



MacBook Pro 13" Unibody Early 2011 Trackpad Replacement

Replace a broken trackpad on your Early 2011 MacBook Pro 13" Unibody.

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INTRODUCTION

Use this guide to replace a broken trackpad.



TOOLS:

- [Phillips #00 Screwdriver](#) (1)
- [Spudger](#) (1)
- [Tri-point Y0 Screwdriver](#) (1)



PARTS:

- [MacBook Pro 13" Unibody \(Model A1278\) Trackpad](#) (1)

Step 1 — Lower Case



- Remove the following ten screws:
 - Three 14.4 mm Phillips #00 screws
 - Three 3.5 mm Phillips #00 screws
 - Four 3.5 mm shouldered Phillips #00 screws
- ⓘ When replacing the small screws, align them perpendicular to the slight curvature of the case (they don't go straight down).

Step 2



- Use your fingers to pry the lower case away from the body of the MacBook near the vent.
- Remove the lower case.

Step 3 — Battery Connection



- Use the edge of a spudger to pry the battery connector upwards from its socket on the logic board.
- ❗ It is useful to pry upward on both short sides of the connector to "walk" it out of its socket. Be careful with the corners of the connectors, they can be easily broken off.

Step 4



- Bend the battery cable slightly away from its socket on the logic board so it does not accidentally connect itself while you work.

Step 5 — Battery



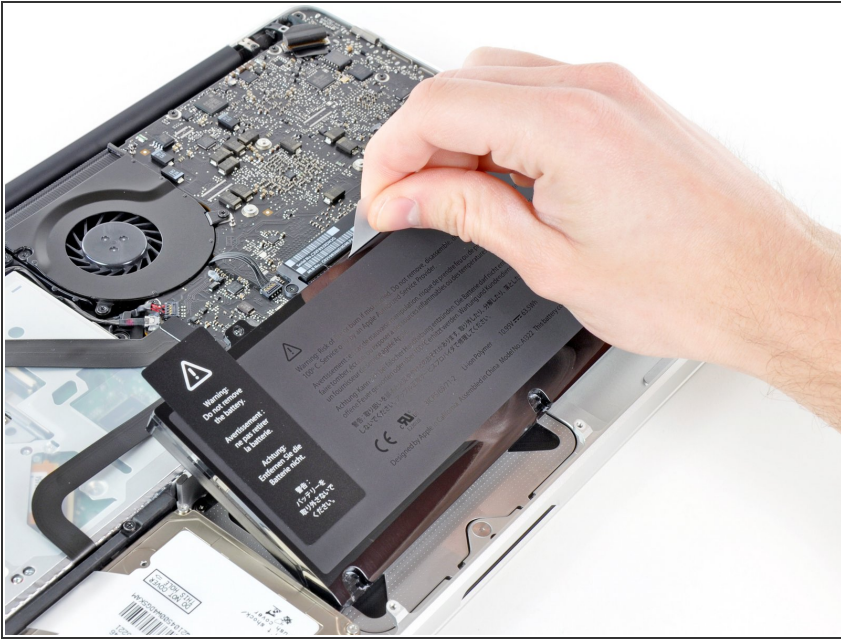
- Remove the following two screws:
 - One 5.6 mm Tri-point screw
 - One 13 mm Tri-point screw

Step 6



- Carefully peel the battery warning label off the upper case between the battery and the optical drive.
- ⚠ Do not remove the label from the battery.

Step 7



- Use the attached plastic pull tab to remove the battery from the upper case.
- ☑ If you're installing a new battery, you should [calibrate](#) it after installation:
 - Charge it to 100%, and then keep charging it for at least 2 more hours. Next, unplug and use it normally to drain the battery. When you see the low battery warning, save your work, and keep your laptop on until it goes to sleep due to low battery. Wait at least 5 hours, then charge your laptop uninterrupted to 100%.
 - If you notice any unusual behavior or problems after installing your new battery, you may need to [reset your MacBook's SMC](#).

