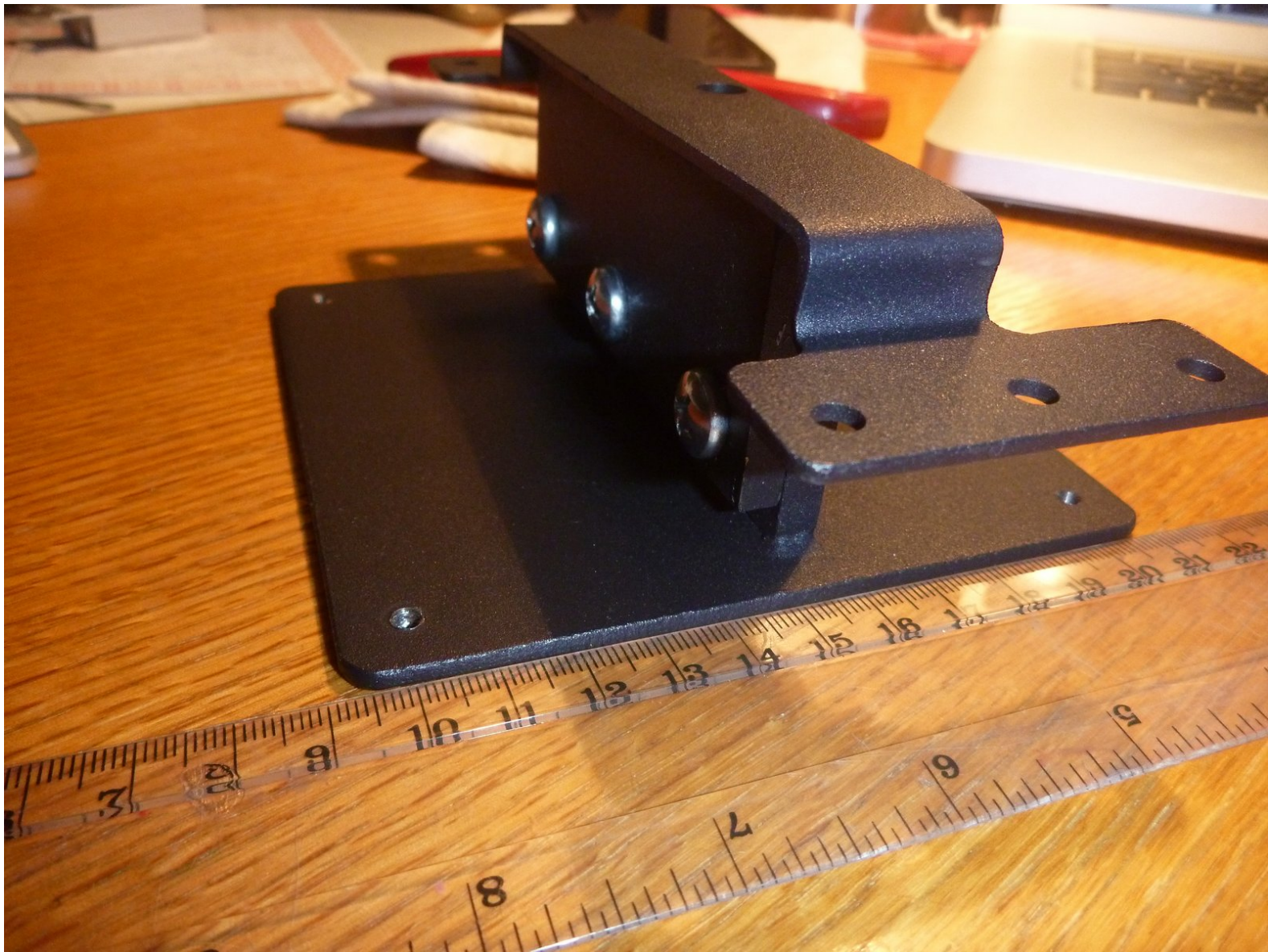# iMac Intel 27'' EMC 2639 Stand Replacement

Replace the late 2012 & 2013 27in iMac stand with a VESA mount.

Written By: tff

INTRODUCTION

The late 2012 and 2013 27" iMacs had to be ordered with a VESA mount because they did not have the removable stand. However, there is a third party VESA adaptor available, which I successfully installed. I took a few pictures as I did it.

