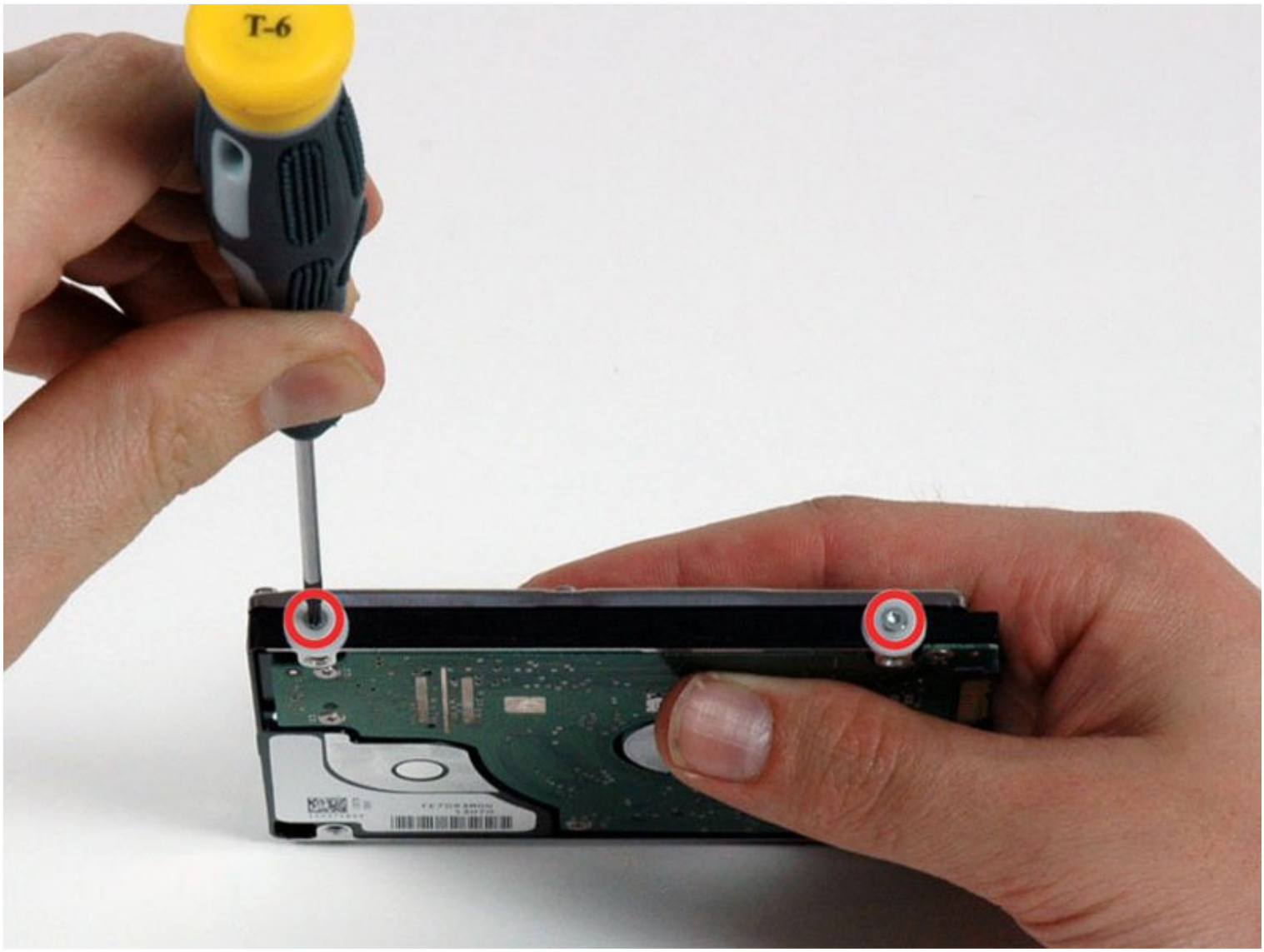
MacBook Pro 17" Models A1151 A1212 A1229 and A1261 Hard Drive Replacement

You can install hard drives up to 9.5mm thick.

Written By: iRobot



INTRODUCTION

You can install hard drives up to 9.5mm thick.

TOOLS:

- Phillips #00 Screwdriver (1)
- Spudger (1)
- T6 Torx Screwdriver (1)

PARTS:

- MacBook and MacBook Pro (Non-Retina) SSD Upgrade Kit (1)
- Crucial MX500 250 GB SSD (1)
- Crucial MX500 500 GB SSD (1)
- Crucial MX500 1 TB SSD (1)
- 500 GB SSD Hybrid 2.5" Hard Drive (1)
- 500 GB 5400 RPM 2.5" Hard Drive (1)
- 1 TB 5400 RPM 2.5" Hard Drive (1)
- MacBook Pro 17" (Model A1151) Hard Drive Cable (1)
- MacBook Pro 17" (Models A1212/A1229) Hard Drive Cable (1)
- MacBook Pro 17" (Model A1261) Hard Drive Cable (1)
- MacBook Pro 17" (Models A1212/A1229/A1261) Hard Drive Bracket (1)
- Universal Drive Adapter (1)

Step 1 — Battery

- Use your fingers to push both battery release tabs away from the battery and lift the battery out of the computer.

