



MacBook Air 13" Mid 2011 I/O Board Replacement

Replace the I/O board on your MacBook Air 13" Mid 2011. The I/O board houses the MagSafe DC-in port, a USB socket, and the headphone jack.

Written By: Andrew Bookholt



This document was generated on 2020-03-04 04:49:40 AM (MST).

INTRODUCTION

Use this guide to replace your Air's I/O board which houses the MagSafe DC-in port, a USB socket, and the headphone jack.

TOOLS:

- [P5 Pentalobe Screwdriver Retina MacBook Pro and Air \(1\)](#)
- [Spudger \(1\)](#)
- [T5 Torx Screwdriver \(1\)](#)

PARTS:

- [MacBook Air 13" \(Mid 2011\) I/O Board \(1\)](#)

Step 1 — Lower Case



i Before proceeding, power down your MacBook. Close the display and lay it on a soft surface, top-side down.

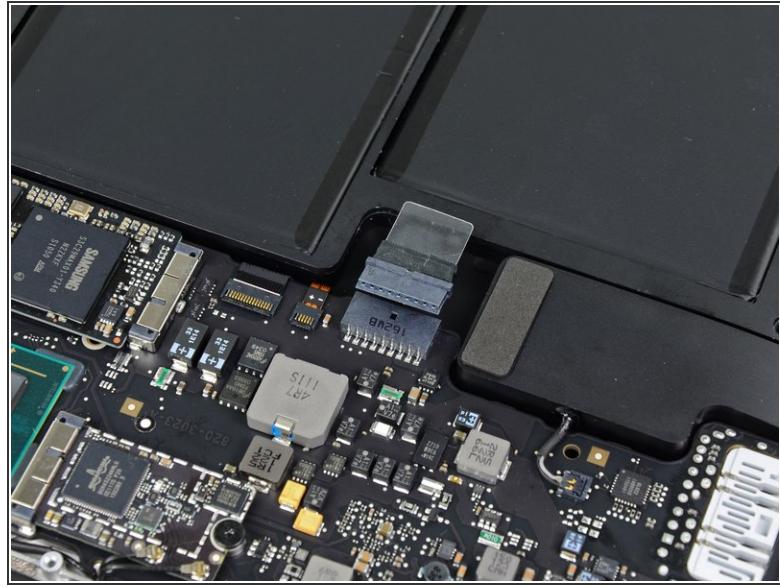
- Use a [P5 Pentalobe](#) driver to remove ten screws securing the lower case, of the following lengths:
 - Two 9 mm screws
 - Eight 2.6 mm screws

Step 2



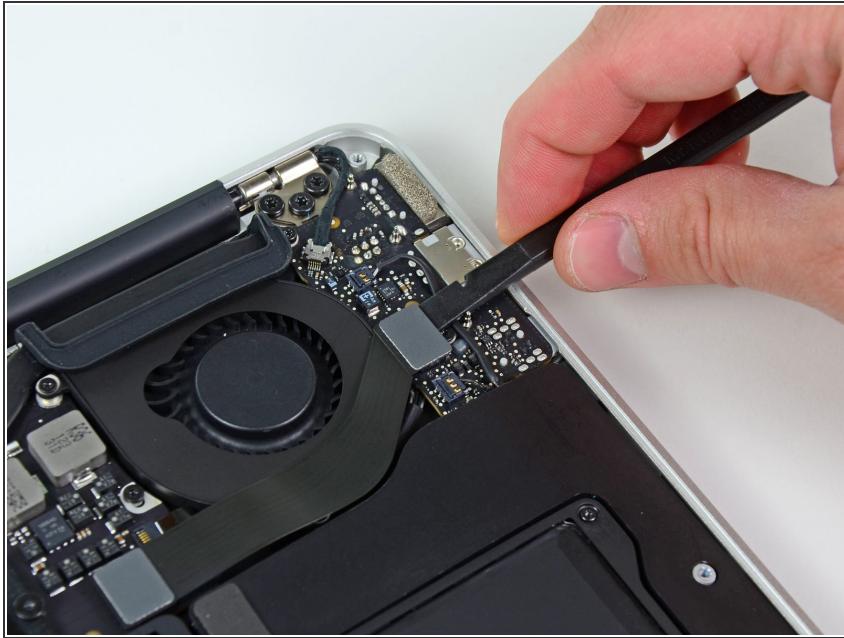
- Wedge your fingers between the display and the lower case and pull upward to pop the lower case off the Air.
- Remove the lower case and set it aside.

