



Mac mini Mid 2011 Cowling Replacement

Plastic cowling covering the heat sink.

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INTRODUCTION

Use this guide to remove the small molded plastic cowl used to direct cool air toward the heat sink.

TOOLS:

- [T6 Torx Screwdriver](#) (1)
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Step 1 — Bottom Cover



- Place your thumbs in the depressions cut into the bottom cover.
- Rotate the bottom cover counter-clockwise until the white dot painted on the bottom cover is aligned with the ring inscribed on the outer case.
- ⓘ You do not need to apply much downward pressure while turning.

Step 2



- Tilt the mini enough to allow the bottom cover to fall away from the outer case.
- Remove the bottom cover and set it aside.

Step 3 — Fan



- Remove the two 11.3 mm T6 Torx screws securing the fan to the logic board near the antenna plate.

Step 4



- Lift the ear of the fan nearest the RAM up off the standoff secured to the outer case.
- ⓘ Removing the standoff screw is not necessary to remove the fan. You need only raise the fan enough to lift it off the standoff screw.

Step 5



- Lift the fan out of the mini for enough clearance to access its connector.
- Grab all the wires at once and gently pull **straight up** to disconnect the fan from the logic board.
⚠ Do not pry at the socket, or you may rip it from the logic board.
- Remove the fan.

Step 6 — Cowling



- Remove the single 3.5 mm T6 Torx screw securing the cowling to the heat sink.

Step 7



- Lift the cowling from the end nearest the antenna plate.
- Rotate the cowling away from the outer case and remove it from the mini.