Step 8 — Trackpad



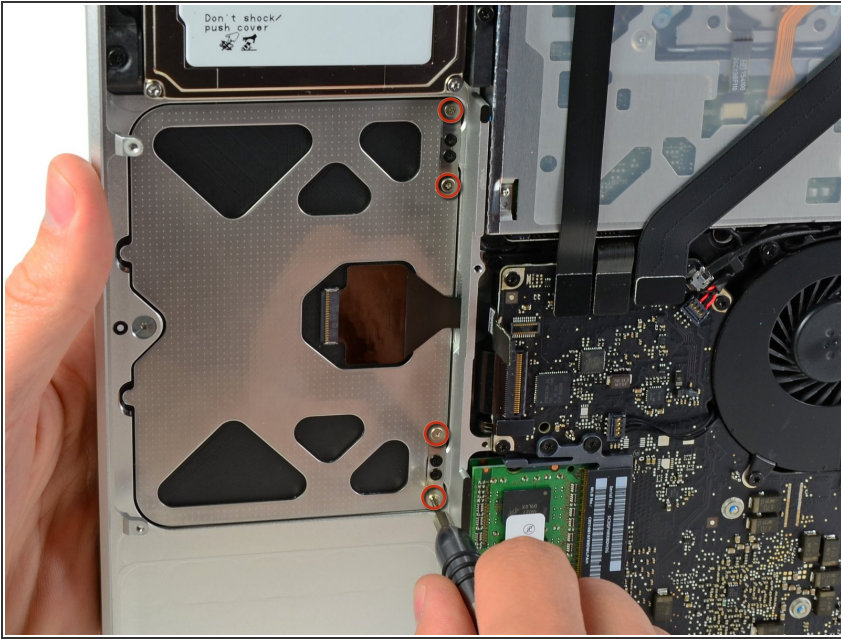
- Use the flat end of a spudger to carefully pry the trackpad connector up from its socket on the logic board.

Step 9



- Open your MacBook Pro and set it on a table as shown.

Step 10



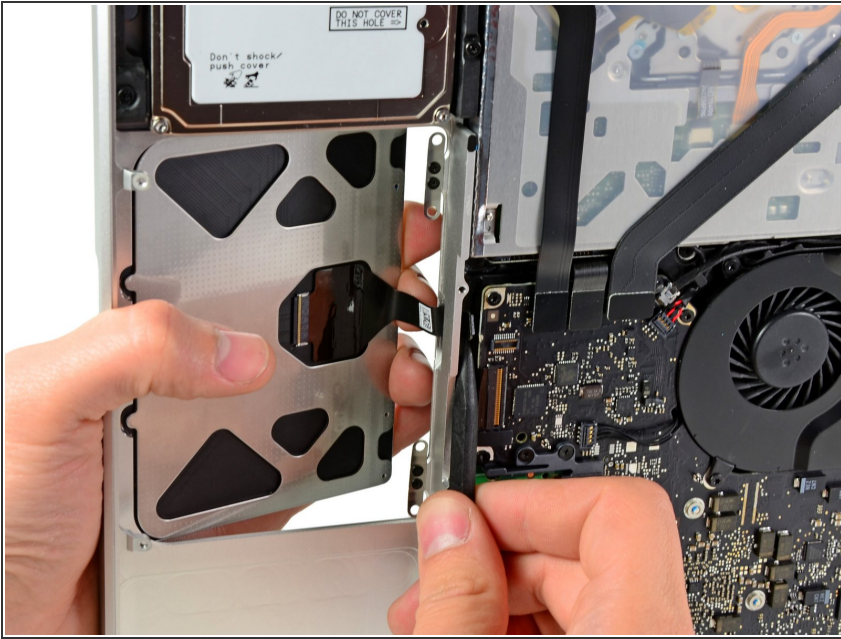
- While holding the edge of the trackpad closest to the logic board with one hand, remove the four 1.2 mm Phillips screws highlighted in red.

Step 11



- If necessary, carefully dislodge the edge of the trackpad closest to the keyboard from its recess in the upper case by pushing it away from the brackets attached to the upper case.
- Carefully push the trackpad connector and cable down through the slot cut into the upper case.
- It may be necessary to use a spudger to help get the trackpad connector past the edge of the logic board.
- Once the cable has been completely pulled through its slot in the upper case, pull the trackpad away from the outer edge of the upper case and remove it from the machine.