Step 3 — Battery Connector



- ⓘ As a precaution against accidental discharge or shock, disconnect the battery connector from the logic board.
 - Grab the clear plastic pull tab attached to the battery connector and pull it toward the front edge of the Air to disconnect the battery from the logic board.
- ⚠** Be sure to pull the connector horizontally toward the battery, and not straight up from the Air, or you may damage the socket on the logic board.

Step 4 — I/O Board Cable



- Use the flat end of a spudger to pry the I/O board cable connector upward out of its socket on the I/O board.

Step 5



- Carefully peel the I/O board cable from the top of the fan.

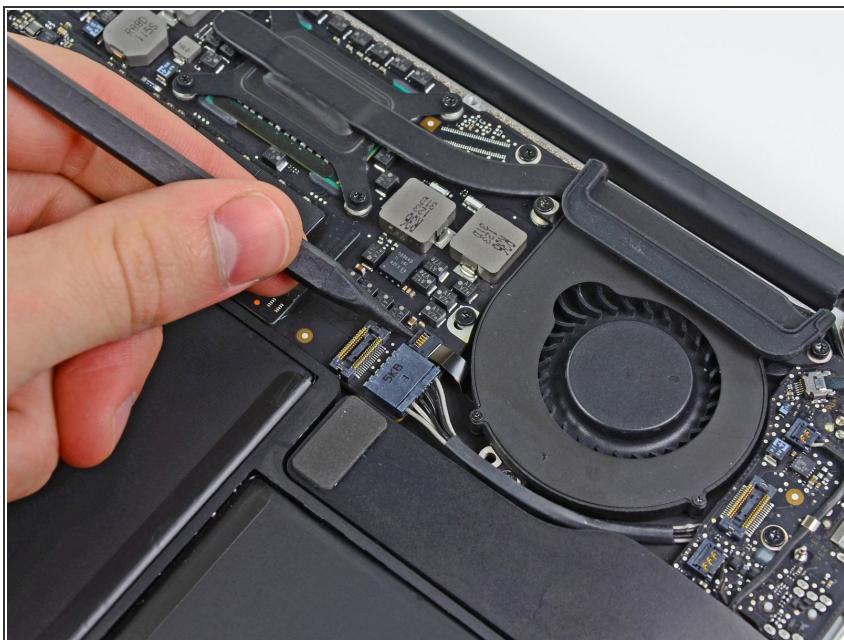
Step 6



⚠ The following connector has an especially deep socket. Use care when disconnecting it.

- While gently pulling the I/O board cable upward near its connection to the logic board, use the tip of a spudger to pry upward on alternating sides of the connector to help "walk" it out of its socket.
- Remove the I/O board cable.

Step 7 — Fan



- Use the tip of a spudger to carefully flip up the retaining flap on the fan cable ZIF socket.

