

iPhone 6 Rear Case Replacement

Use this guide to strip and replace the rear...

Written By: Sam Goldheart



INTRODUCTION

Use this guide to strip and replace the rear case of your iPhone 6.

TOOLS:

Anti-Clamp (1)

Standoff Screwdriver for iPhones (1)

P2 Pentalobe Screwdriver iPhone (1)

iFixit Opening Tool (1)

Suction Handle (1)

Tweezers (1)

Phillips #000 Screwdriver (1)

Spudger (1)

SIM Card Eject Tool (1)

PARTS:

iPhone 6 OEM Rear Case (1) iPhone 6 Blank Rear Case (1) iPhone 6/6s/7 Battery Adhesive Strips (1)

Step 1 — Pentalobe Screws



- ⚠ Before disassembling your iPhone, discharge the battery below 25%. A charged lithiumion battery can catch fire and/or explode if accidentally punctured.
- Power off your iPhone before beginning disassembly.
- Remove the two 3.6 mm-long
 P2 Pentalobe screws next to the Lightning connector.

Step 2 — Anti-Clamp instructions







- (i) The next two steps demonstrate the <u>Anti-Clamp</u>, a tool we designed to make the opening procedure easier. **If you aren't using the Anti-Clamp, skip down three steps for an alternate method.**
 - (i) For complete instructions on how to use the Anti-Clamp, check out this guide.
- Pull the blue handle backwards to unlock the Anti-Clamp's arms.
- Slide the arms over either the left or right edge of your iPhone.
- Position the suction cups near the bottom edge of the iPhone just above the home button—one on the front, and one on the back.
- Squeeze the cups together to apply suction to the desired area.
 - (i) If you find that the surface of your iPhone is too slippery for the Anti-Clamp to hold onto, you can <u>use tape</u> to create a grippier surface.







- Pull the blue handle forwards to lock the arms.
- Turn the handle clockwise 360 degrees or until the cups start to stretch.
 - (i) Make sure the suction cups <u>remain aligned with each other</u>. If they begin to slip out of alignment, loosen the suction cups slightly and realign the arms.
- Insert an opening pick under the screen when the Anti-Clamp creates a large enough gap.
 - if the Anti-Clamp doesn't create a sufficient gap, rotate the handle a quarter turn.
 - **Don't crank more than a quarter turn at a time**, and wait a few seconds between turns. Let the Anti-Clamp and time do the work for you.
- Skip the next three steps.

Step 4 — Manual Opening Procedure



- If you don't have an <u>Anti-</u> <u>Clamp</u>, use a single suction cup to lift the front panel:
 - Press a suction cup onto the screen, just above the home button.
- i Be sure the cup is pressed securely onto the screen to get a tight seal.
- i If your display is badly cracked, covering it with a layer of clear packing tape may allow the suction cup to adhere. Alternatively, very strong tape may be used instead of the suction cup. If all else fails, you can superglue the suction cup to the broken screen.



- While holding the iPhone down with one hand, pull up on the suction cup to slightly separate the front panel assembly from the rear case.
- ⚠ Take your time and apply firm, constant force. The display assembly is a much tighter fit than most devices.
- Using a plastic opening tool, begin to gently pry the rear case down, away from the display assembly, while continuing to pull up with the suction cup.
- i There are several clips holding the front panel assembly to the rear case, so you may need to use a combination of the suction cup and plastic opening tool to free the front panel assembly.





- Pull the plastic nub to release the vacuum seal on the suction cup.
- Remove the suction cup from the display assembly.

Step 7 — Opening up the phone







- Open the iPhone by swinging the home button end of the front panel assembly away from the rear case, using the top of the phone as a hinge.
 - ② Several clips along the top edge of the front panel form a partial hinge.
 - During reassembly, align the clips just below the top edge of the rear case. Then, slide the front panel upward until its top edge is flush with that of the rear case.







- Open the display to about a 90° angle, and lean it against something to keep it propped up while you're working on the phone.
 - (i) In a pinch, an unopened canned beverage works well for this.
- Add a rubber band to keep the display securely in place while you work. This prevents undue strain on the display cables.