Step 2 — RAM Shield

- Remove the four identical Phillips 3.4 mm screws from the memory door. These screws have 4 mm diameter heads rather than the 3 mm heads on the body screws.

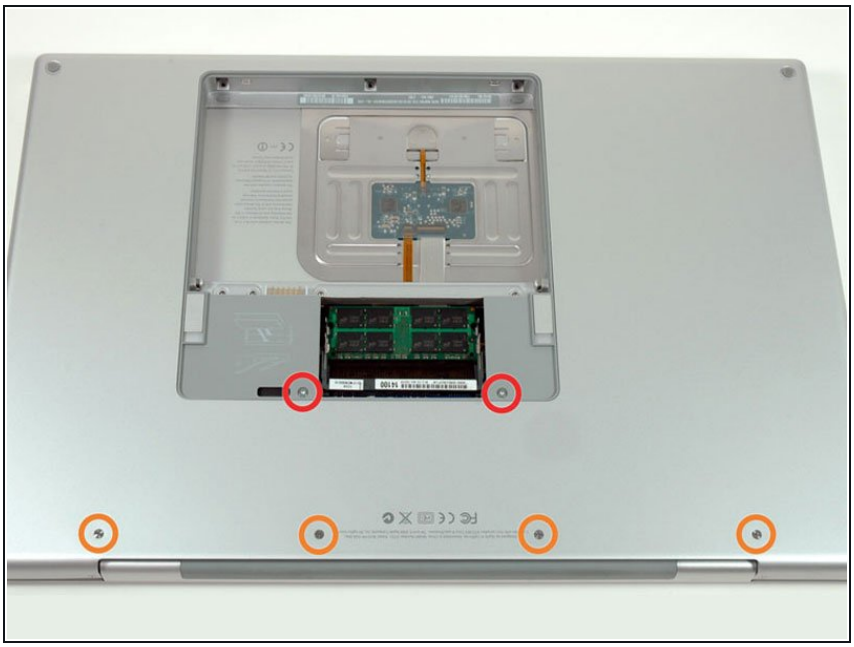
Step 3

- Lift the memory door up enough to get a grip on it, and slide it toward you, pulling it away from the casing.

Step 4 — Upper Case

- Remove the three Phillips screws in the battery compartment near the latch. Apple was nice enough to tilt these screws at a slight angle to make them easier to remove. On the A1261 these screws have 4 mm diameter heads rather than the 3 mm heads on the body screws.

Step 5



- Remove the following six screws:
  - Two 14.5 mm T6 Torx screws on either side of the RAM slot.
  - Four 3.4 mm Phillips screws along the hinge.

Step 6

- Remove the four 3.4 mm Phillips screws on the port side of the computer.

Step 7

- Rotate the computer 90 degrees and remove the two Phillips screws from the rear of the computer.

Step 8

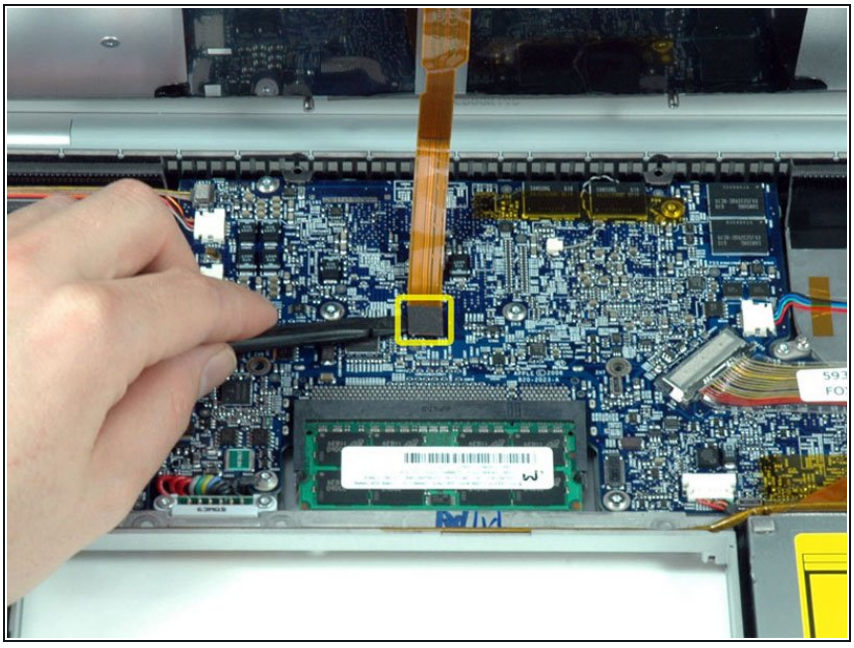
- Rotate the computer 90 degrees again and remove the four Phillips screws from the side of the computer.

Step 9

⚠ Do not yank the upper case off quickly. The case is attached to the logic board via a ribbon cable.

- Lift up the back of the case and work your fingers along the sides, freeing the case as you go. Once you have freed the sides, you may need to rock the case up and down to free the front of the upper case.