If you have the tools to get to the point where you can see the stand (through the iFixit guide mentioned), then you'll have the tools necessary to remove the stand. There are two possible exceptions. I found a flexible shaft 'screwdriver' (really a torx-driver) very handy (see step 2). Also, I used a metal file to modify the VESA mount adaptor mentioned in the parts list (see step 6).

Yes, I'm guessing this will probably void your warranty. Here's my personal take on Apple products and warranties: if it works when I get it, it's unlikely to have a warranty issue within the warranty time-frame. This comes from experience with between a dozen and 2 dozen Apple products - so, many, but not hundreds.

I'm sorry, I don't have any experience with 21in iMacs, so I don't know if this will work with them or not.

TOOLS:

- Plastic Cards (1)
- Spudger (1)
- TR10 Torx Security Screwdriver (1)
- iFixit 1/4" Screwdriver Bits (1)
- T5 Torx Screwdriver (1)
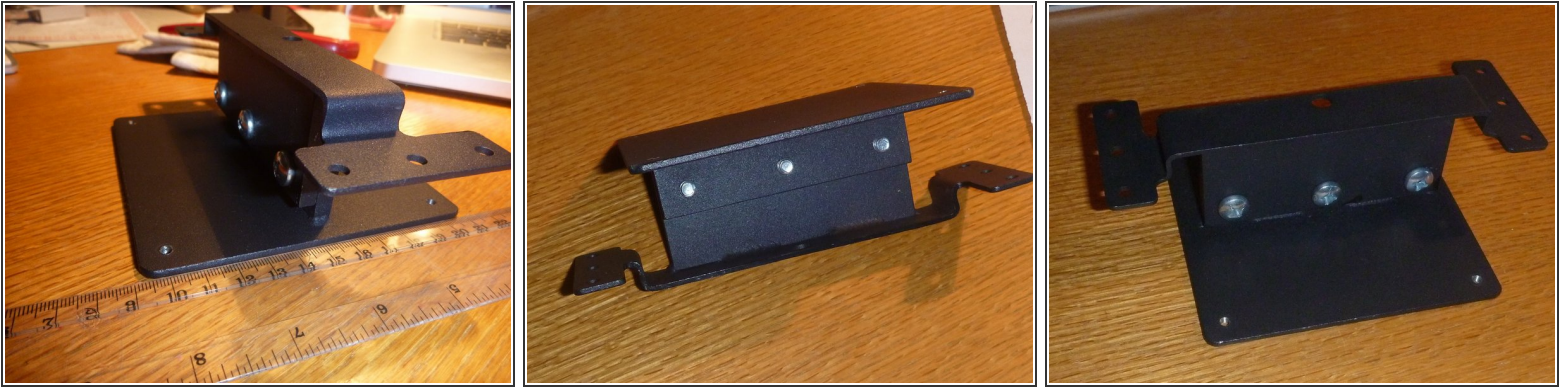- 1 x iMac Service Wedge (1)
- TR8 Torx Security Screwdriver (1)

PARTS:

- VESA mount adaptor (1)
- iMac Intel 27" (2012-2019) Adhesive Strips (1)

