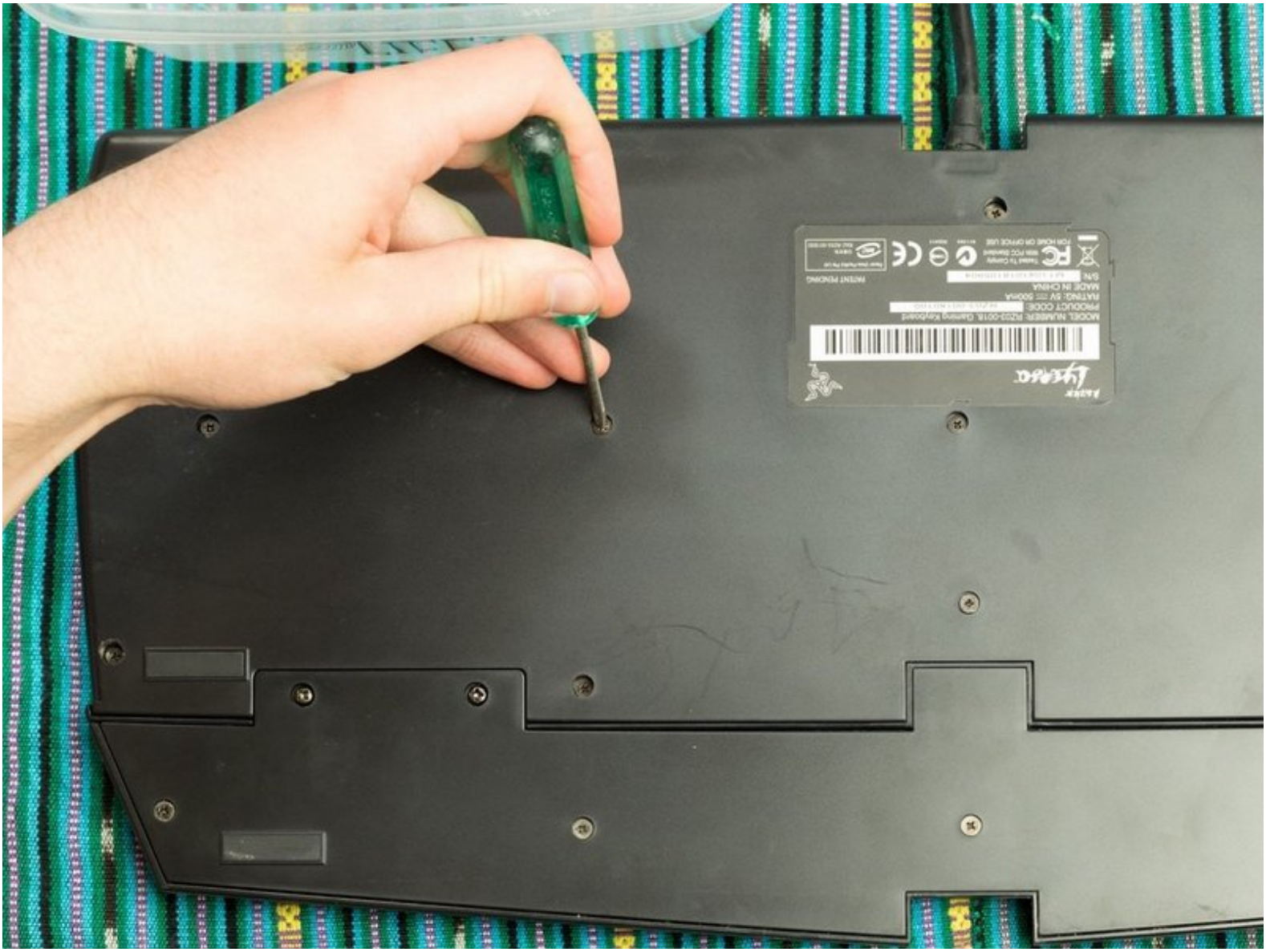
How to disassemble for cleaning

How to open Razer Lycosa keyboard and remove its layers and keys, to enable you to clean it from the inside out.

