



HP Z2 Mini G3 Motherboard Replacement

How to safely replace the motherboard in the HP Z2 Mini G3 (Model No. 1LE81UP#ABA).

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INTRODUCTION

The motherboard connects and powers HP Z2 Mini G3 (Model No. 1LE81UP#ABA) hardware components. Communications between the CPU processor and other hardware components is possible because of the motherboard acting as a printed circuit. If you need to replace your motherboard, follow this guide.

Be sure that the power is off and the A/C power cord has been disconnected before starting. Removing hardware while the power is on could damage the device.

Components of the device are subject to static damage. Work on a hard, grounded surface to prevent damage to the workstation.

TOOLS:

- [T15 Security Torx Screwdriver](#) (1)

Step 1 — Access Panel



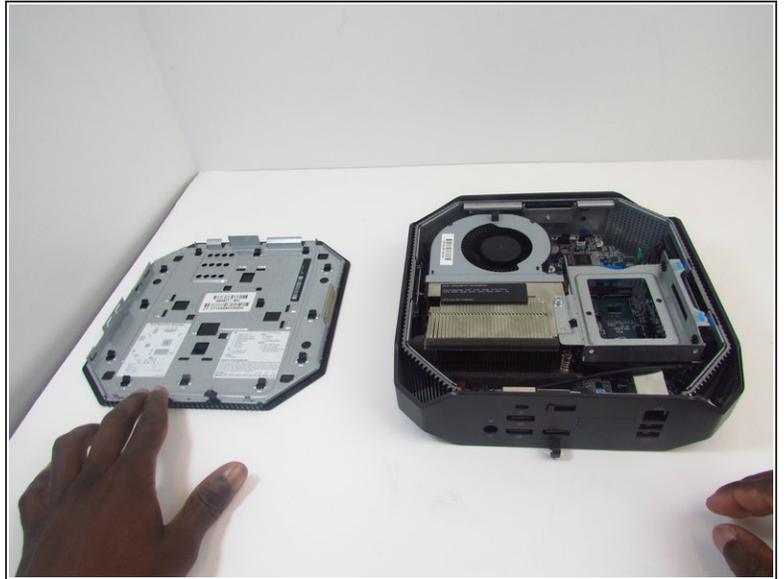
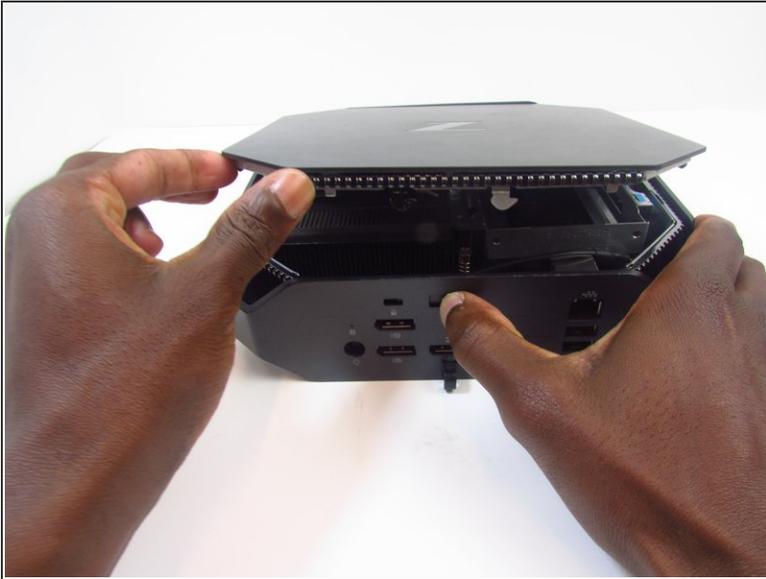
- Turn the device so the back-side of the device is facing you.
- ⚠ Be sure that the power is off and the A/C power cord has been disconnected before starting. Removing hardware while the power is on could damage the device or harm yourself.
- ⚠ Components of the device are subject to static damage. Work on a hard, grounded surface to prevent damage to the workstation.