This document was generated on 2021-09-26 08:22:31 PM (MST).
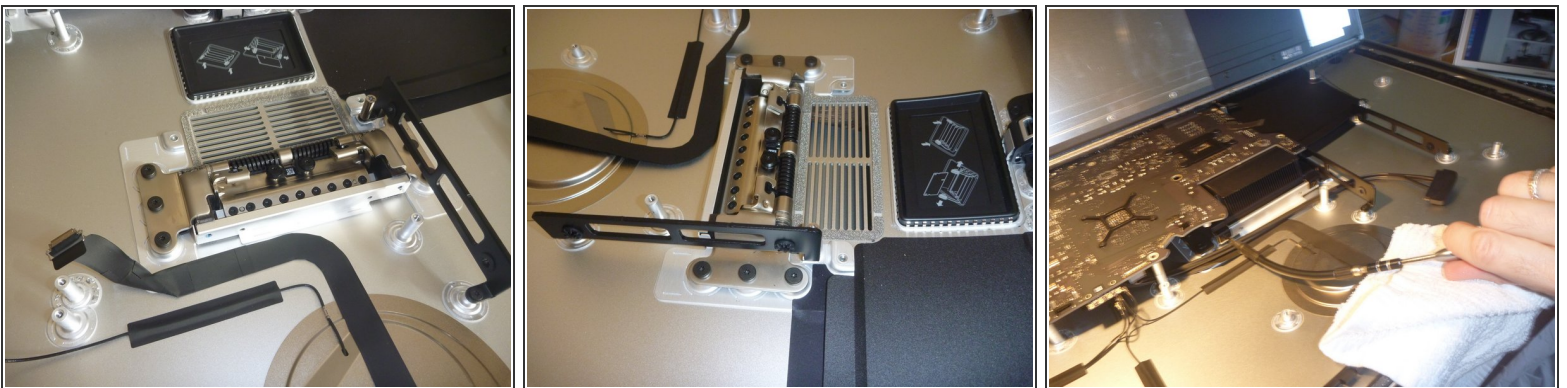
Step 1 — Getting the VESA mount adaptor
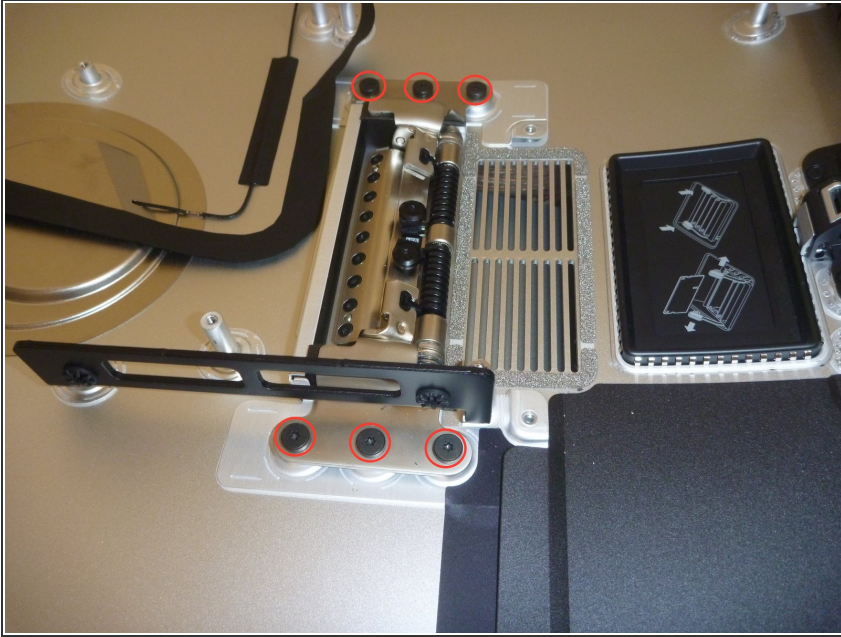

- iversalproducts makes an adaptor for the 27in iMacs that did not have removable stands.

- In December of 2014, this was available on ebay at this link: http://www.ebay.com/itm/iMac-VESA-Mount-...

- He also has pictures on ebay, but I included a few here as well.

Step 2 — Remove display and internal components including the logic board

- This is obviously the hardest part of this guide. Fortunately for you and me, iFixit has already produced one of their professional guides to get you to this point.

- Please see: iFixit's guide for removing all the internal components including the logic board

- For the final step to remove the logic board, I found a flexible shaft (pic 3 - sorry it's blurry, shooting left handed) almost a necessity, as I couldn't get a straight shaft screwdriver in position and develop enough torque to loosen the screws.
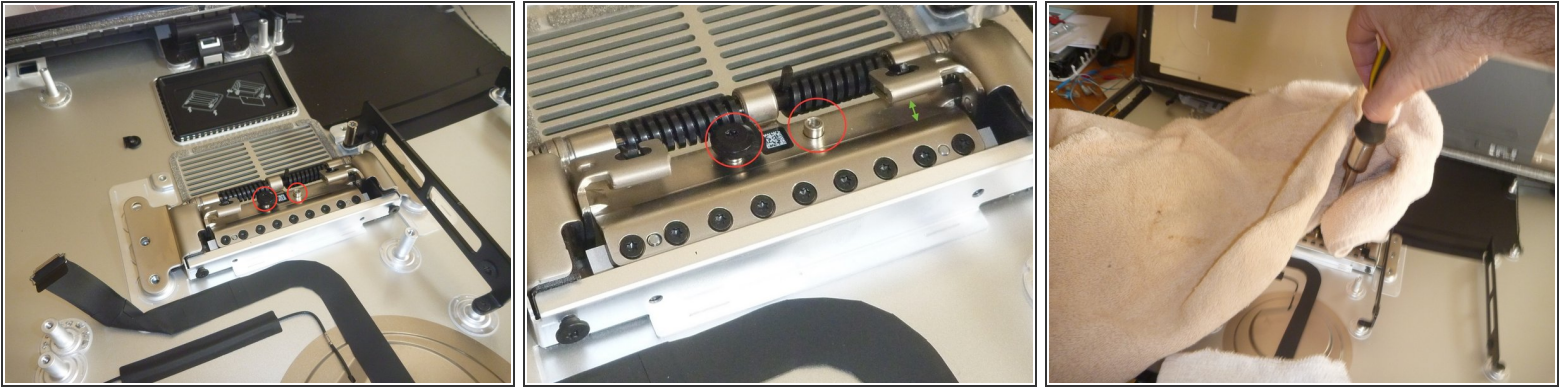
Step 3 — Removing the screws that secure the stand to the iMac body