Written By: Sebastian Reategui



INTRODUCTION

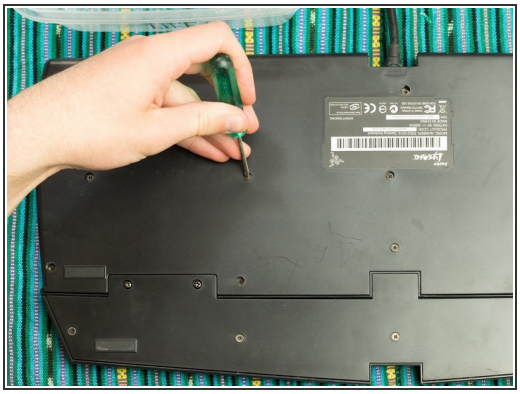
How to open Razer Lycosa keyboard and remove its layers and keys, to enable you to clean it from the inside out.

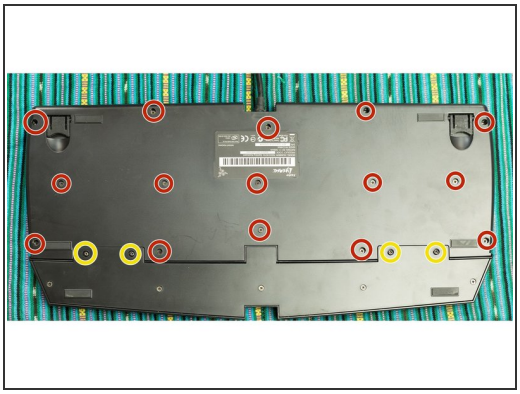
You will need a clear workspace and several plastic containers or other storage tubs which can be used to save small items. Keycaps and screws can be very easily lost. Keep them together and ordered!

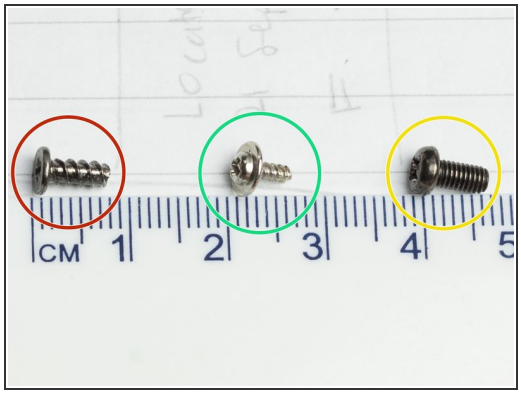
TOOLS:

- Phillips #1 Screwdriver (1)
- Tweezers (1)

Step 1 — Unscrew the back plate





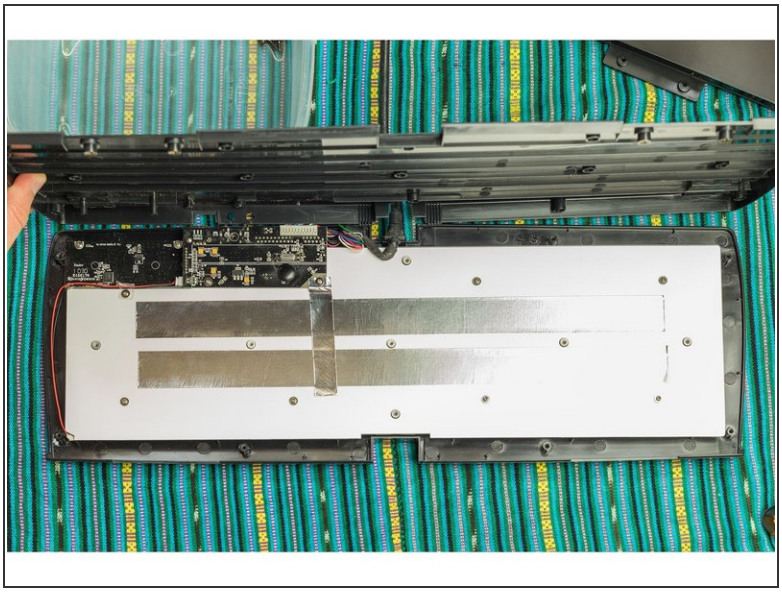


- Remove 10 screws (8mm) securing the back plate.
- Remove 4 screws (7mm, ball head) securing the handrest plate.

