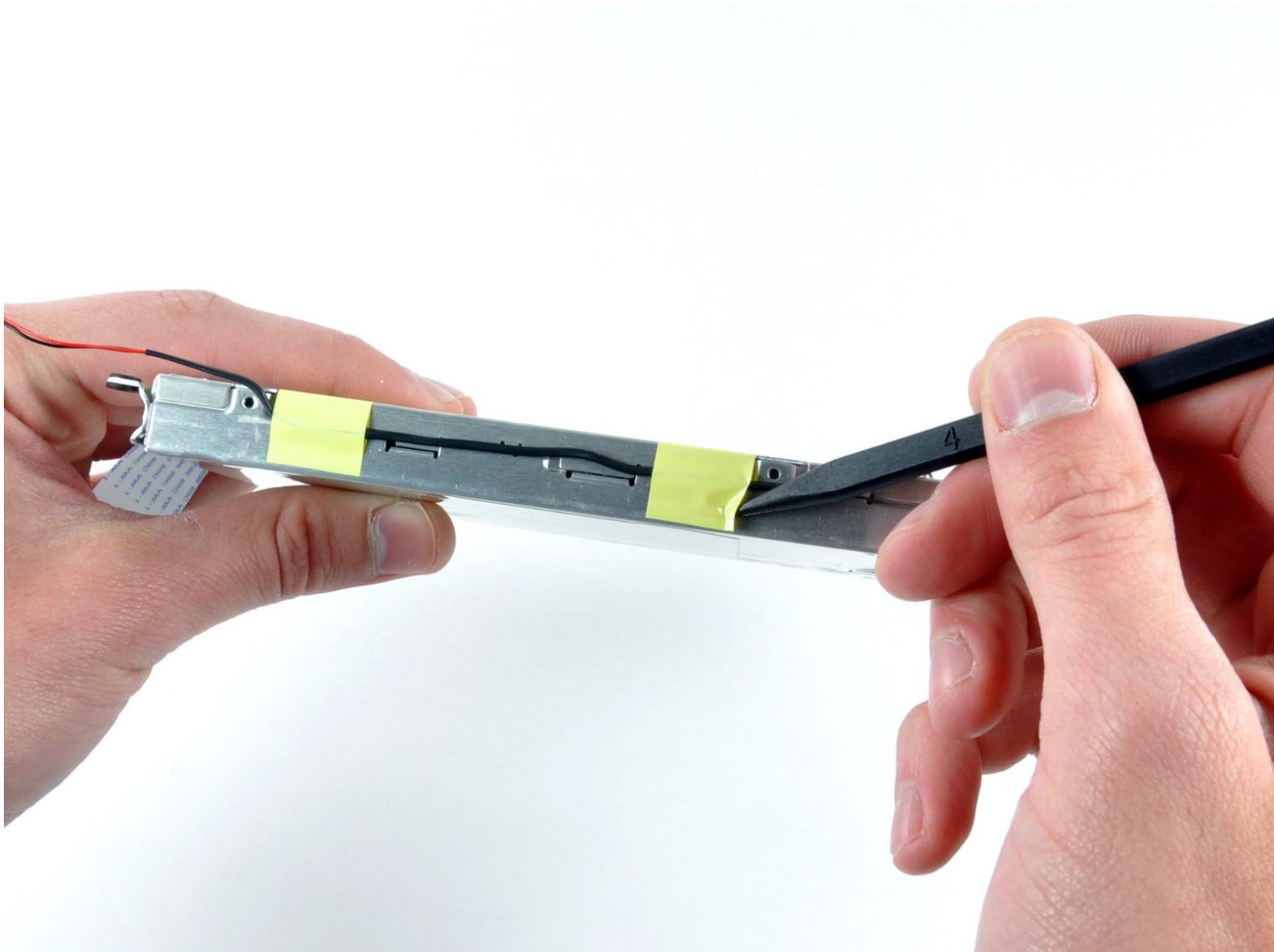




iBook G4 14" 1.42 GHz Optical Drive Replacement

Written By: Andrew Bookholt



INTRODUCTION

Use this guide to transfer the hardware from your old optical drive to a new one.

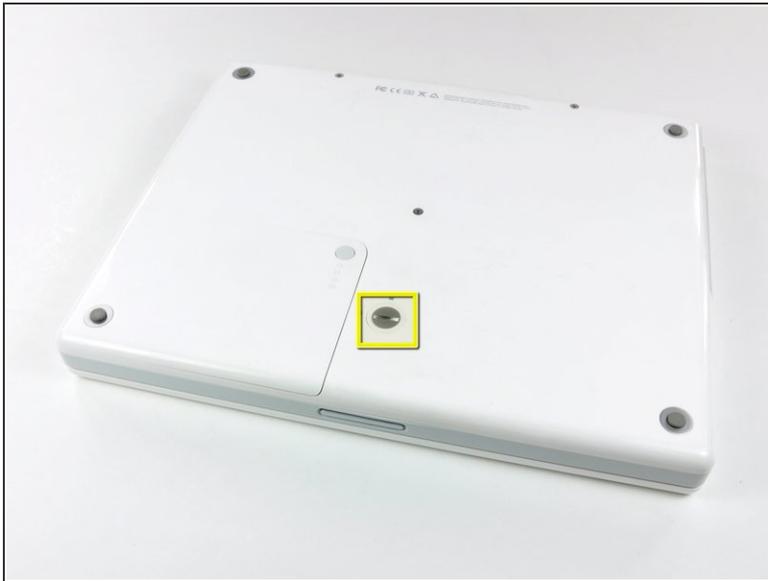
TOOLS:

- [Coin](#) (1)
- [Phillips #00 Screwdriver](#) (1)
- [Flathead 3/32" or 2.5 mm Screwdriver](#) (1)
- [Spudger](#) (1)
- [T8 Torx Screwdriver](#) (1)

PARTS:

- [12.7 mm PATA 8x SuperDrive \(UJ-875\)](#) (1)
- [iBook G4 14" 1.33/1.42 GHz Optical Drive Cable](#) (1)
- [iBook G4 14" 1.33/1.42 GHz Optical Drive Bracket](#) (1)
- [iBook G4 14" 8x SuperDrive \(Used\)](#) (1)
- [12.7 mm PATA Optical Bay PATA Hard Drive Enclosure](#) (1)
- [iBook G4 14" 4x SuperDrive](#) (1)

Step 1 — Battery



- Use a coin to rotate the battery locking screw 90 degrees clockwise.
- Lift the battery out of the computer.

