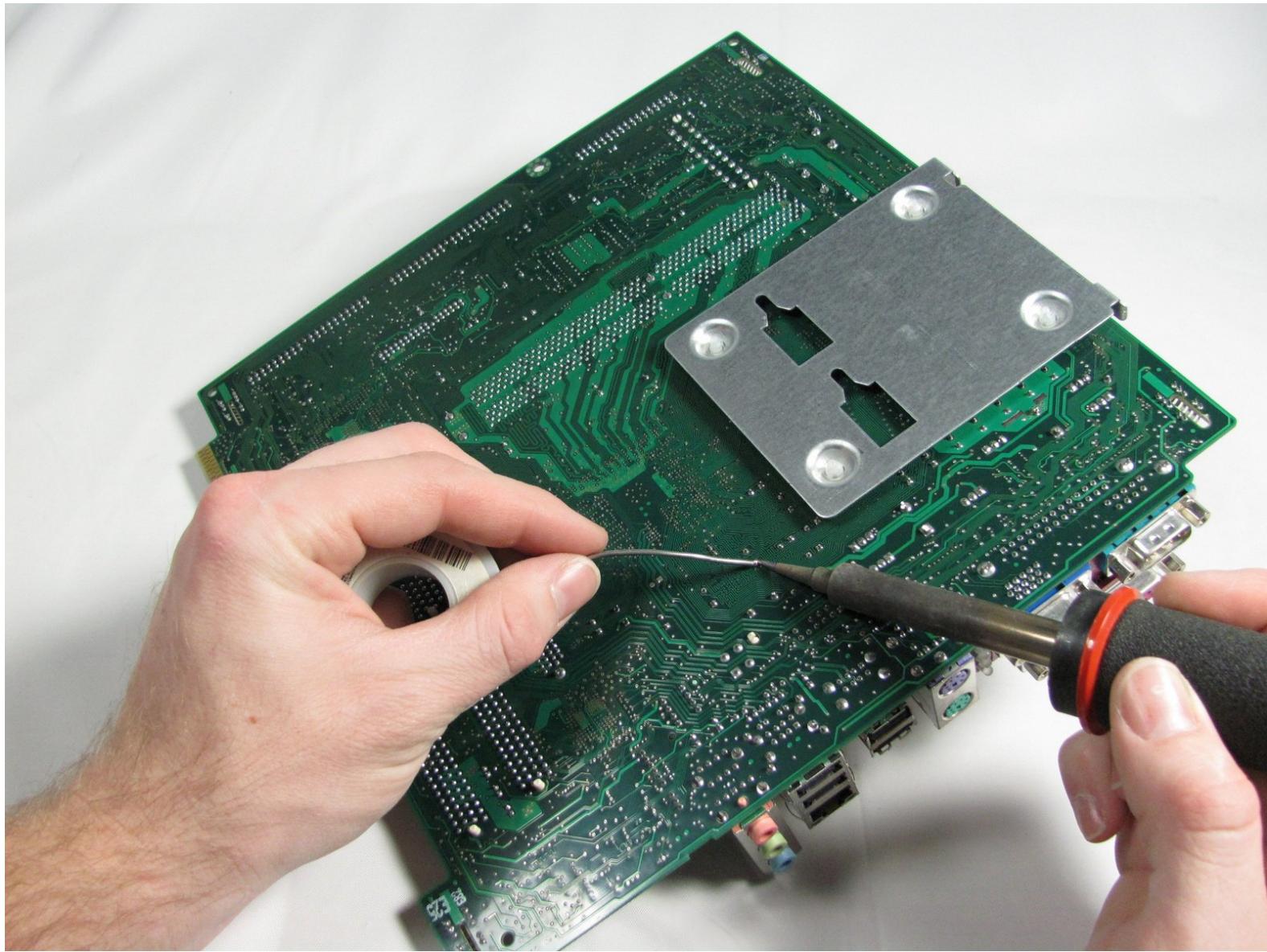




Dell OptiPlex GX260 Power Capacitor Replacement

This guide will show how to de-solder and replace a power capacitor on the Dell OptiPlex GX260 motherboard.