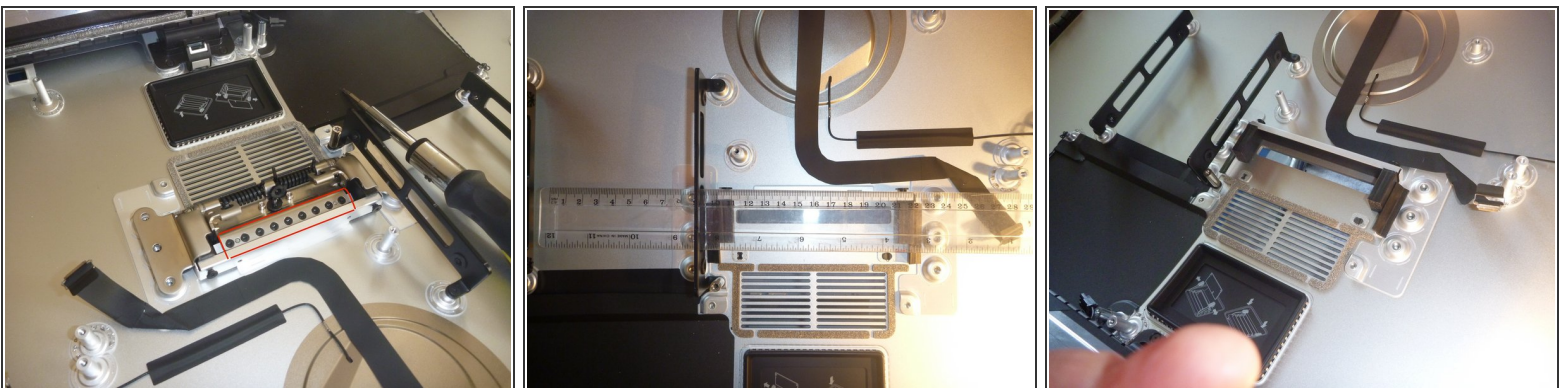● Remove the six screws holding the stand to the iMac back.

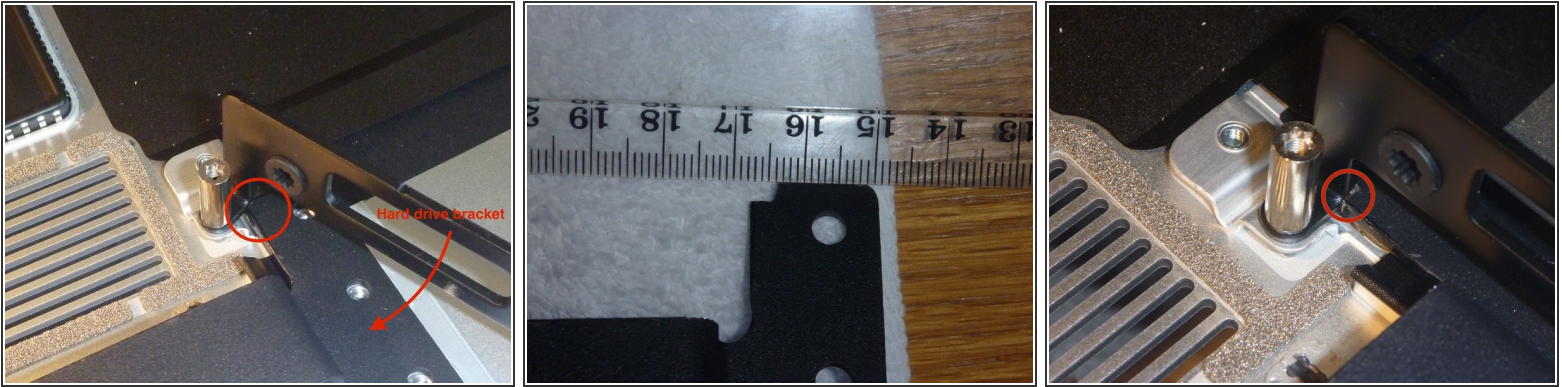## Step 4 — Release spring tension in the stand if necessary

