



Dell Precision M3800 Fan Replacement

Replace fans that no longer spin or cool the laptop. This can solve overheating issues with the Dell Precision M3800.

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INTRODUCTION

If the Dell Precision M3800 fans are nonfunctional and the computer is overheating, use this guide to replace the fan(s).

The fans run to prevent the computer from overheating and continue normal function. Faulty fan(s) will fail at cooling down the laptop and can be an obstacle to normal functions.

Before using this guide, check faulty fan(s) for foreign objects that cause underperformance. You may be able to fix this issue by dislodging said objects with an ESD-safe brush or small dust blower, instead of replacing the equipment. Be sure to isolate fan(s) that are nonfunctional as a replacement of only one fan may be needed.

Before beginning, be sure to power down the laptop, and unplug from the external power source(s).

TOOLS:

- [iFixit Opening Tools](#) (1)
- [T5 Torx Screwdriver](#) (1)
- [Phillips #00 Screwdriver](#) (1)
- [Spudger](#) (1)

Useful for prying the fans out of the laptop body.

- [Magnetic Project Mat](#) (1)

To keep the screws in place while you are working!

- [Prying and Opening Tool Assortment](#) (1)

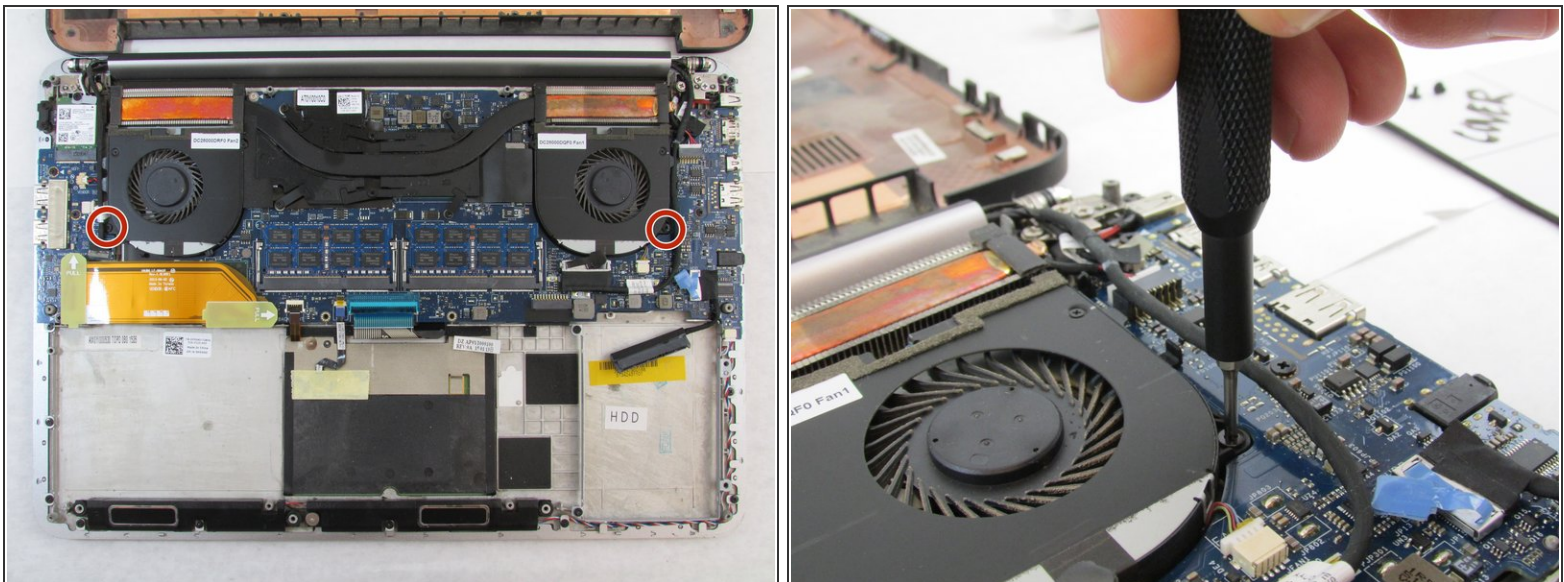
For opening the back cover of the laptop, you may need to use a prying tool.