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This document was generated on 2019-09-23 09:06:07 AM (MST).

 **TOOLS:**

- [Phillips #2 Screwdriver](#) (1)
- [Soldering Iron](#) (1)
- [Solder](#) (1)
- [Desoldering Braid](#) (1)

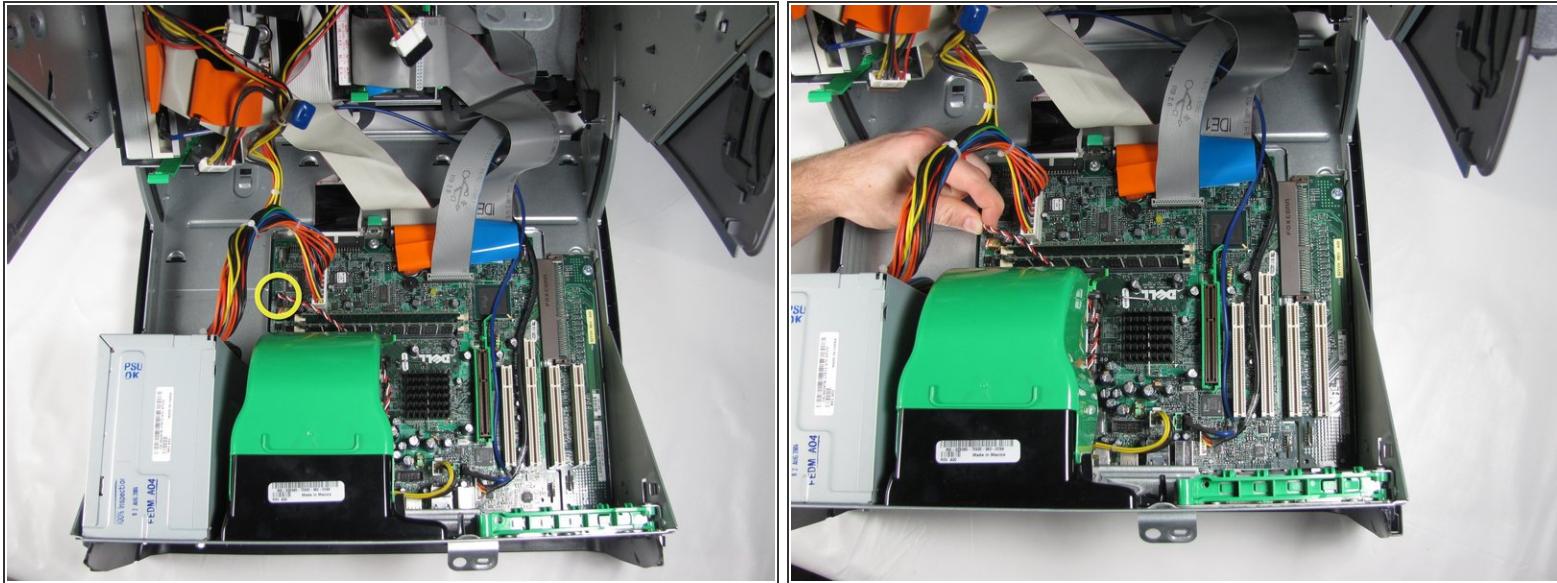
Step 1 — Case



- Lay the Dell Optiplex GX260 down on a clean flat surface with the rear towards you.
- Push the oval shaped buttons located on the top and bottom of the PC simultaneously and lift the case straight up.

i Note: Some force may be required to push in the oval buttons open the PC case.