Step 9 — Removing the battery connector bracket screws



- Remove the following Phillips screws from the battery connector bracket:
 - One 2.2 mm screw
 - One 3.2 mm screw
- i During your repair, keep track of each screw and make sure it goes back exactly where it came from to avoid damaging your phone.



 Remove the metal battery connector bracket from the iPhone.

Step 11 — **Disconnecting the battery connector**



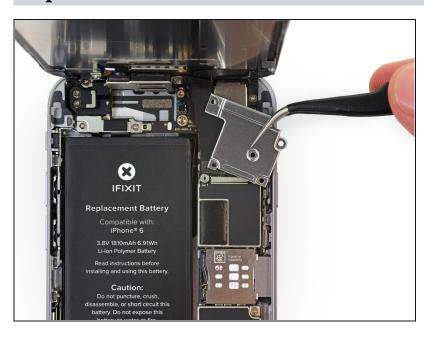
- Use a plastic opening tool to gently pry the battery connector up from its socket on the logic board.
- ⚠ Take care to only pry up on the battery connector, and not the socket on the logic board. If you pry up on the logic board socket, you may break the connector entirely.

Step 12 — Removing the front panel assembly cable bracket screws

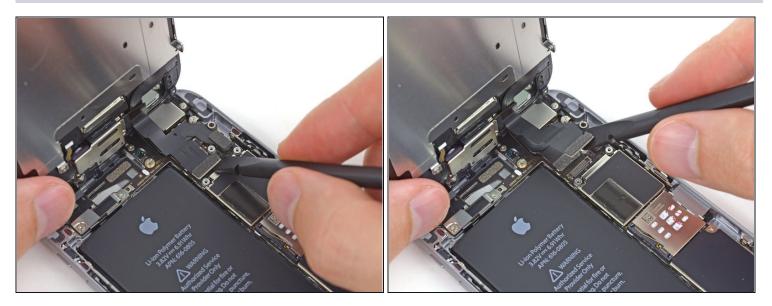


- Remove the following five Phillips screws securing the front panel assembly cable bracket:
 - Three 1.2 mm screws
 - One 1.7 mm screw
 - One 3.1 mm screw
- ⚠ Incorrect placement of these screws during reassembly will cause permanent damage to your iPhone's logic board.

Step 13



 Remove the front panel assembly cable bracket from the logic board.

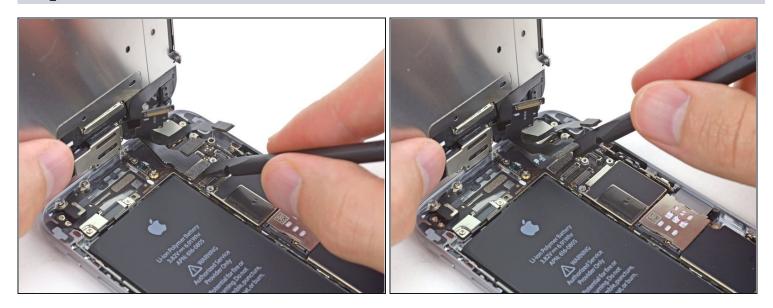


- ⚠ In the next four steps, take care to pry up **only** on the cable connectors, and not on their sockets on the logic board.
- Use a spudger or a fingernail to disconnect the front-facing camera and sensor cable connector.

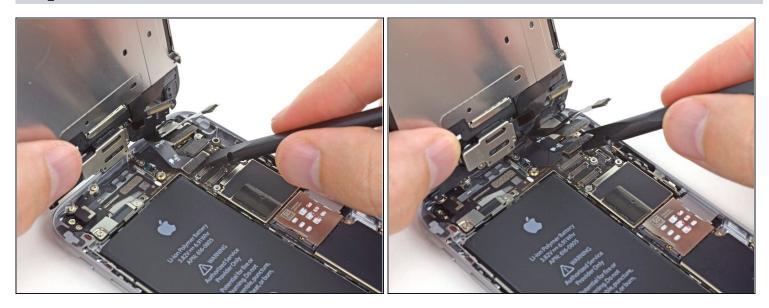
Step 15



Use a spudger or a fingernail to disconnect the home button cable connector.

