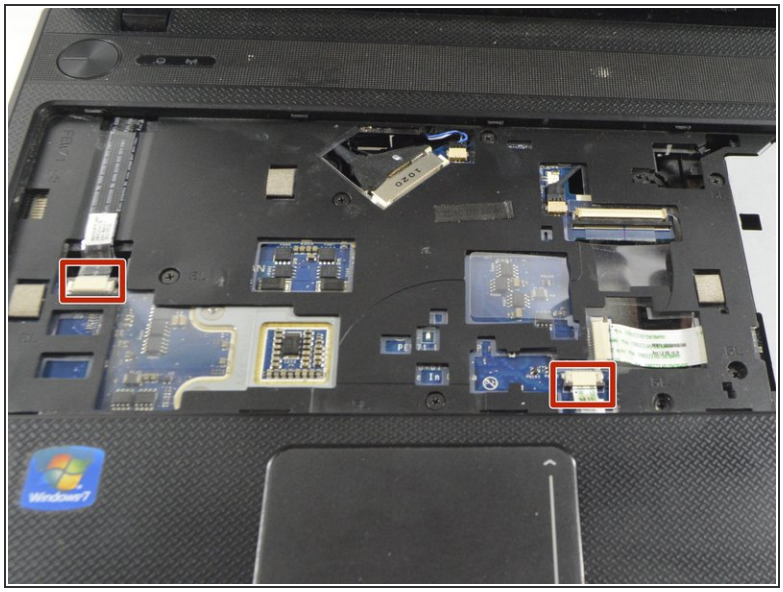
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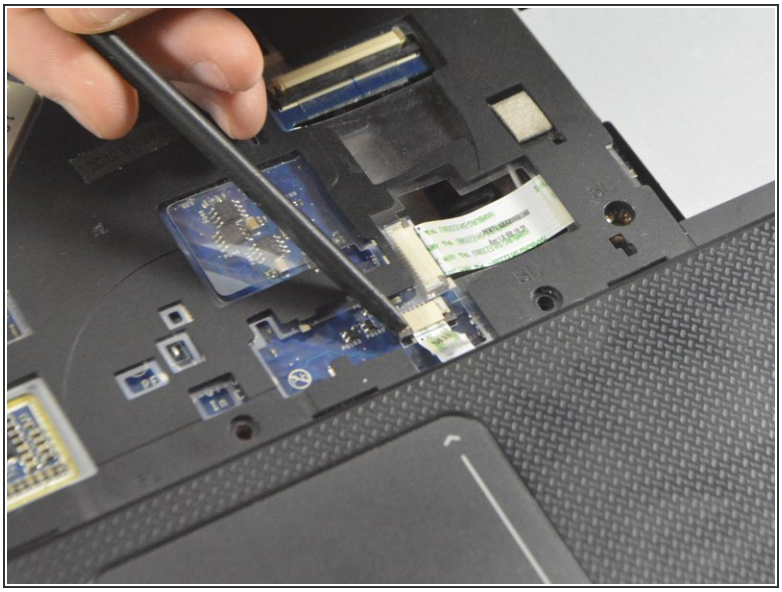
Step 18



- Remove the 8 Phillips #0 screws from under the keyboard.