Step 2



- Slide and hold the latch in the direction of the engraved arrow (to the right).

Step 3



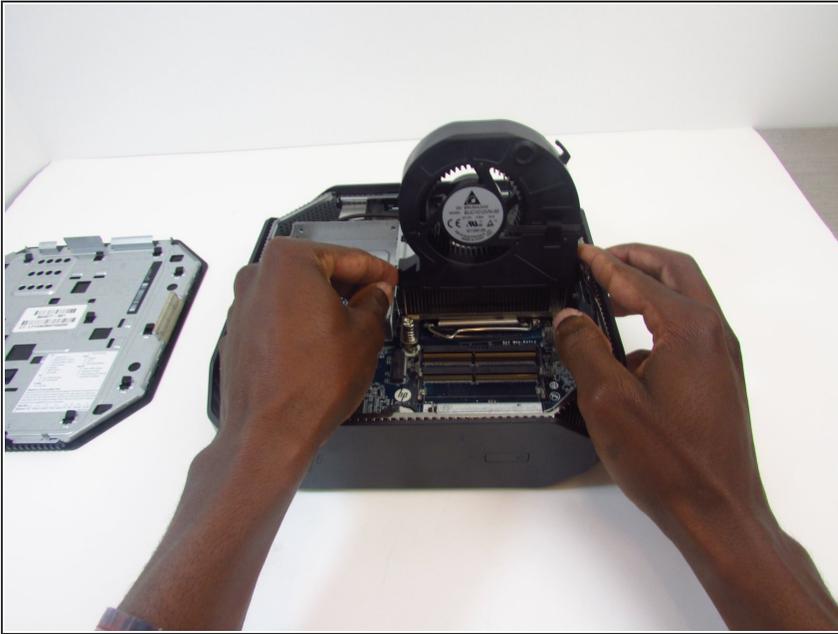
- While holding the latch, lift the access panel upwards and towards yourself and set it aside upside-down.

Step 4 — CPU Fan



- Rotate the device so the front side is facing you (the side with the power button) and locate the CPU fan.

Step 5



- Swing the fan upward, to a 90-degree angle.

Step 6



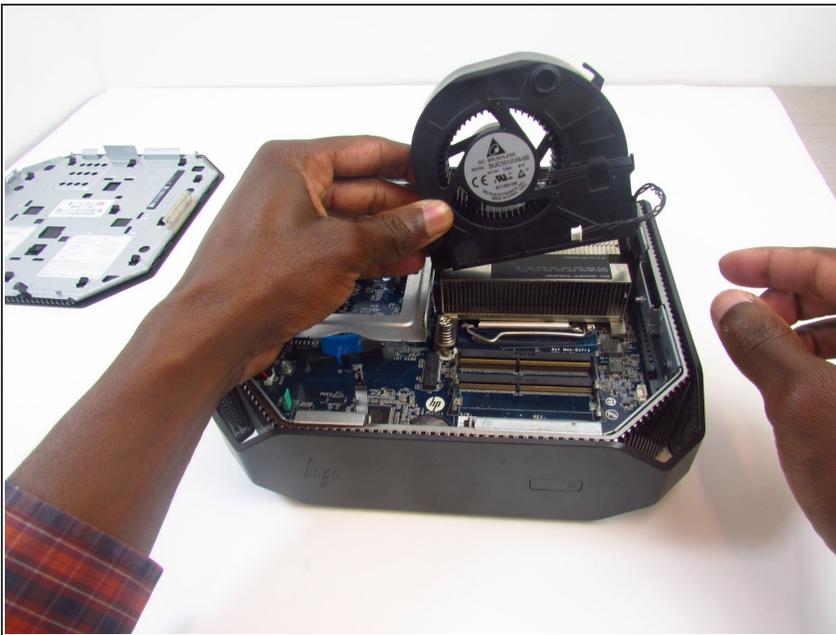
- Carefully disconnect the CPU fan by pulling out the wires from the motherboard.