Step 2 — Keyboard



- Pull the keyboard release tabs (shown in yellow) toward you and lift up on the keyboard until it pops free.
- If the keyboard does not come free, use a small flathead screwdriver to turn the keyboard locking screw (shown in orange) 180 degrees in either direction and try again.
- Flip the keyboard over, away from the screen, and rest it face-down on the trackpad area.

Step 3



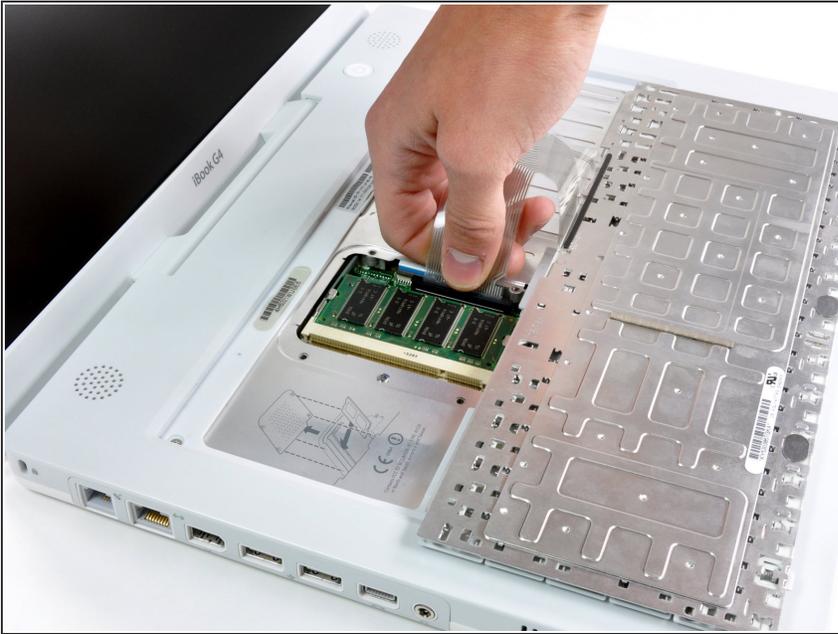
- Loosen the four silver Phillips screws that secure the RAM shield.
- ⓘ These screws will not come out all the way. The screws are held captive to the RAM shield to prevent them from getting lost.

Step 4



- Remove the RAM shield from the computer.
- ⓘ The four captive screws will come out with the RAM shield.

Step 5



- Pull the keyboard cable up from the logic board, holding the cable as close to the connector as possible.
- ★ When reassembling your iBook, make sure that you reconnect the keyboard cable before replacing the RAM shield.

Step 6 — Lower Case



- Close the display and flip the computer over.
- Remove the three hex screws using a T8 Torx screwdriver.
- ★ The shorter screw is in the center.

Step 7



- Use a spudger or small flathead screwdriver to remove the three rubber feet from the lower case.

Step 8



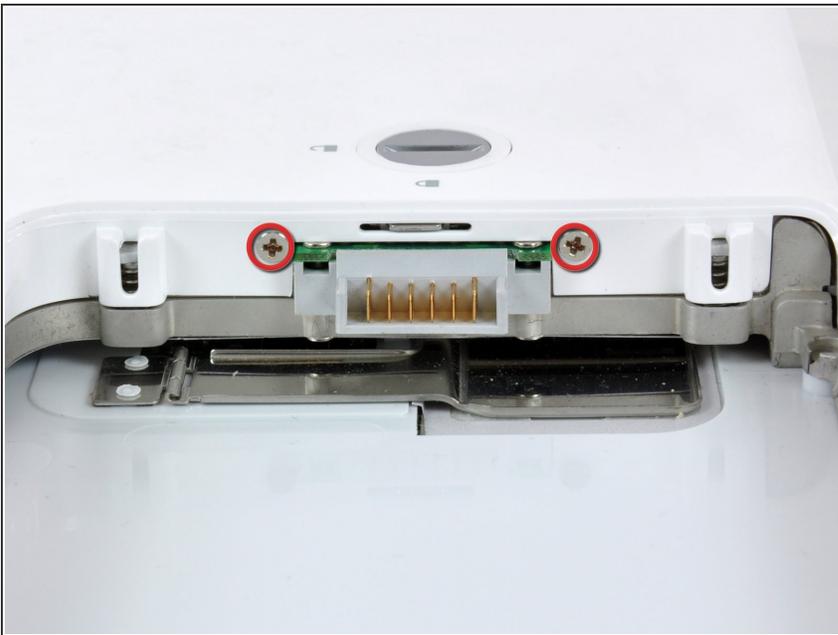
- Remove the three newly-revealed Phillips screws.
- ⓘ One screw is underneath each bumper (three total).

Step 9



- Use a spudger or small flathead screwdriver to pry up the three metal rings that housed the rubber bumpers.

Step 10



- Remove the two Phillips screws on either side of the battery contacts.

Step 11



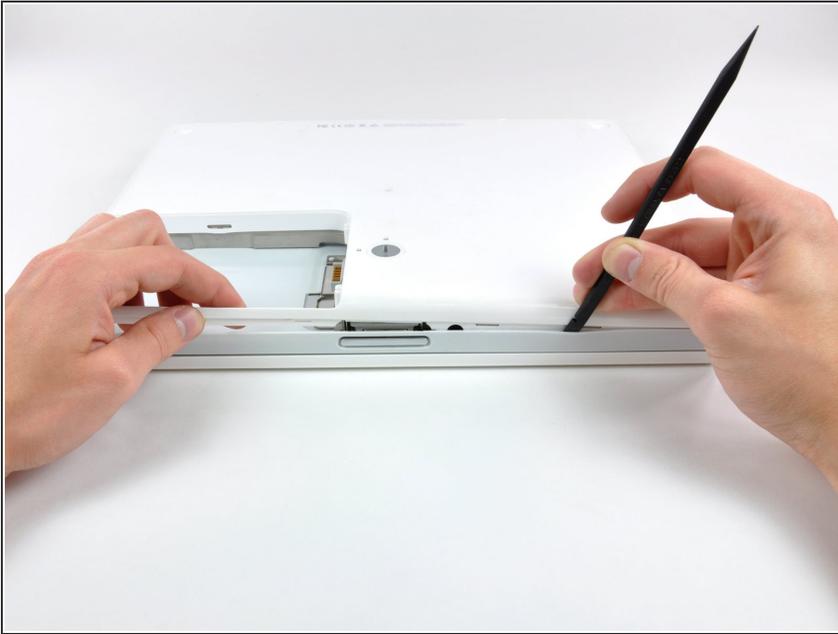
- ⓘ Breathe deeply. Trying times are ahead, but we promise the lower case does come off.
- Push in the thin rims of the lower case surrounding the battery compartment, bending them past the tabs, and then lift up to free that corner of the lower case.