Step 19

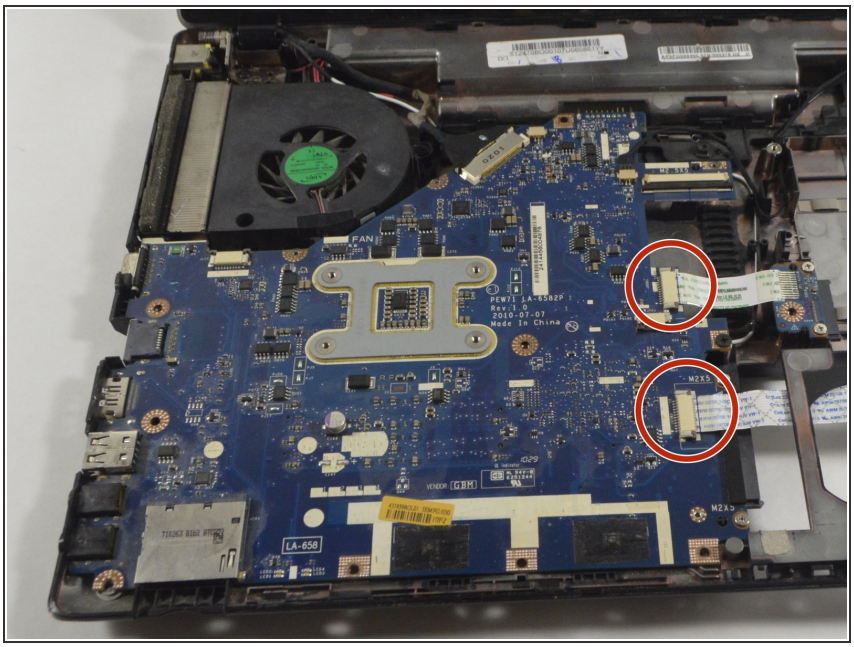




- Release the two ribbon cables from the ZIF connectors in the same fashion as in Step 11 with the black spudger.
- Once the mechanism is released you may remove the cable by hand.
- The plastic cover can now be easily lifted and removed from the rest of the laptop.

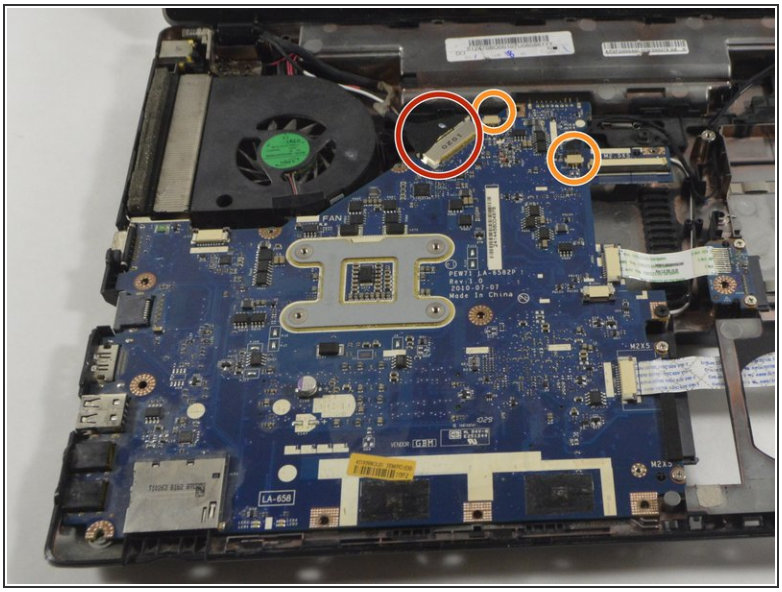
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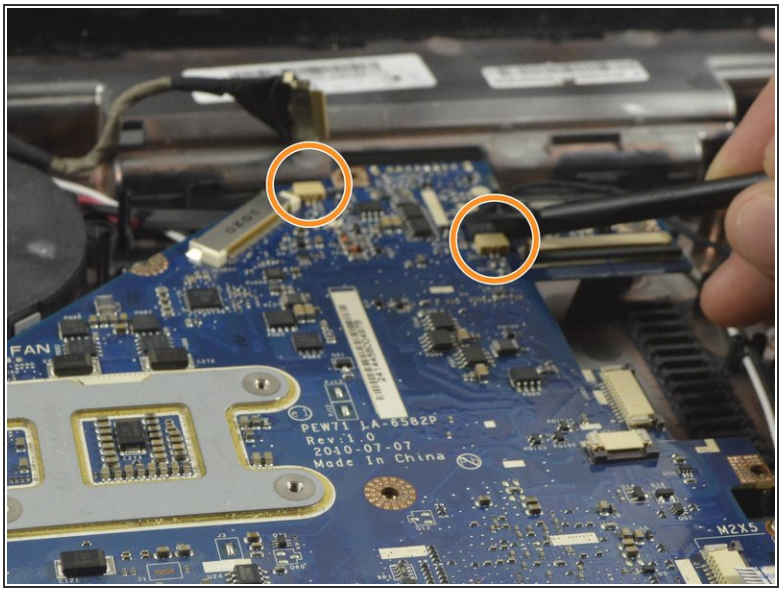
Step 20



- Remove the two remaining ribbon cables as described in Step 11.

