



MacBook Pro 13" Retina Display Early 2013 SSD Replacement

Use this guide to upgrade or replace the...

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INTRODUCTION

Use this guide to upgrade or replace the solid-state drive in a MacBook Pro 13" Early 2013. This MacBook Pro uses a [proprietary storage drive connector](#), and is therefore **not compatible** with common M.2 drives without the use of an adapter.

Before you perform this repair, if at all possible, [back up your existing SSD](#). Then, either familiarize yourself with [internet recovery](#) or [create a bootable external drive](#) so you'll be ready to install macOS onto your new drive and migrate your data to the new SSD.

Finally, we strongly recommend installing macOS 10.13 High Sierra (or a later macOS) before replacing the original SSD from your MacBook Pro. Most new SSDs require updated storage drivers not found in versions of macOS prior to High Sierra.



TOOLS:

[MacBook Pro and Air 5-Point Pentalobe Screwdriver](#) (1)
[iFixit Opening Tool](#) (1)
[Spudger](#) (1)
[T5 Torx Screwdriver](#) (1)
[T6 Torx Screwdriver](#) (1)
[Tweezers](#) (1)



PARTS:

[OWC Aura Pro 6G SSD](#) (1)

Step 1 — Lower Case



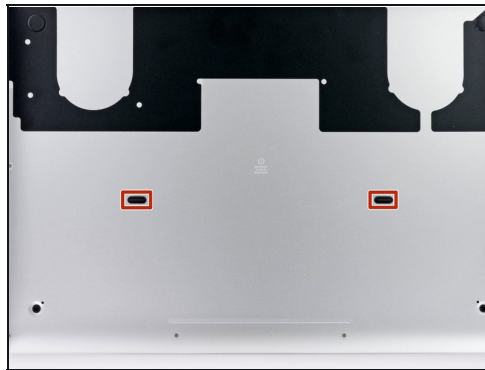
- Remove the following ten screws securing the lower case to the upper case:
 - Two 2.3 mm P5 Pentalobe screws
 - Eight 3.0 mm P5 Pentalobe screws
- ☑ Throughout this repair, [keep track of each screw](#) and make sure it goes back exactly where it came from to avoid damaging your device.

Step 2



- Wedge your fingers between the upper case and the lower case.
- Gently pull the lower case away from the upper case.
- Remove the lower case and set it aside.

Step 3



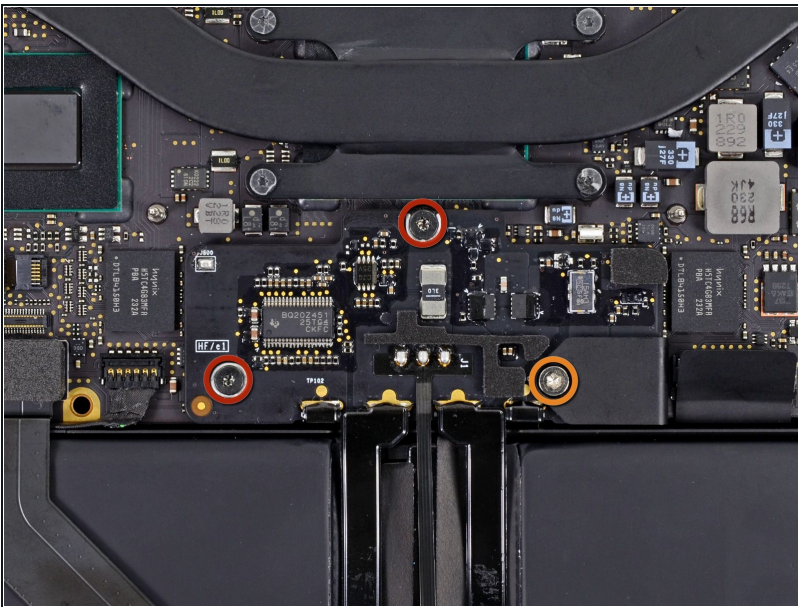
- ★ During reassembly, gently push down the center of the lower case to reattach the two plastic clips.
- The lower case is connected to the upper case at the center, with two plastic clips.

