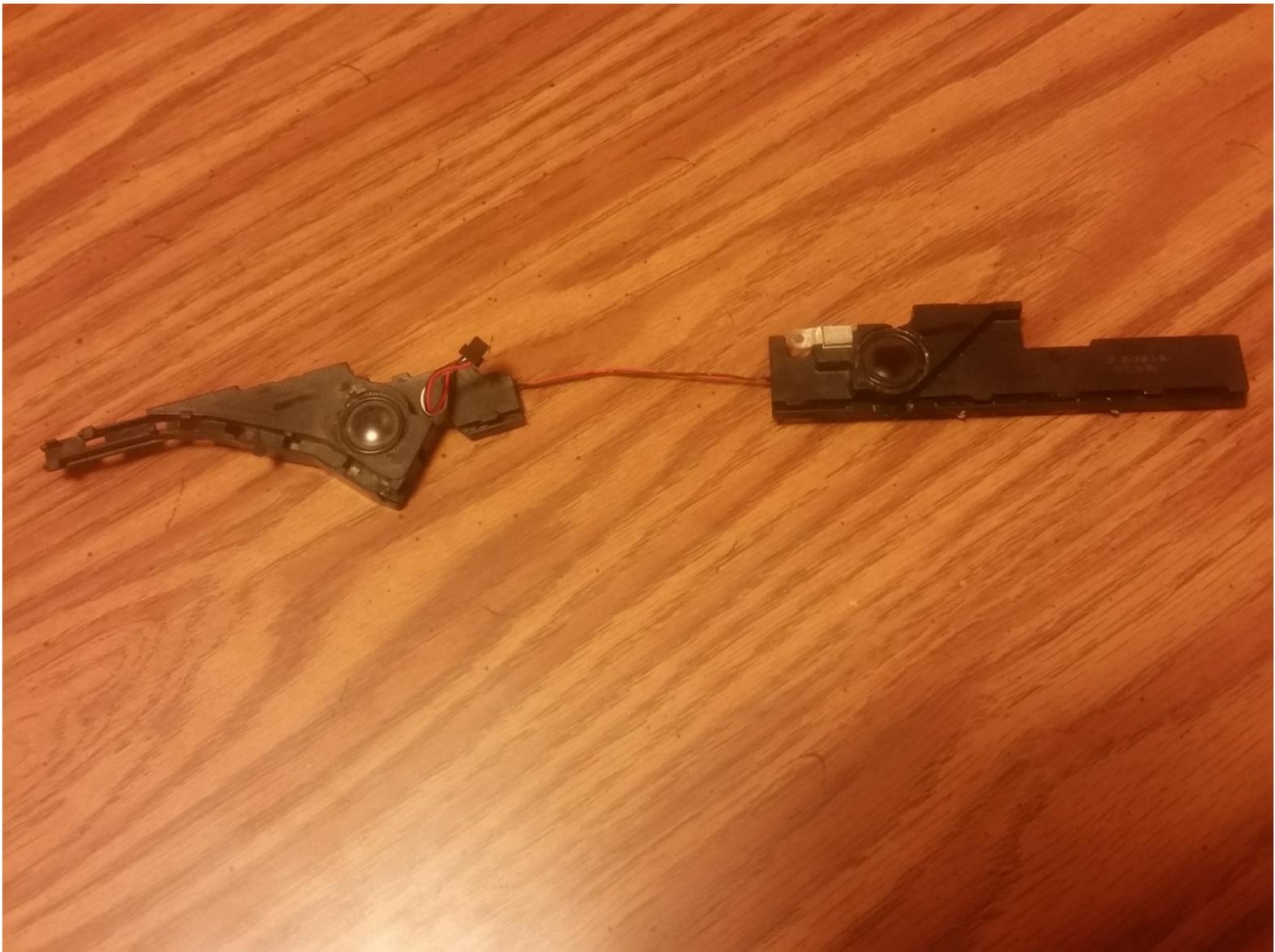




Asus X550CA Speakers or Motherboard Replacement

This guide will teach you how to replace the speakers (or the motherboard) in an Asus X550CA laptop.

