



# Replace Apple Xserve 2009 Motherboard and fans

Disassemble Apple xServe 2009 to replace motherboard and fans

Written By: Tod Hallberg



---

## INTRODUCTION

Disassemble Apple xServe 2009 to replace motherboard and fans

---

### TOOLS:

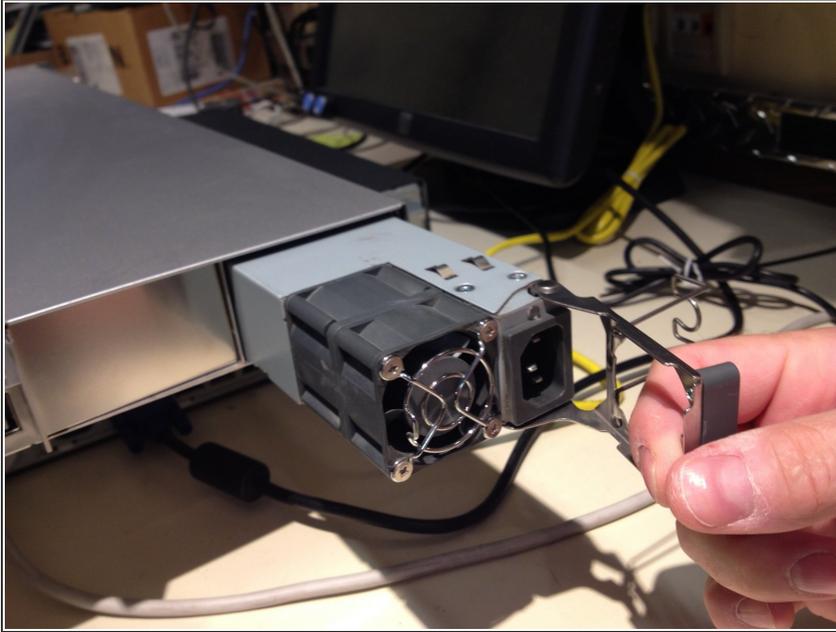
- [Phillips #1 Screwdriver](#) (1)
  - [Phillips #2 Screwdriver](#) (1)
  - [3mm Hex Driver](#) (1)
  - [Spudger](#) (1)
-

## Step 1 — Xserve 2009 MLB and Fan replacement



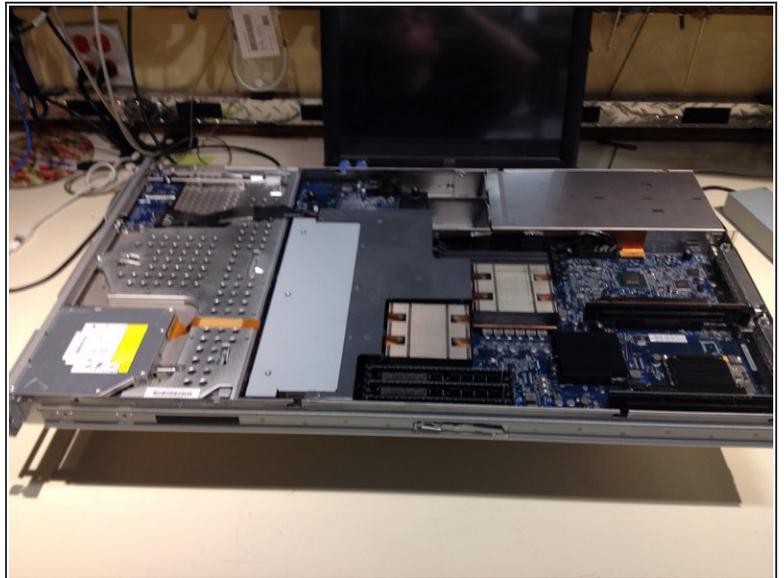
- Notable specs:
  - Dual Xeon Nehalem CPU @ 2.26 GHz
  - No SSD
  - No Hardware RAID

## Step 2



- Pull on release lever, and pull power supply out.

## Step 3



- Loosen the 2 thumbscrews on the back of the xserve to release the top.
- Slide top back, and lift top off.

## Step 4



- ⓘ This step is not necessary if you are not changing the drive. It does not interfere with the rest of the procedure.
- If the hard drives or blanks are still in the xserve, push the handle in to pop it out.
- Pull the hard drive and blank sleds out.