Step 4 — Battery Connector



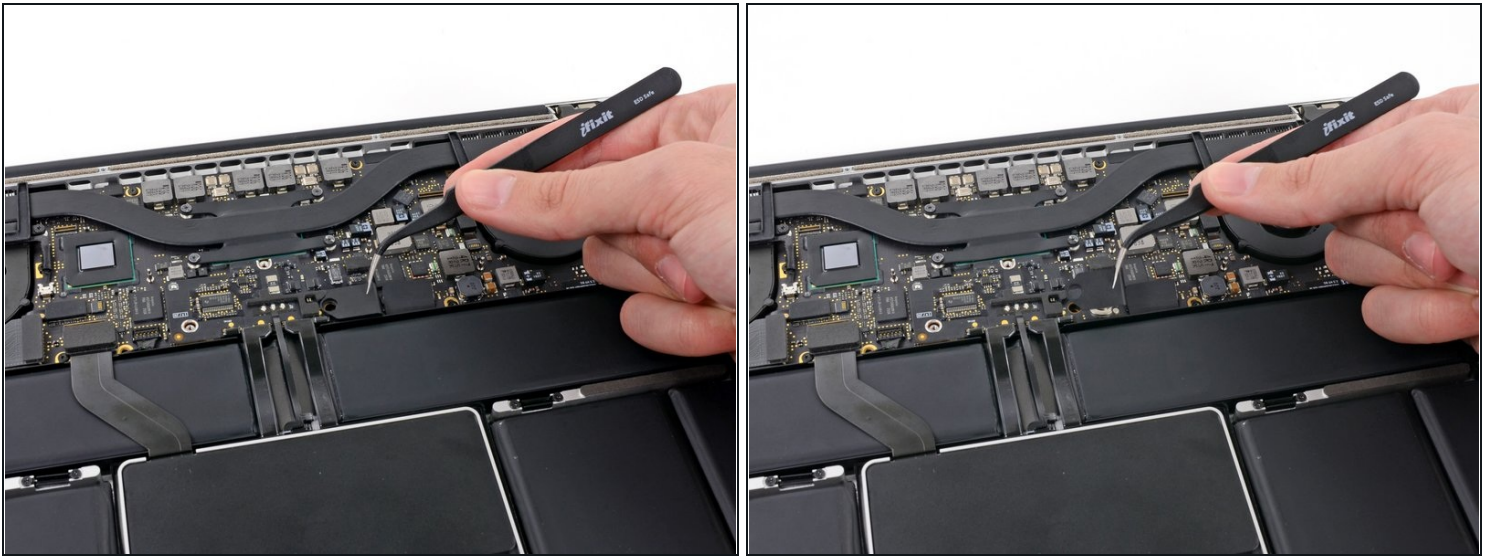
- Remove the plastic cover adhered to the battery contact board.

Step 5



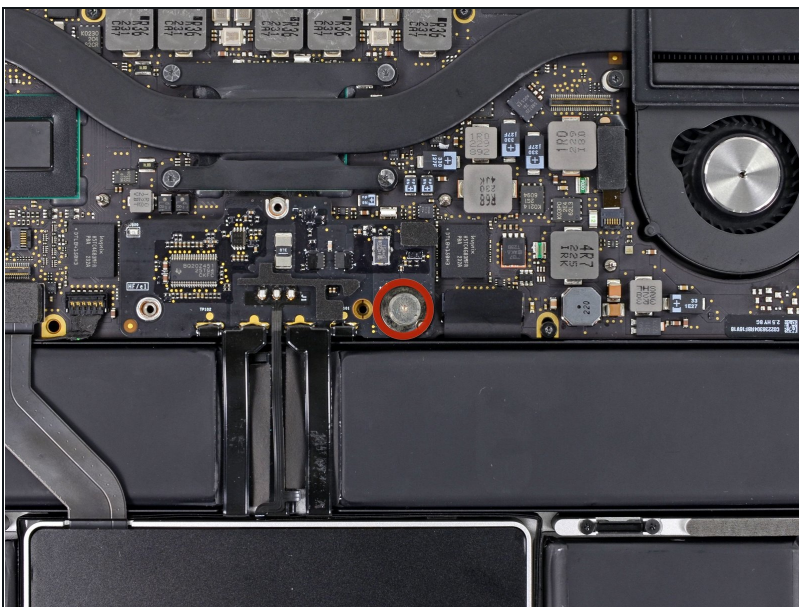
- Remove the following screws securing the battery connector board to the logic board:
 - Two 2.8 mm T6 Torx screws
 - One 7.0 mm T6 Torx shouldered screw

Step 6



- Use [tweezers](#) to remove the small plastic cover located near the bottom right of the battery connector board.

Step 7



- Remove the wide head 6.4 mm T6 Torx screw securing the battery connector to the logic board assembly.