Step 2 — Main Fan



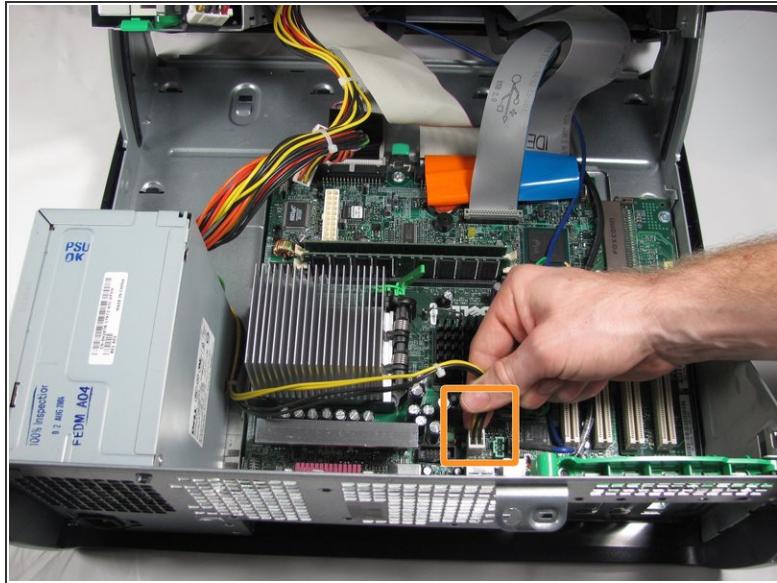
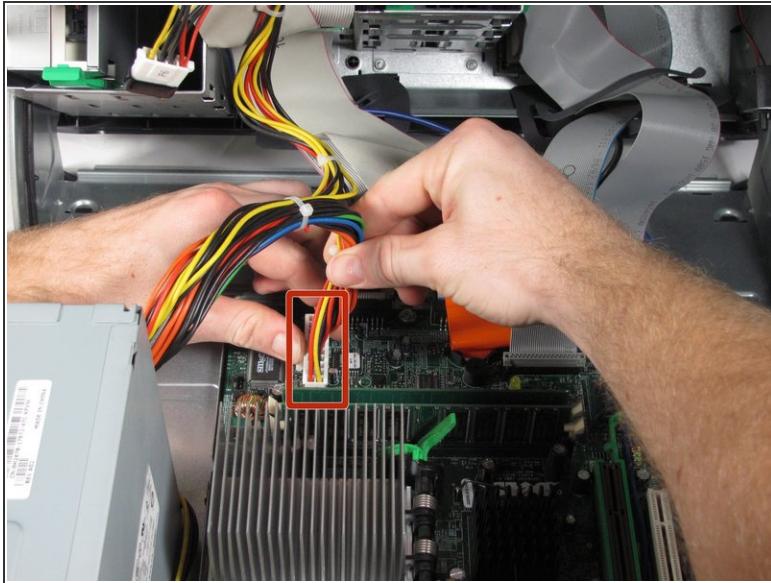
- Disconnect the fan cable from the motherboard.

Step 3



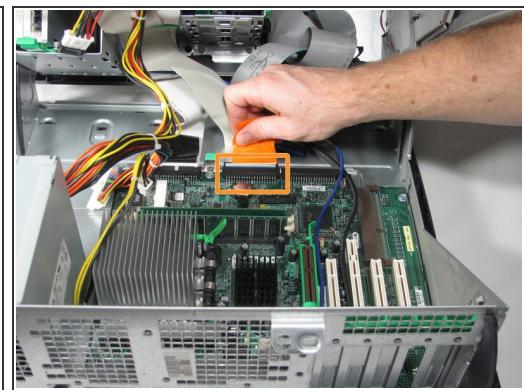
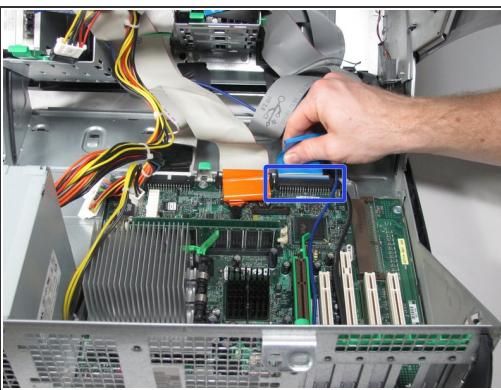
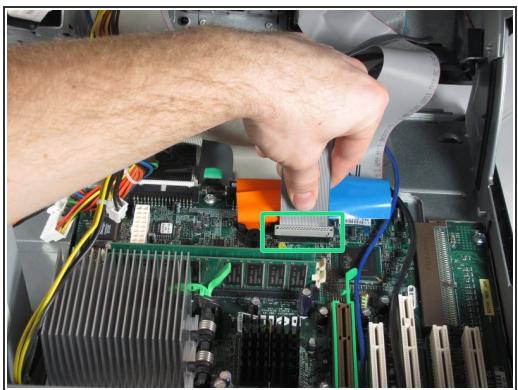
- On the rear of the desktop, push the two circled black buttons straight in with a small pointed object while pulling up on the fan.
- Once the fan is released, lift it straight up and out of the case.