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 **TOOLS:**

- Flathead Screwdriver (1)
 - Phillips #1 Screwdriver (1)
-

Step 1 — Remove battery



- Amongst the easiest of steps. Turn the laptop upside-down, with its lid on the work surface, with the battery facing you.
- First, push the left latch from the right to the left. You can let go, as this latch holds its position, unlike the next one.
- Then, push the right latch to the right. This latch has a spring, so keep it held.
- Next, with the other hand, pull the battery out and back towards you.

Step 2 — Remove the HDD/RAM panel



- Remove the two crazily-long screws from the bottom panel.
- Then, push the panel forwards, away from you.

Step 3 — Remove HDD



- Remove the three short screws holding the HDD caddy down.
- Pull the caddy to the right using the flap on the left of the caddy. The caddy will slide to the right.

Step 4 — Remove palmrest screws



- Remove the five additional short screws from under the HDD/RAM panel.
- Then remove each crazily-long screw at each corner of the bottom of the laptop.

Step 5 — Remove two more palmrest screws



- Remove the two additional short screws from under where the battery was.

Step 6 — Remove palmrest



- Next, use a guitar pick or the like to separate the palmrest from the base. As you can see, I chose to simply use my fingernails, as I have nothing else. I'd suggest avoiding the use of a flathead screwdriver.

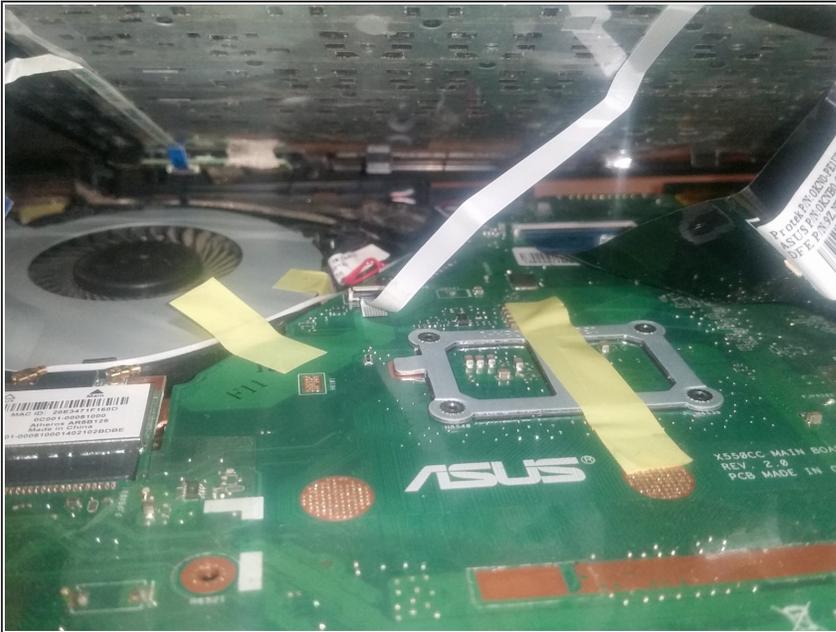
⚠ Never pull *any* palmrest too far up! There are always cables attached to them. Simply set the palmrest down after you've finished disengaging the clips, and read on.