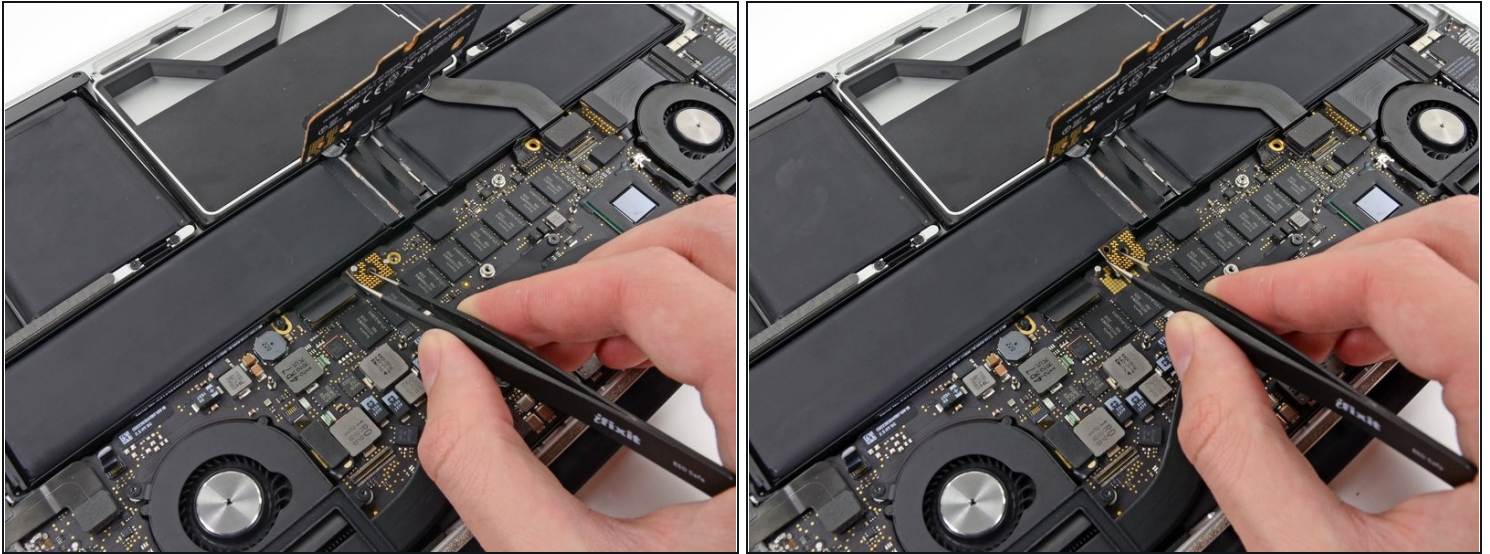
Step 8



- Carefully lift the battery connector board up off the logic board.
- It is recommended to bend the battery cables just slightly, to keep the board suspended up above the logic board and out of the way.

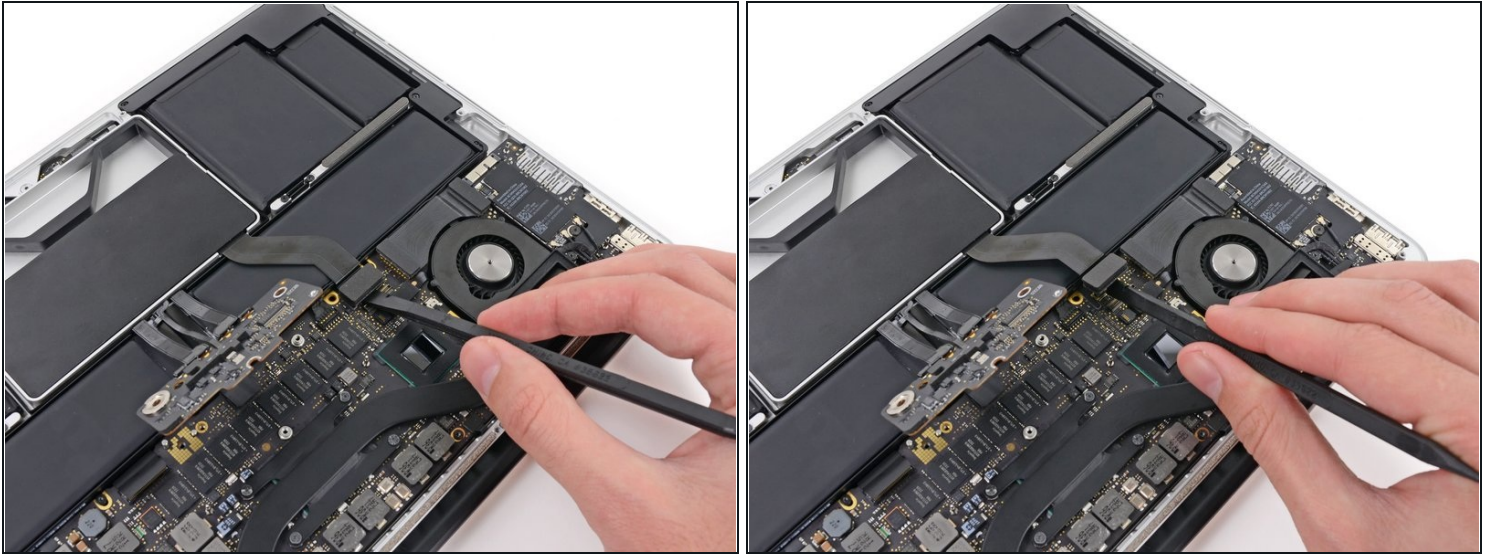
⚠ Do not fold the board completely over, or crease the cables, as this may damage the battery.

