



# MacBook Pro 15" Unibody Late 2011 Hard Drive Replacement

Replace the hard drive in your MacBook Pro 15" Unibody Late 2011.

Written By: Miroslav Djuric



# INTRODUCTION

Upgrade your hard drive for more storage space!



## TOOLS:

- [Phillips #00 Screwdriver](#) (1)
- [Spudger](#) (1)
- [T6 Torx Screwdriver](#) (1)



## PARTS:

- [MacBook and MacBook Pro \(Non-Retina\) SSD Upgrade Bundle](#) (1)
- [250 GB SSD](#) (1)
- [500 GB SSD](#) (1)
- [1 TB SSD](#) (1)
- [500 GB SSD Hybrid 2.5" Hard Drive Upgrade Kit](#) (1)  
*This kit contains the part and all tools needed.*
- [1 TB SSD Hybrid 2.5" Hard Drive Upgrade Kit](#) (1)  
*This kit contains the drive and all tools needed.*
- [500 GB 5400 RPM 2.5" Hard Drive](#) (1)
- [1 TB 5400 RPM 2.5" Hard Drive](#) (1)
- [MacBook Pro 15" Unibody \(Mid 2009 to Mid 2012\) Hard Drive Bracket](#) (1)
- [Universal Drive Adapter](#) (1)

## Step 1 — Lower Case



- Remove the following ten screws securing the lower case to the upper case:
  - Three 13.5 mm (14.1 mm) Phillips screws.
  - Seven 3 mm Phillips screws.

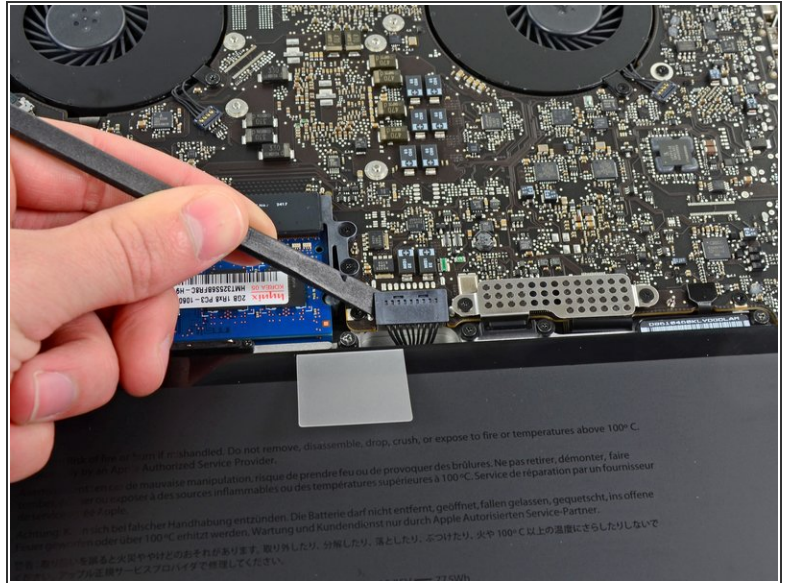
★ When removing these screws, note how they come out at a slight angle. They must be reinstalled the same way.

## Step 2



- Using both hands, lift the lower case near the vent to pop it off two clips securing it to the upper case.
- Remove the lower case and set it aside.

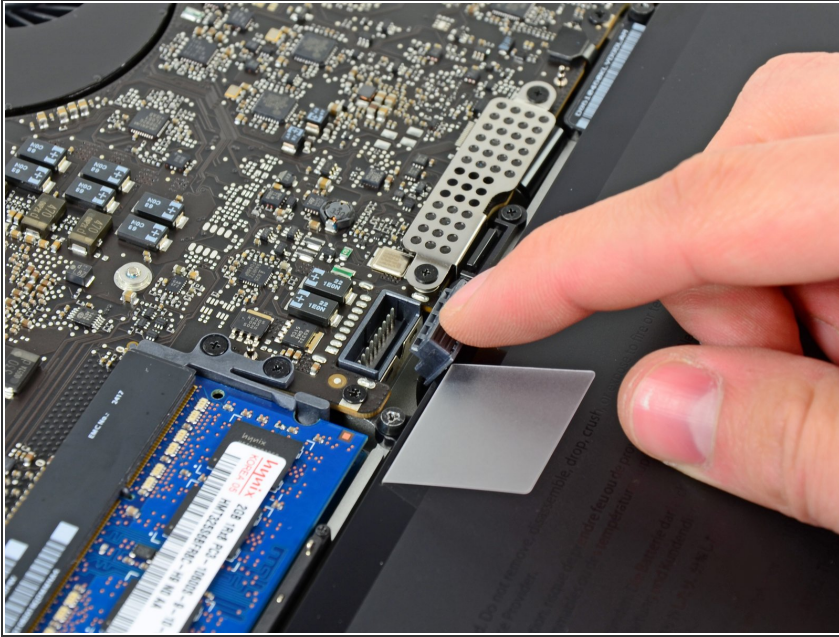
## Step 3 — Battery Connector



- ☑ For certain repairs (e.g. hard drive), disconnecting the battery connector is not necessary but it prevents any accidental shorting of electronics on the motherboard. If you do not disconnect the battery connector, please be careful as parts of the motherboard might be electrified.
- Use the edge of a spudger to pry the battery connector upwards from its socket on the logic board.
- ℹ It is useful to pry upward on both short sides of the connector to "walk" it out of its socket.



