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MacBook Air 13" Mid 2011 Fan Replacement

Use this guide to replace a dead or noisy fan.

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INTRODUCTION

Use this guide to replace a dead or noisy fan.

TOOLS:

- P5 Pentalobe Screwdriver Retina MacBook Pro and Air (1)
- Spudger (1)
- T5 Torx Screwdriver (1)

PARTS:

- MacBook Air 13" (Late 2010 to 2017) Fan (1)

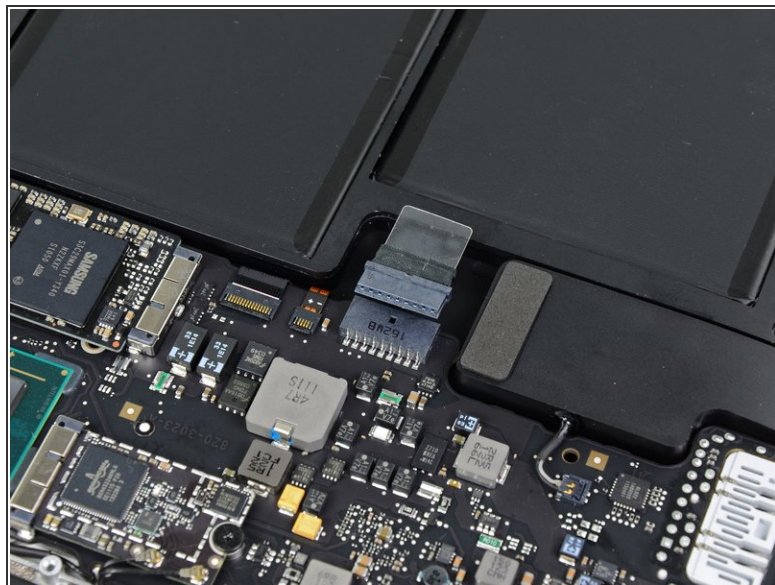This document was generated on 2022-12-26 02:48:29 AM (MST).

Step 1 — Lower Case

- ⓘ Before proceeding, power down your MacBook. Close the display and lay it on a soft surface, top-side down.

- Use a [P5 Pentalobe](#) driver to remove ten screws securing the lower case, of the following lengths:
  - Two 9 mm screws
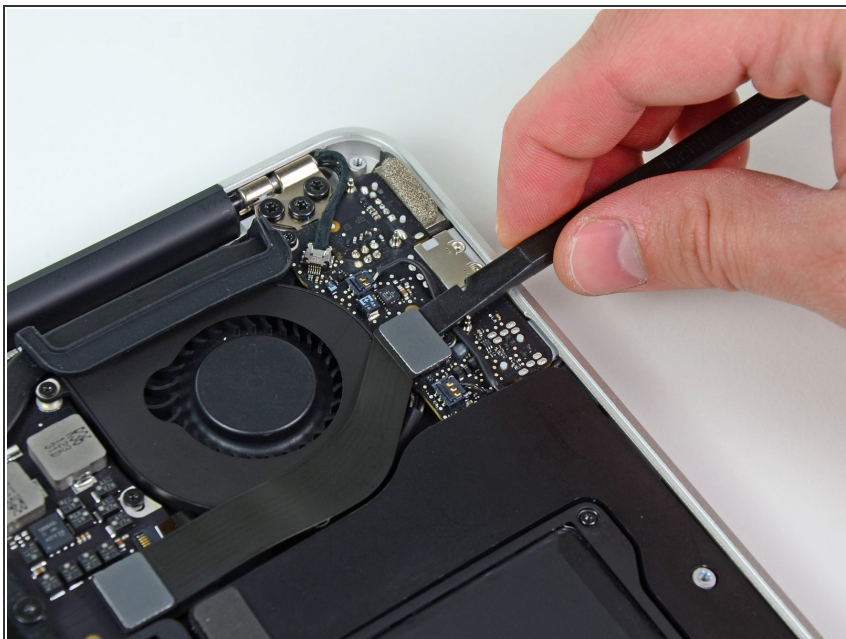 - Eight 2.6 mm screws

Step 2

- Wedge your fingers between the display and the lower case and pull upward to pop the lower case off the Air.

- Remove the lower case and set it aside.
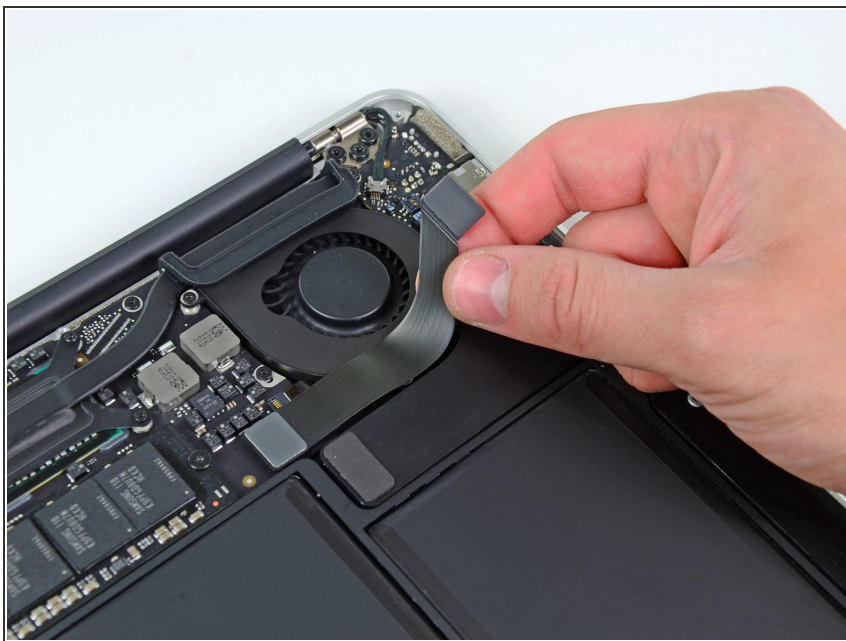
Step 3 — Battery Connector

ⓘ As a precaution against accidental discharge or shock, disconnect the battery connector from the logic board.