Step 2 — Remove the handrest plate

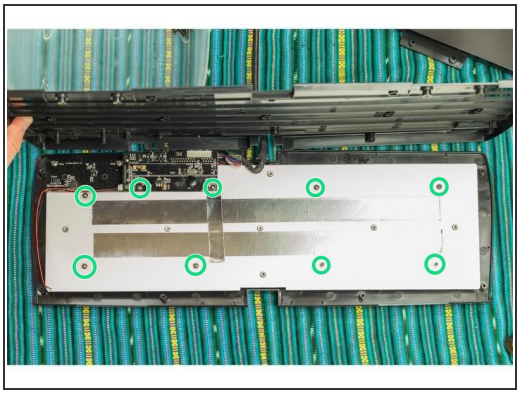
- Lift the handrest plate and pull it free, away from the rest of the unit.

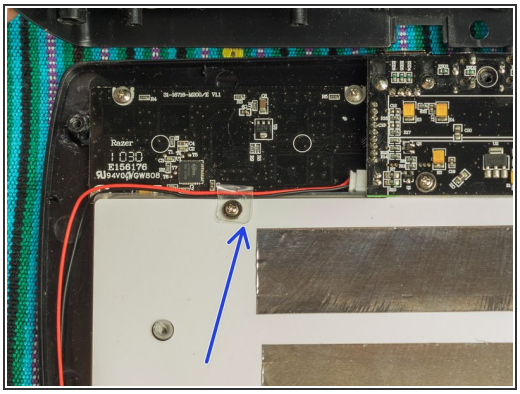
Step 3 — Remove the back plate

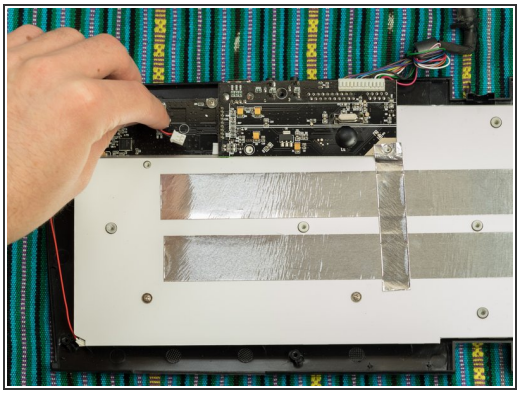


- After unscrewing, the back plate is now loose, and can be lifted gently to separate it.
- Lift up the primary cable to free it from the casing.