Step 4 — Motherboard



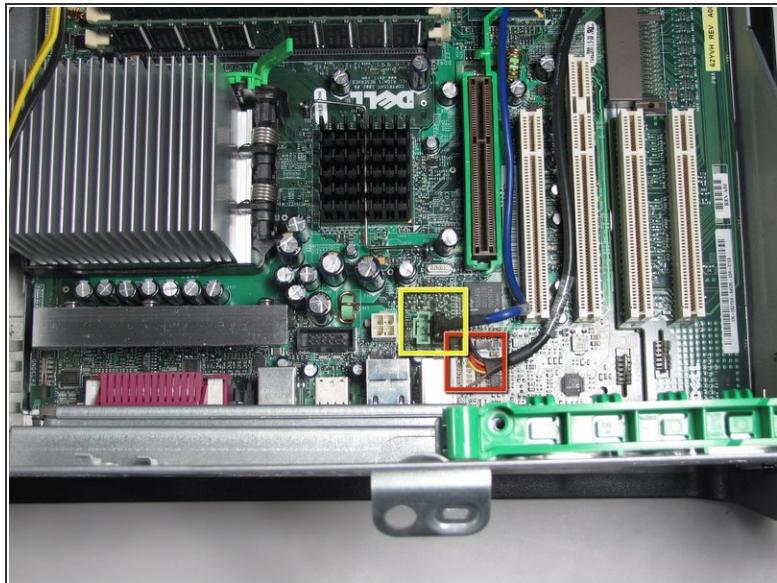
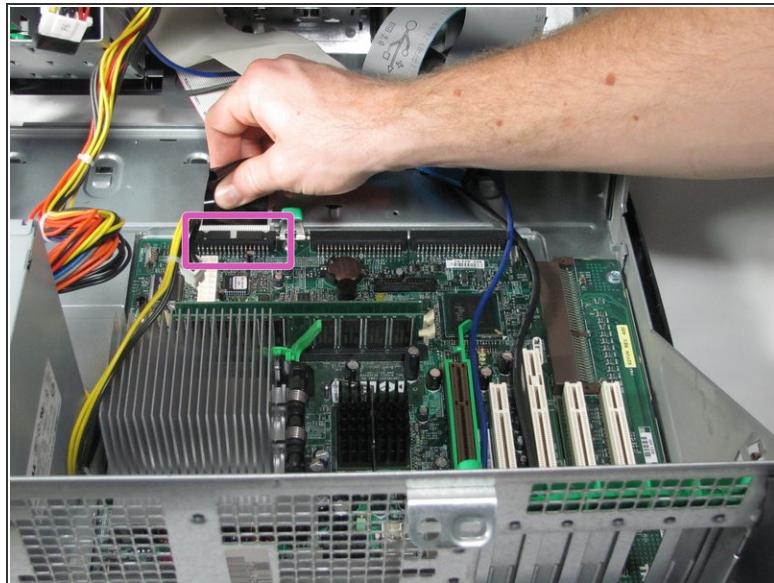
- Disconnect the ATX power cable to the motherboard.
- Disconnect the P4 12V(4x2) power cable from the motherboard.