Step 7 — Remove power button cable



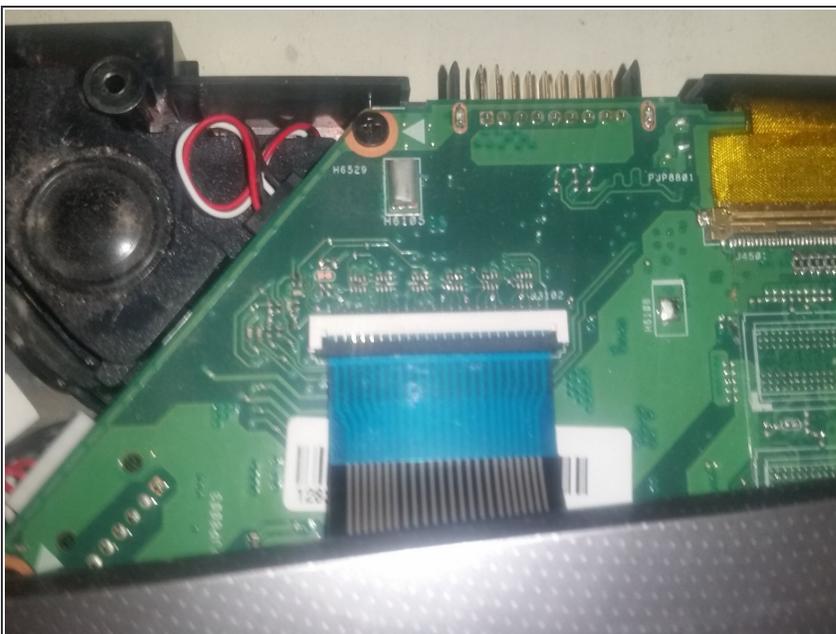
- Pick up the palmrest and shift it to the left just a bit, then put it down, so that it looks just like the picture.
- Stick your fingernail under the black lock on J6201 (inside of the square in the picture), and then pull upwards *gently*.
- Next, pull the cable out of the connector.

Step 8 — Remove touchpad cable



- Lift the palmrest *slowly and carefully*, and look inside. Don't worry, there *probably* aren't any jumping spiders hiding inside.
- Git yo' fingas in there and disengage the lock for the touchpad cable, and then pull the cable out.

Step 9 — Remove keyboard cable

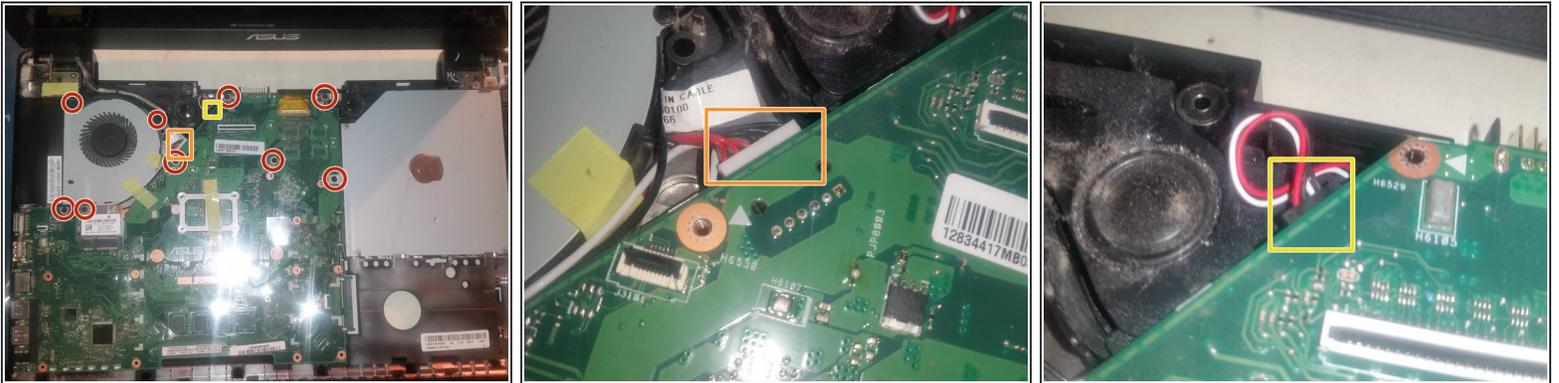


- Pick up the palmrest again, slowly and gracefully, then move it downwards so that you see the

keyboard connector, like in the picture.

- Disengage the lock, then pull the keyboard cable out.
- There are no more cables. You may lift the palmrest, and put it aside.

Step 10 — Free the motherboard



i Yes, you really have to remove the motherboard, I'm sorry. But we haven't gone this far just to stop! Let's take it out.