Step 4 — Unscrew the membrane layers

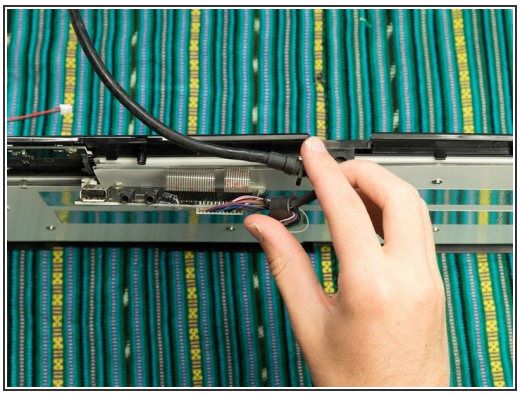
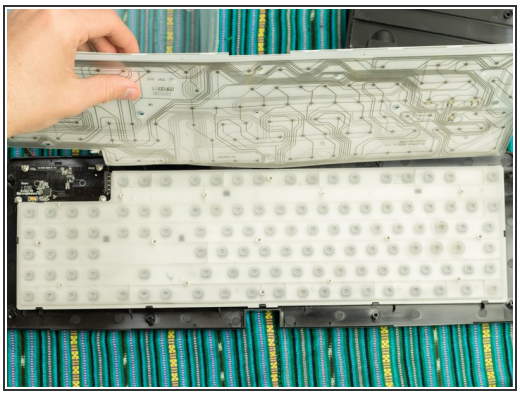
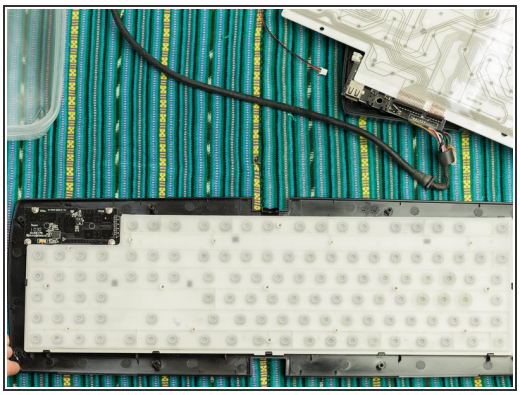






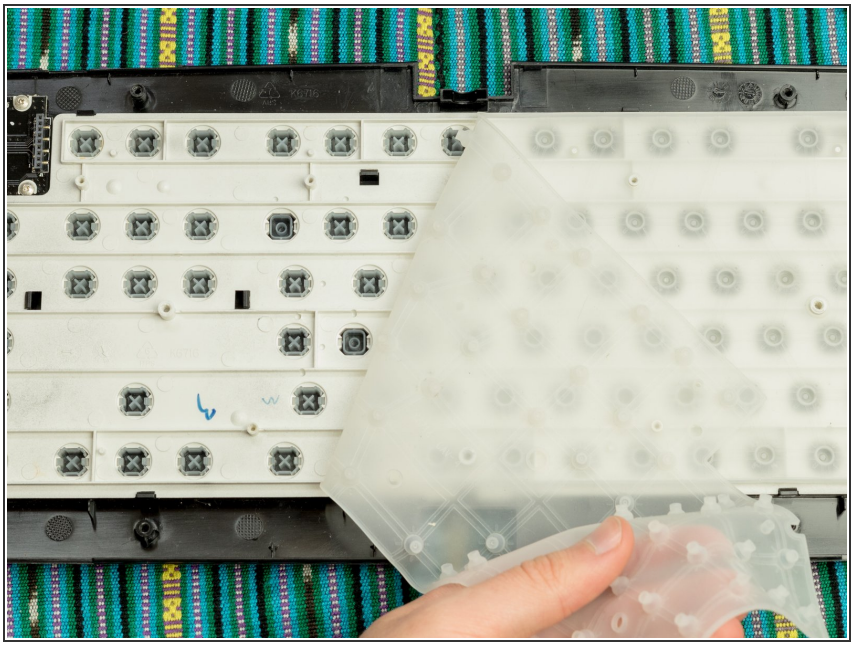
- Remove 9 screws (5mm) that are securing the membrane layers.
- Remove the plastic holder but retain it in a safe place, as it is used to restrict the data cable from moving freely and will need to be returned.
- Gently pull the data cable (black/red) to disconnect it.