## 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 — Hard Drive



- Remove two Phillips screws securing the hard drive bracket to the upper case.
- ⓘ These screws are captive to the hard drive bracket.

## Step 6



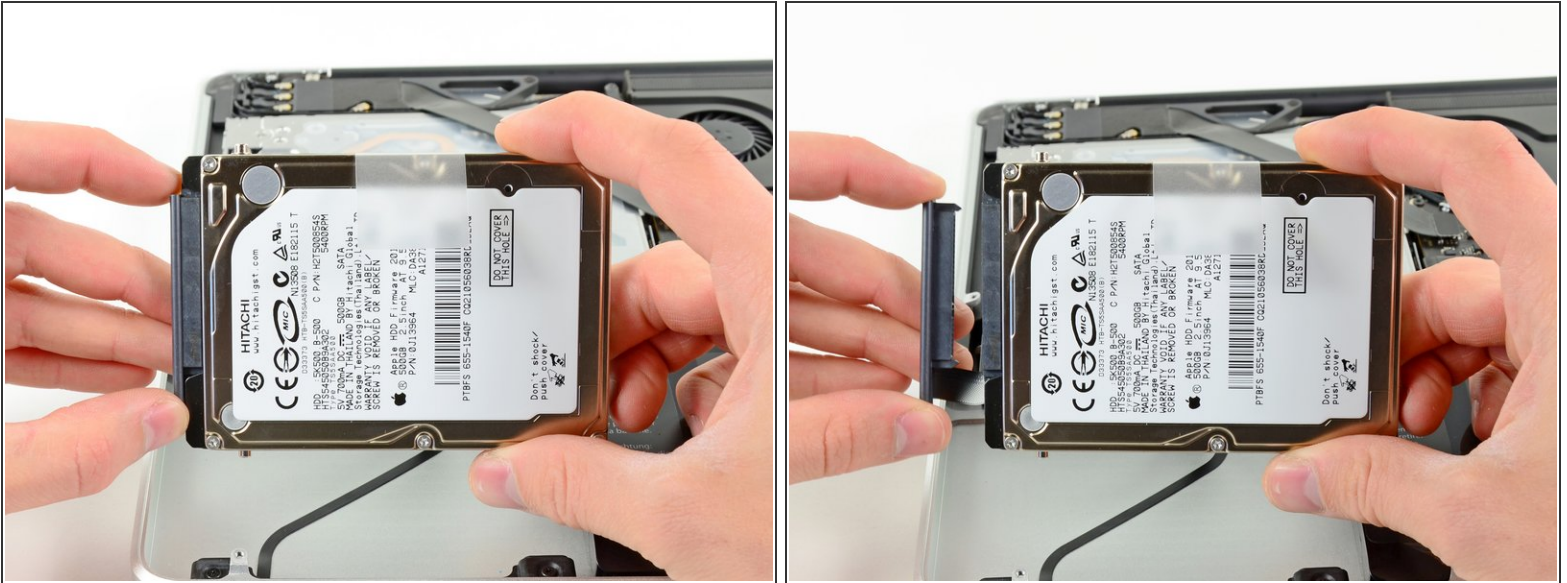
- Lift the retaining bracket out of the upper case.

## Step 7



- Lift the hard drive by its pull tab and pull it out of the chassis, minding the cable attaching it to the computer.

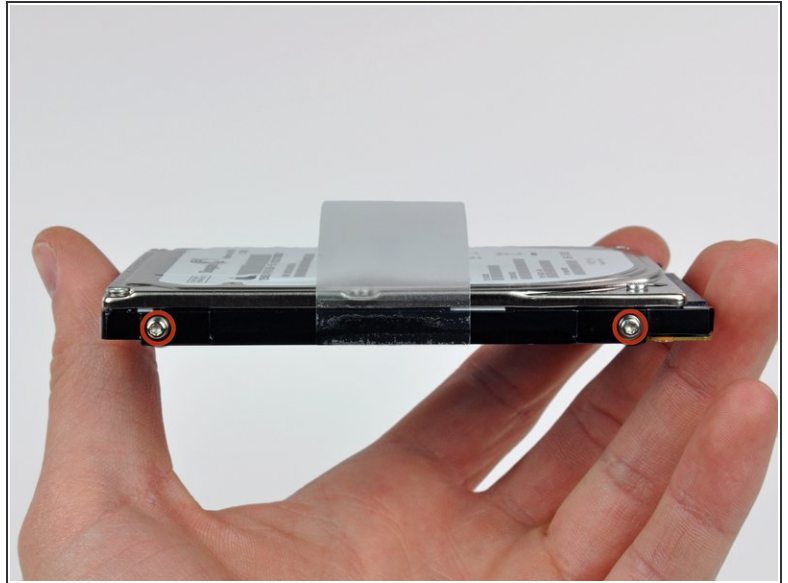
## Step 8



- Remove the hard drive cable by pulling its connector straight away from the hard drive.



## Step 9 — Hard Drive



- Remove two T6 Torx screws from each side of the hard drive (four screws total).
- ☑ You'll need to transfer these screws to your new hard drive if you're changing drives.
- If desired, peel the pull tab off your old hard drive and transfer it to the side of your new drive.
- ⓘ If you are installing a new hard drive, we have an [OS X install guide](#) to get you up and running. Many recent Macs may be able to use [OS X Internet Recovery](#).

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