



Microsoft Surface Laptop 3 13.5" Screen Replacement

Use this guide to remove or replace the screen...

Written By: Carsten Frauenheim



INTRODUCTION

Use this guide to remove or replace the screen assembly on a Microsoft Surface Laptop 3 (13.5").

Note: This guide demonstrates how to replace the entire screen assembly. Make sure your replacement part comes with the metal shell and screen hinges. If you have just the panel by itself, [follow this guide](#).

Remember to follow general [electrostatic discharge \(ESD\) safety procedures](#) while repairing your device.

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:

- [Spudger](#) (1)
- [T5 Torx Screwdriver](#) (1)
- [T6 Torx Screwdriver](#) (1)
- [iFixit Opening Tool](#) (1)
- [iOpener](#) (1)
- [Heat Gun](#) (1)
- [Hair Dryer](#) (1)
- [Suction Handle](#) (1)
- [iFixit Opening Picks \(Set of 6\)](#) (1)
- [Tweezers](#) (1)
- [Tesa 61395 Double-Sided Tape](#) (1)



PARTS:

- [Surface Laptop 3 and 4 13.5" Screen Assembly - Genuine](#) (1)
- [Surface Laptop 3/4/5 Feet - Genuine](#) (1)

Step 1 — Prepare your device



⚠ Turn on your laptop and allow the battery to discharge below 25% before starting your repairs, as a charged lithium-ion battery can be dangerous if accidentally punctured.

- Power down your laptop and unplug any cables.
- Close the laptop.

Step 2 — Flip the laptop over



- Flip the laptop over and place it on your work surface, feet facing up.

Step 3 — Removal tip



- ① The feet on the bottom of the laptop are meant to be removed with the pointed end of a spudger.
 - Each foot has a hidden indent that will simplify removal.
 - To make sure the spudger is in the indent, insert it at the nearest **long edge**, pushing parallel to the short edges of the laptop, as shown.
- ① Note that the two feet near the rear (screen) edge are different than the two front feet.

Step 4 — Remove the rear feet



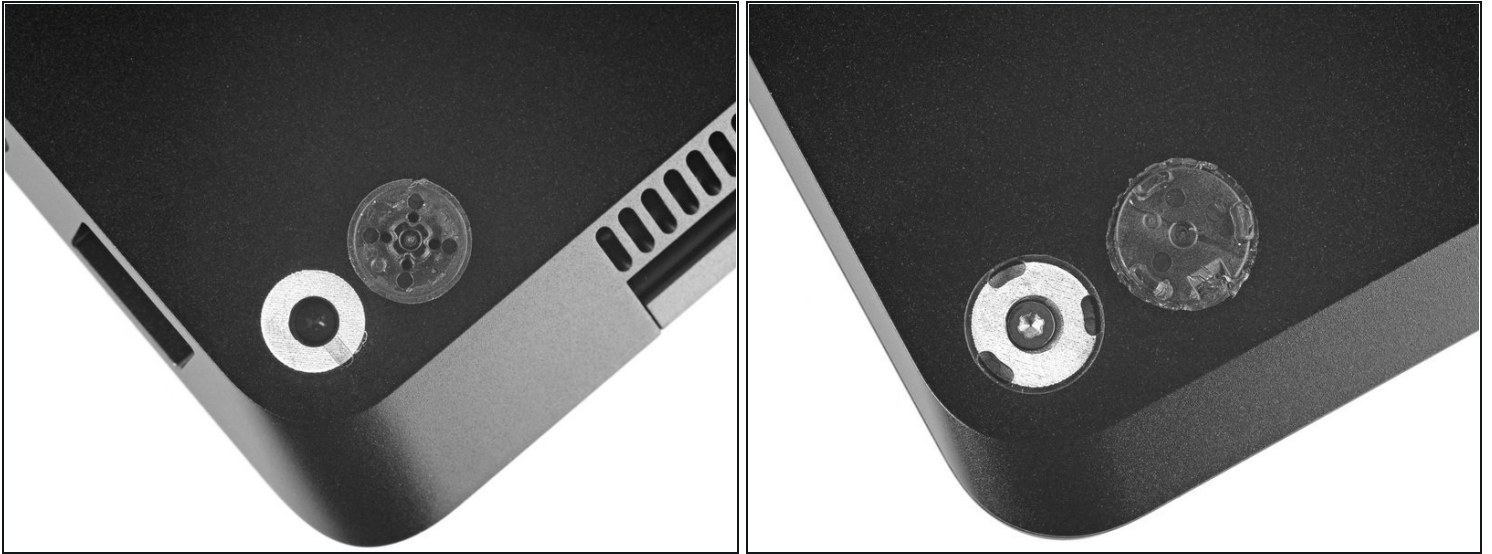
- Insert the pointed end of a spudger underneath one of the two rear feet, at its rear edge.
- Push the spudger underneath the foot and pry up to release it.
 - ⓘ The two rear feet are secured with some light adhesive.
- Repeat to remove the second rear foot.