Step 12



- There is a slot on the wall of the battery compartment that locks the lower case in place. Use a small flathead screwdriver to pry out the slot's lower rim and pull up on the lower case to free the slot from the tabs holding it.

Step 13



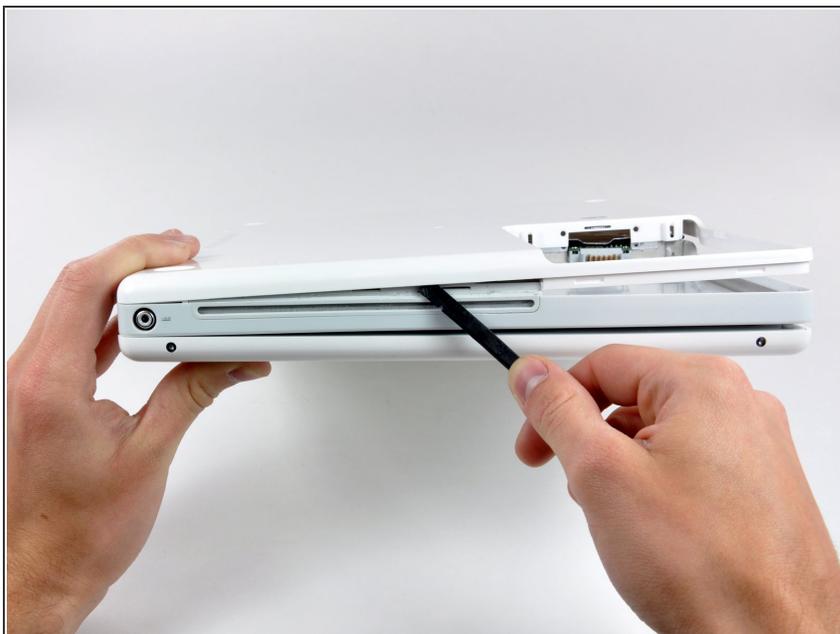
- Run a spudger along the seam between the lower case and upper case on the front of the computer to free the tabs locking the lower case. Pull up on the lower case and continue to use the spudger as necessary until you hear three distinct clicks.

Step 14



- Continue to run the spudger around the front, right corner. There are two tabs on the port side of the computer, one near the front corner and one near the sound-out port.

Step 15



- There are three tabs over the optical drive that must be released before the lower case can come off. Slide the spudger into the lower case above the optical drive and run it toward the back of the computer until you hear three distinct clicks.

Step 16



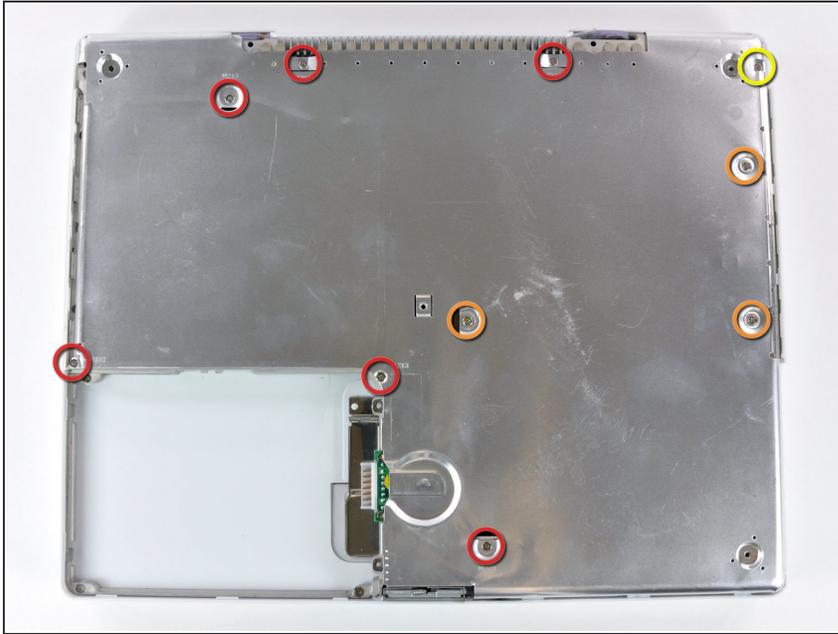
- i The front and sides of the lower case are now free.
- Turn the computer so that the back is facing you and pull the lower case up and toward you until the back tabs pop free.
- ★ It may be helpful to jiggle the case up and down.

Step 17



- Remove the small greasy springs with white plastic caps from either side of the battery contacts.

Step 18 — Bottom Shield



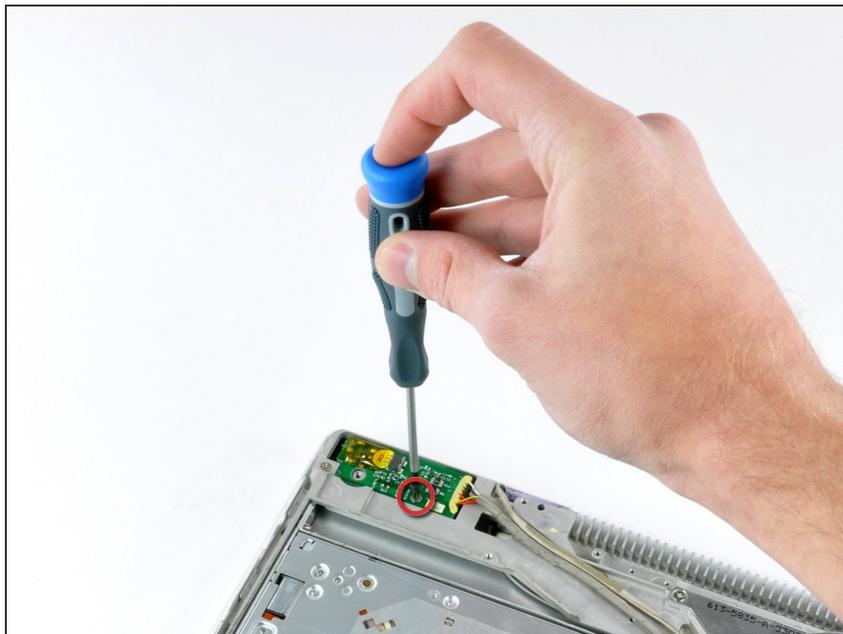
- Remove the following 10 screws from the bottom shield:
 - Six 3 mm Phillips
 - Three 7.5 mm Phillips
 - One 14 mm Phillips

Step 19



- Lift the bottom shield off.