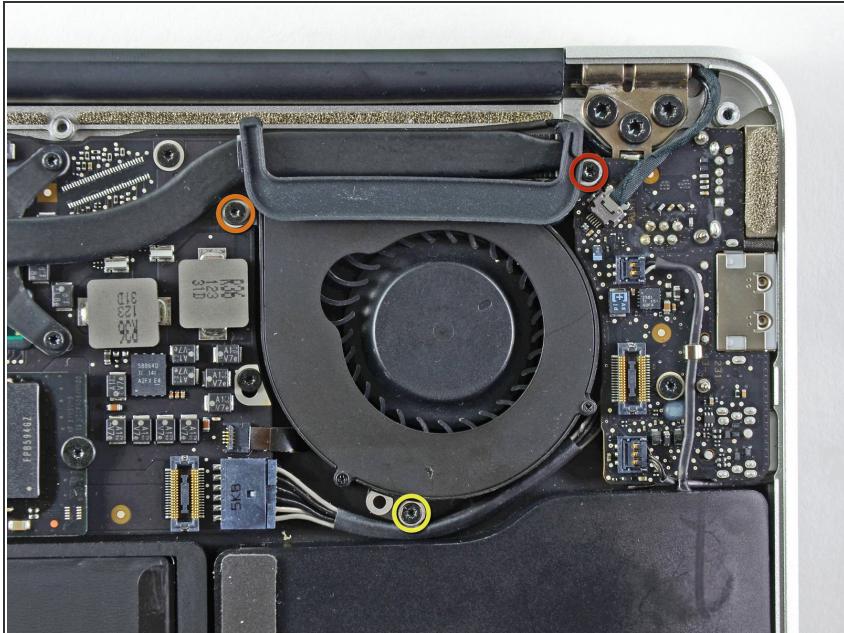
⚠ Be sure you are prying up on the hinged retaining flap, **not** the socket itself.

Step 8



- Peel the rubber gasket off the adhesive on the top of the fan.

Step 9



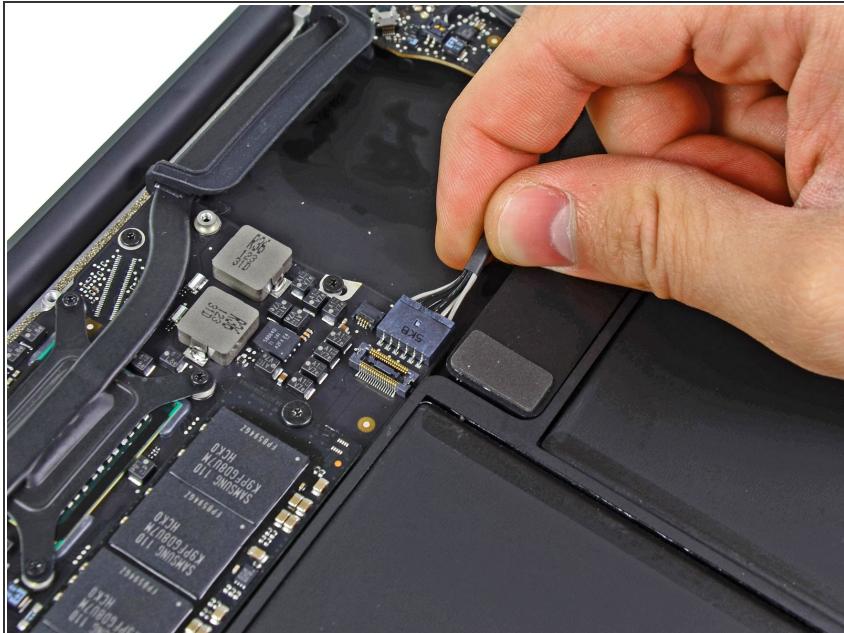
- Remove the following three screws securing the fan to the upper case:
 - One 3.6 mm T5 Torx screw
 - One 2.7 mm T5 Torx screw
 - One 3.6 mm T5 Torx screw with a short head