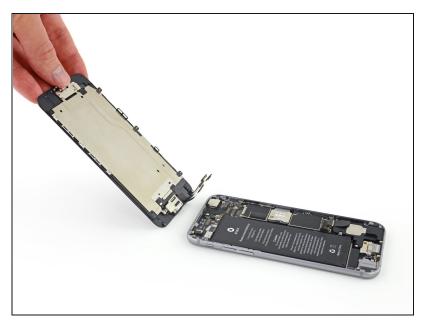


- ⚠ Make sure the battery is disconnected before you disconnect or reconnect the cable in this step.
- Use a spudger or a fingernail to disconnect the display data cable connector.
- When reassembling your phone, the display data cable may pop off its connector. This can result in white lines or a blank screen when powering your phone back on. If that happens, simply reconnect the cable and power cycle your phone. The best way to power cycle your phone is to disconnect and reconnect the battery connector.



- Use the flat end of a spudger to disconnect the digitizer cable connector.
- When reconnecting the digitizer cable, **do not press the center of the connector**. Press one end of the connector, then press the opposite end. Pressing in the center of the connector can bend the component and cause digitizer damage.

Step 18 — Separating front panel assembly and rear case



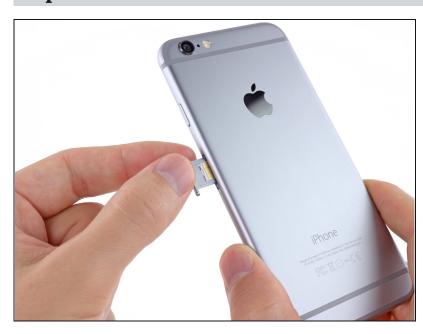
• Remove the front panel assembly from the rear case.

Step 19 — SIM Card





- Insert a SIM card eject tool or a paperclip into the small hole in the SIM card tray.
- Press to eject the tray.
- (i) This may require a significant amount of force.



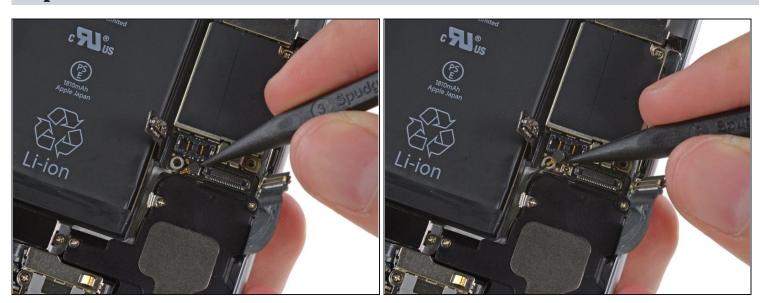
- Remove the SIM card tray assembly from the iPhone.
- When reinserting the SIM card, ensure that it is in the proper orientation relative to the tray.

Step 21 — Logic Board

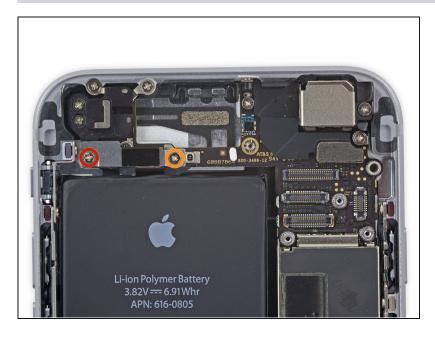


• Use the flat end of a spudger to disconnect the Lightning connector assembly cable and fold it out of the way of the speaker.

Step 22



• Use the point of a spudger to lift the antenna cable connector up off of its socket on the logic board.



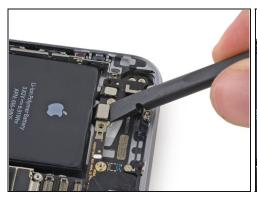
- Remove the following Phillips screws from the upper cable bracket:
 - One 2.9 mm screw
 - One 2.2 mm screw

Step 24





• Remove the upper cable bracket from the iPhone.