Step 7



- Swing the fan back down and carefully unhook the CPU fan notches by pulling each tab away from the heat sink holes.

Step 8



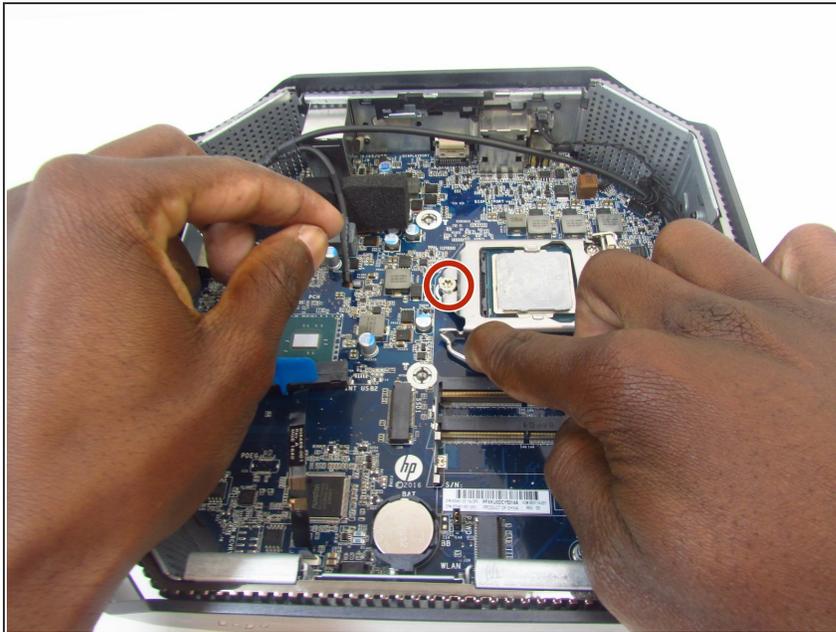
- Swing the fan up again and pull it out.

Step 9 — CPU Processor



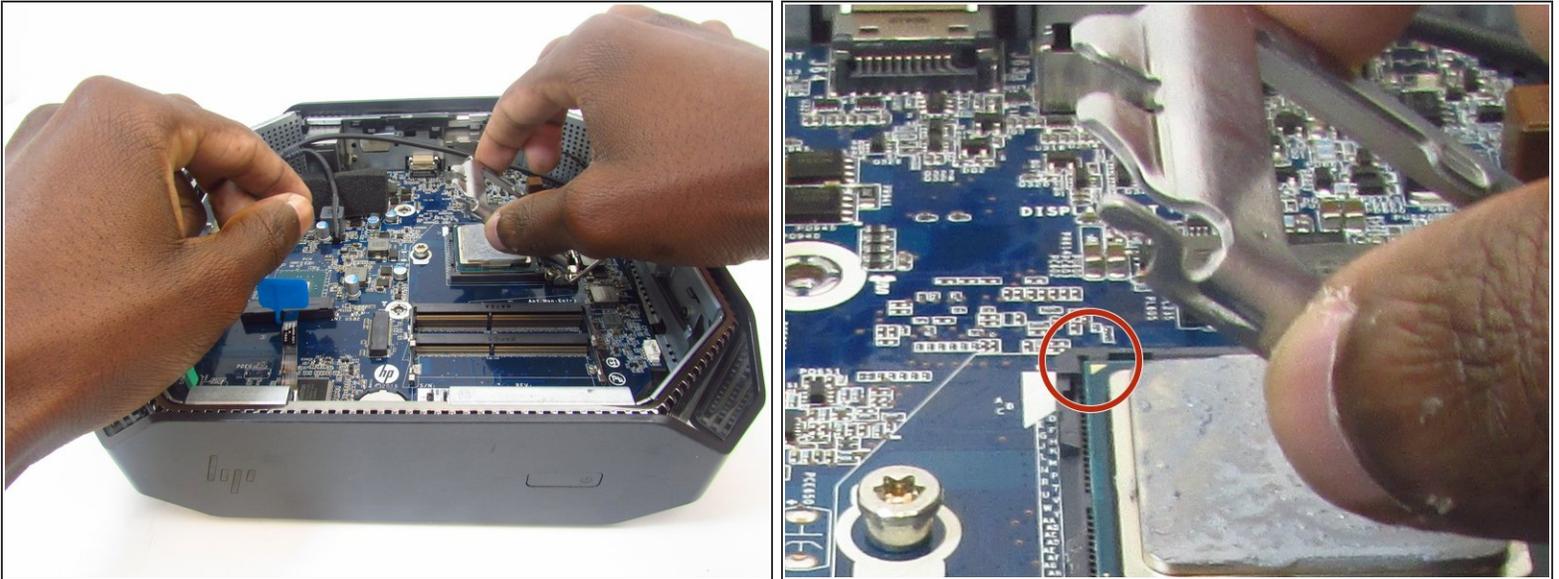
- Remove the 9mm Torx screw with a T15 Torx screwdriver to release the SSD assembly.
- Lift the assembly upwards to remove it.

