



Basic cleaning for the A1048 Keyboard

A basic clean for the keyboard. The guide will show you how to perform keycap cleaning for the keyboard without full disassembly.

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INTRODUCTION

This guide will take you through a simple cleaning method used for all keyboards but is especially useful on these white keyboards as they can yellow over time and collect dust making them ugly and unsanitary to type with.

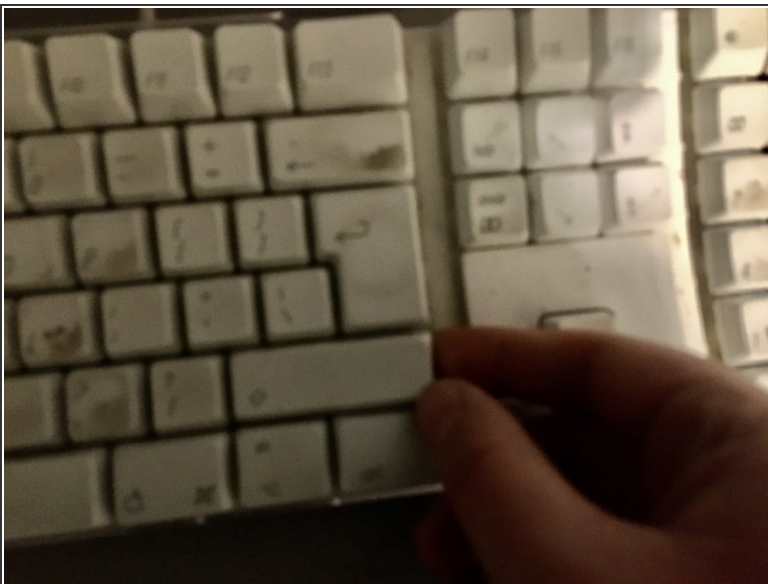
Step 1 — Starting info



- Start with your dirty keyboard, most likely found from a 2003-2007 white iMac.

⚠ This may void any warranty the keyboard may have. Proceed with caution.

Step 2 — Keycap removal



- Pull off keycaps
 - Repeat until there is none left
- ⓘ Be sure to keep metal braces where they are in the keys, as otherwise the keys will be unstable after restoration.

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Step 3 — Base keyboard cleaning



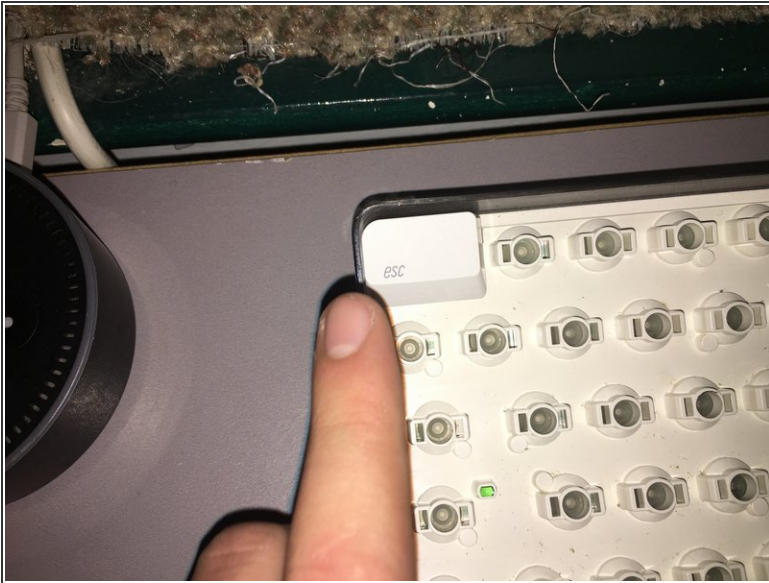
- Use a vacuum cleaner and q-tip to remove dust/debris hidden underneath the keyboard.

Step 4 — Keycap cleaning



- Individually clean each key until they reach their former white glory.
- ❗ If your keys are yellowed, you can 'retrobright' them removing any yellow caused by the sun. There are many tutorials online showing you how to do this.
- ❗ It may be easier to fill a bowl with soapy hot water and dump all of the keys in to clean unreachable areas.
- Dry each keycap ready for installation.

Step 5 — Replacing the keys



- Insert each key by pressing down onto its hole on the keyboard.
- ⓘ Refer to Step 1's image if you cannot remember where some of the keys go.
- ⓘ Start with shortcut keys (Command, control, function, esc, space, arrow keys etc) and work your way into the letters.
- ⓘ Line up the metal braces back with their slots they came out from as shown in image #2.

Step 6 — Completion!



- If you followed the steps correctly, you will have a clean keyboard ready for its Mac!
- ⓘ This keyboard will work with new Macs if you do not have an official keyboard.

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