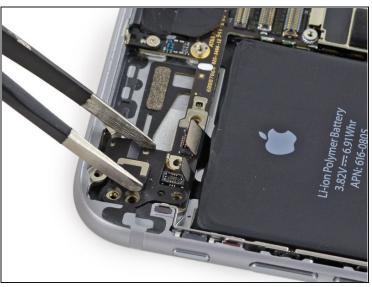




- ⚠ When disconnecting the following connectors, only pry up on the connector, **not the socket** on the logic board or you risk permanent damage.
- Use the flat end of a spudger to lift the power button and flash assembly cable connector up off of its socket.
- Lift the volume control cable connector up out of its socket on the logic board.



- Remove the following four Phillips screws from the Wi-Fi antenna:
 - One 1.5 mm screw
 - One 1.4 mm screw
 - Two 2.1 mm screws



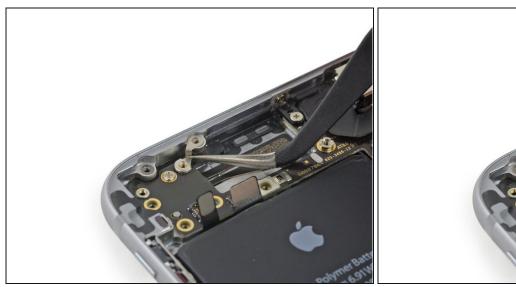


- Remove the Wi-Fi antenna from the iPhone.
- i Be careful not to touch any metal to metal contact points with your bare fingers—use tweezers or gloves. Finger oils may disrupt conductivity. If you do touch any of these components, clean them with a degreaser like windex or isopropyl alcohol before reassembly.

Step 28



 Remove the two 1.6 mm Phillips screws from the grounding bracket.



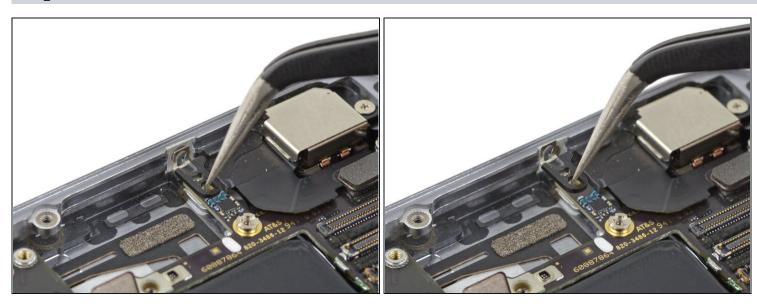


• Remove the grounding bracket from the iPhone.





- Remove the following Phillips screws securing the angled logic board bracket.
 - One 2.6 mm screw
 - One 1.3 mm screw, located horizontally in the upper sidewall of the iPhone.

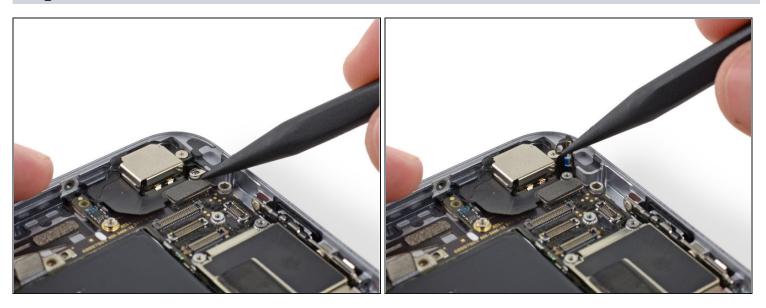


• Remove the angled logic board bracket.

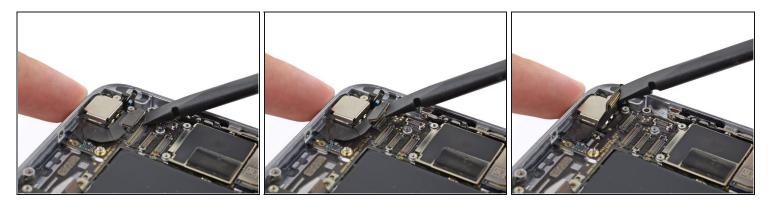
Step 32



Remove the single 1.2 mm
 Phillips screw securing the
 antenna interconnect cable to
 the logic board.