Step 5 — Remove the front feet



- Insert the pointed end of a spudger underneath one of the two front feet, at its front edge.
- Push the spudger underneath the foot and pry up to release it.
 - ⓘ The two front feet are secured with plastic clips as well as light adhesive.
- Repeat to remove the second front foot.

Step 6 — Reassembly tip



★ During reassembly:

- Note that the front and rear feet are different.
- Note that the front feet are directional and only clip in one way.

Step 7 — Reassembly tip



★ In place of reusing old, worn out feet on your device, 8 mm rubber furniture pads can be a good substitute.

- Peel a pad away from its backing, align it over a foot cavity, and press to secure.

Step 8 — Remove the upper case screws



- Use a T5 Torx driver to remove the four 3 mm screws in the foot cavities securing the upper case to the device.
- ⓘ Throughout this repair, [keep track of each screw](#) and make sure it goes back exactly where it came from to avoid damaging your laptop.
- ★ During reassembly, don't over-tighten these screws—they strip easily.

Step 9 — Open the display



- Flip the device over.
- Open the display as far as it will go.

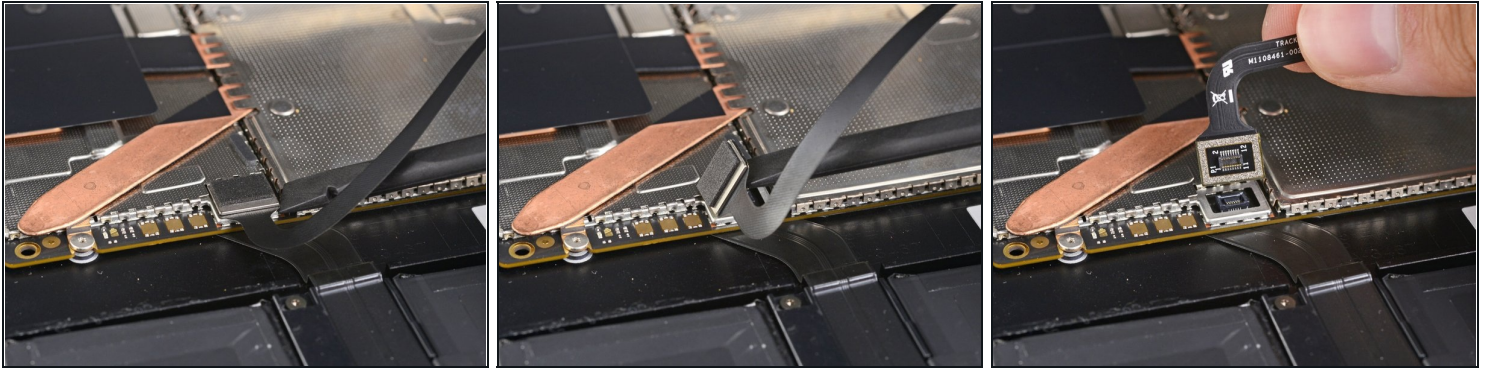
Step 10 — Lift up the upper case



 The upper case is secured in place by magnets.