Step 10



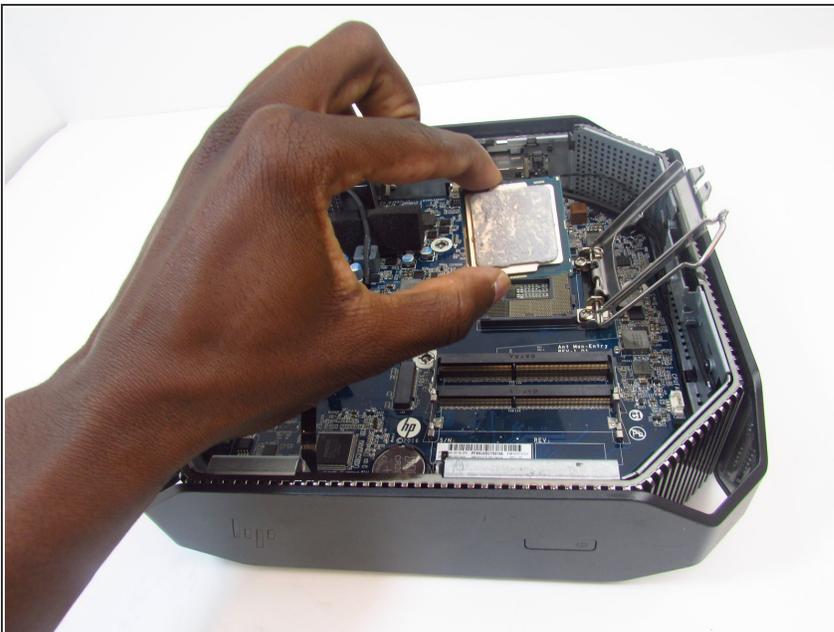
- Pull the metal arm out from under the frame and lift it up. The frame should slide back from under the screw.

Step 11



- Lift the frame upward to gain access to the processor
- ☒ Take note of a triangular mark on one of the corners of the processor and bracket it is mounted on. The triangles must be aligned together during reassembly.