 Use the point of a spudger to fold the antenna interconnect cable up out of the way of the logic board.



- Use the flat end of a spudger to lift the camera cable connector straight up out of its socket on the logic board.
 - A Be sure to only pry on the connector **not** the socket itself or you can cause permanent damage to the logic board.
- Fold the camera cable up out of the way of the logic board.



- Remove the following screws securing the logic board to the rear case:
 - Two 1.9 mm Phillips screws
 - One 2.3 mm standoff screw
- i Standoff screws are best removed using a standoff screwdriver or bit.
- ⚠ In a pinch, a small flathead screwdriver will do the job—but use extra caution to ensure it doesn't slip and damage surrounding components.





- Use the flat end of a spudger to lift the battery connector end of the logic board up slightly, just enough to grab with your fingers.
 - (i) Insert the spudger near the metal shields below the SIM card tray to avoid damaging any chips or sockets.



Lift the battery connector end of the logic board and pull it up and out of the rear case.
 Be careful not to snag the logic board on any cables.

Step 38 — Power Button Cable Assembly



- Peel back the first battery adhesive tab from the bottom right edge of the battery.
- ⚠ Use your fingers or blunt tweezers, and be extra careful when working near the battery —puncturing a lithium-ion battery can release dangerous chemicals and cause a fire.







- Gently pull the battery adhesive tab away from the battery, toward the bottom of the iPhone.
 - Try not to pull against the battery or the lower components, or you may rip the adhesive strip.
- Continue pulling, allowing the strip to slowly slip out from between the battery and the rear case. When you feel increased resistance from the strip, stop pulling and continue with the next step.
- i If the battery adhesive tabs break off at any point during the removal process, use your fingers or blunt tweezers to retrieve the remaining length of adhesive, and continue pulling.
 - ⚠ If one of the adhesive strips breaks under the battery during this procedure, and cannot be retrieved, remove the remaining strip, and then proceed to **Step 44**.







- When you feel increased resistance from the adhesive strip, pull it gently around the lower right corner of the battery.
- Continue pulling the adhesive tab upward and away from the right edge of the battery, allowing it to slowly slide out from between the battery and the rear case, until the strip comes free from the iPhone.

⚠ Don't allow the adhesive strip to snag on the battery connector, or it may tear or break off.





- Peel back the second battery adhesive tab from the bottom left edge of the battery.
- Again, gently pull the battery adhesive tab upward and away from the battery, allowing the adhesive strip to slowly slide out from between the battery and the rear case.
- Continue pulling the adhesive tab until you feel increased resistance, and then stop.



- When you feel increased resistance from the adhesive strip, pull it gently around the lower left corner of the battery.
- ⚠ Don't allow the adhesive strip to snag on the corner of the battery, or it may tear or break off.
- Continue pulling the adhesive tab upward and away from the left edge of the battery, allowing it to slowly slide out from between the battery and the rear case, until the strip comes free from the iPhone.
 - If you removed both adhesive strips successfully, skip the next two steps and continue on Step 46.
 - If either of the adhesive strips broke off underneath the battery and could not be retrieved, continue with the next step below.



 If any of the adhesive strips broke off and the battery remains stuck to the rear case, prepare an iOpener or use a hair dryer to heat the rear case directly behind the battery.

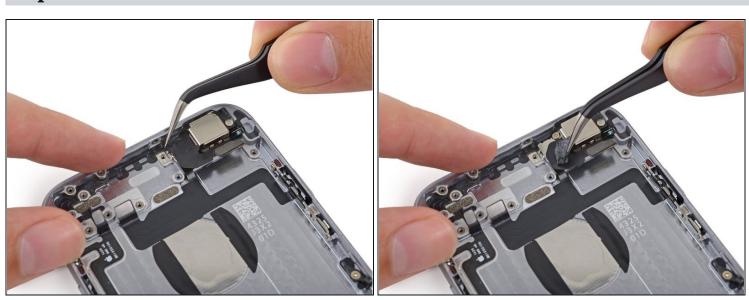


- Insert a <u>plastic card</u> under the logic board edge of the battery.
- ⚠ Be careful to keep the card as flat as possible to avoid bending the battery, which may damage it and cause it to release dangerous chemicals.
- Press the card in at several points if necessary to break up the adhesive behind the battery.