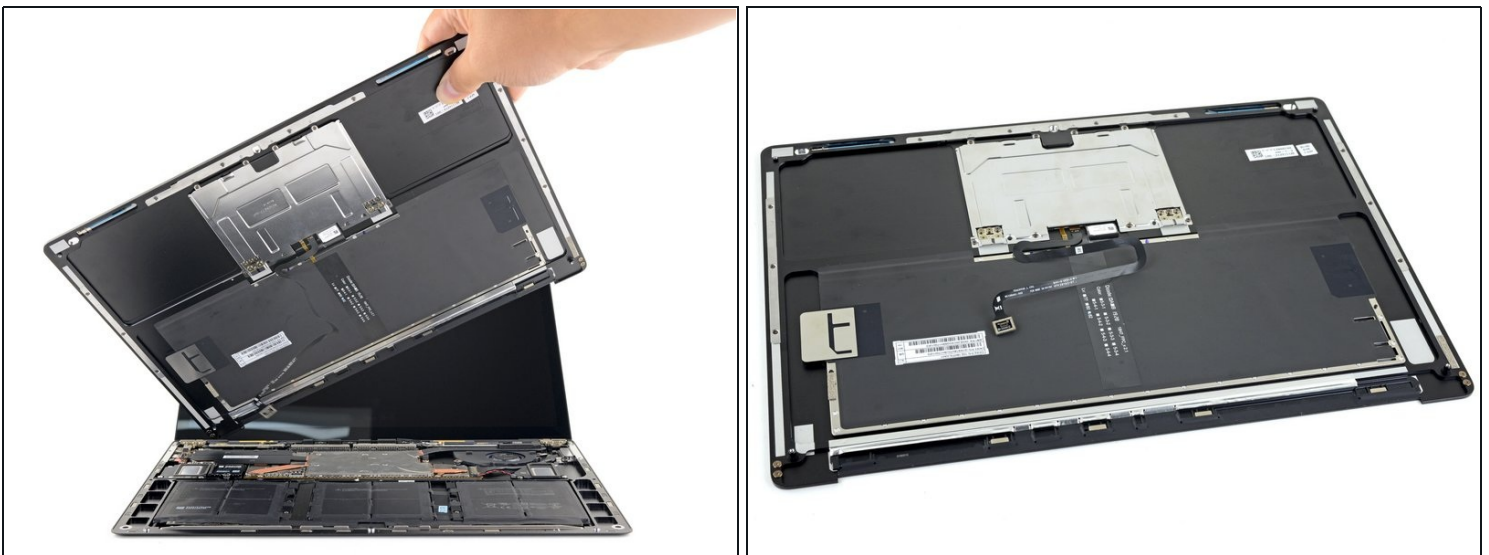
- Grip the top edge of upper case above the keyboard and lift straight up to release it.
 **Don't try to completely remove the upper case just yet, as it's still connected to the rest of the laptop.**
- Lift the front edge of the upper case up and away from the laptop, taking care to not strain the keyboard and touchpad ribbon cable underneath.
-  During reassembly, lower the upper case onto the lower case until the magnets snap into place and it lays flat.
 **Check that the upper case sits flush around the entire perimeter. Any gaps between the upper and lower case near the display could cause damage to the display as it closes.**

Step 11 — Disconnect the ribbon cable



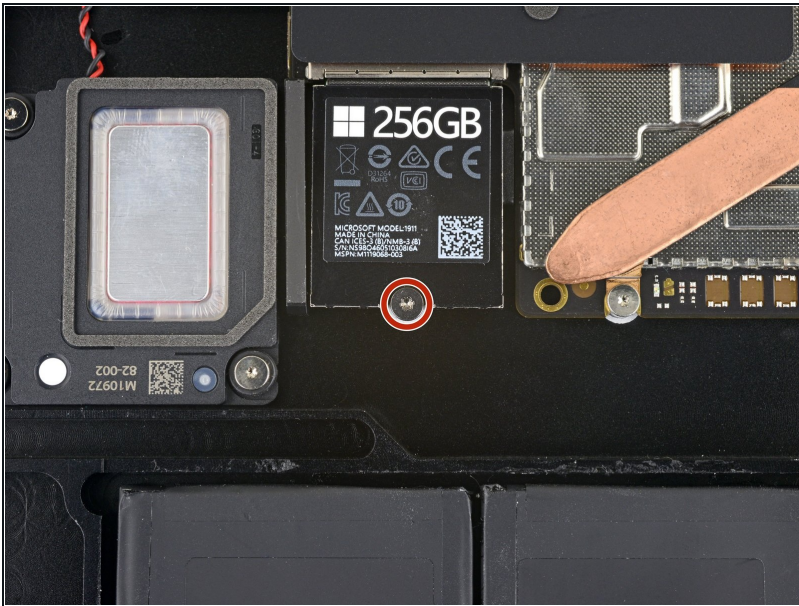
- ① The keyboard and touchpad ribbon cable is secured in place by a magnet connector.
- ① On some models, this connector is surrounded by black tape.
- Insert the flat end of a spudger underneath one edge of the ribbon cable connector, and pry up to release it.
- Remove the ribbon cable from the motherboard.