Step 10



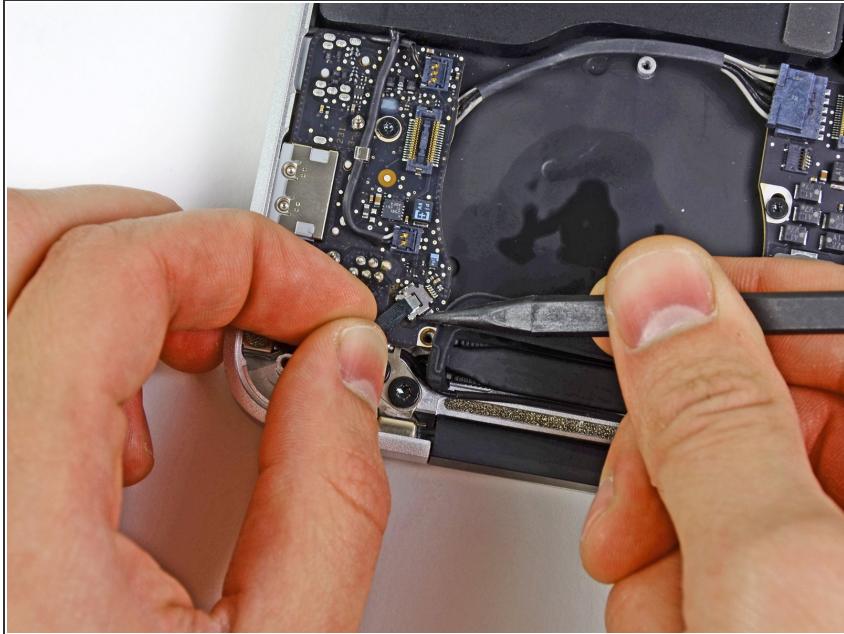
- Lift the fan out of the upper case and carefully pull the fan ribbon cable out of its socket as you remove it from the Air.

Step 11 — I/O Board



- Disconnect the I/O board by pulling the power cable away from its socket on the logic board.
- ⓘ* Pull the cable parallel to the face of the logic board toward the right edge of the Air.

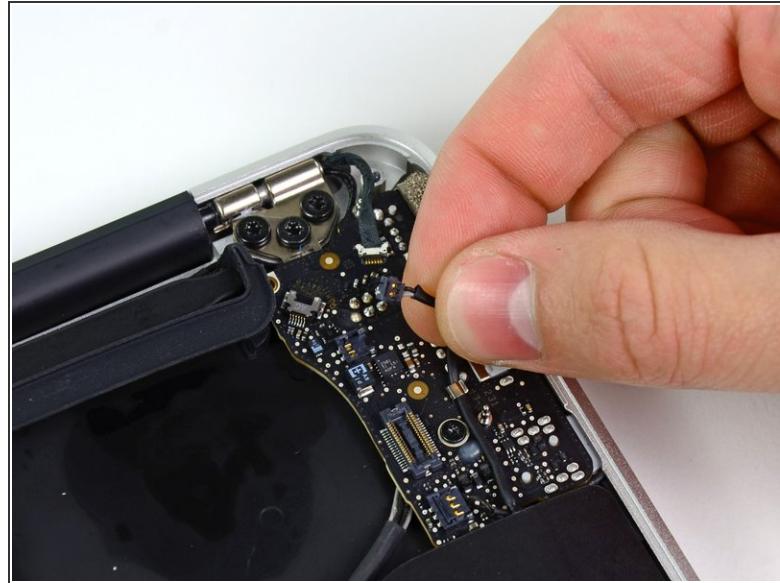
Step 12



- Pull the camera cable parallel to the face of the I/O board toward the corner of the Air to disconnect it from its socket, using the tip of a spudger to help push the connector out of its socket.

 Do not lift upward on this cable as you disconnect it, as its socket may break off the logic board.

Step 13



- Use the flat end of a spudger to pry the left speaker cable connector up and out of its socket on the I/O board.
-  Pry up from beneath the wires.
- De-route the left speaker cable from its retainer on the I/O board.

This document was generated on 2020-03-04 04:49:40 AM (MST).

Step 14



- Use the flat end of a spudger to pry the microphone cable connector up and out of its socket on the I/O board.

(i) Pry up from beneath the wires.

Step 15



- Remove the single 3.6 mm T5 Torx screw securing the I/O board to the upper case.

Step 16



- Carefully lift the I/O board from its edge nearest the logic board and remove it from the upper case.