Step 1 — Back Cover



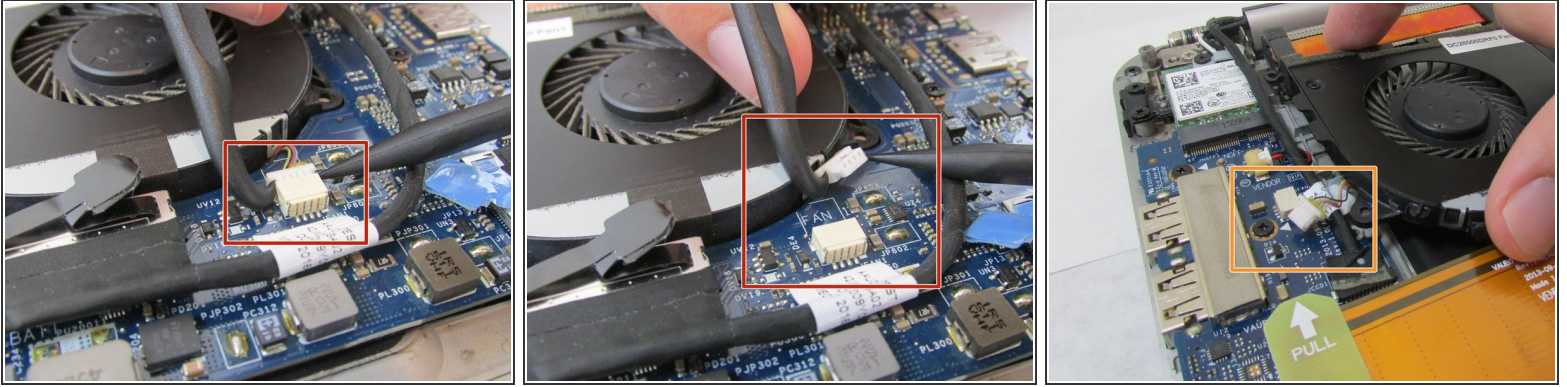
- Use a T5 Torx screwdriver to unscrew the ten 3mm screws on the laptop back cover and then remove the cover.
- ⓘ iFixit's magnetic project mat is great for keeping the screws in one place.
- If the back cover is hard to remove, use a plastic opening tool to remove the back cover.

Step 2 — Fan



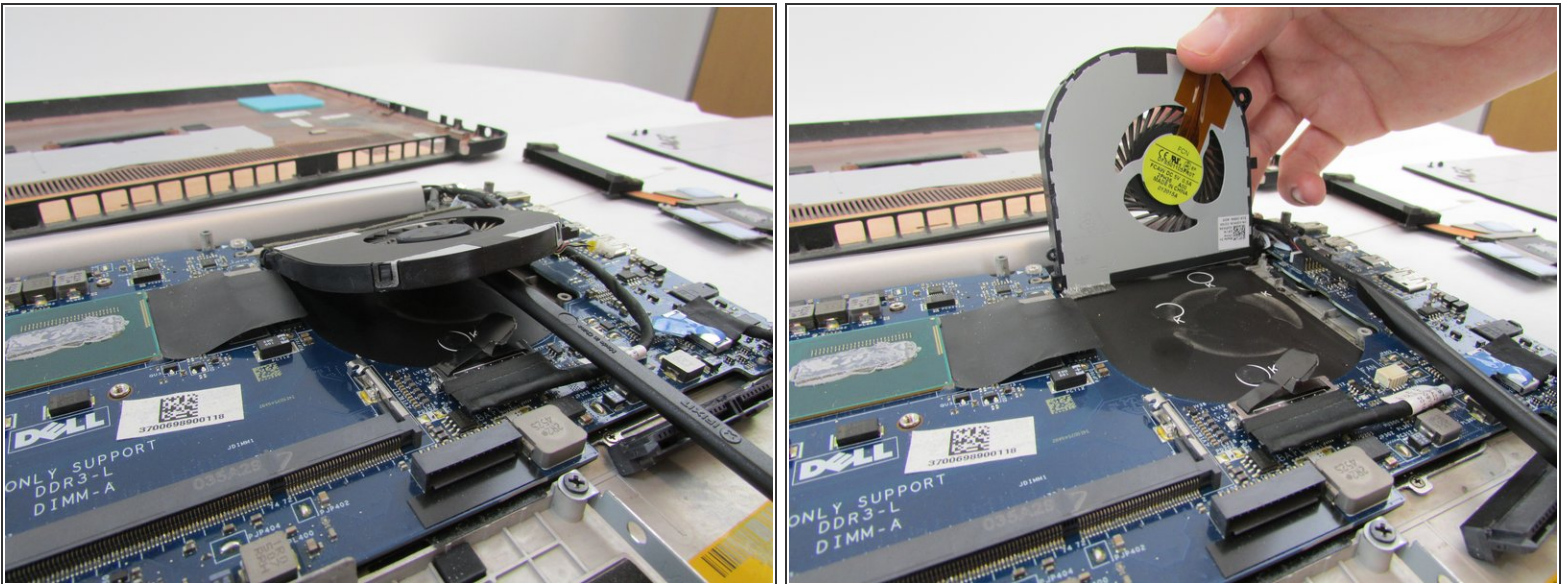
- Use a Phillips #00 screwdriver to unscrew the two 3.5mm screws that are holding the fans in place.

Step 3



- Using a nonmetal prying tool, unplug the cord connecting the fan to the motherboard.
- If replacing the right fan, this cord is located underneath the fan.
- If replacing the left fan, this cord is located on the left of the fan.

Step 4



- Use nonmetal prying tool to lift the bottom of the fan from the laptop body (this will require some force and you will hear an adhesive pulling sound).
- Repeat the steps for the second fan if needed .

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