Step 5 — Lift the membrane layers

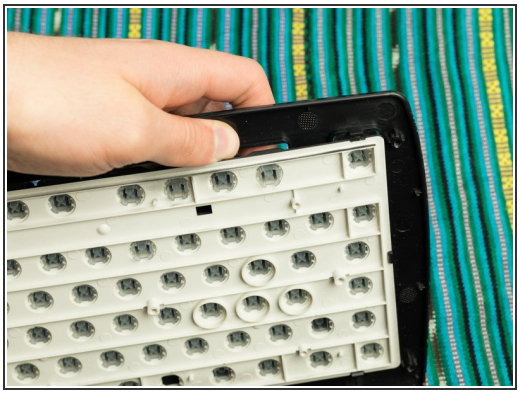
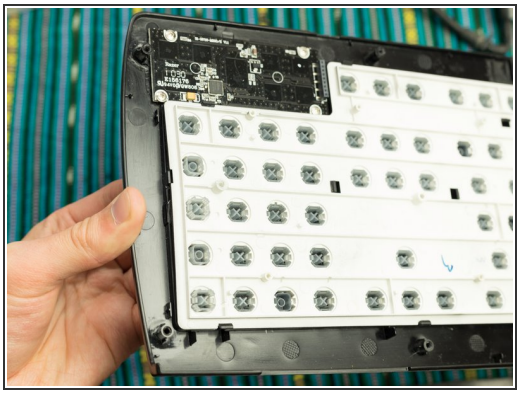
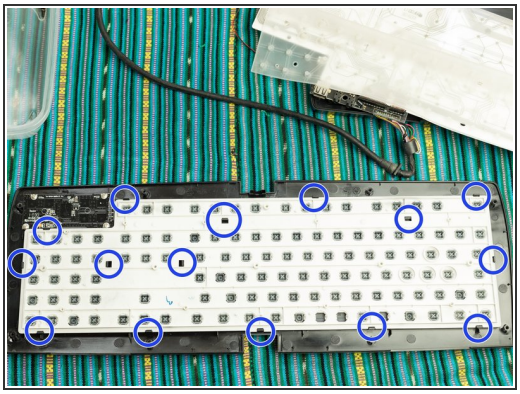
- Start to gently remove the membrane cover, peeling off the layers beneath it as well.
- **Caution**: take care not to damage the striped grey data cables, which connect all the layers.

Step 6 — Remove the plastic membrane



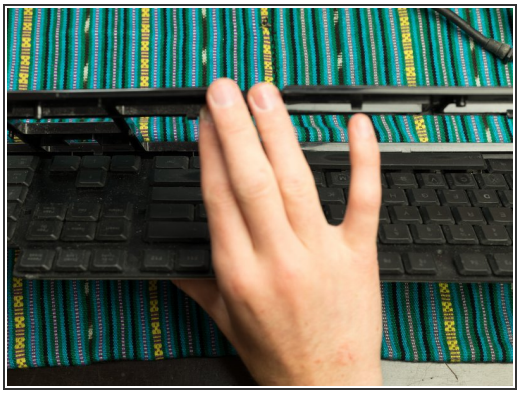
- Peel off the plastic membrane.

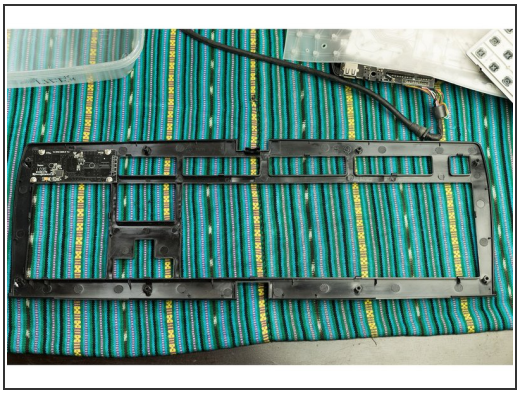
Step 7 — Separating the front plate

- Push with moderate force to separate the keyframe (beige) from the front plate (black).
- You should apply pressure at each hook (marked in blue).
- Optional: prior to completing this step, remove all keycaps from the frame (Step 9). This may make it easier for you to apply pressure to the board, with less fear of breakage from undue force.

