



MacBook Air 13" Late 2020 Audio Board Replacement

Use this guide to remove or replace the audio...

Written By: Carsten Frauenheim



INTRODUCTION

Use this guide to remove or replace the audio board in a Late 2020 MacBook Air (M1). The 3.5 mm audio jack is connected to this board.

TOOLS:

[P5 Pentalobe Screwdriver Retina MacBook Pro and Air](#) (1)
[Spudger](#) (1)
[Tweezers](#) (1)
[T3 Torx Screwdriver](#) (1)
[T5 Torx Screwdriver](#) (1)
[T4 Torx Screwdriver](#) (1)

PARTS:

[MacBook Air 13" \(A2337, Late 2020\)](#)
[Audio Daughterboard](#) (1)
[MacBook Air 13" \(A2337, Late 2020\)](#)
[Audio Daughterboard Cable Bracket](#) (1)

Step 1 — Remove the screws securing the lower case



- ❗ Before starting this procedure, you should disable your Mac's **Auto Boot** feature. Auto Boot powers on your Mac when you open the lid, and may be accidentally triggered during disassembly. [Use this guide](#) to disable Auto Boot.
- If your MacBook is running Big Sur v11.1 or later, disabling Auto Boot may not work. You can proceed normally, but make sure to disconnect the battery as soon as you're inside.

⚠ Completely power off and unplug your MacBook before you start. Close the display and flip the entire laptop upside-down.

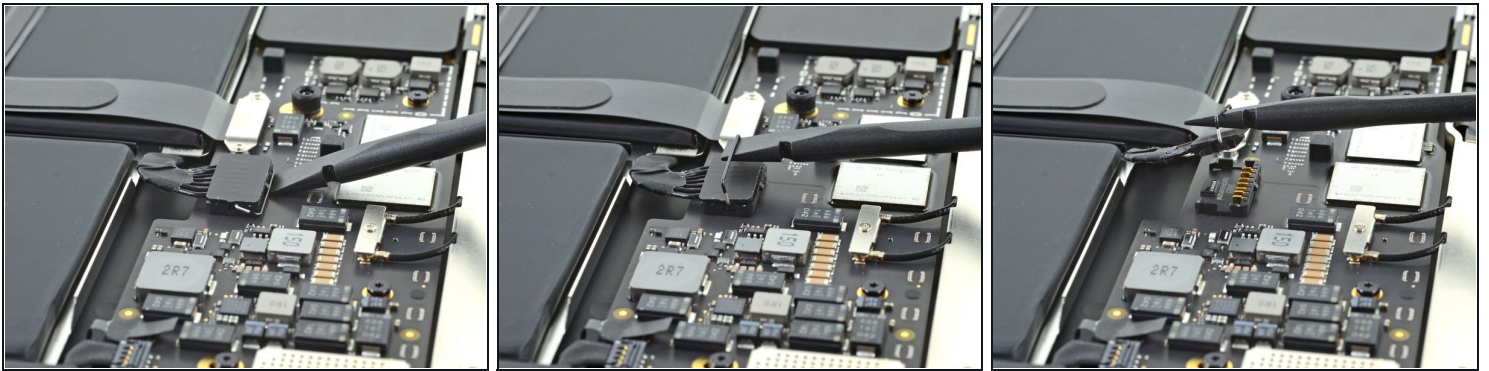
- Use a P5 driver to remove the following screws:
 - Two 7.9 mm screws
 - Two 7.3 mm screws
 - Six 2.6 mm screws
- ❗ Throughout this repair, [keep track of each screw](#) and make sure it goes back exactly where it came from to avoid damaging your MacBook.

Step 2 — Remove the lower case



- Wedge your fingers between the display and the lower case and pull upward to pop off the lower case.
 - Remove the lower case.
- ☒ To reinstall the lower case:
- Set it in place and press firmly to engage the two hidden clips underneath. You should feel and hear them snap into place.