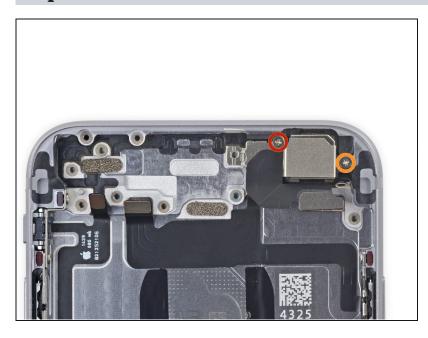


- After peeling or prying out all adhesive, remove the battery from the iPhone.
- When reinstalling the battery, refer to this guide to replace your battery's adhesive strips.

Step 46

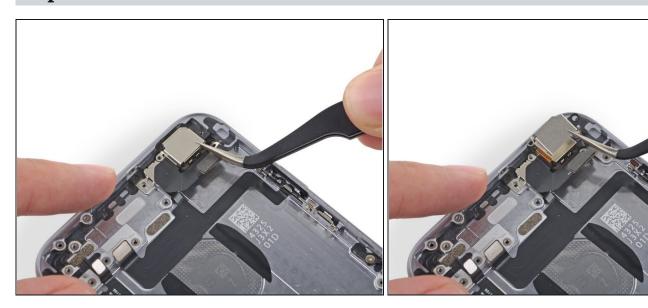


• Remove any tape covering the upper left rear-facing camera screw.

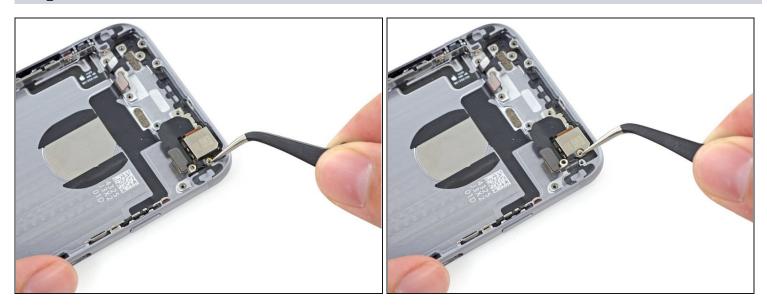


- Remove the following Phillips #00 screws from the rearfacing camera bracket:
 - One 1.5 mm screw
 - One 2.1 mm screw

Step 48

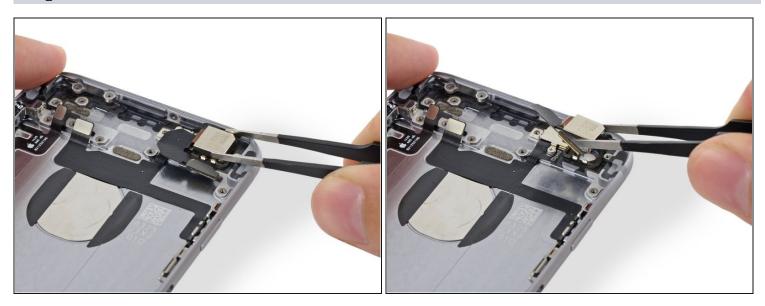


• Remove the rear-facing camera bracket.



• Carefully remove the antenna interconnect cable from the rear case.

Step 50

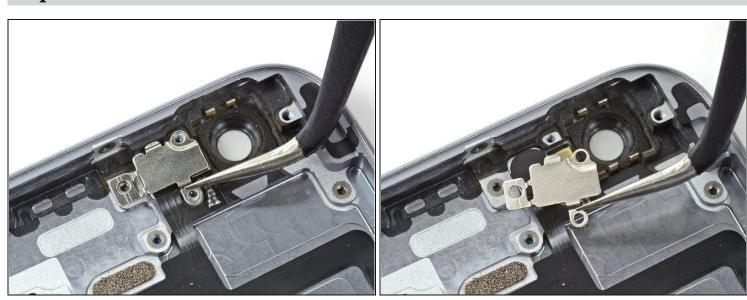


• Remove the rear-facing camera from the iPhone.