Step 10



- Disconnect the trackpad and keyboard ribbon cable from the logic board.
- Remove the upper case.

Step 11 — Hard Drive

- Peel up the orange ribbon cable taped to the top of the hard drive. This cable is still connected to the hard drive, so you will only be able to lift up on the cable a little.

Step 12

- Remove the two T6 Torx screws securing the hard drive retaining bracket to the lower case.

Step 13

- Lift the hard drive retaining bracket up and out of the computer.

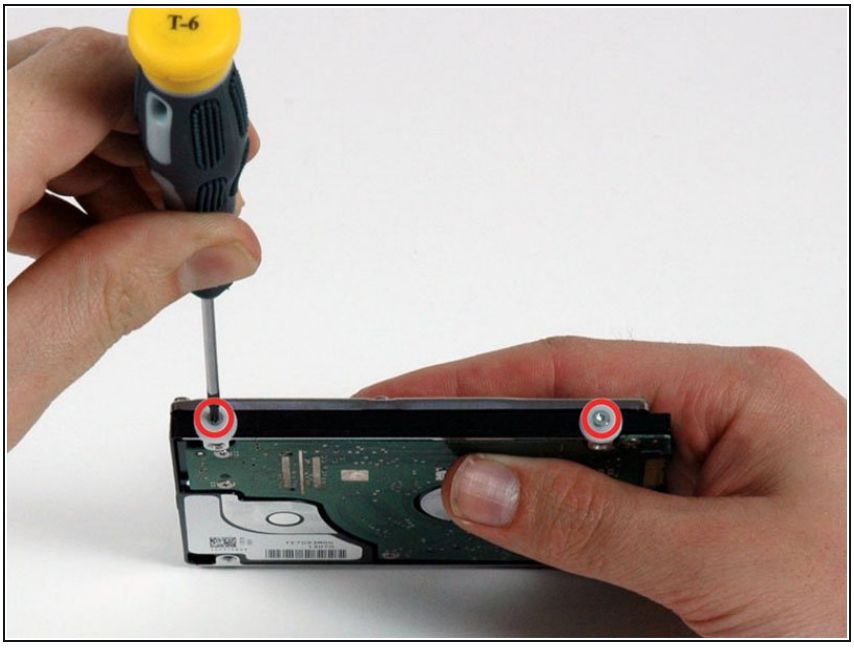
Step 14

- Lift the hard drive by tilting it from the right hand side, then lift it gently out of the lower case.
- If present, remove the piece of tape holding the hard drive connector in its socket on the hard drive.

Step 15

- Disconnect the hard drive cable by pulling its connector away from the hard drive.

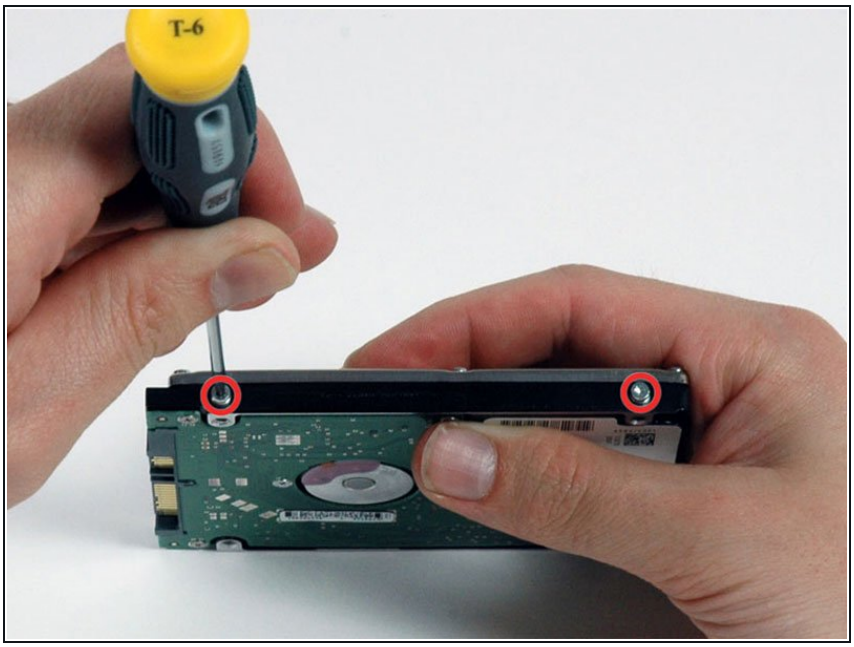
Step 16 — Hard Drive



- Remove the two silver T6 Torx screws and white (or black) rubber bumpers from the right side of the hard drive.

You'll need to transfer these screws and bumpers to your new hard drive if you're changing drives. Make sure to put these on the right side of the drive when looking at the label with the SATA connector at the far end.

Step 17



- Remove the two silver T6 Torx screws from the left side of the hard drive (the rubber bumpers remain in the case for the left side of the drive)

You'll need to transfer these screws to your new hard drive if you're changing drives.

If you are installing a new hard drive, we have an OS X install guide to get you up and running.

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