Step 12 — Remove the upper case



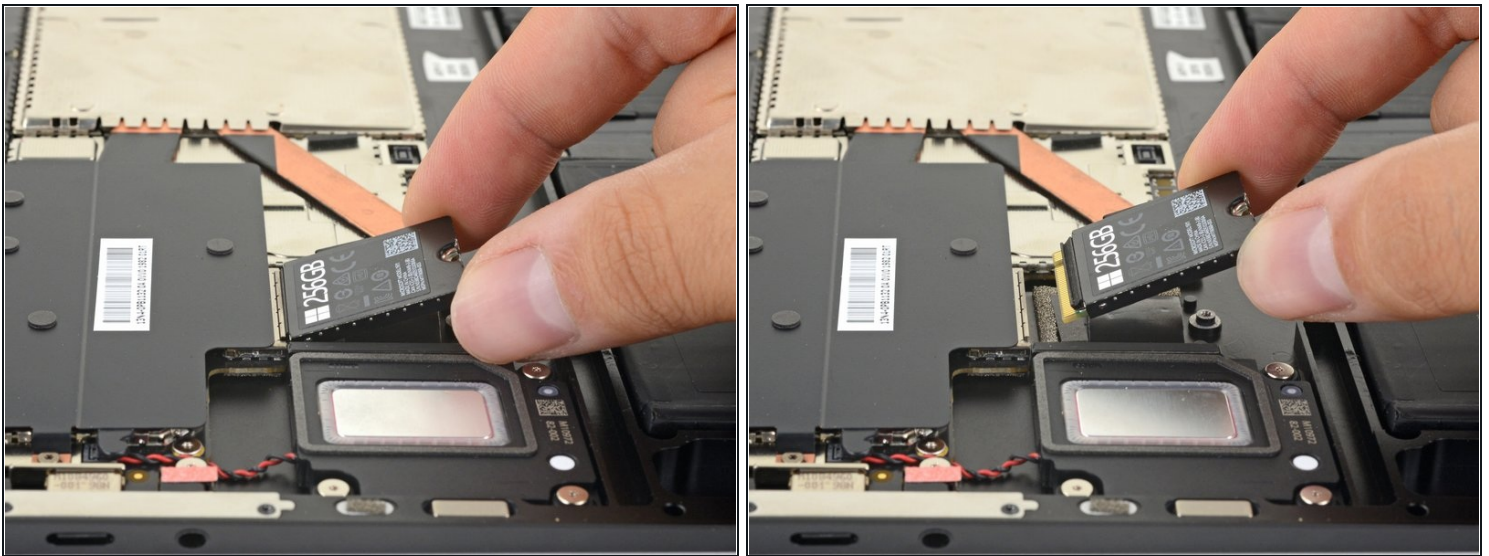
- Remove the upper case.
- Set the upper case onto a clean surface, keyboard-side down.
- ⚠ Ensure the ribbon cable lays flat, and isn't twisted or stressed.

Step 13 — Remove the SSD screw



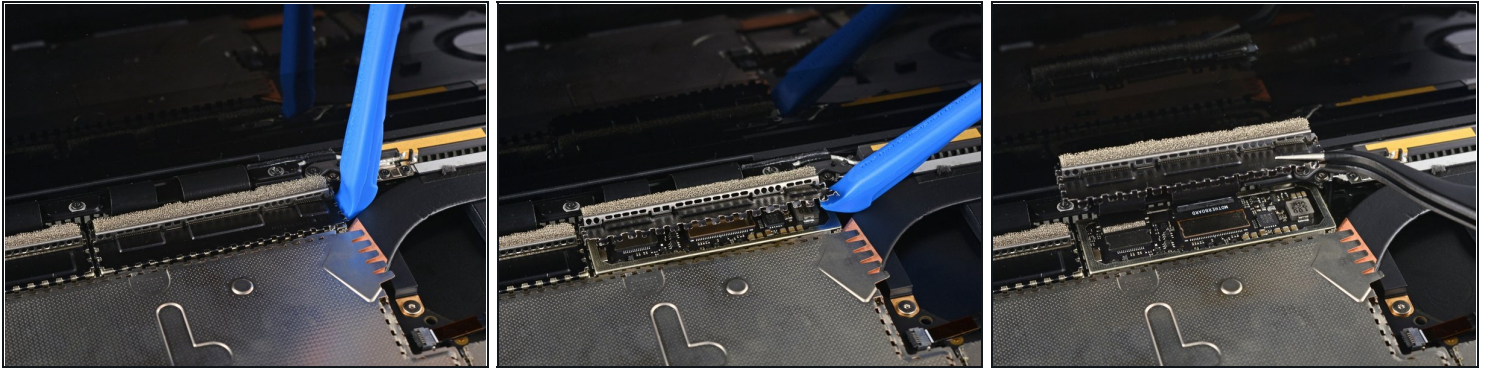
- Use a T5 Torx driver to remove the 2.7 mm screw securing the SSD.
- ⓘ Removing the SSD also [functions as a battery disconnect](#) and should be performed before all major repairs.