Step 20 — DC-In Board



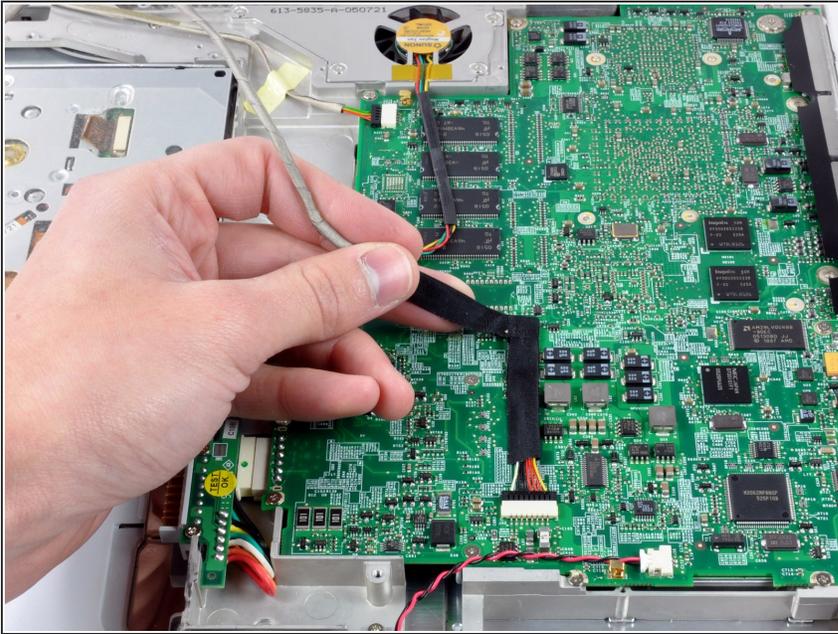
- Remove the single Phillips screw securing the DC-In board.

Step 21



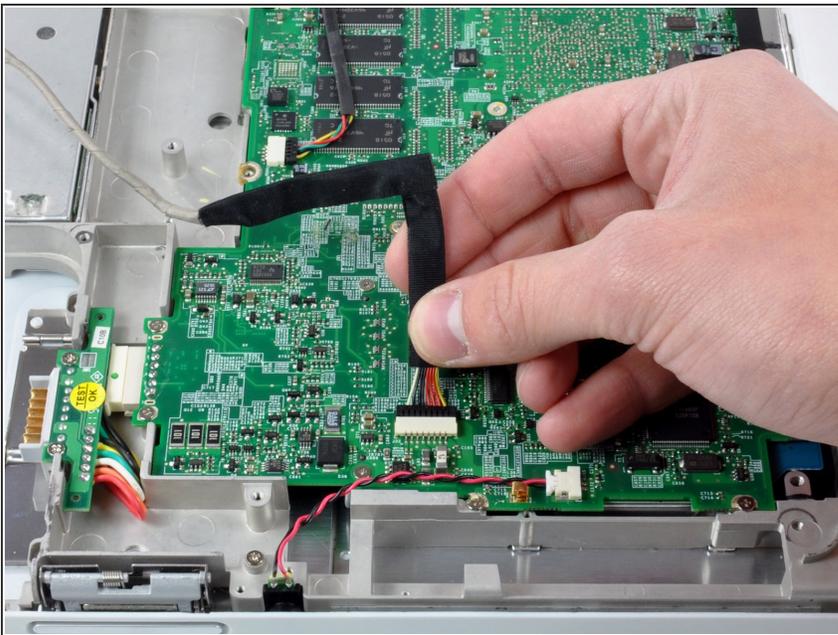
- Angle the DC-In board out of its compartment.
- ⓘ You may need to remove tape that secures the DC-In board cable to the case.

Step 22



- Lift the DC-In cable from the adhesive attaching it to the logic board.

Step 23



- Disconnect the DC-In cable from the logic board.
- ⓘ Wiggling the connector parallel to the surface of the logic board while applying slight tension may aid in removal.

Step 24 — Upper Case



- Remove the following 11 screws from the bottom of the computer:
 - Three 3 mm Phillips around the battery compartment.
 - Three 4.5 mm Phillips along the optical drive bezel. (a magnetic screwdriver may help to lift these screws out)
 - One 12 mm Phillips in the lower right corner.
 - Four 14.5 mm Phillips.

Step 25



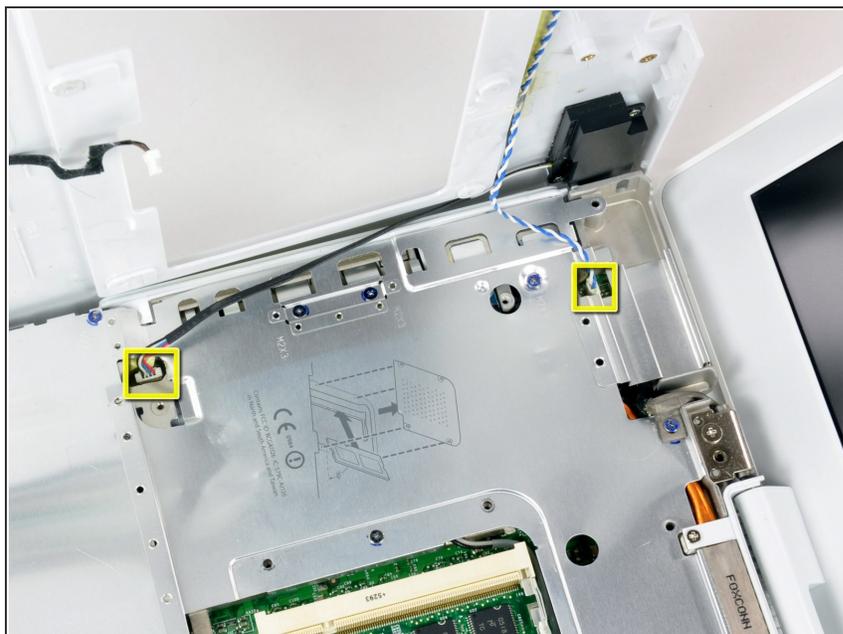
- ⓘ We recommend placing the computer on a soft cloth from this point on to prevent damaging the logic board.
- Turn over the computer and open it.
- Remove the 3 Phillips screws from the edges of the keyboard area.
- ✦ The shorter screw goes in the lower left corner. The left corner is indicated by a blue "L" in the photograph and is on the right side.