Step 21

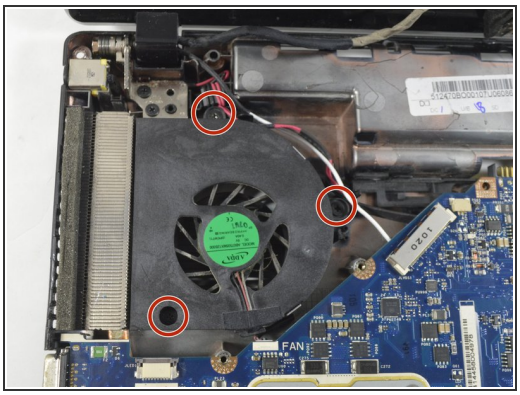


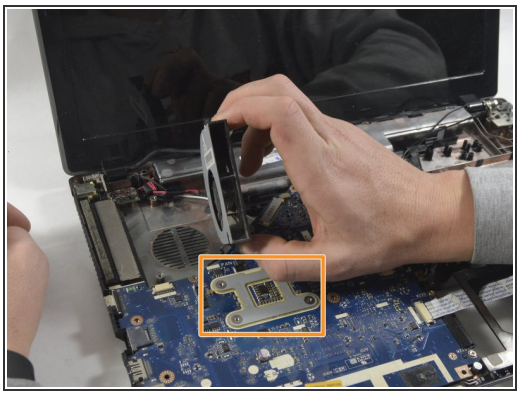
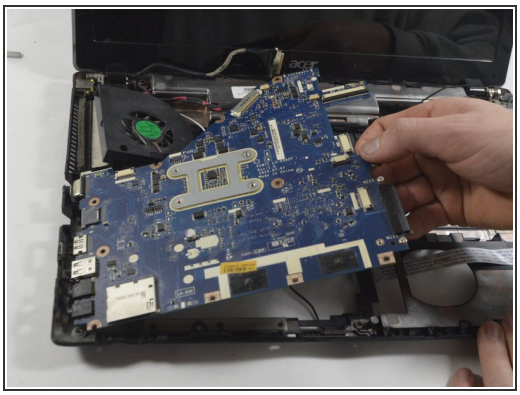


- Remove the display cable with the spudger by pushing each end of the cable out of the connector until it is loose enough to be pulled out by hand.
- In a similar fashion as with the display cable use the spudger to remove the two power cables from the motherboard.

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Step 22



- Remove the 3 Phillips #0 screws from the fan bracket.
- Lift the fan up and place it back down above the heatsink.

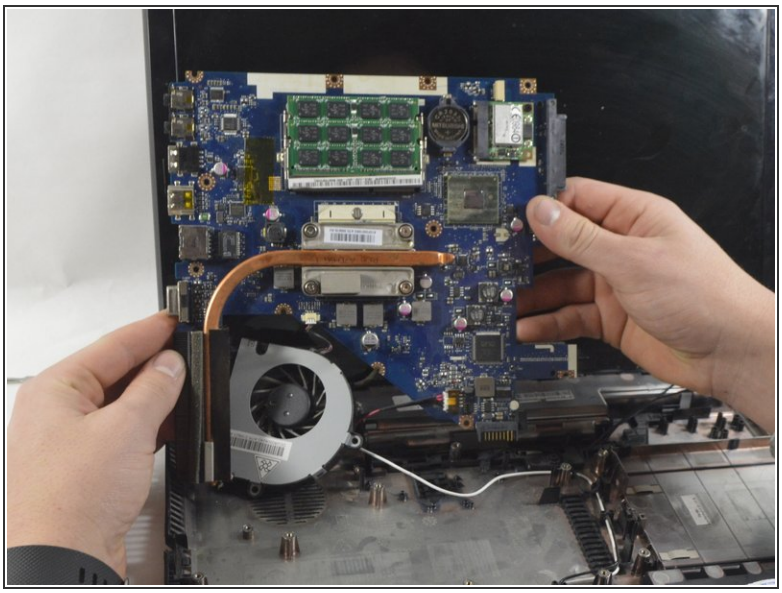
⚠ Do not fully remove the motherboard. As there is hidden cable on the underside that could be damaged.

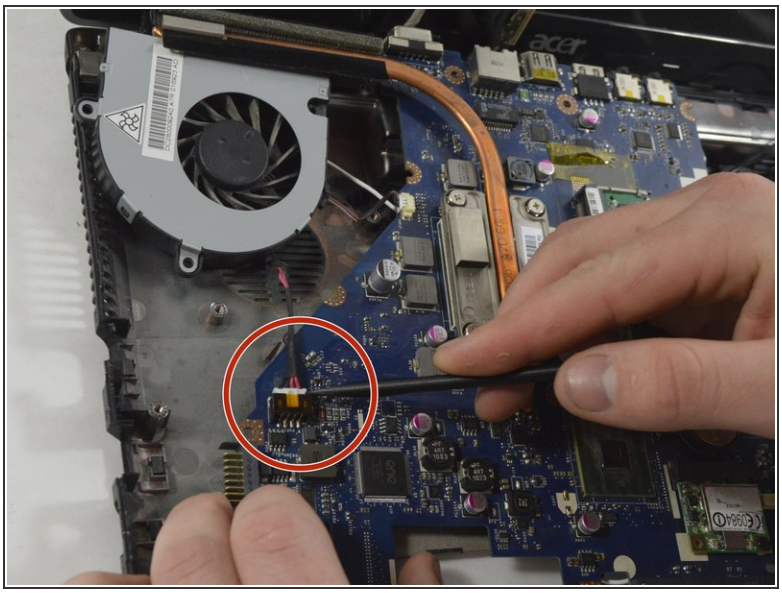
⚠ The heatsink has a strip of adhesive on the underside securing it to the plastic body.