Step 3 — Disconnect the battery



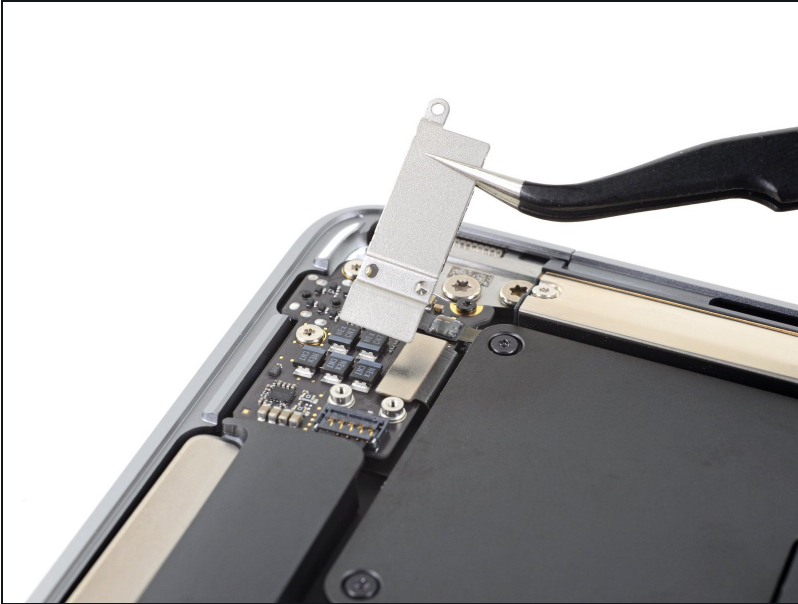
- Use the flat end of a spudger to pry up and unlatch the metal locking arm on the battery connector.
- ⚠ Make sure the metal arm is completely free of the locking tab before lifting the battery connector. The metal locking arm should easily unlatch.
- Lift straight up on the metal locking arm to pull the battery connector out of its socket on the logic board.
- ★ During reassembly, press the battery connector straight down into its socket, making sure it sits flush within the socket.
- If necessary, push the rear, wire side of the connector into place first, then rock the front of the connector into place.

Step 4 — Remove the audio board connector cover



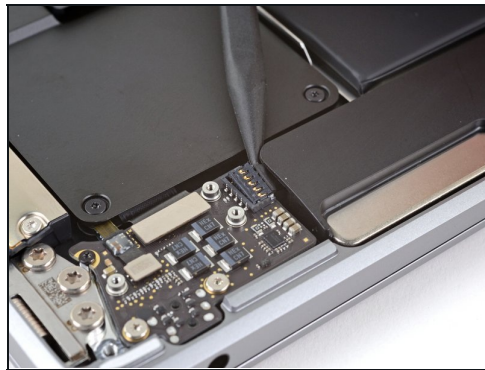
- Use a T3 Torx driver to remove the three 1.4 mm screws securing the audio board connector cover.
- ⓘ If your T3 bit feels a bit too loose, you may need to use a T4.

Step 5



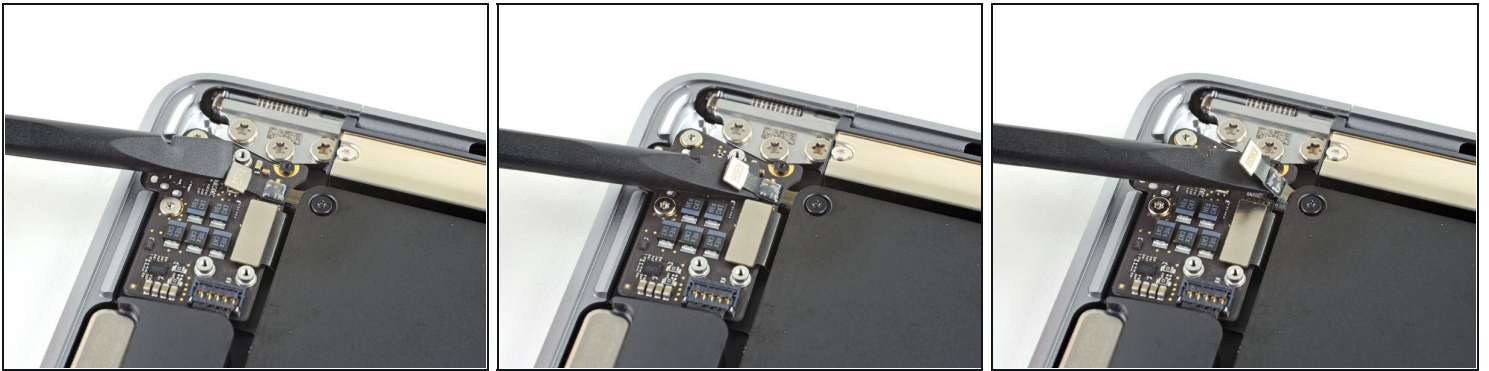
- Remove the audio board connector cover.