## Step 5



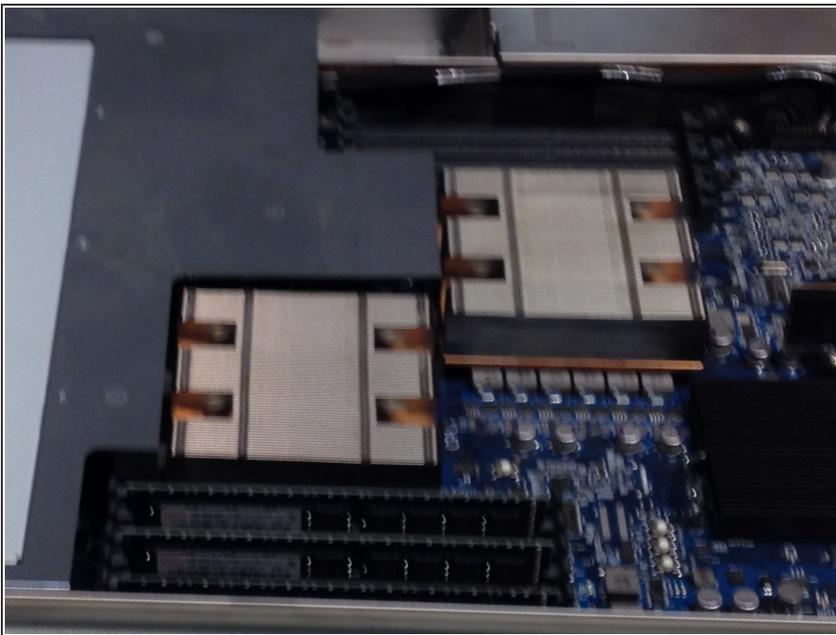
- Slide lever lock to release the CD/DVD drive.
- Slide CD/DVD drive back.
- Lift drive up and unplug the SATA connector on the back.
- ⓘ This step is not necessary if you are not changing the drive. It does not interfere with the rest of the procedure.

## Step 6



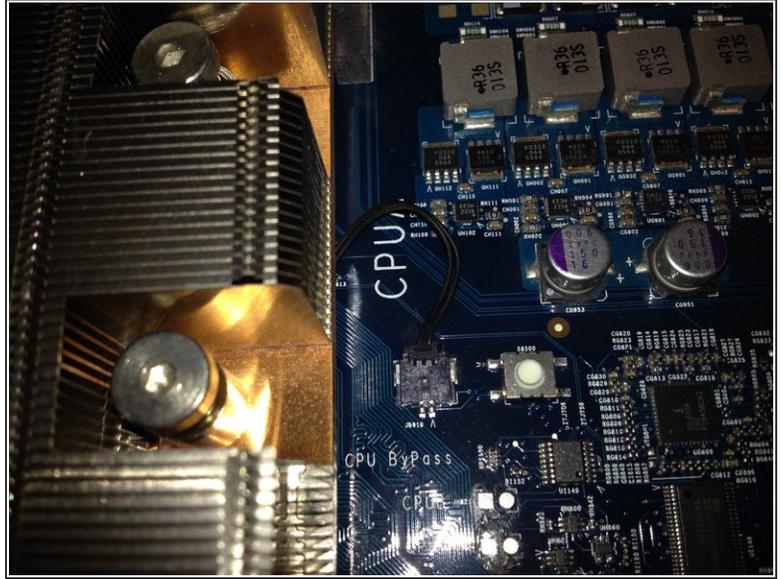
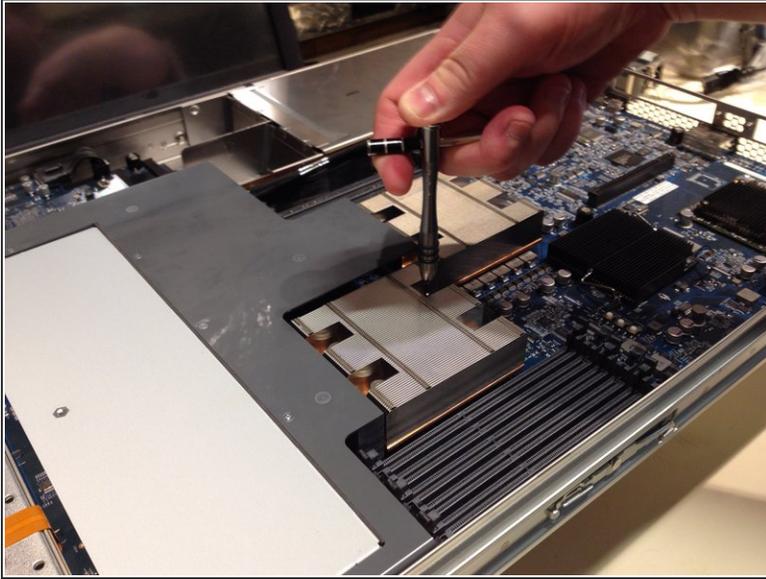
- Using a #1 Phillips screwdriver, unscrew the screws on each side of PCI slot #2 on the back of the computer.
- Once the screws are loosened, the PCI riser card should lift out of the slot.
- Repeat for PCI slot #1