● Grab the clear plastic pull tab attached to the battery connector and pull it toward the front edge of the Air to disconnect the battery from the logic board.

⚠ Be sure to pull the connector horizontally toward the battery, and not straight up from the Air, or you may damage the socket on the logic board.

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Step 4 — I/O Board Cable

- Use the flat end of a spudger to pry the I/O board cable connector upward out of its socket on the I/O board.

Step 5

- Carefully peel the I/O board cable from the top of the fan.
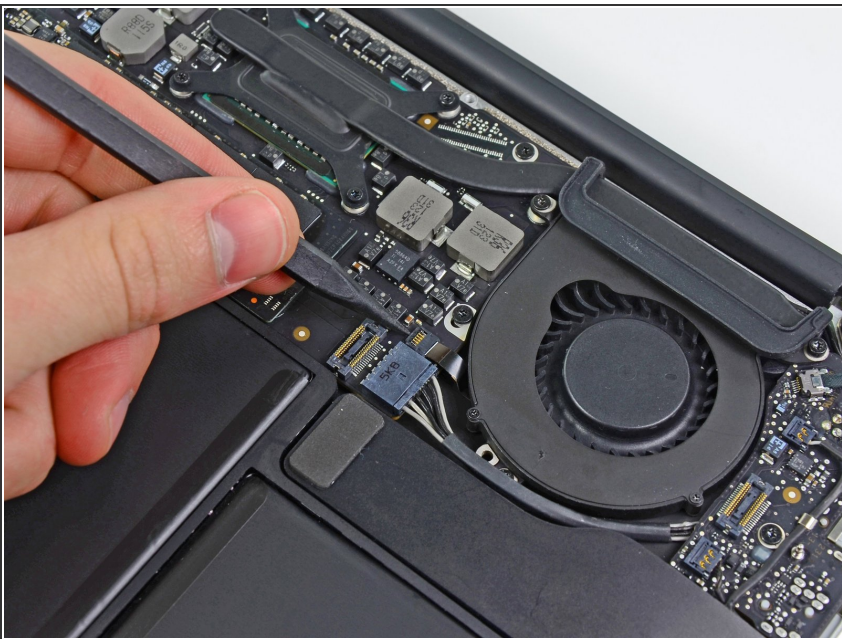
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Step 6

⚠ The following connector has an especially deep socket. Use care when disconnecting it.

- While gently pulling the I/O board cable upward near its connection to the logic board, use the tip of a spudger to pry upward on alternating sides of the connector to help "walk" it out of its socket.

- Remove the I/O board cable.

Step 7 — Fan

- Use the tip of a spudger to carefully flip up the retaining flap on the fan cable ZIF socket.
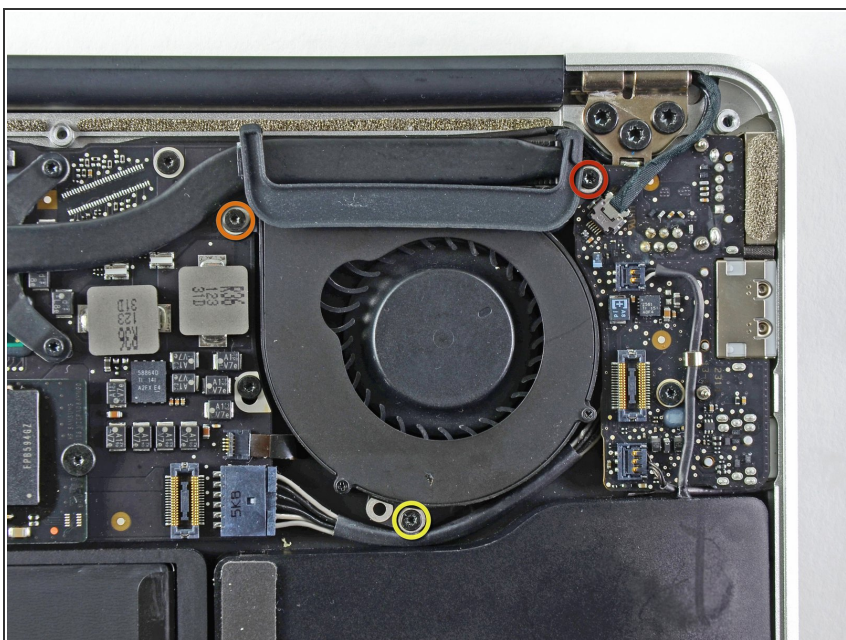
⚠ Be sure you are prying up on the hinged retaining flap, **not** the socket itself.

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Step 8

● Peel the rubber gasket off the adhesive on the top of the fan.

Step 9

● Remove the following three screws securing the fan to the upper case:

  ● One 3.6 mm T5 Torx screw

  ● One 2.7 mm T5 Torx screw

  ● One 3.6 mm T5 Torx screw with a short head

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Step 10

- Lift the fan out of the upper case and carefully pull the fan ribbon cable out of its socket as you remove it from the Air.