Step 26



- i Be especially careful while disconnecting the cables in the forthcoming steps. Never pull directly on the cables, but use a spudger to pry up the connector directly from its socket.
- Lift the upper case and use a spudger or your finger to disconnect the trackpad connector hidden beneath the white plastic tab.
- i Be careful while lifting the upper case, as its tabs are still hanging on the metal frame.

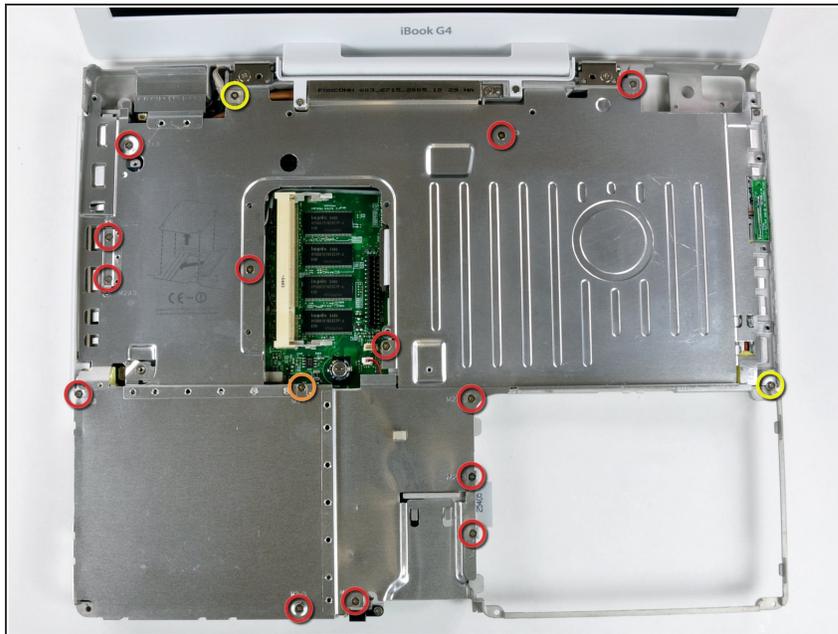
Step 27



- ⚠ The sockets attached to the motherboards of most iBooks are very weak and easily broken. Use extreme caution when pulling connectors out of their sockets.
- Lift the upper case enough to disconnect the blue and white power cable from the logic board. Using your fingernails, carefully pry the connector from its socket.

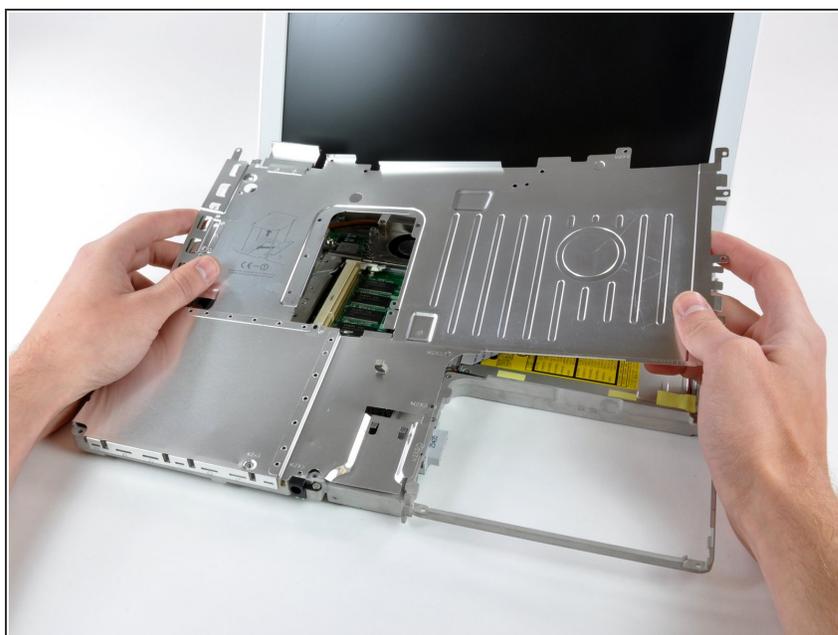
- Carefully disconnect the multicolored speaker cable from the logic board in the same fashion.

Step 28 — Top Shield



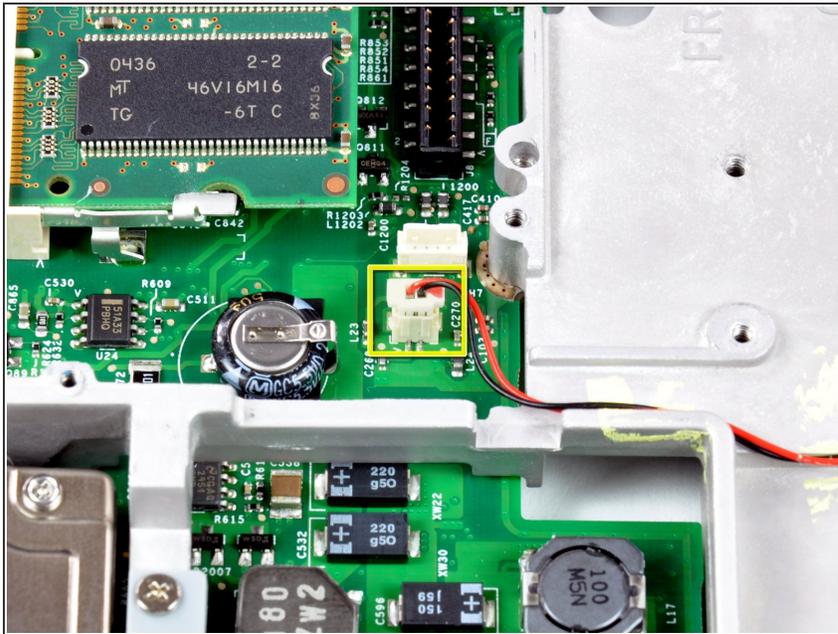
- Remove the following 16 screws:
 - Thirteen 3 mm Phillips.
 - One 3 mm Phillips.
 - Two 4 mm Phillips.
- ☑ During reassembly, be sure to fit the screw near the left hinge through the loop in the display data cable, securing the cable to the upper case.

