



Apple TV 1st Generation Power Indicator LED Replacement

Many Apple TV forums report a weakening or dimming of the white power indicator. This is due to premature failure of a white LED. It is possible to replace the LED and restore the power light.

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INTRODUCTION

This repair requires either an extremely fine tipped soldering iron and extremely steady hands, or an SMD rework station.

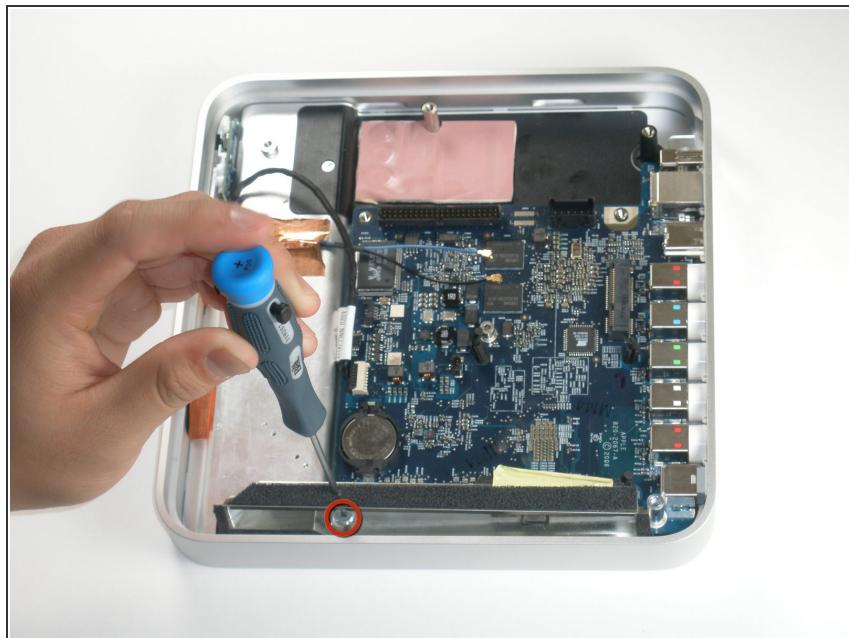
TOOLS:

- Desoldering Braid (1)
- Soldering Iron (1)
- T20 Torx Screwdriver (1)
- T8 Torx Screwdriver (1)
- Tweezers (1)

PARTS:

- White LED (1)

Step 1 — Logic Board



- Remove the T8 Torx screw securing the metal shield to the case.

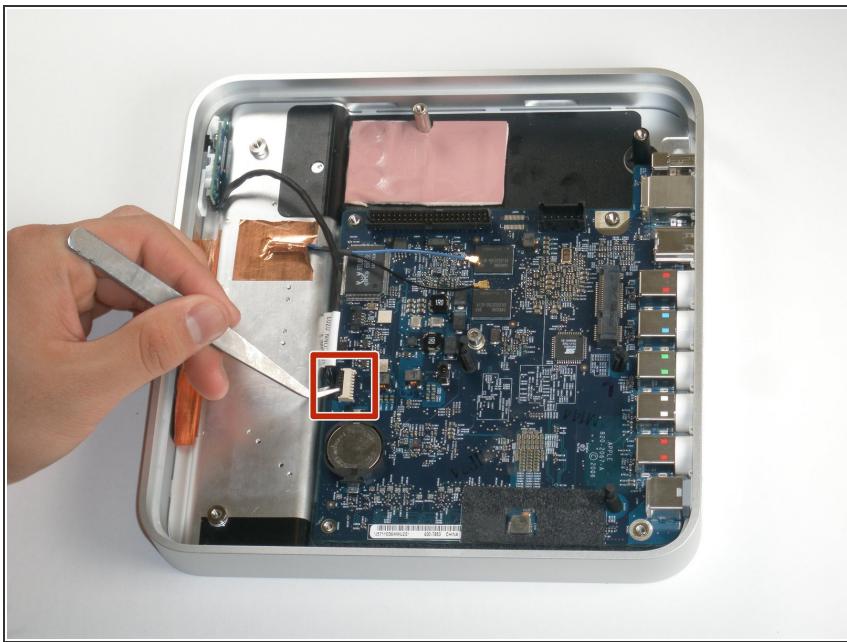
(i) To remove the T8 screw, you must insert the screwdriver through the access hole in the metal shield. The access hole is located near the PRAM battery.

Step 2



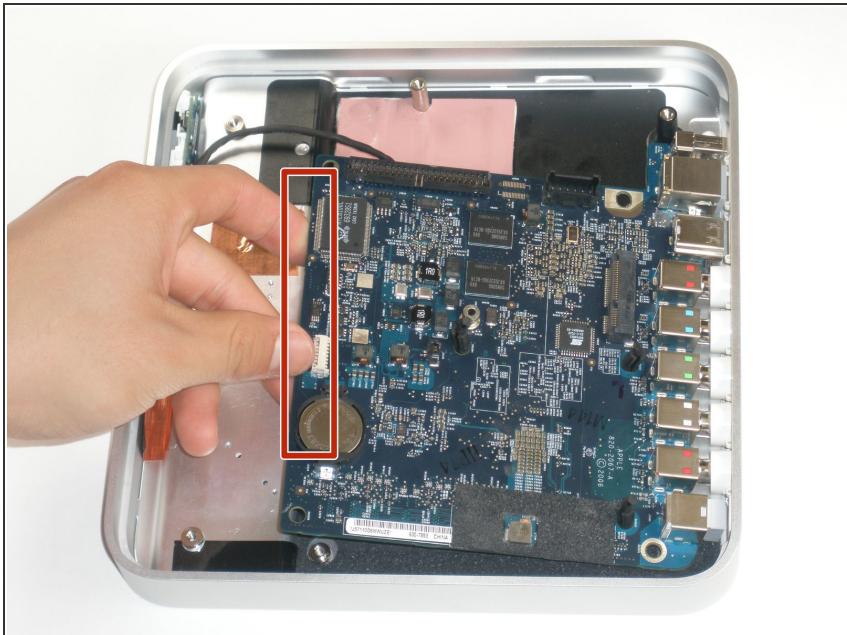
- Remove the T20 screw located near the digital audio port.
- Lift and remove the metal shield from the upper case of the Apple TV.

Step 3



- Use a pair of tweezers to pull the IR cable straight away from its socket on the logic board.
- *(i)* Make sure to pull the connector parallel to the face of the logic board. Do not pull the connector straight up.

Step 4



- Lift the left edge of the logic board (nearest the PRAM battery) upwards and slide it out of the case, away from the ports.
- **⚠** Be careful not to damage the ports when sliding the logic board out of case.
- The logic board remains.

Step 5 — Power Indicator LED



- Carefully peel back the two copper sticky grounding strips near the LED module.
- Swing the outer aluminium case up and carefully slide it towards the connector side of the logic board until it comes off. Remove the two Phillips #0 screws securing the LED module.
- Carefully unplug the module from the logic board and remove it from the case.

Step 6



- There are two miniature SMD LEDs. One is clear and one is yellow. Unsolder the YELLOW colored LED. Replace with another high intensity SMD LED. The anode (+) is marked on the circuit board and is located away from the infrared receiver side.

(i) SMD LEDs are difficult to find as a spare part. You can carefully ground down a normal sized LED with a Dremil until it is the correct fit.

- Reassemble the Apple TV following the reverse of these steps used to disassemble it.

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