- The motherboard can be lifted from the side and and then to the right to free the I/O port from the enclosure. Some force may be required to release the heatsink.

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Step 23

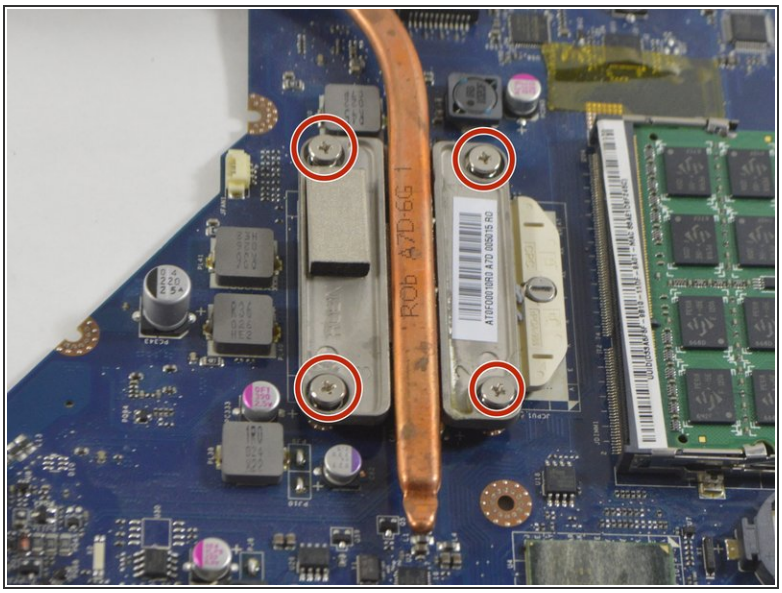


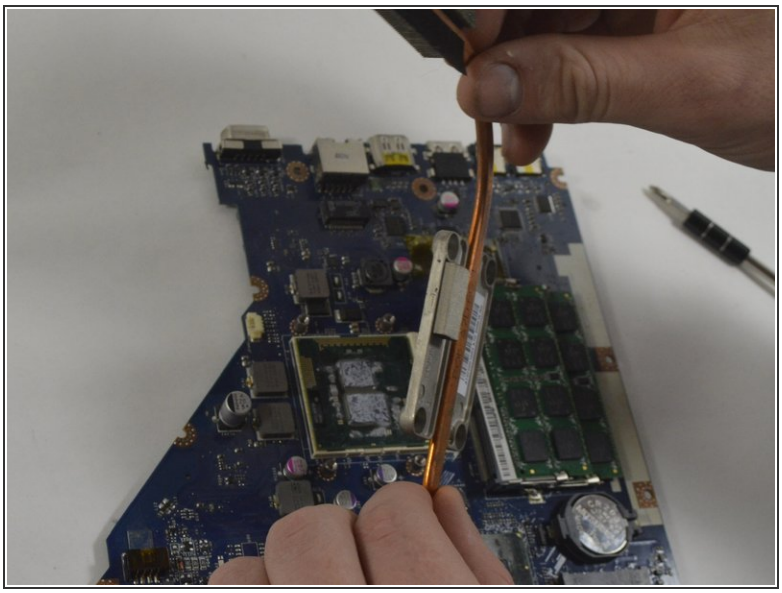


- Rotate the motherboard to the right and lay it down so that the copper heatsink is facing up and parallel with the bottom of the monitor.
- In this position the last cable to the motherboard can be disconnected using the spudger to push each end out until loose enough to pull the cable completely out.
- The motherboard can now be completely removed from the laptop enclosure.

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Step 24 — CPU heatsink/thermal paste





- Remove the 4 Phillips #0 screws from the heat sink.
- The heat sink can now be removed from the motherboard and CPU.
- Follow this great guide to re-apply your thermal paste- How to Apply Thermal Paste

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

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