Step 29



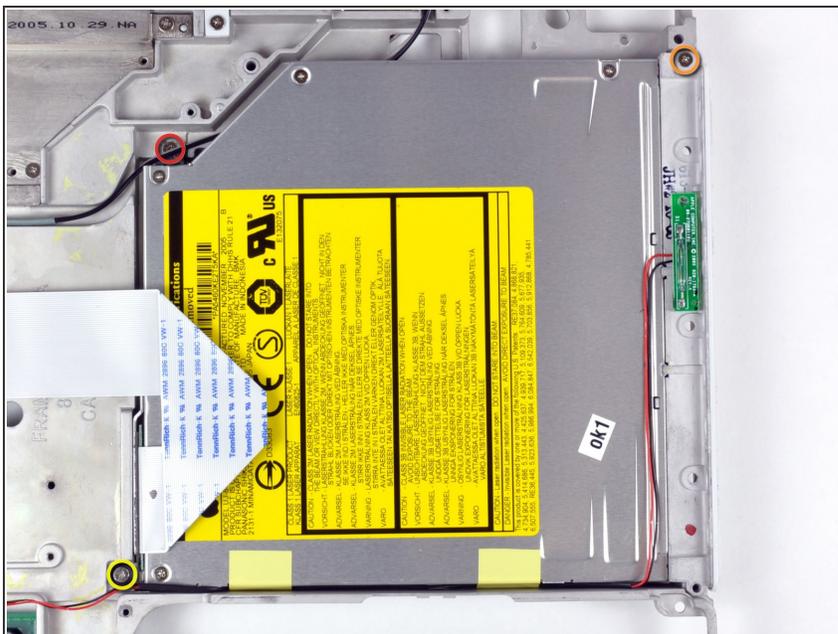
- Lift the top shield up from the right side, minding the upper left corner which may catch on the metal framework.

Step 30 — Optical Drive



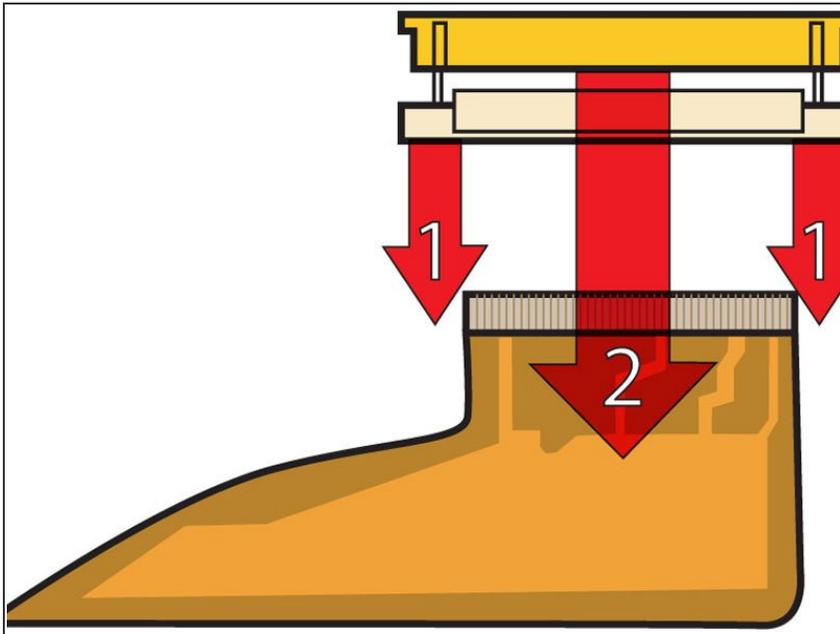
- Disconnect the Reed Switch board connector from the logic board.

Step 31



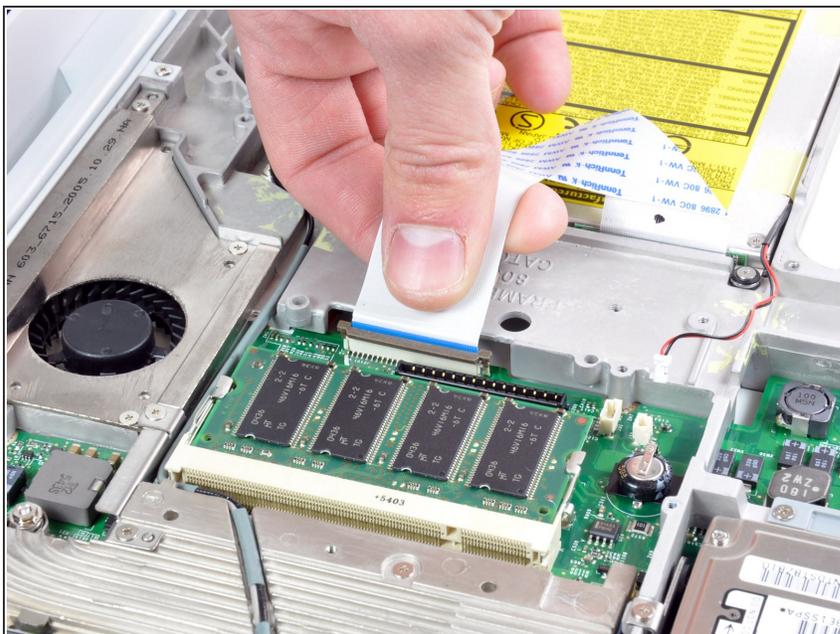
- Remove the following 3 screws:
 - One 3 mm Phillips in the channel between the optical drive and fan.
 - One 6 mm Phillips from the upper end of the drive bezel.
 - One 6 mm Phillips extending from the lower left corner of the drive.