Step 12



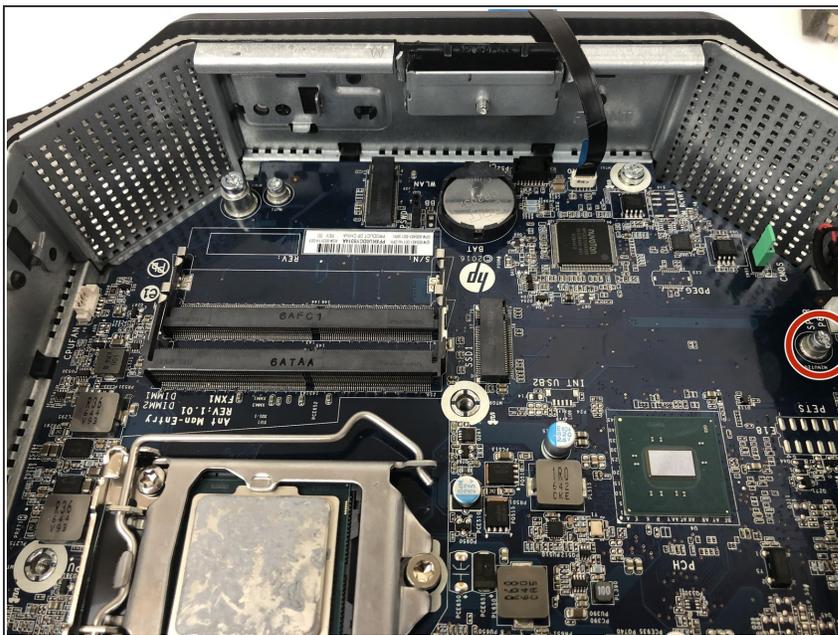
- Grip the processor on each side, carefully lifting it up.
- ⚠ Do not touch the underside of the processor. Doing so may damage the processor and prevent a connection to the motherboard.
- ☒ Be careful inserting the new processor. The connectors on the new one and the motherboard are fragile and damage easily.

Step 13 — Motherboard



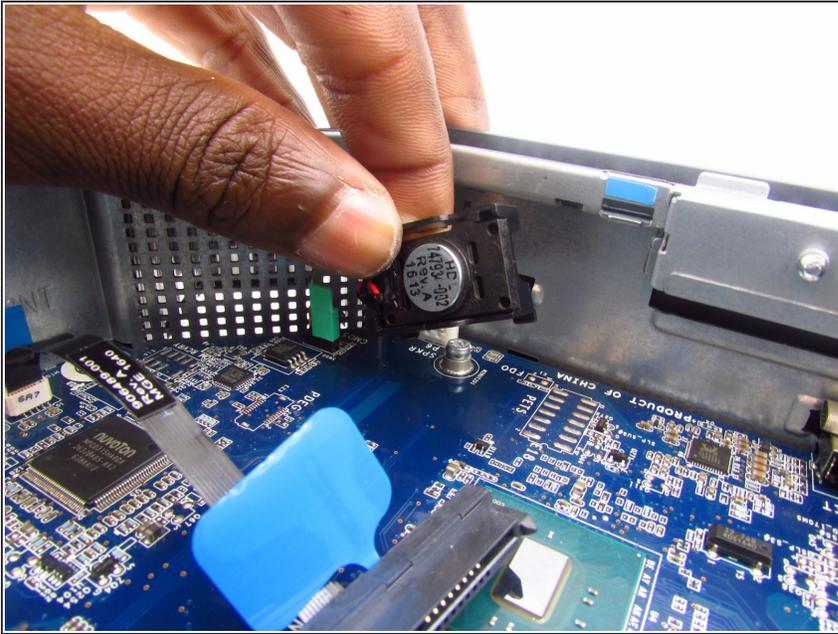
- Remove the thermal sensor cable from the motherboard.
- Grab and lift the cable from the chassis to finish removing the thermal sensor.