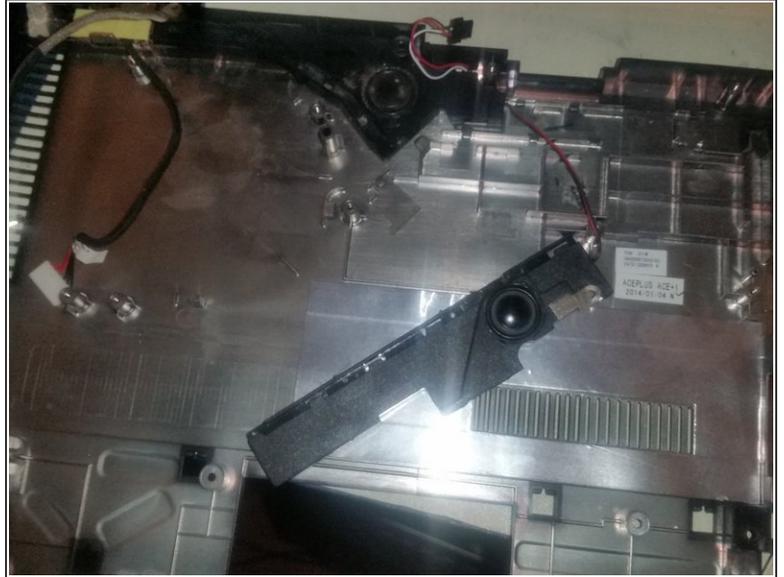
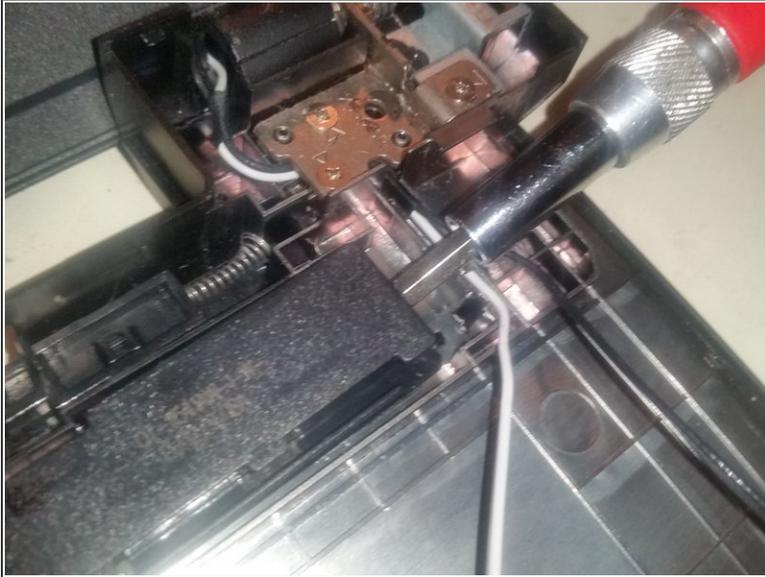
- Remove the nine short screws circled in the picture.
- Remove the Wi-Fi card antennas by pulling up on the connectors.
- Remove the Wi-Fi card by pulling it away from its slot.
- Remove the optical drive by sliding it to your right, and out.
- Remove the power jack connection by pulling it back, away from the motherboard.
- Remove the speaker connection the same way as the power jack connection.
- Pull the motherboard towards you and to the right, slowly, and then we'll talk about the rest of it.

Step 11 — Remove the video cable



- Pull the video cable tape up from the motherboard.
 - Pull the video cable back, away from you, firmly, making sure that you grab the tape with it. It will come out suddenly, so don't get scared.
- ⚠** Inspect the video cable carefully to make sure you didn't damage it. Damaged video cables, when used, can damage your motherboard or screen! I learnt that the hard way on another laptop.

Step 12 — Free the speakers



- Pull the LCD cable from the left speaker's plastic tabs holding it down.
- Pull the Wi-Fi antenna cables from the right speaker.
- Pry the speakers from their adhesive. Using a flathead screwdriver, work your way around the speakers. It won't look too pretty, don't worry about it.

Step 13 — Voila!



- Celebrate. You're done!

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