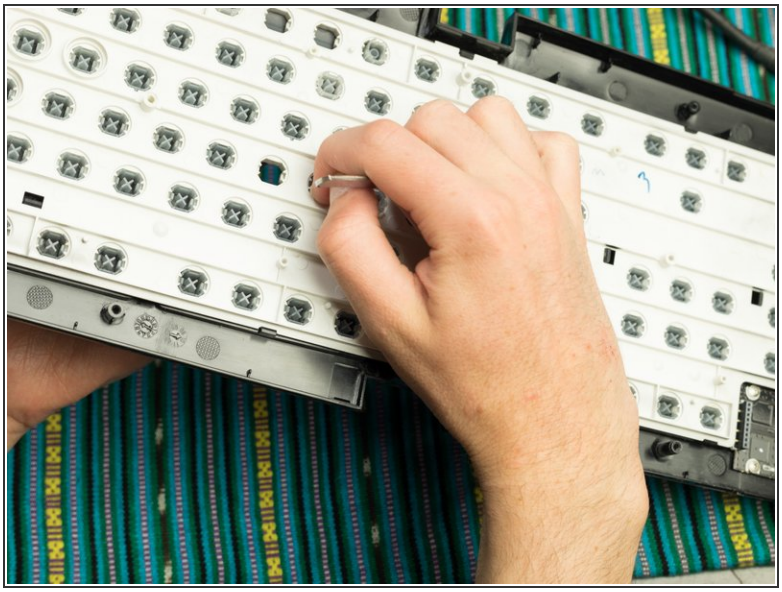
Step 8 — Separated frame and front plate

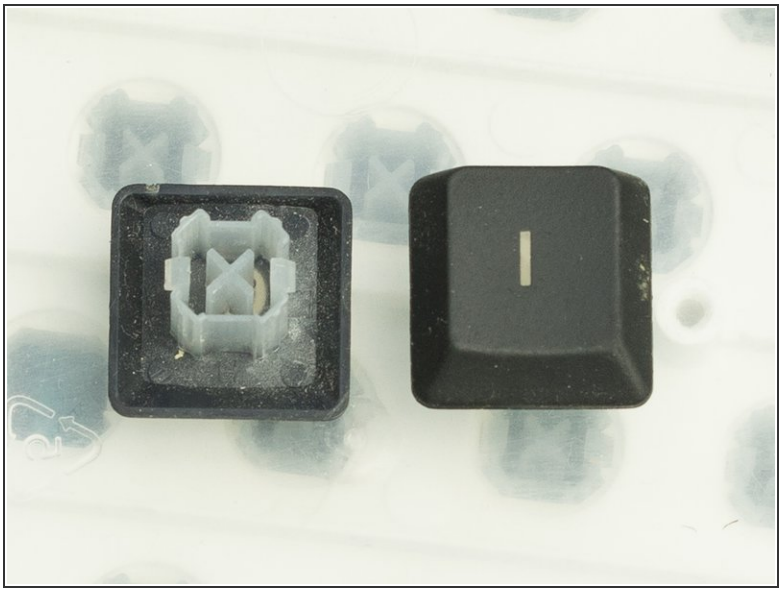




- Photos.