Step 5



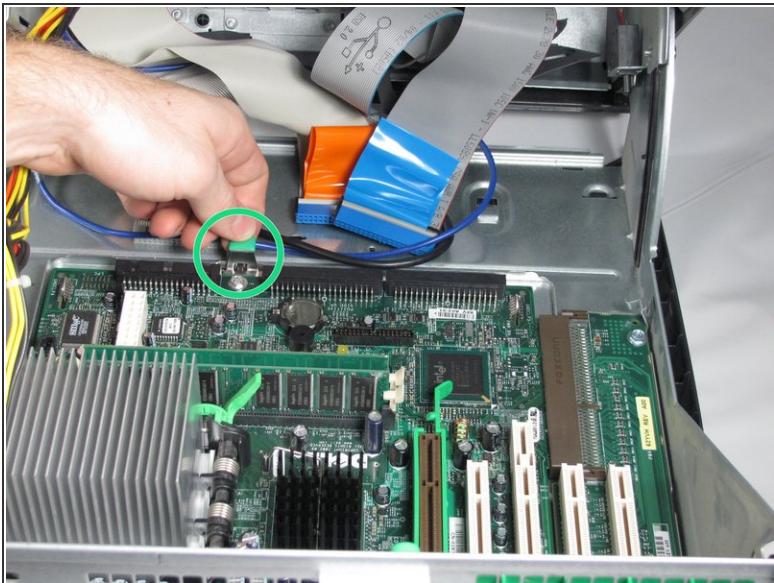
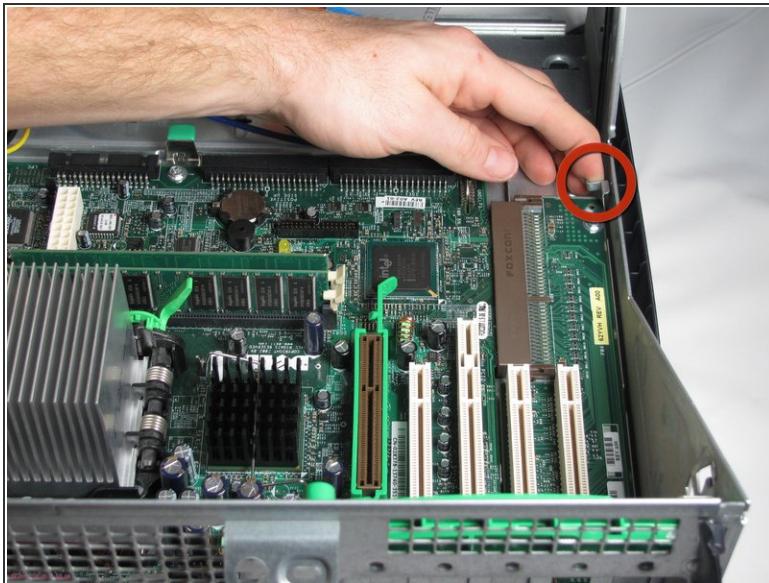
- Disconnect the front panel ribbon cable by gently pulling it straight up.
- Disconnect the hard drive ribbon cable by gently pulling the blue tab away from the motherboard.
- Disconnect the optical drive ribbon cable by gently pulling the orange tab away from the motherboard.