Step 32



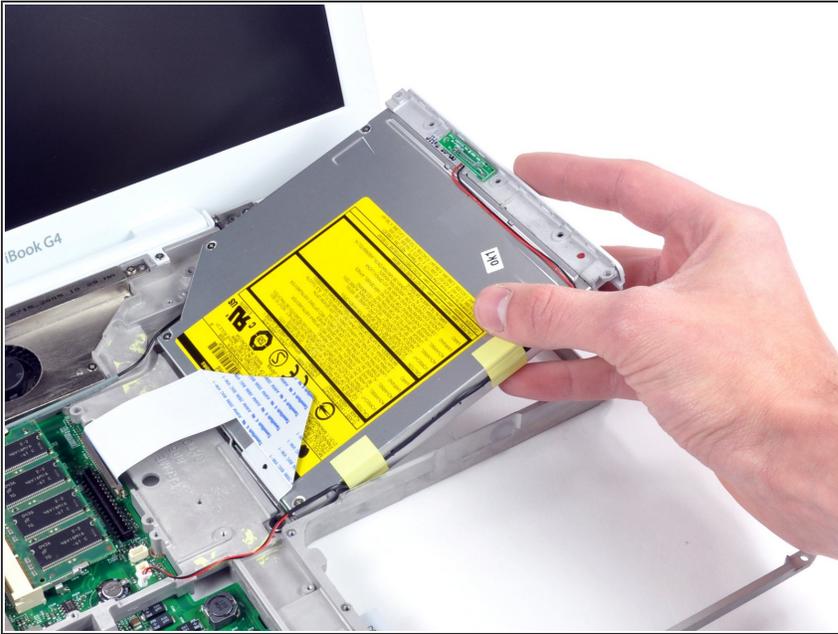
- i** This is a diagram of the ribbon clamp connector you will disconnect in the next step.
- 1) With your fingernails, grasp the locking bar on either side and pull up a small amount (about 1/16" or 2 mm).
 - 2) After disengaging the locking bar, slide the cable out of the connector.

Step 33



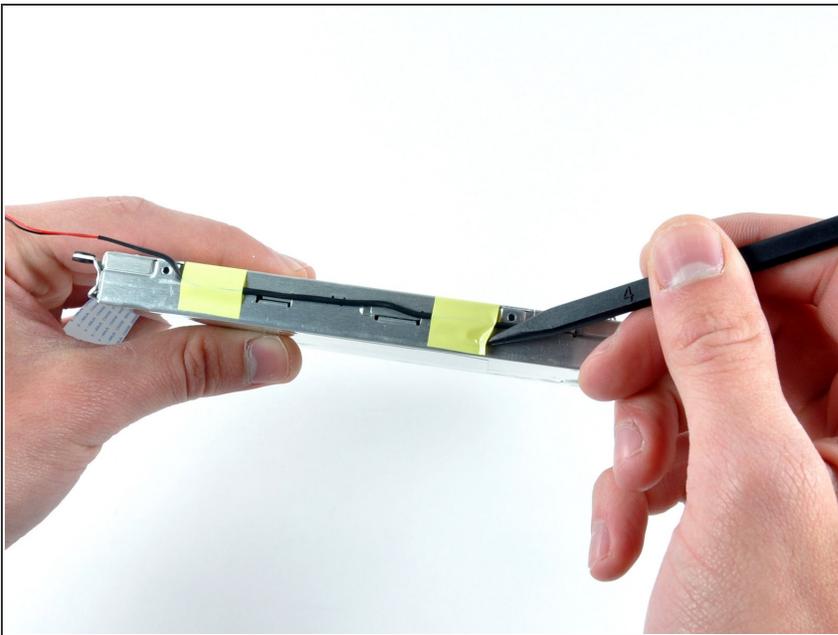
- Release the optical drive ribbon clamp as described above. Slide the optical drive ribbon out of its connector.

Step 34



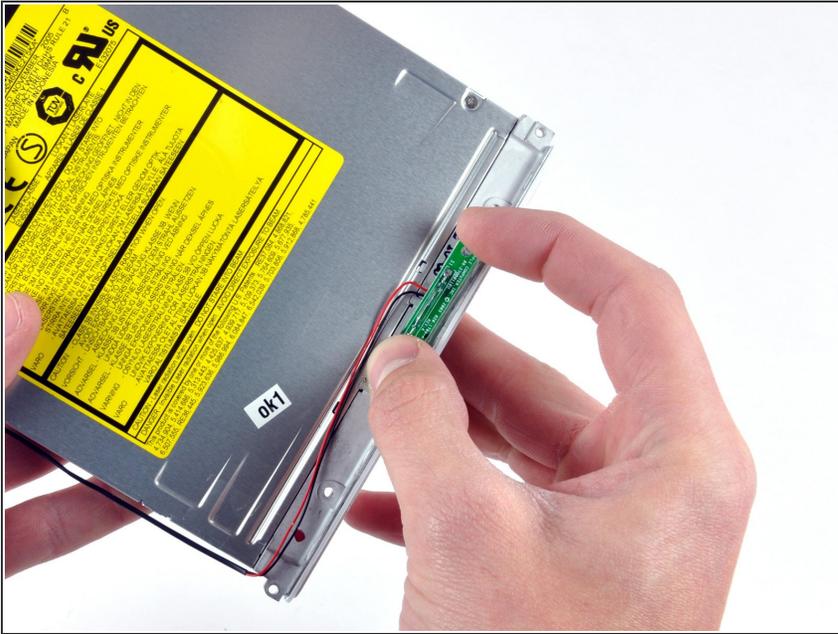
- Lift the optical drive from the metal framework.

Step 35 — Optical Drive



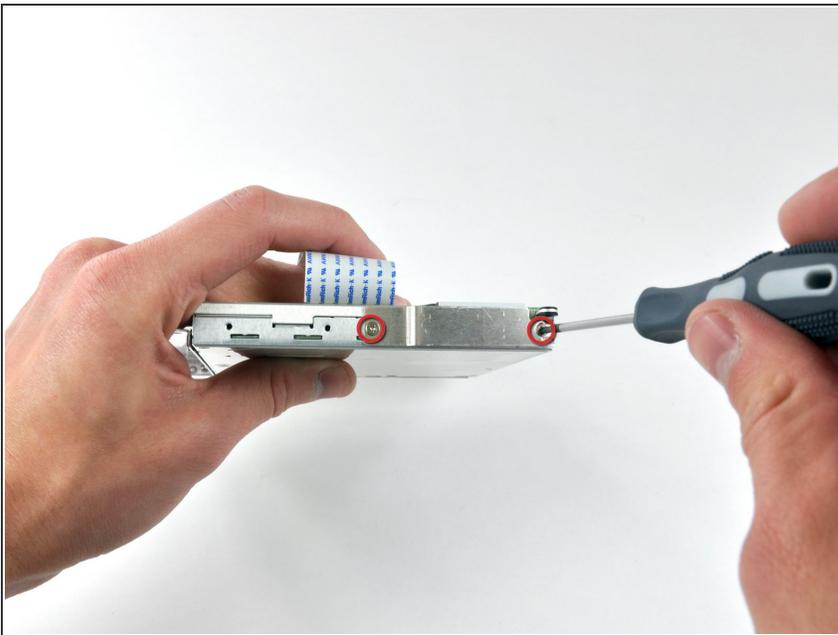
- Remove the tape securing the reed switch cable to the optical drive.

