Dell Inspiron 11z-1121 Fan Replacement

This guide will show you how to access the fan so you can clean or replace it if you notice your laptop is running hot.

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INTRODUCTION

The fan in a laptop is responsible for keeping the the laptop cool so that it can properly function. Without the fan the laptop can overheat or run slowly.

🔧 TOOLS:

- iFixit Opening Tools (1)
- Phillips #1 Screwdriver (1)

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Step 1 — Battery

- Slide the latches outward to release the battery.

- Pull the battery outward to remove.

(i) The latches should lock in place, allowing for easy removal.

⚠ The battery must be removed for safety reasons when replacing other components of the laptop.

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Step 2 — Keyboard

- Unscrew three black 1mm screws using the PH1 Phillips-head screwdriver on the bottom of the laptop around the battery.
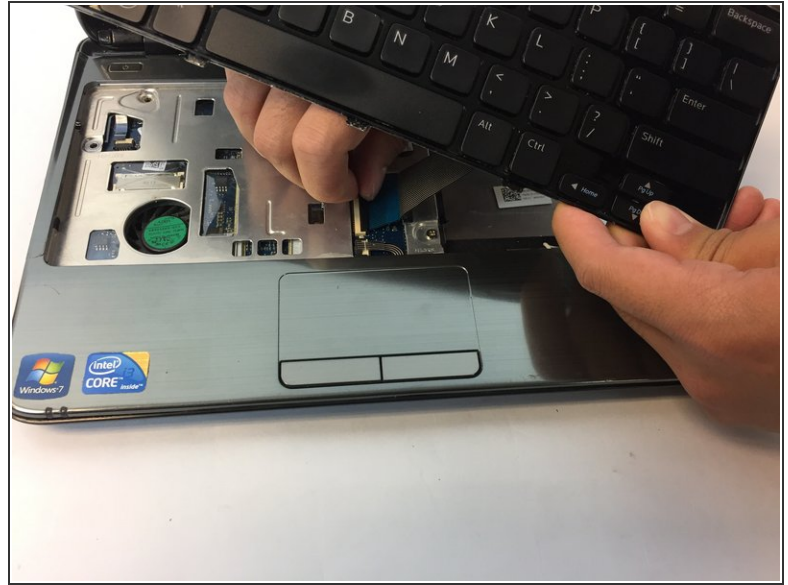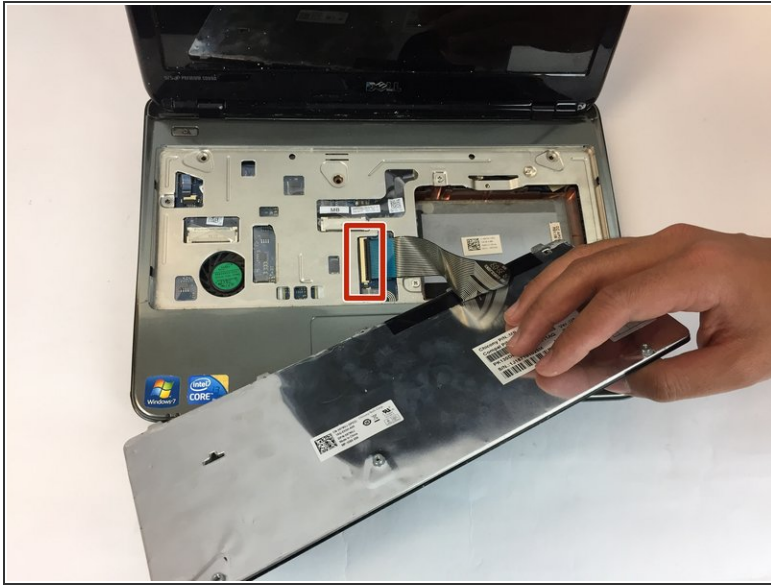
Step 3

- Flip the laptop over and open it to expose the keyboard.

- Use a plastic opening tool to pry up the keyboard, starting in the upper corner and working your way around.