Step 12

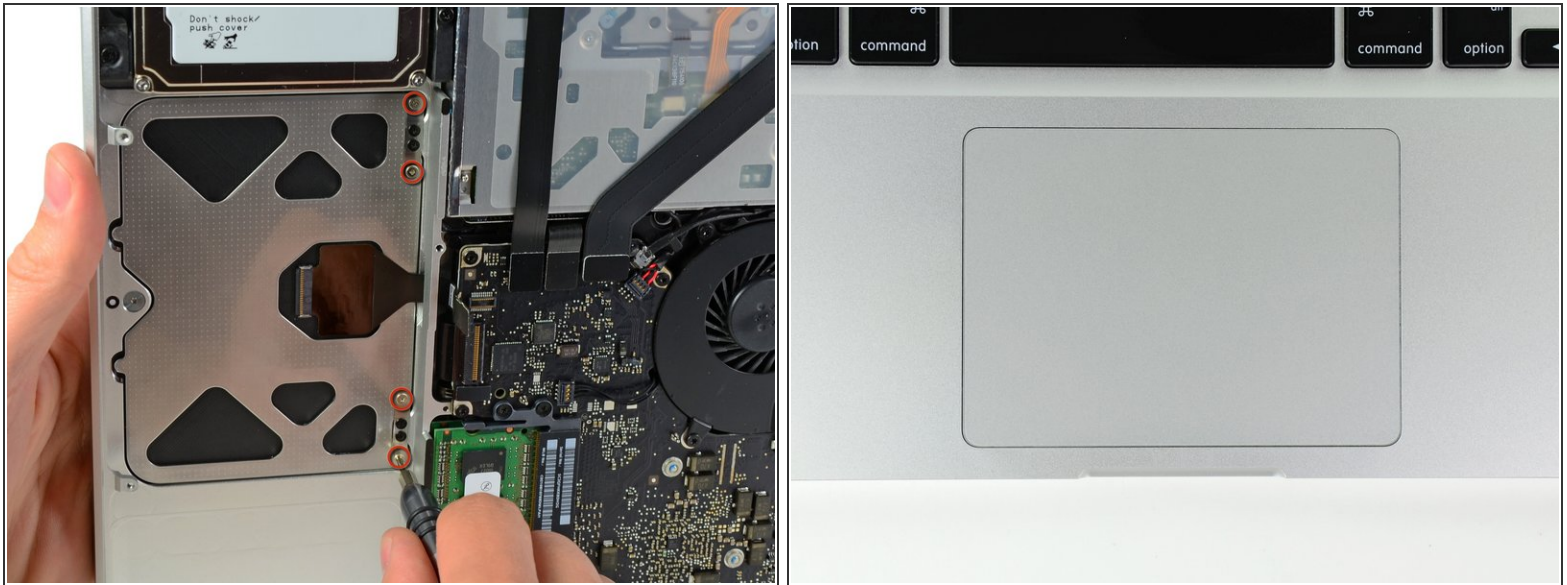


i If you are installing a replacement trackpad that didn't come with the attached flex cable, you'll need to use the cable from your old trackpad.

- To remove the flex cable from the old trackpad, first flip open the latch on the [ZIF connector](#), opposite the cable. Then, apply a little heat from a hair dryer or [iOpener](#) to soften the adhesive securing the cable to the trackpad, and carefully peel off and remove the cable.

★ When installing your new trackpad, routing the cable through the upper case and past the logic board may be difficult. It is helpful to use the tip of a spudger to guide the connector past the logic board while pushing the cable through its slot in the upper case with your other hand.

Step 13



- Next, reinstall the four 1.2 mm Phillips screws along the inner edge of the trackpad.
- ⓘ Tighten the screws all the way, then back them out about 1/4 turn.
- Check the alignment of the trackpad on the keyboard side of the upper case. Once you have centered the trackpad in the upper case, tighten the four Phillips screws all the way.

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