- The screws circled in red maintain the pressure on the coil springs in the stand. If you can maneuver the iMac relative to the stand such that the gap highlighted by the green arrow (pic2) closes all the way, then pressure from the coil springs will be removed from the external part of the stand.

- I couldn't do that, so I removed these screws to release the pressure between the internal and external part of the stand.

- NOTE: once the screw is released, the coil spring will **launch** the plastic piece and screw that hold the spring! (It took me quite a while to find the first one.) I highly recommend covering the screw with something (pic3) as you remove the screw.

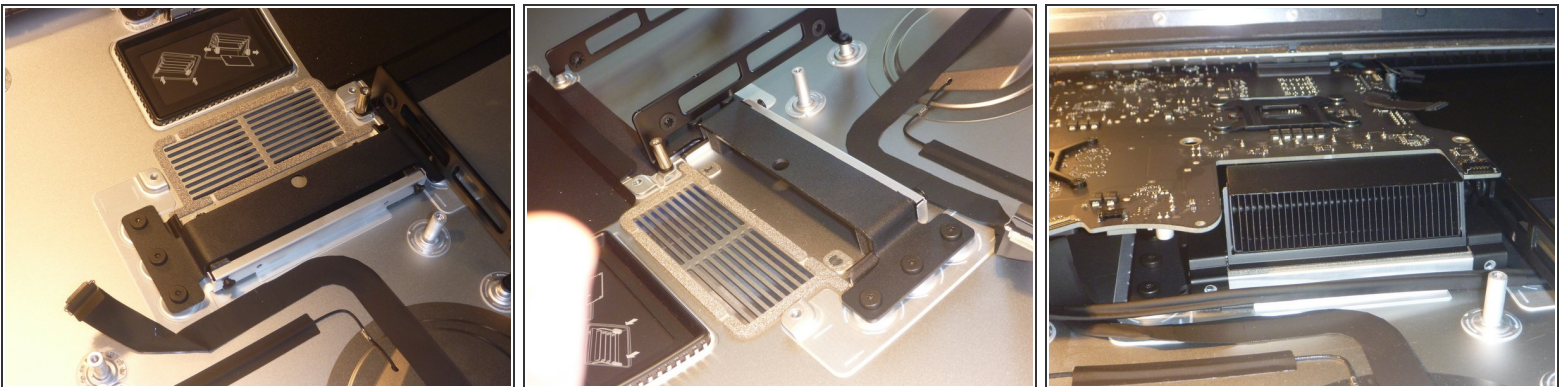## Step 5 — Detach the external part of the stand from the internal part

- With pressure released, remove the 9 screws holding the external part of the stand to the internal part.

- I just took a couple of pictures with no stand attached, in case they help someone.

This document was generated on 2021-09-26 08:22:31 PM (MST).

Step 6 — Modifying the adaptor to fit correctly

- I noticed that the new adaptor doesn't quite fit in my version of the 27in iMac (late 2013 version). With the hard drive bracket in the position where it should be (indicated by arrow), the new adaptor bumps into the bracket (in area circled).

- So I made a small modification to the new adaptor with a metal file.

- Picture with modified adaptor (VESA mount) in place (the red circle around the modification).

Step 7 — Modified VESA mount adaptor in place

- Two pics from various angles of the new mount in place. One pic after the logic board has been reinstalled.

This document was generated on 2021-09-26 08:22:31 PM (MST).

Step 8 — For comparison - stands from iMac 27in late 2013 vs. 27in Thunderbolt Display

- Pic 1 - comparison of Thunderbolt stand (which is meant to be user-replaceable) and the iMac stand (which is not).

- Pic 2 - picture with all the components back in place, and new SSD drive. ;-)

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

This document was generated on 2021-09-26 08:22:31 PM (MST).