⚠ Once the keyboard is pried up, do not remove the keyboard. There is still a ribbon attaching the keyboard to the laptop.
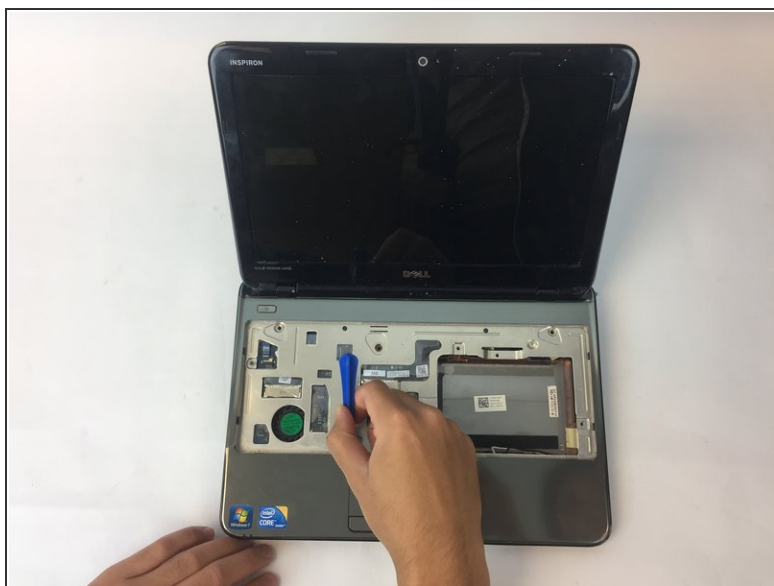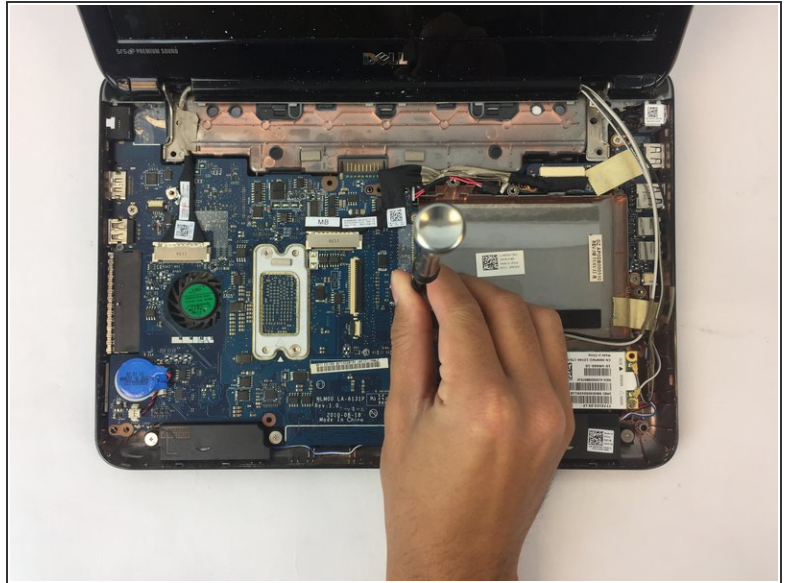
Step 4

- Lift the keyboard to expose the ribbon attaching the keyboard to the laptop.

- Flip up the black retaining flap on the ZIF connector and then pull the ribbon cable away.

- Remove the keyboard from the laptop.
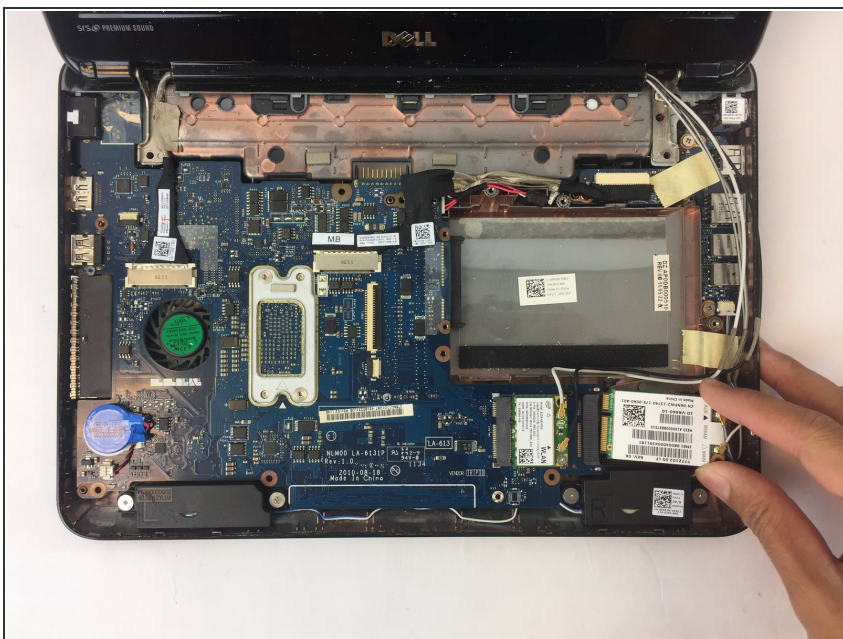
Step 5 — Fan

- Start by prying the outer casing of the laptop using the plastic opening tool. Start from the bottom and work your way around the edges.

Step 6

- Remove the outer casing to expose the motherboard.

- Remove five .75 mm screws using a PH1 screwdriver.

- (i) Make sure to keep track of your screws.

Step 7

- Remove wireless wide area network (WWAN) card by sliding it out of position.