Step 6 — Disconnect the speaker



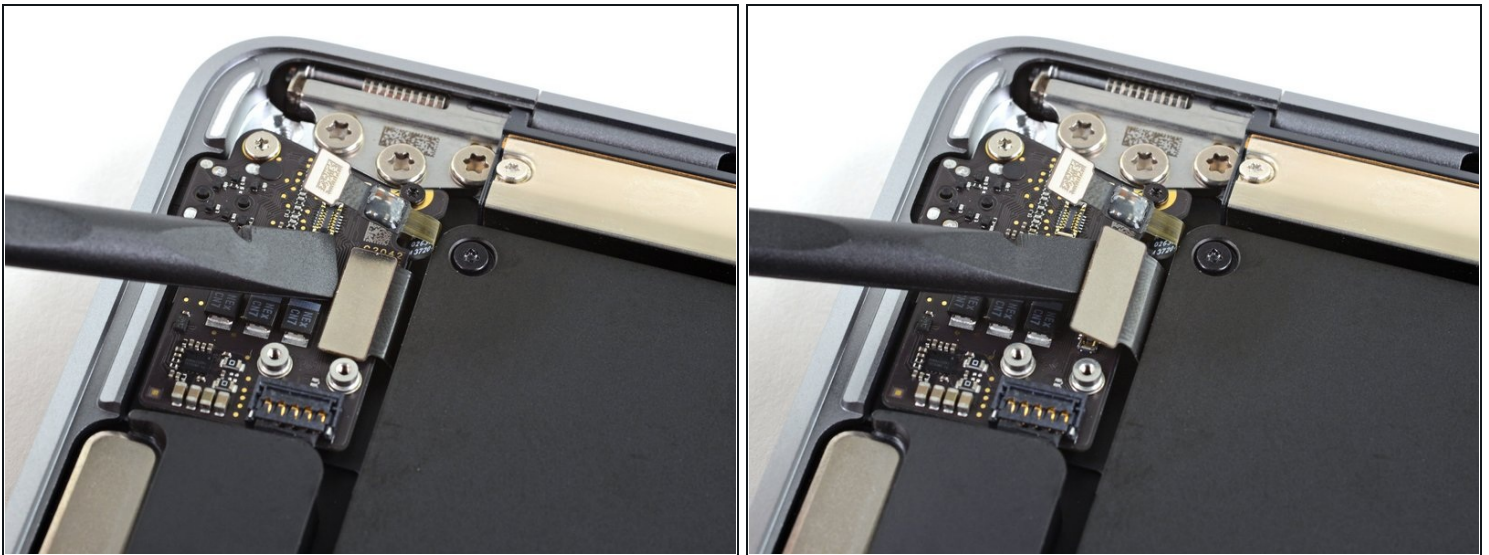
- Slide the pointed end of a spudger underneath the speaker cable and pry straight up to disconnect it.

Step 7 — Disconnect the Touch ID cable



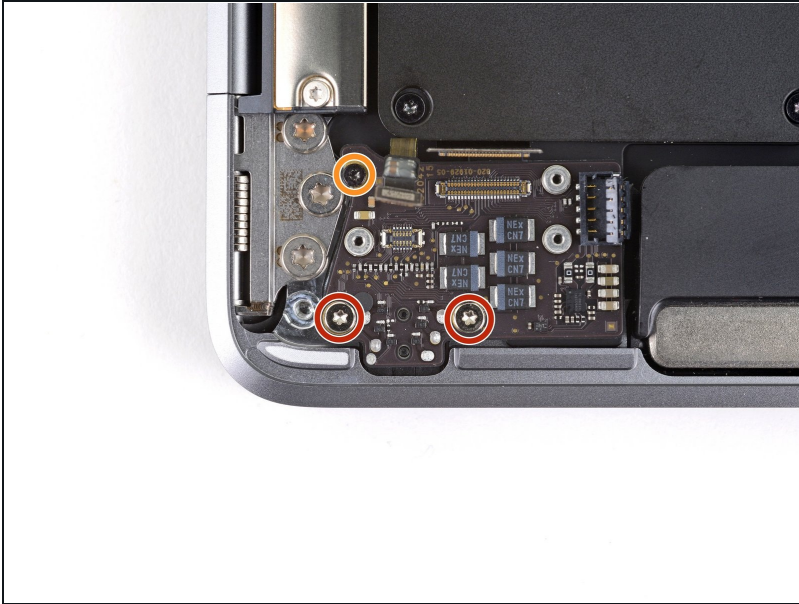
- Use the flat end of a spudger to pry the Touch ID cable straight up to disconnect it from the audio board.
- Continue to slide the spudger underneath the Touch ID cable to release it from the audio board.
 - ⓘ The Touch ID cable is secured to the audio board with some light adhesive.

Step 8 — Disconnect the audio board cable



- Use the flat end of a spudger to pry the audio board connector straight up to disconnect it from the board.
- ☑ To re-attach [press connectors](#) like this one, carefully align and press down on one side until it clicks into place, then repeat on the other side. Do not press down on the middle. If the connector is misaligned, the pins can bend, causing permanent damage.

Step 9 — Remove the audio board screws



- Remove the three screws securing the audio board:
 - Two 4.8 mm T5 Torx screws
 - One 2.5 mm T3 Torx screw

Step 10 — Remove the audio board



- Use a spudger to pry the audio board out of the upper case until you can grip it with your fingers.
- Remove the audio board.

Compare your new replacement part to the original part—you may need to transfer remaining components or remove adhesive backings from the new part before installing.

To reassemble your device, follow the above steps in reverse order.

Once you've completed your repair, your laptop may not power back on until connected to power.

Take your e-waste to an [R2 or e-Stewards certified recycler](#).

Repair didn't go as planned? Check out our [Answers community](#) for troubleshooting help.