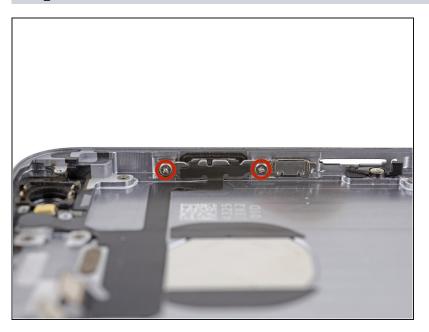


Remove the single 1.2 mm
 Phillips #00 screw securing the flash bracket.

Step 52



• Remove the flash bracket from the rear case.



Remove the two 2.2 mm
 Phillips #00 screws from the power button bracket.







- Use the point of a spudger to gently push the flash and microphone modules up out of their respective holes in the rear case.
- *i* If you encounter significant adhesive, use tweezers to peel the components up from the rear case.



- Begin to peel the flash/microphone/power button assembly cable up from the rear case starting from the connector end.
- Continue to peel the cable up, being particularly careful of the narrow component ends of the cable.
- Remove the flash/microphone/power button assembly cable from the phone.

Step 56 — Power Button



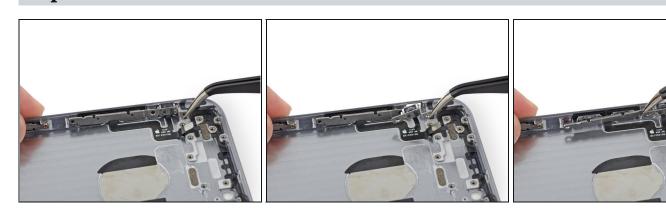
- Grip the power button by the metal bar to pull it free from the rear case.
- The power button is held to the case with an adhesive gasket, pull carefully to prevent ripping the membrane.

Step 57 — Rear Case



- Remove the following Phillips #00 screws from the volume control cable brackets:
 - Two 2.3 mm screws
 - One 1.8 mm screw

Step 58



• Pull the hold switch and volume control button brackets away from the rear case to allow access to the button covers.







- Begin to peel the volume control button cable up from the rear case starting from the connector end.
 - Be gentle when peeling the thin portions of the cable up from the case.
- Remove the volume control button cable from the rear case.







- Pull the volume control buttons by the metal bar to remove them from the rear case.
 - The buttons are held to the case with an adhesive gasket, pull carefully to prevent ripping the membrane.



- Remove the following four Phillips #00 screws securing the speaker:
 - Two 2.9 mm screws
 - Two 2.3 mm screws

Step 62



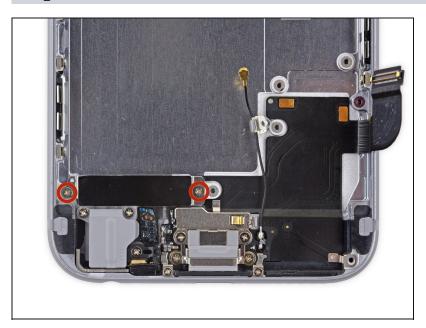


 Use the point of a spudger to push the antenna interconnect cable clip off of the speaker housing.



• Pull the speaker up and out of the rear case.

Step 64



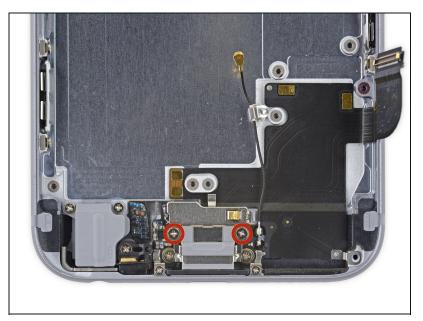
Remove the two 1.6 mm
 Phillips #00 screws securing the vibrator to the rear case.