Step 36



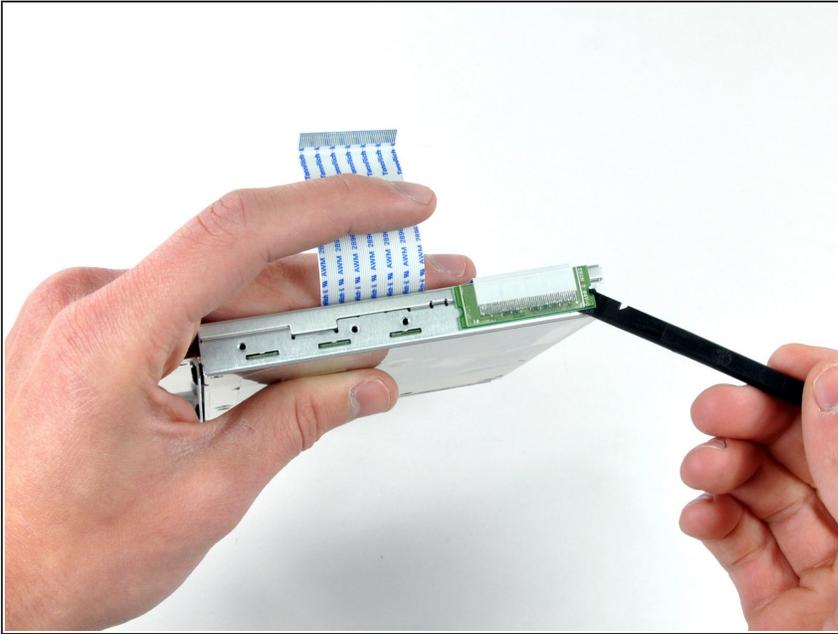
- Peel the reed switch board from the optical drive and set it aside.

Step 37



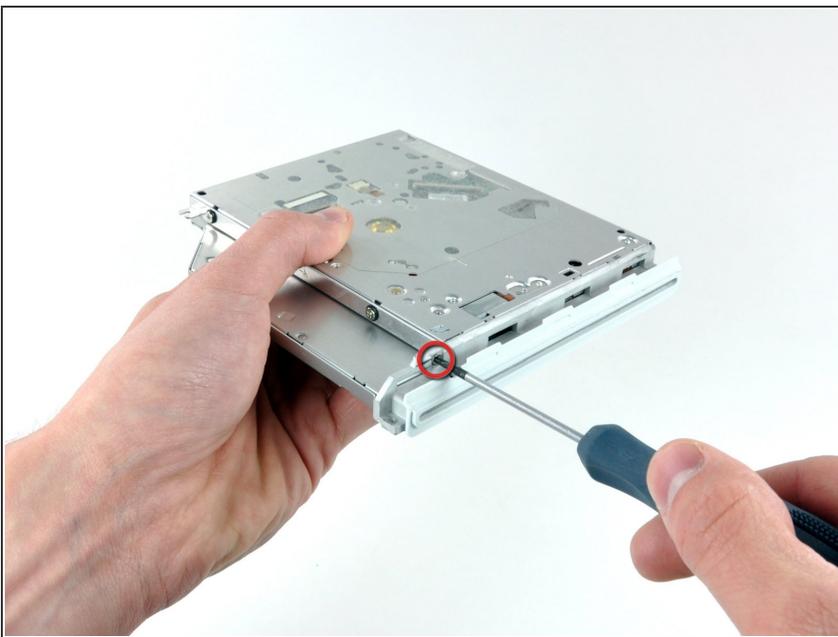
- Remove the two Phillips screws securing the metal bracket and cable to the back of the optical drive.

Step 38



- Peel the cable up from the top of the optical drive, removing tape as necessary, and disconnect its connector from the optical drive.

Step 39



- Remove the single Phillips screw securing the bezel on the front of the optical drive.
- ☑ This screw is longer than the two that secure the bracket and cable at the back of the drive.

Step 40



⚠ The bezel has several small, fragile tabs that will break easily.

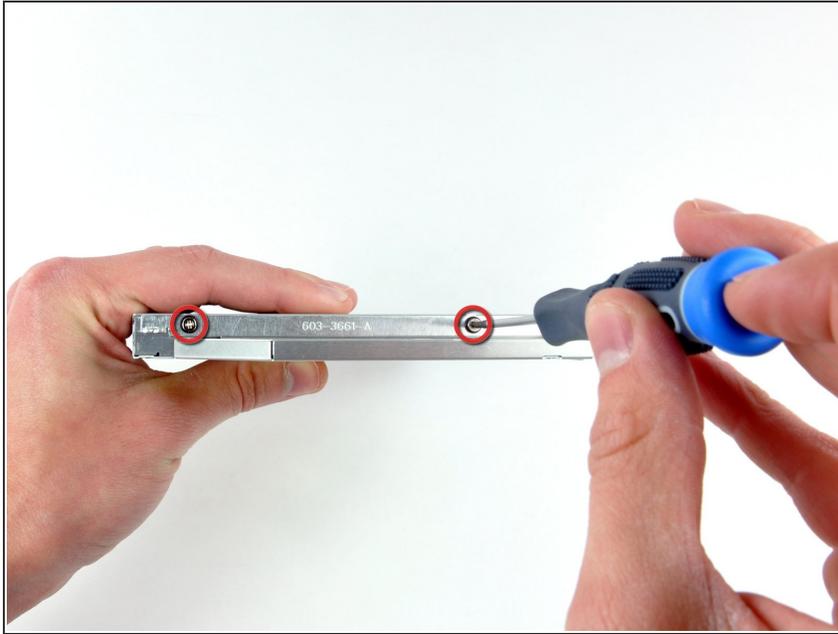
- Use a spudger to carefully depress the two tabs on top of the bezel.

Step 41



- Hold the optical drive on its side and depress the remaining tab to free the bezel from the drive.

Step 42



- Turn the drive over and remove the two Phillips screws from the bracket on the side of the drive.
- ⓘ These screws are only partially threaded.
- ⓘ If you have a CD or any other object jammed in your optical drive, we have an [optical drive repair guide](#).

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