Mac Pro 2009-2012 CPU Replacement

Written By: Branning Goody
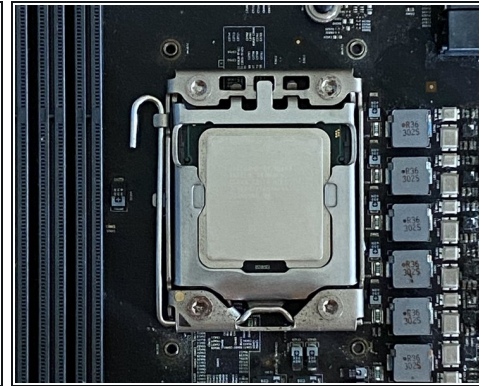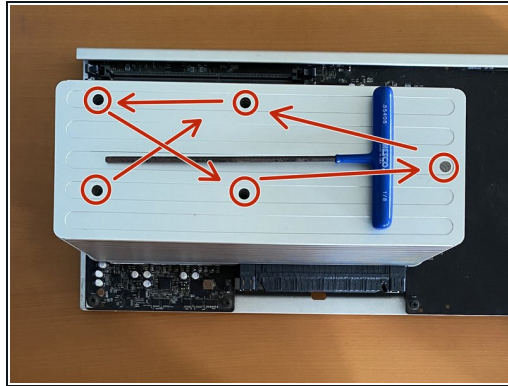
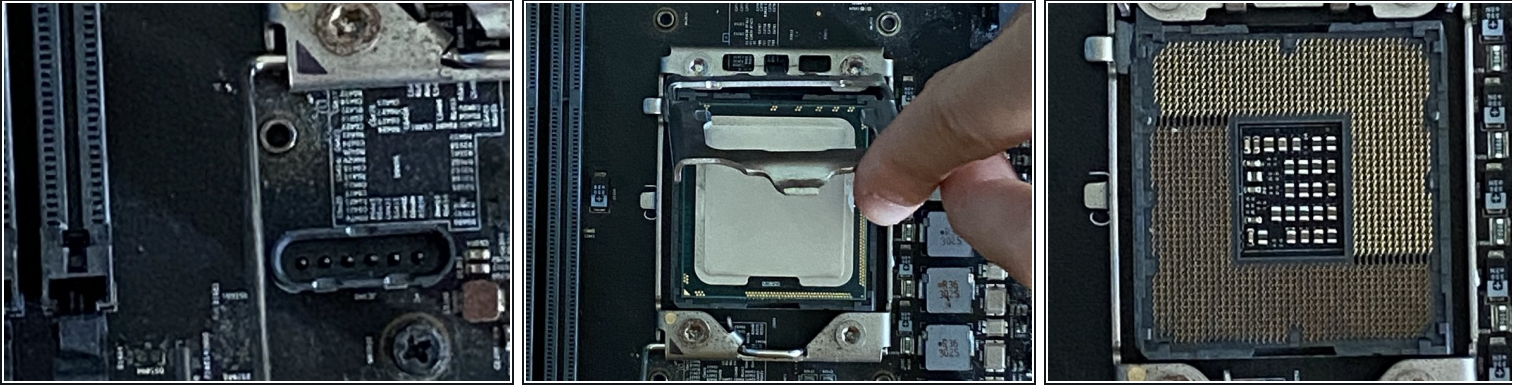| 🔧 **TOOLS:**	⚙️ **PARTS:**
3mm Hex Wrench (1)	GC-Extreme thermal paste (1)

Step 1 — Pull out CPU tray

- Find the 2 pull tabs and use them to pull out the CPU tray and place them on the table.

⚠️ Use a hex wrench to unscrew the spring-loaded screw using the star pattern on the CPU Heatsink for even force of the CPU die. This is a specially needed when putting the Heatsink back on.

📌 Turn the hex wrench once each time until it's loose when Using the star pattern (Diagram shown).

ⓘ On 2009 (4,1) Mac Pros, The CPU comes up with the Heatsink and is **not** socketed. Like the 2010-2012 (5,1) Mac Pros.

- Pull Straight up as there is a vital connection built into the heatsink.

- On the bottom of the heatsink will be a copper pad that comes in contact with the CPU. Use a paper towel to wipe off all the remaining thermal paste, isopropyl Alcohol is handy for this.

ⓘ Isopropyl alcohol is handy for getting the best for cleaning the Copper Heatsink&CPU for new thermal paste.

Step 2 — CPU replacement

- Clean all of the thermal paste on the CPU and lift the metal bar up and pull the bracket back.

- Gently pull out the old CPU with thumb and pointer finger and then place it towards the side.

⚠ Don't touch the exposed connectors on the CPU to the CPU tray.

Step 3 — New CPU

- Inspect the cpu socket and other connectors for dust and debris and blow away if necessary.

- Place the new cpu in with a touch of thermal paste at the top.

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