Step 6



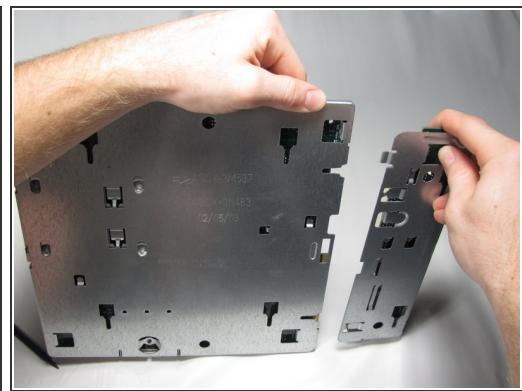
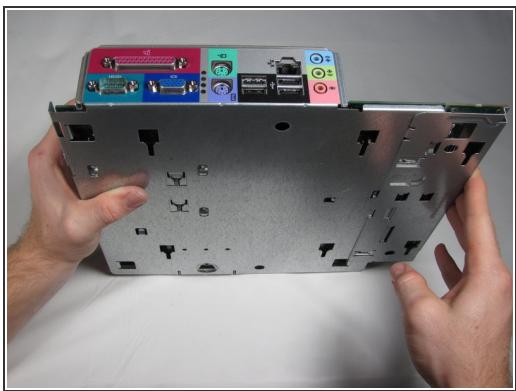
- Disconnect the floppy drive drive ribbon cable by gently pulling the black tab away from the motherboard.
- Disconnect the optical drive audio cable connector from the motherboard.
- Disconnect the audio input/output cable from the motherboard.

Step 7



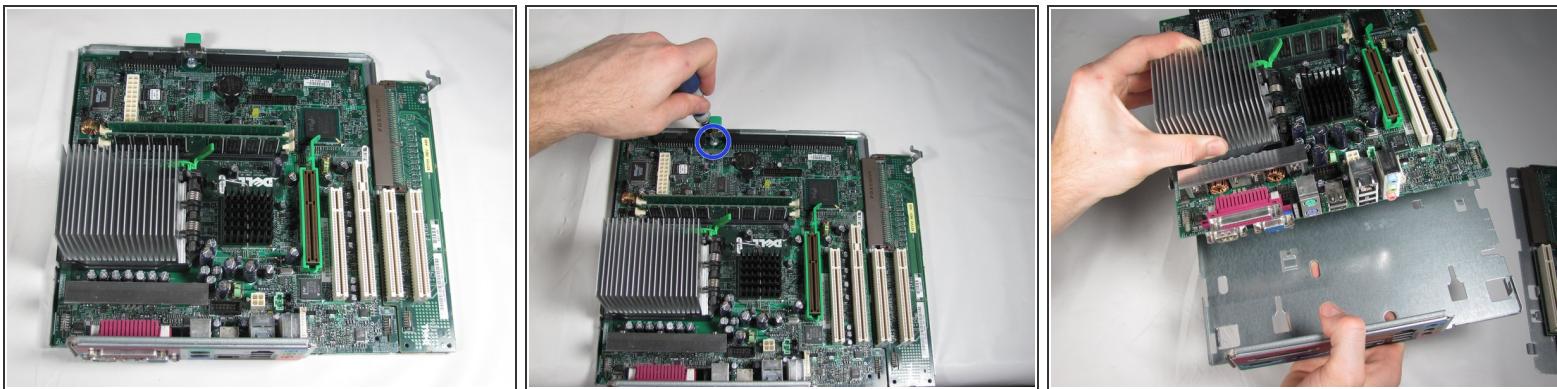
- Lift the metal tab near the right corner of the motherboard.
- Pull the green tab toward the front of the PC to release the motherboard.
- From the rear of the PC, push the ports in while lifting the motherboard up and flipping it away from you.

Step 8



- Stand the motherboard up as shown.
- Insert the flat end of a spudger into the slot in the motherboard mounting plate and press the release tab while pushing the extension plate to the right with your thumbs until it comes off..

Step 9



- Remove the screw at the rear of the motherboard.
- Grasp the heat sink with your left hand and the I/O port panel with your right hand and pull to separate motherboard from the metal base.

(i) If you are replacing the motherboard refer to the great [iFixit guide for removing the CPU](#).