Step 14 — Remove the SSD



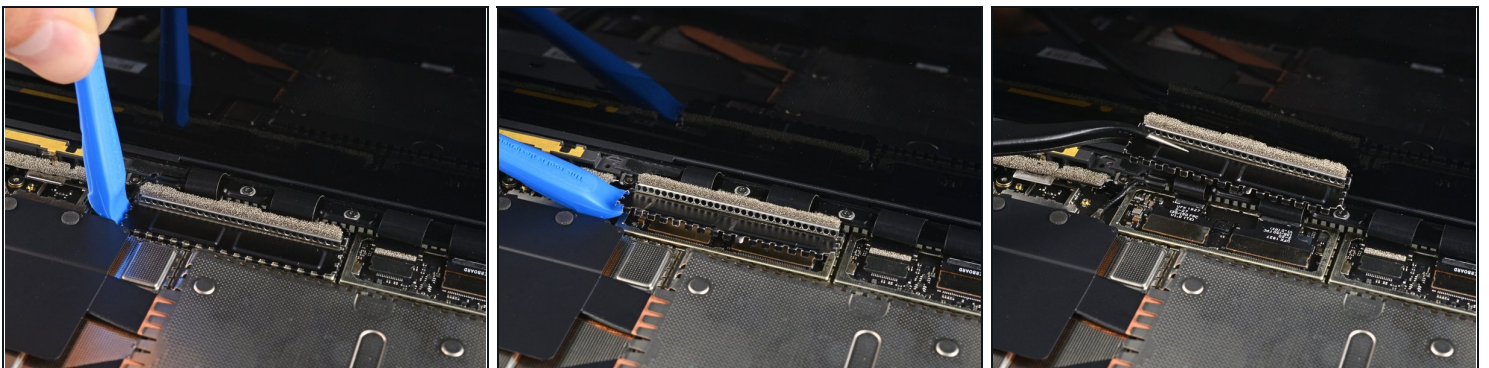
- ⓘ With the SSD screw removed, the SSD will pop up at a shallow angle.
- Grip the end of the SSD and pull it away from its board connector to remove it.
 - ☑ During reassembly, insert the SSD at a shallow angle into its board connector, and secure it back into its horizontal position with the SSD screw.

Step 15 — Remove the display connector shields



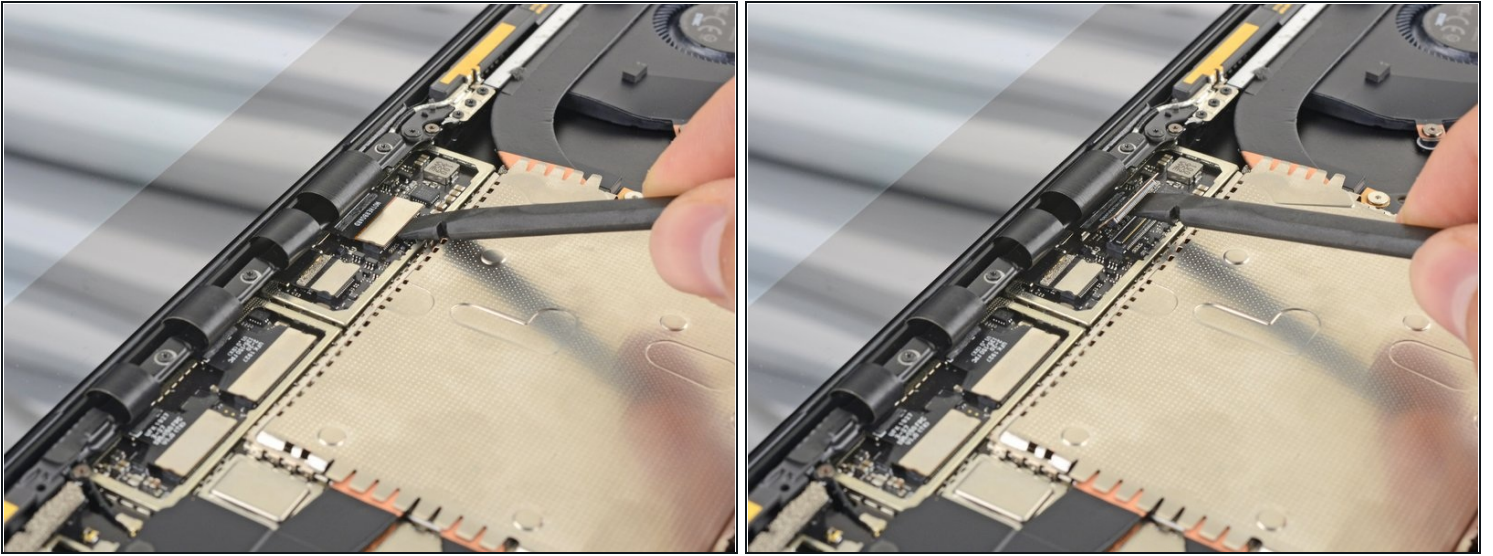
- Use an opening tool to pry up the black shield covering the right bank of display connectors.
 - ① Try not to deform the shield too much—you will need to reinstall it during reassembly.
- Repeat at different points around the shield until it becomes loose.
- Remove the shield.

