



Asus F556UQ Laptop Hard Drive / SSD Replacement

I want to share my experience of removing my ASUS F556UQ Laptop's built-in Hard Disk Drive (HDD) and replacing it with a Solid State Drive (SSD).

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INTRODUCTION

All I want to do is share my own experience. I'm no professional - far from it. I'm just an amateur who thinks it really should be possible for anyone with minimal know-how to replace a HDD with a SSD.

- (Unfortunately most manufacturers seem to realise that now that SSD's are affordable whether or not a laptop has one is a reason to pay a large premium, so my guess is that that's why they make it ever harder to replace the built-in hard drive. This is no place to rant about this, though.)

Please be aware that you might void your laptop's guarantee by following this guide! As always when doing hands-on repair work on a motherboard there's a fair chance you might break something, so please be careful and at the very least take steps to [avoid an ESD](#). I'm (of course) not responsible for any damages you do to your own device.



TOOLS:

- [Essential Electronics Toolkit](#) (1)
- [Plastic Cards](#) (1)



PARTS:

- [1 TB SSD / Upgrade Bundle](#) (1)
- [250 GB SSD / Upgrade Bundle](#) (1)
- [500 GB SSD / Upgrade Bundle](#) (1)
- [2 TB SSD / Upgrade Bundle](#) (1)

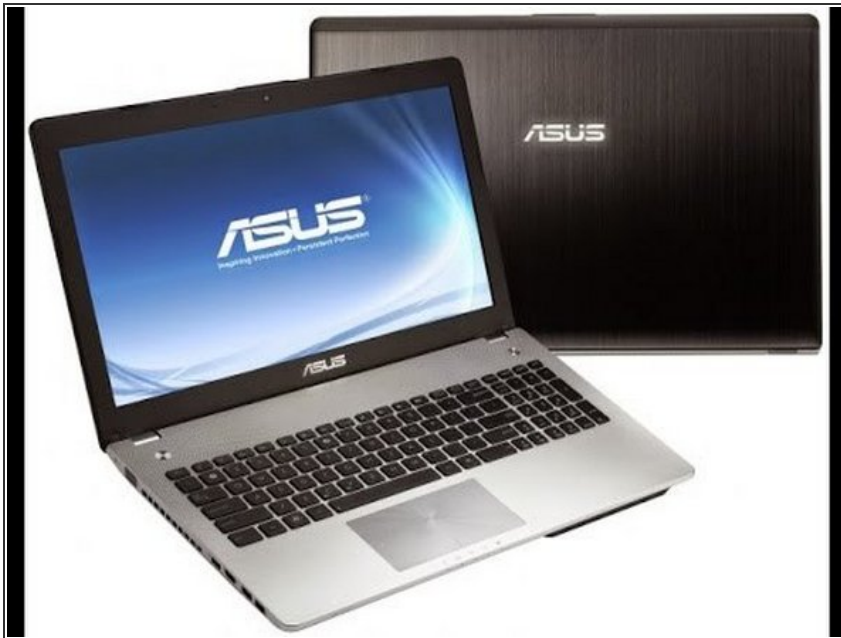
Step 1 — Remove Cover



- Turn your laptop around and remove the 10 screws you see straight away. Make sure you remember which screw goes where, as they have very slightly different lengths and you'll take a lot of time (like I did) trying to find out which goes where if you don't remember where they originally were.
- **DON'T TRY TO LIFT OFF THE COVER JUST YET.** There are two cheeky screws you'll need to remove before you'll be able to do so.
- To get to the second to last screw, you'll first have to remove the RAM slot cover. Do so by peeling off the cover on the screw with a knife and then removing it. Now gently force the cover open. Under the cover you'll find a screw fixing the cover to the mainboard. Remove it!
- For the last screw, you'll have to peel off one of the four rubber stands on your laptop. It is the one roughly above the DVD drive. Peel it off with a knife and it will reveal the last screw you need to remove.

- Now carefully take off the cover using a credit card or similar. Pry the latches open starting next to the DVD drive. I found [this video](#) helpful for an idea of how it works, though differently to there, the F556UQ (our) model has just a simple cover to remove - no need to disconnect keyboard and touchpad.
- TAKE CARE not to bend the status lamps for your laptop when prying the cover open.

Step 2 — Removing and replacing the HDD



- This works almost (check below) exactly like it does for the model in [this video](#). Thanks Anthony Parker for putting this together!
- I wasn't able to easily remove the mainboard component with the USB port attached the way the video above shows because the audio jack port wouldn't come loose. I worked around it by disconnecting the hard drive and then gently pulling the hard drive frame out from underneath the mainboard component with the USB, etc. Worked for me!

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