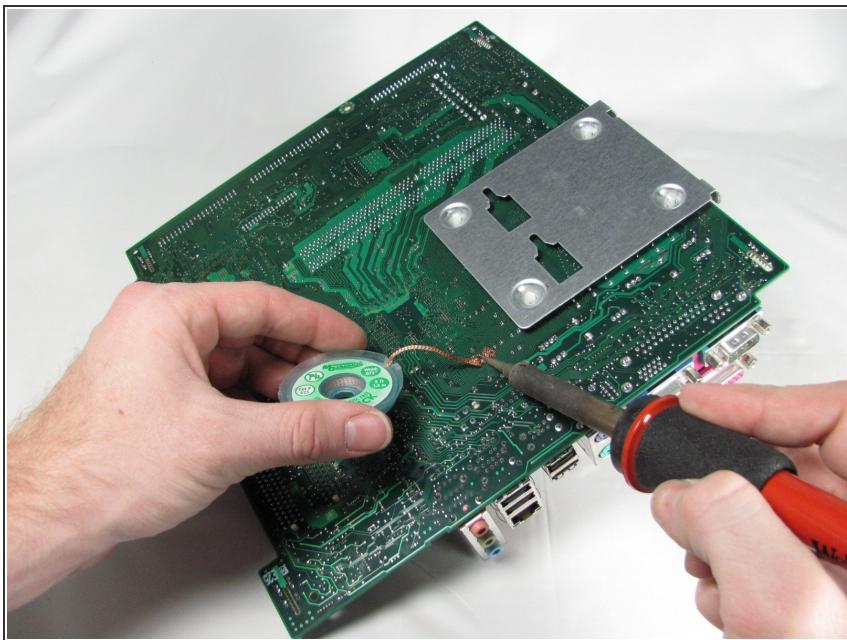
Step 10 — Power Capacitor



- With the motherboard out of the tray, let your soldering gear warm up and get a desoldering braid.

(i) Since this isn't a Optiplex GX260 motherboard, I have removed the heatsink to get rid of any confusion.

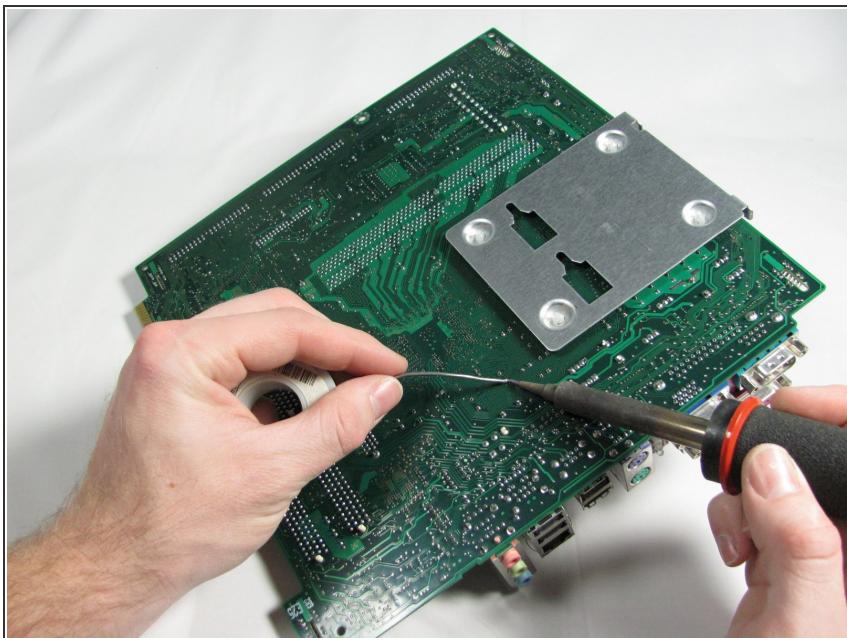
Step 11



i Take note of which way the positive lead marker on the capacitor is facing before removing it. You will need to know for the next step.

- Desoldering can damage motherboards, so first practice on a board you don't need. Use a 40-50W soldering iron with a chisel tip and 0.080" wide desoldering braid. Also helpful are rosin flux and 60/40 tin/lead solder, in case all the solder doesn't come out. Wiggle desoldered leads to verify they're free, and never pull on any that aren't.

Step 12



- Install the new capacitor in the holes left by the old one, then solder it into place.

⚠ Caution: Ensure that the new capacitor is inserted with the positive lead mark facing the same direction as the old capacitor. If the direction is switched, the new capacitor will fail.

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