Step 16



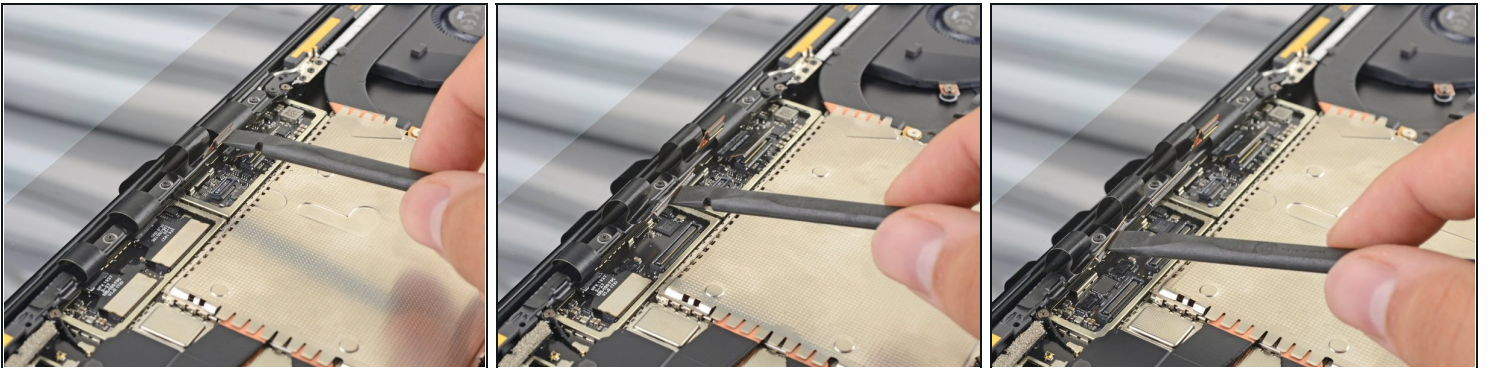
- Repeat the previous step to remove the remaining shield from the left bank of display connectors.

Step 17 — Disconnect the display cables



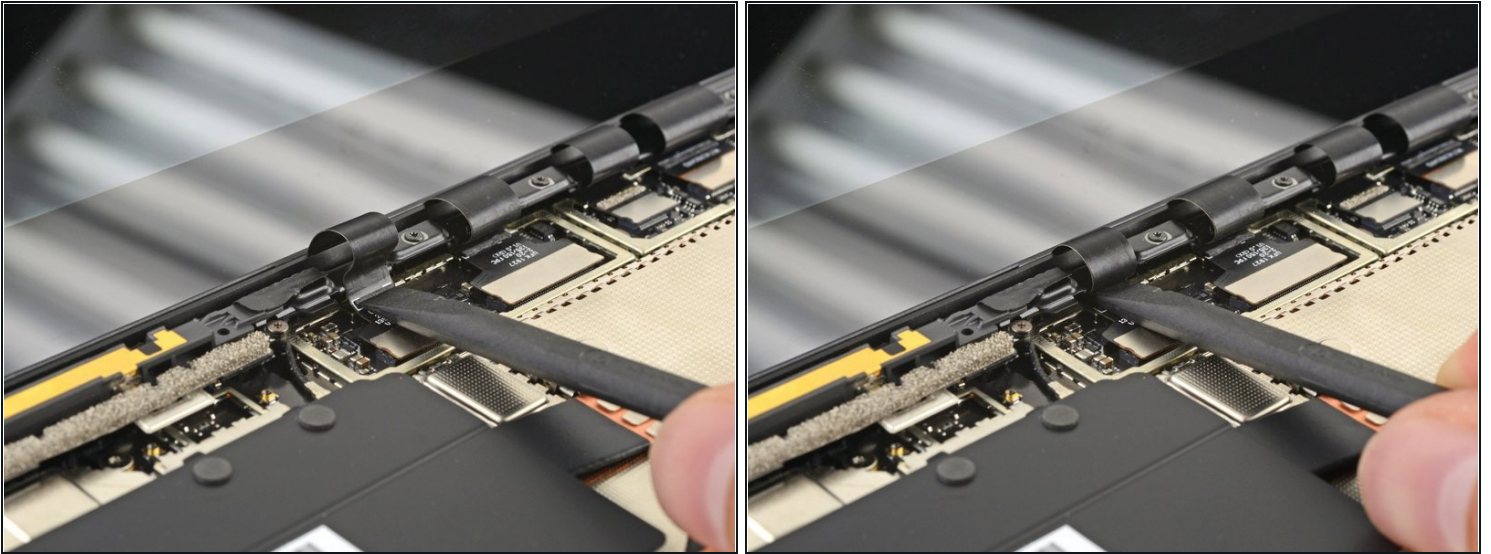
- Use the flat end of a spudger to pry the first display cable up and out of its socket on the motherboard to disconnect it.