- (i) Make sure the wires attached to the WWAN card are not detached when doing this step.
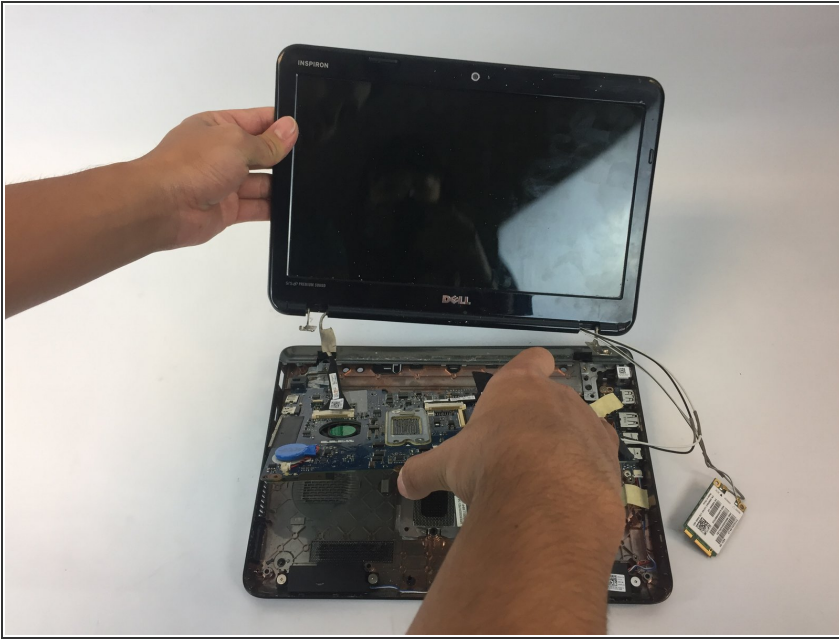
Step 8

- Unscrew the two 0.9 mm screws that are holding down the screen.

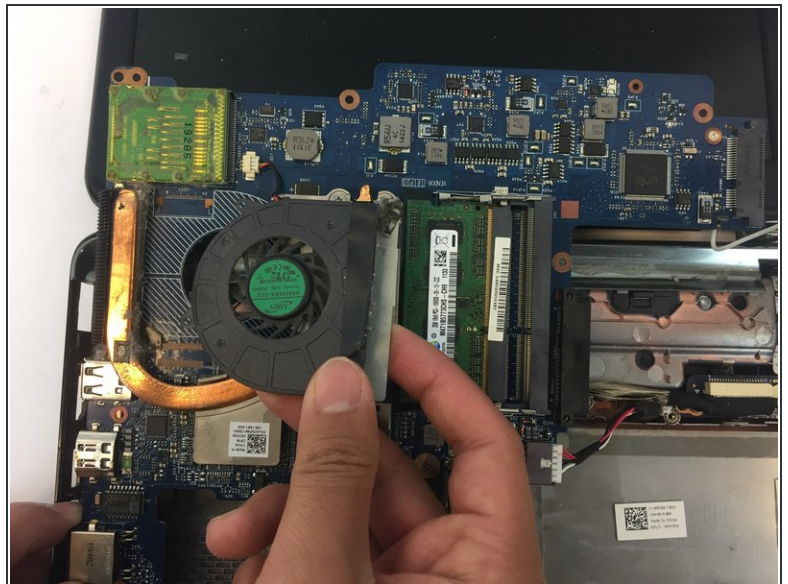- Lift the screen up and towards yourself to detach the screen from the laptop.
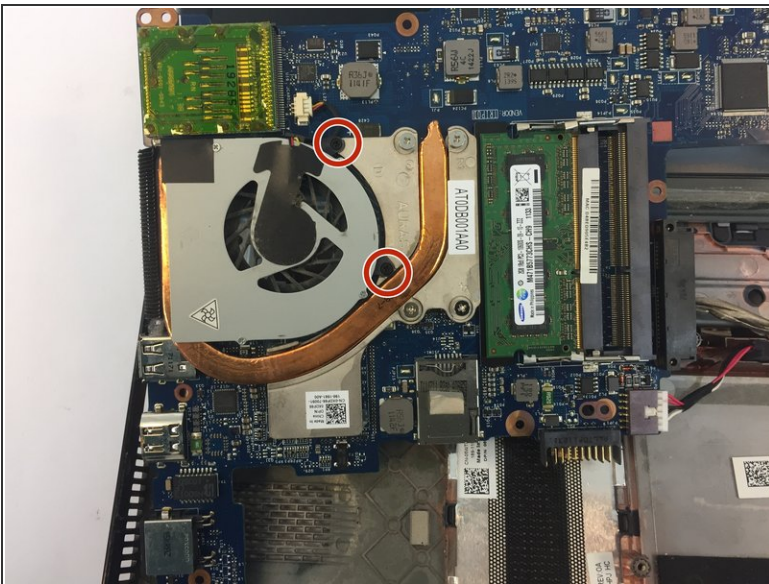
Step 9

- Lay the screen down and pry the left corner of the plastic casing that is located behind the screen.

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Step 10

- While holding screen, remove the motherboard by wiggling it around and pulling outwards.

- ⓘ In this step you are trying to pull the motherboard out from the VGA socket it is attached to in the back left corner of the laptop.

Step 11

- Unscrew the two black 0.5 mm screws holding the fan in place.

- Remove the fan by gently lifting the component upwards.

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

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