## Step 7



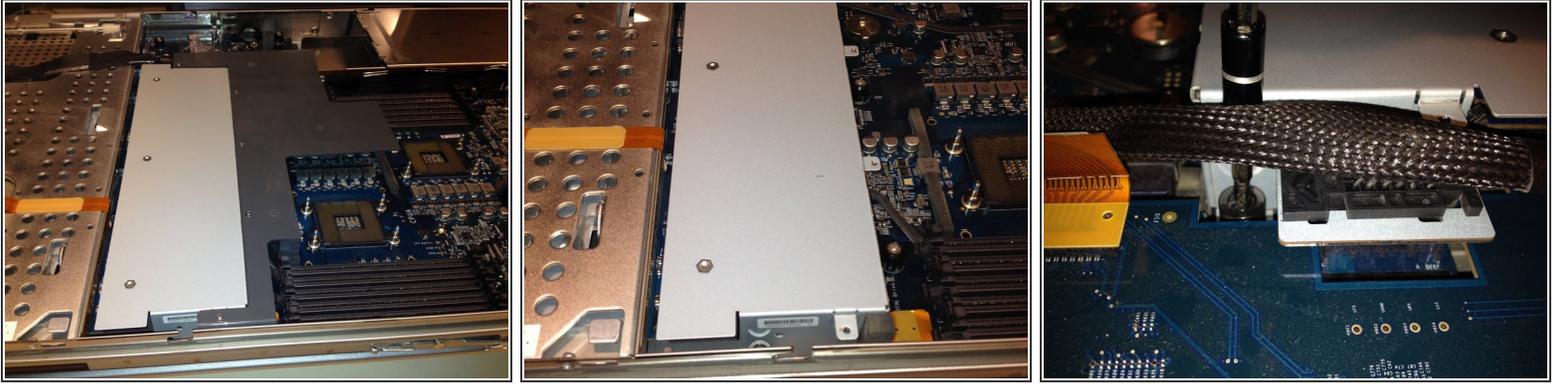
- Remove the RAM from all slots.

## Step 8



- Using a 3.0mm Hex wrench (Allen wrench), loosen the 4 screws that hold the processor and heatsink down.
- Unplug the sensor cable.
- Lift the heatsink and processor off the motherboard.
- Repeat if you have the dual processor model.

## Step 9



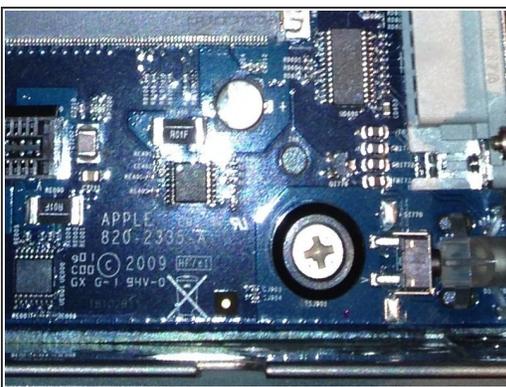
- Using a #1 phillips screwdriver, loosen the 5 screws that hold the plastic bezel in place.
- Remove the plastic bezel.
- Using a #2 phillips screwdriver, loosen the 2 screws that hold the fan array in place
- Lift the fan array out.

## Step 10



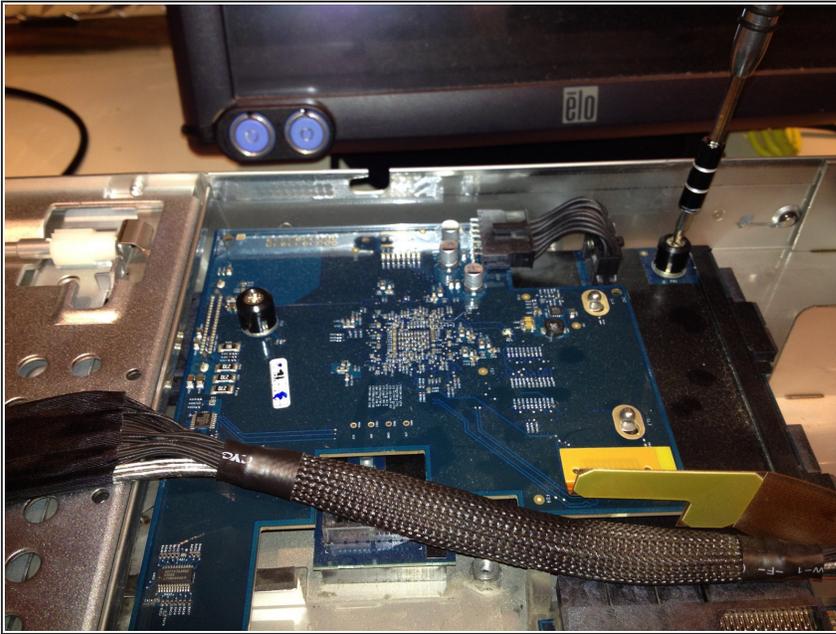
- Using the spudger, lift the connector on the right.
- Carefully squeeze the connector on the left and unplug it.
- Using the spudger, lift the CD/DVD connector by the CPU A RAM slots.