Step 18



- Disconnect the three remaining display connectors.

Step 19 — Reassembly tip



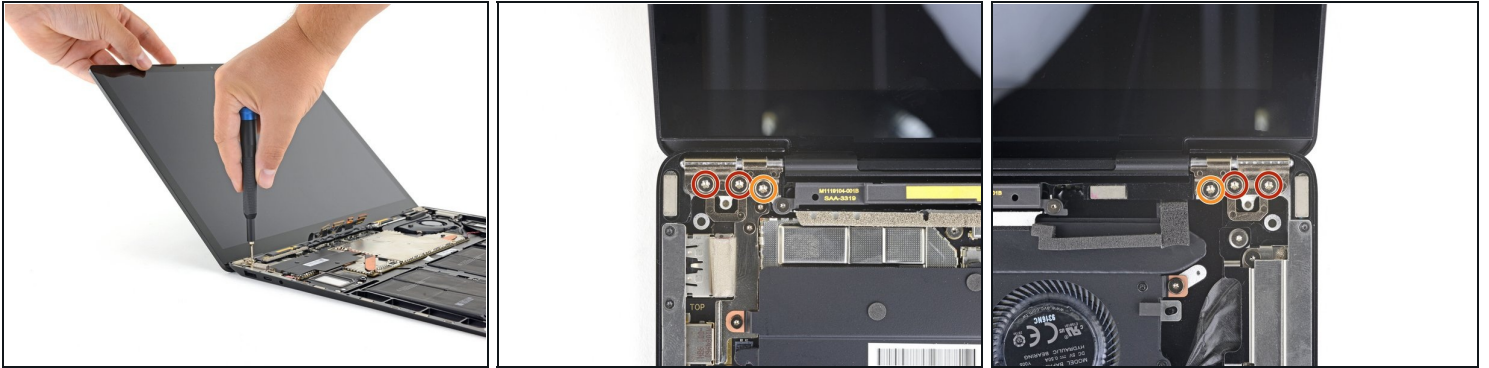
- ★ During reassembly, use the flat end of a spudger to gently push the display cables back into their cavity in the lower case.

Step 20 — Tilt open the screen



- Open the screen as far as it will go.