• Remove the vibrator from the iPhone.

Step 66

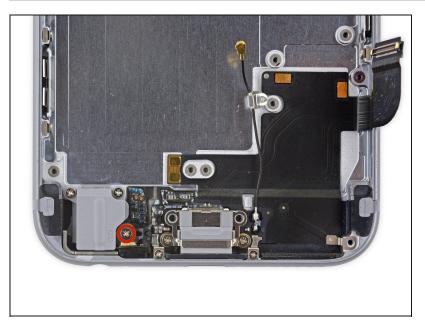


Remove the two 3.1 mm
 Phillips #00 screws securing
 the Lightning port retaining
 bracket.



• Remove the Lightning port retaining bracket.

Step 68



Remove the single 3.6 mm
 Phillips #00 shoulder screw
 from the microphone brace.





• Remove the microphone brace from the iPhone.



- Remove the six remaining Phillips #00 screws from the Lightning connector cable assembly:
 - Two 3.1 mm shoulder screws
 - Two 1.7 mm screws
 - Two 1.5 mm screws

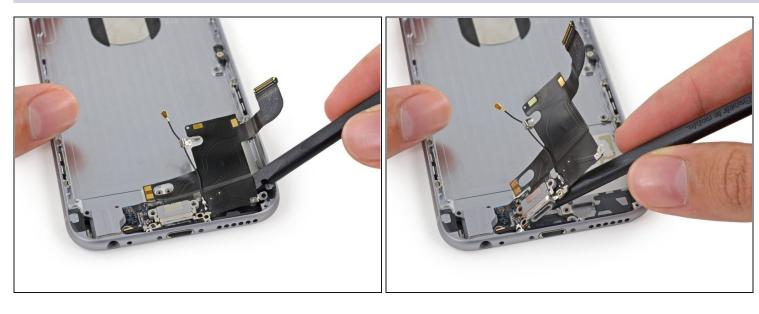


• Use the flat end of a spudger to begin peeling the Lightning connector cable assembly up from the rear case.

Step 72



• Carefully pull the Lightning connector cable assembly up slightly to free the it from the vibrator and speaker screw posts.

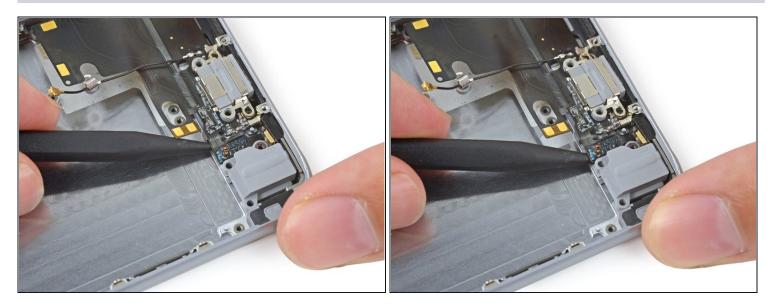


• Use the flat end of a spudger to lift under the Lightning connector portion of the cable assembly to free more adhesive.

Step 74



• Use the point of a spudger to push the microphone portion of the Lightning cable assembly out of its recess in the rear case.



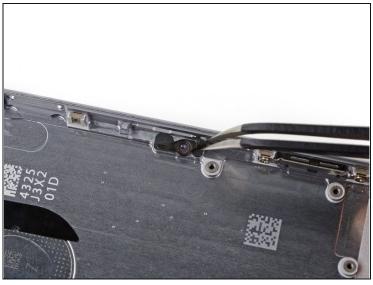
• Gently run the point of a spudger under the cable assembly between the Lightning connector and the headphone jack to free it from the last of the adhesive.



- Use the tip of a spudger to help guide the headphone jack out of its recess in the rear case.
- Remove the Lightning connector cable assembly from the iPhone.



 Remove the single 1.7 mm
 Phillips #00 screw securing the SIM eject lever.





- Remove the SIM eject lever from the rear case.
- Before reassembling, carefully check your replacement rear case and make sure it contains all the same parts as your original rear case. Transfer any remaining parts before you continue.