Step 14



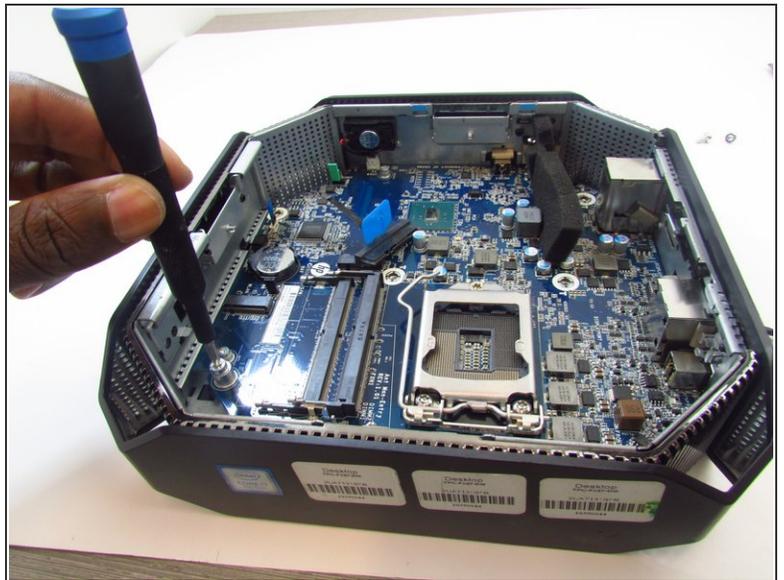
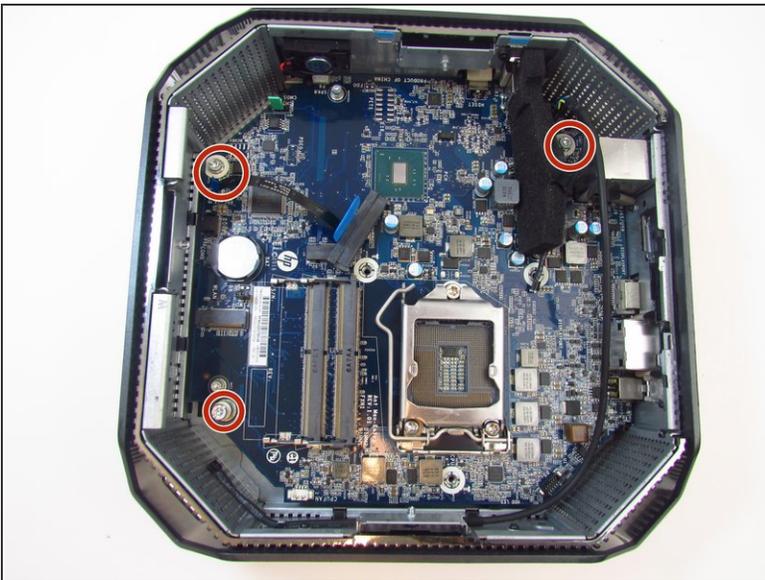
- ⓘ Some models may have a wireless LAN module installed under the GPU fan.
- In this case, use a T15 Torx screwdriver to remove the 9mm Torx screw from the module and take the component out.

Step 15



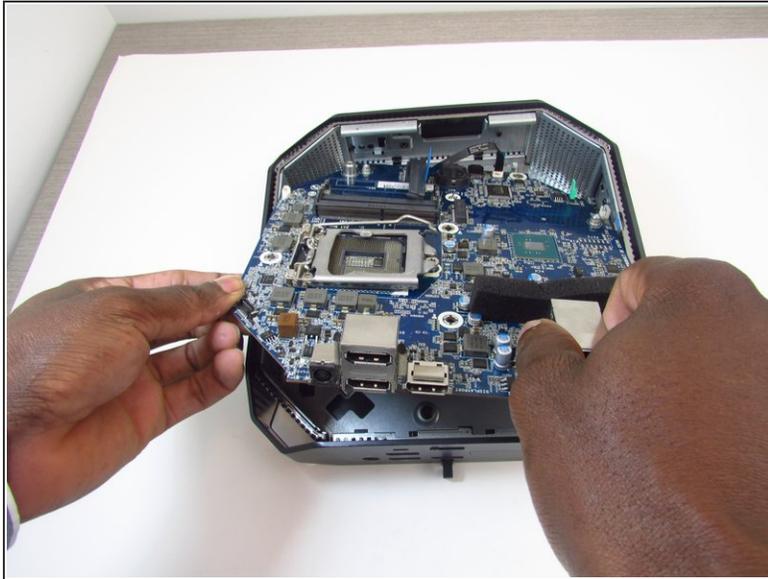
- Unplug, then carefully detach the system speaker from the chassis by gripping the frame and pulling back.
- ⓘ You do not need to remove the speaker from its frame.

Step 16



- Use a T15 Torx screw driver to remove the 9mm and the two 16mm Torx head screws that secure the motherboard to the chassis.

Step 17



- Slide the motherboard forward and to the left to clear it from chassis.
- Carefully pull and lift the motherboard out by holding on to the ports.

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