



Atari 5200 number pad cleaning or replacement

A guide to disassembling the Atari 5200 controller to give access to its number pad.

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INTRODUCTION

The number pad, while not used in many games, can become unresponsive over time due to dislodged/dirty sensors. Reseating and cleaning them can improve number pad responsiveness.



TOOLS:

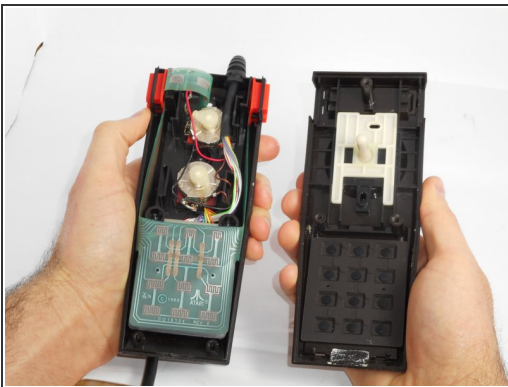
- [Phillips #2 Screwdriver](#) (1)
 - [Metal Spudger](#) (1)
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Step 1 — Open the controller



- Turn the controller over, exposing the three screws on the back (marked by the orange circles). Use a 6mm screwdriver to remove these screws.
 - Carefully slide and pull the two parts of the controller shell apart, exposing the innards.
- ⚠ Try not to move the joystick when reassembling. This will almost assuredly break your alignment. The less the joystick is moved, the easier it will be to realign the joystick to the pots.

Step 2 — Cleaning/Reseating (number pad front and back)



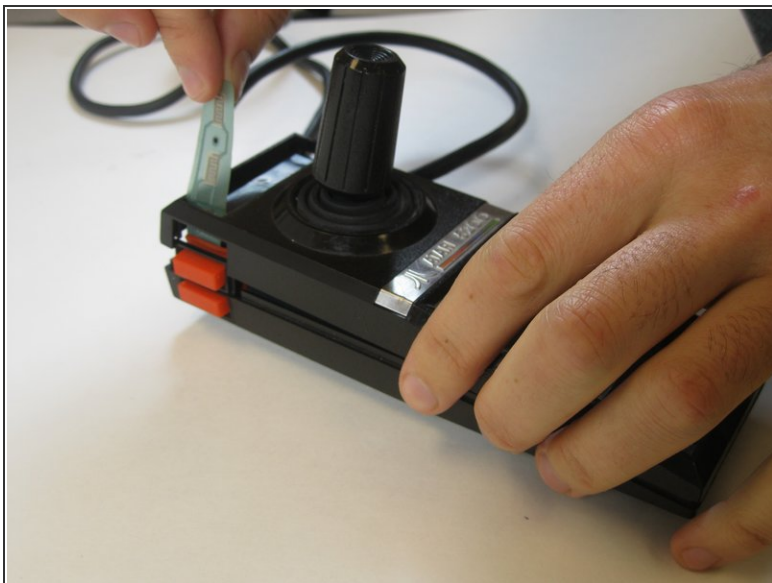
- Take out the rubber button module of the number pad.
- With access to the number pad sensors, use compressed air to blow out dust.
- Wipe the sensors clean with a cloth dabbed with alcohol.

Step 3 — Reassembly Part 1



- Use a spudger to remove the top frame.
- Take off the plate.
- Remove the rubber buttons.

Step 4 — Reassembly Part 2



- Pull the circuit strip through the new space.
- Realign the top and bottom of the controller.

Step 5 — Reassembly Part 3



- Return the buttons to the top of the controller.
- Snap the frame back into place.
- Screw the screws.

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

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