## Step 11



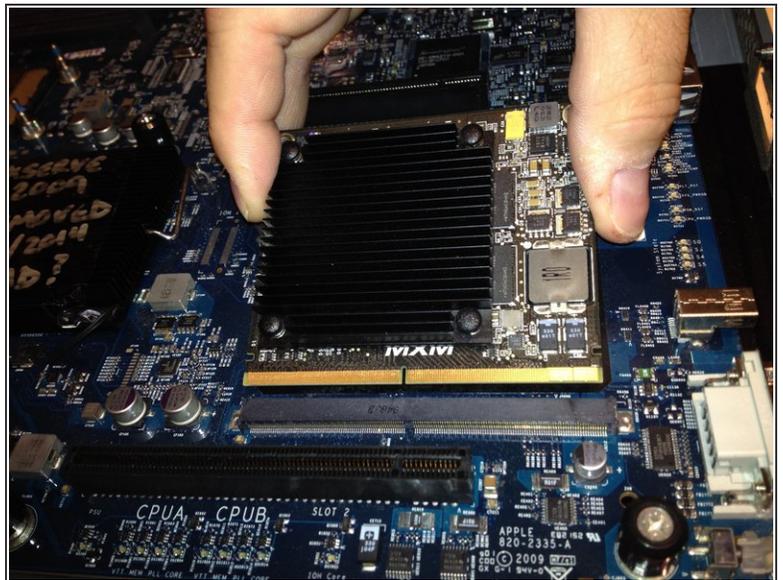
- Using a #2 screwdriver, loosen the 9 screws that hold the motherboard in place.
- There are 3 rows of 3 screws each. 1 row by the back of the computer, 1 row in the middle and 1 row by the fan array. They are obvious by the black plastic spacer/retainer on them.

## Step 12



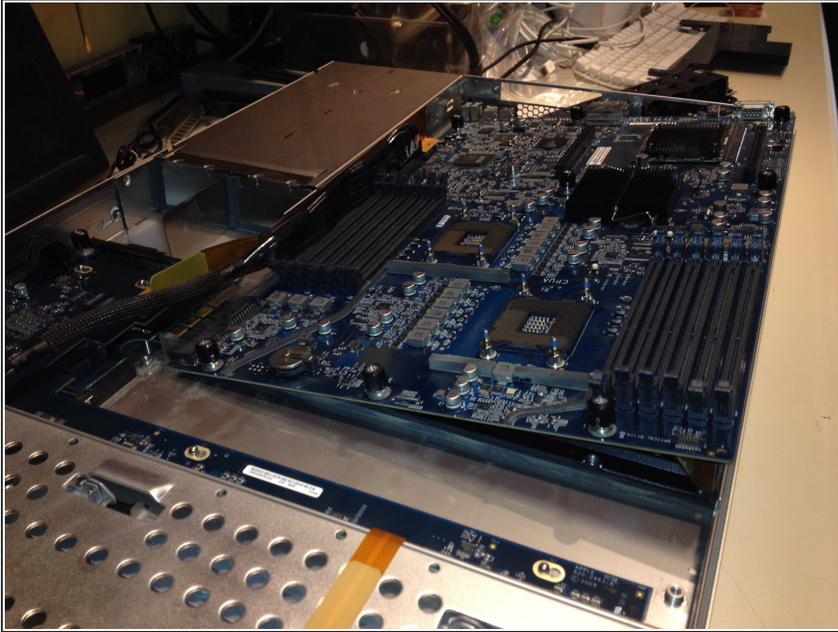
- Using a #2 screwdriver, loosen the screw on the power board.
- Slide it up to disconnect it from the motherboard.

## Step 13



- Remove the 2 screws that hold the video card on.
- Slide the card out of the socket.

## Step 14



- Lift the motherboard and slide it out of the connectors on the back of the computer.
- Then tip the motherboard up and out of the computer.

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