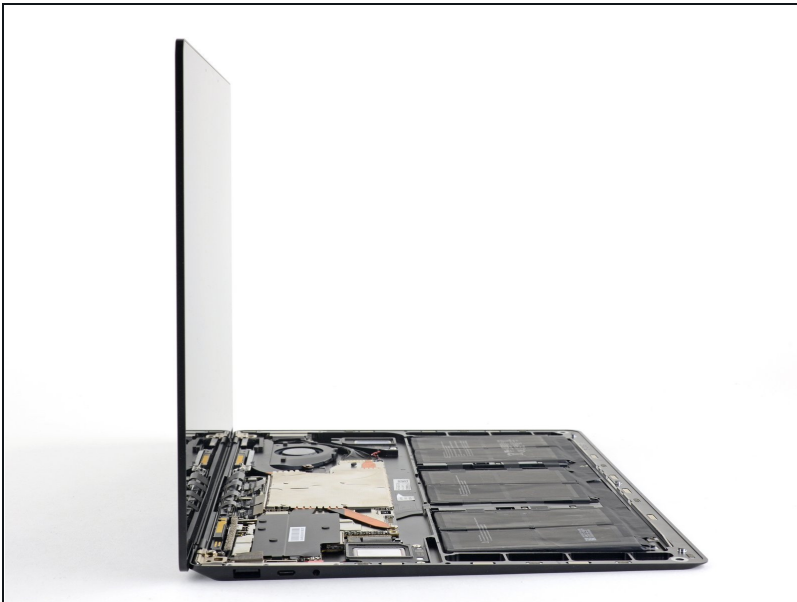
Step 21 — Remove four hinge screws



⚠ When removing the hinge screws, make sure to hold the screen steady as it will become more and more loose as the hinge screws are gradually removed.

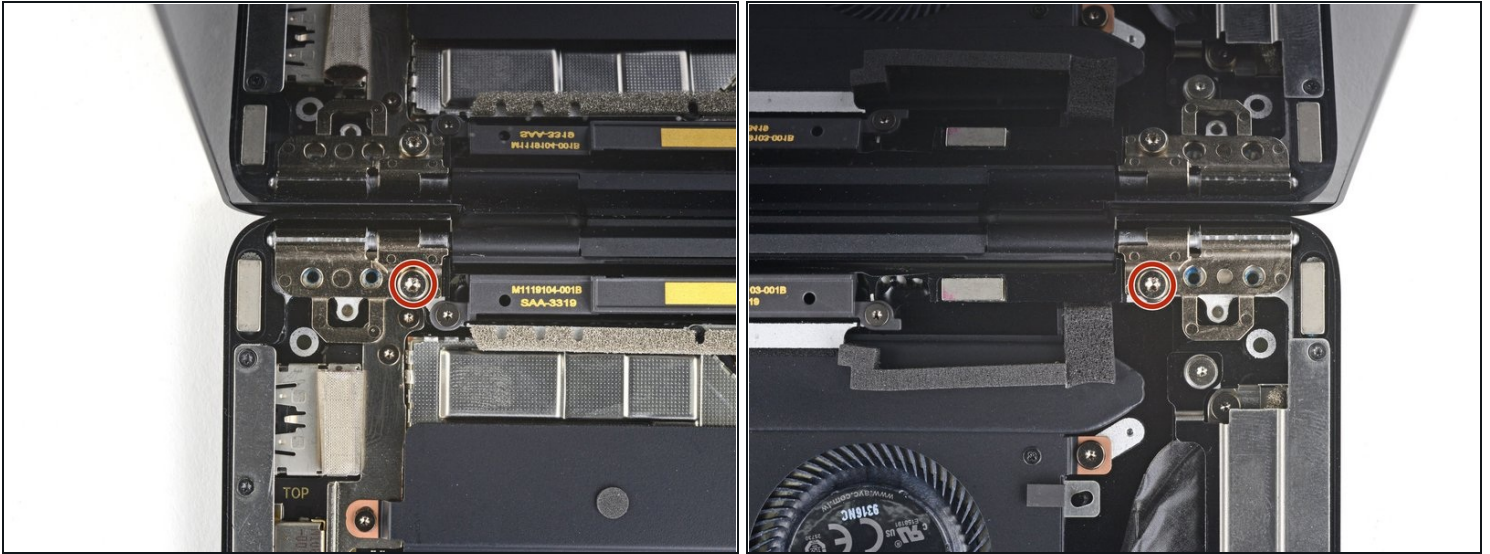
- While holding the screen steady, use a T6 Torx driver to remove the four outermost 5.9 mm screws securing the screen, two on each side.
- **Leave the two innermost hinge screws in place for now, one on each side.**

Step 22 — Tilt the screen vertical



- Slowly tilt the screen until it's approximately vertical.
- ☑ During reassembly, with the first two hinge screws tightened in place, the screen is free to tilt open for installation of the remaining four hinge screws.

Step 23 — Remove the final hinge screws



- While holding the screen steady, use a T6 Torx driver to remove the two remaining 5.9 mm screws securing the screen, one on each side.
 - ① With these two final screws removed the screen will be freed from the rest of the device, so hold it steady.
 - ① If the screen is exactly perpendicular to the lower case, a screwdriver handle may contact the display during removal. If you're having trouble, lightly tilt the screen back enough to clear the driver.

Step 24 — Remove the screen



- Lift the screen straight up and off of the lower case to remove it.
 - ☑ During reassembly, ensure the replacement screen's hinges are at a 90 degree angle with the display.

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 the above steps 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 search our [Answers community](#) for help.