Step 9 — Battery Contact Board



- Grasp the Interposer with [tweezers](#).
 - ① An interposer is the name for an interface that links one electrical connection to another. In this repair, it is the board connecting the battery to logic board.
- Lift the Interposer off the logic board and remove it.
 - ⚠ Removing this board will ensure that the battery remains disconnected throughout your repair, preventing your computer from accidentally powering on. It's also a good idea to take it out so it doesn't fall out unexpectedly.

Step 10 — SSD Assembly



- Use the flat end of a spudger to pry the SSD cable connector up from its socket on the logic board.

Step 11



- Use your thumb or finger to bend the plastic spring bar on the SSD tray, freeing the two clips at the front side of the device.
- While holding the spring bar depressed, tilt the SSD assembly up out of its cavity.

Step 12



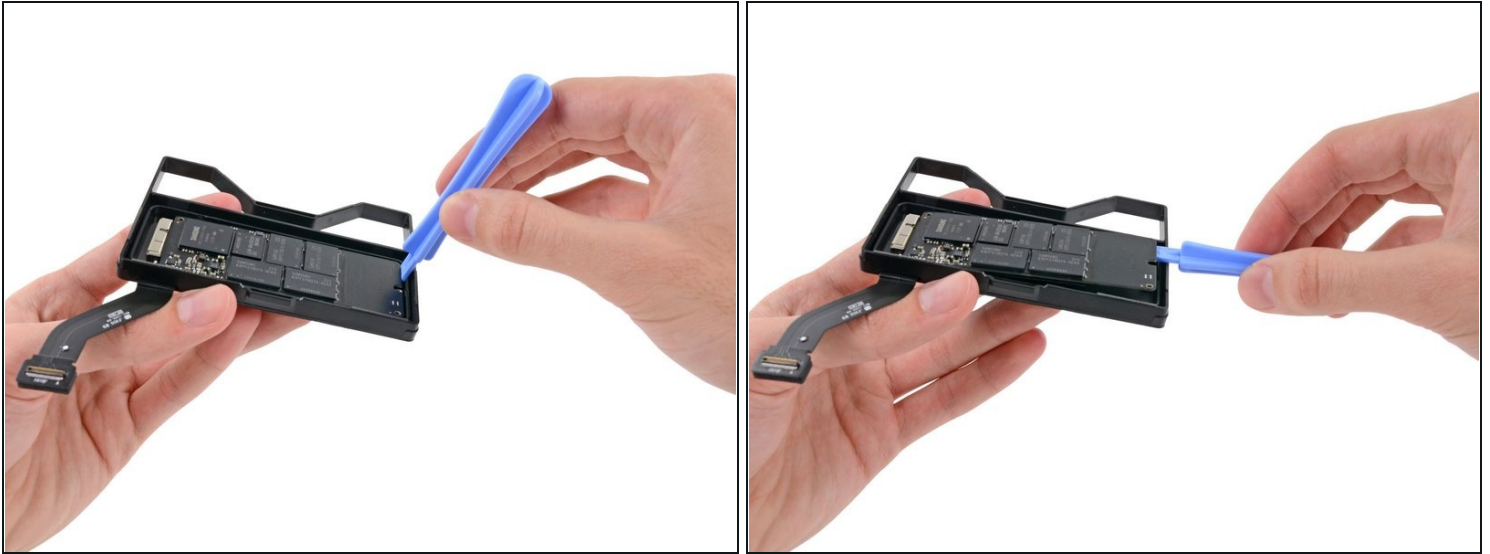
- Remove the SSD assembly from the upper case.

Step 13



- Remove the single 2.9 mm T5 Torx screw securing the SSD to the SSD tray.

Step 14



- Insert the edge of plastic opening tool between the SSD and the SSD tray, opposite to the socket side of SSD tray.
- Pry the side of the SSD opposite the SSD tray socket out of the SSD tray.

⚠ Only lift the SSD up far enough to grab the sides of it with your fingers. Lifting it any more may damage the card or socket.

Step 15



- Carefully pull the SSD straight out of its socket on the SSD tray.

Step 16 — SSD



- SSD remains.

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