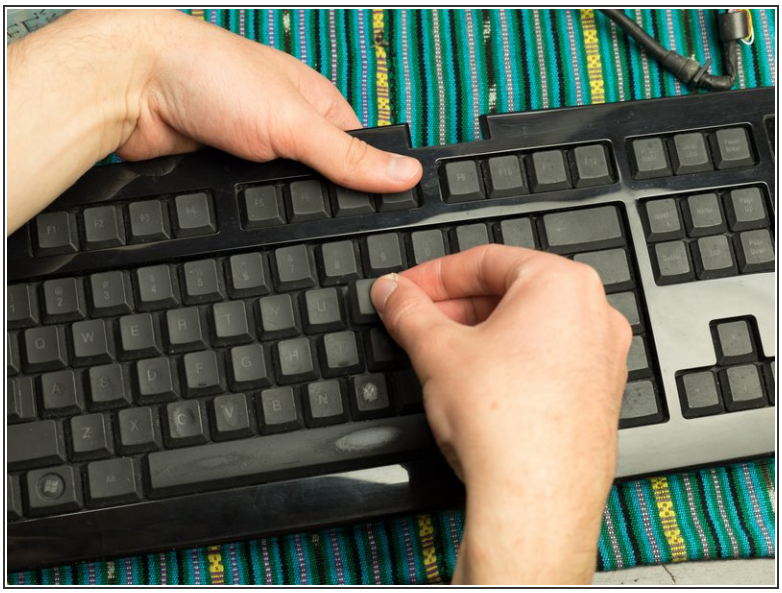
Step 9 — Push out the keycaps





- Push out each keycap using mild pressure from your finger.
- You should push from the inside (beige frame) to the outside. Do not push the keys the other way around.
- Optional: Using a blunt tool (like the end of a screwdriver) can help you push out the keycaps quicker than fingers.
- Tip: Store the keycaps safely in a plastic container, in order of rows. It is very easy to lose keys.

Step 10 — Re-insert keycaps when done

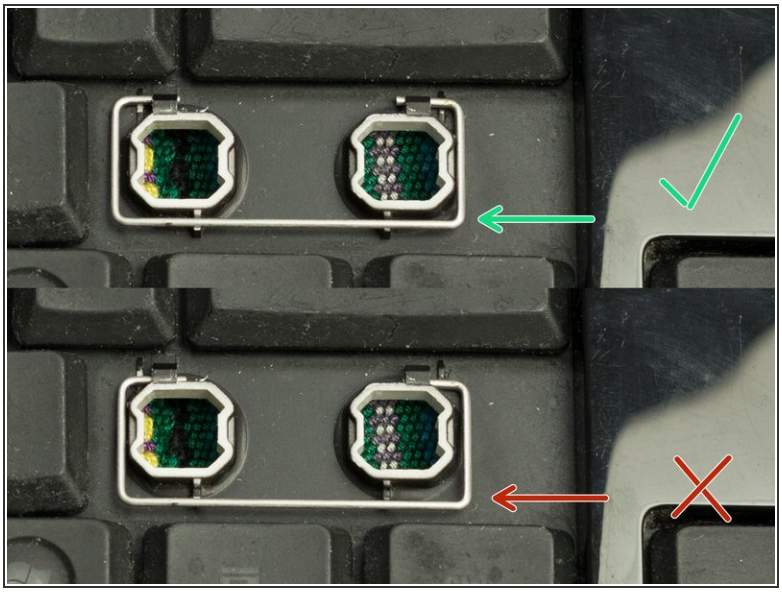


- To return the keycaps to the frame, push them in using your fingers from the front.
- Call up your photo of the keyboard layout and review it to ensure you are placing each keycap in the right order and place.
- You may need to consult a guide on the QWERTY (or other relevant layout) keyboard layout to ensure you are familiar with the correct key order when reassembling the keycaps.

Step 11 — Keycaps with long brace

- The following keys have a long metal brace to support them. **To remove**: gently push with great care out of the frame.
  - SHIFT (2 keys)
  - Enter
  - Backspace
  - Keypad Plus (+)
  - Keypad Enter
  - Keypad Zero/Insert (0)
  - Space Bar

Step 12 — Re-insert keycaps with long brace



- Observe the correct alignment for the metal brace. The brace must sit tight in its dedicated, raised rack.
- Place the keycap over the top of the hole, and push it down gently. Unlike the other normal keycaps, you should feel some resistance when doing so.
- Now, push the keycap with greater force until a click is heard.
- Check that the key moves as one, by pressing with your finger on its left and right hand sides to confirm that the key moves effortlessly without obstruction.

To reassemble, follow the instructions in reverse order.

You may need to consult a guide on the QWERTY (or other relevant layout) keyboard layout to ensure you are familiar with the correct key order when reassembling the keycaps.

Test your keyboard after reassembly by re-connecting its USB plug, opening up a word processor and typing content. You can also use http://keyboardtester.com or a similar tool to ensure the keyboard is reporting keystrokes accurately.

