



Maxtor OneTouch 4 Mini Teardown

Tearing down a Onetouch 4 Mini to get the drive out.

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INTRODUCTION

This OneTouch 4 Mini hard drive was bought at a Fry's store in 2007. It has a 80 GB capacity, and a 8 MB Buffer.

The drive has an estimated read/write speed of 28 MB/s

I am tearing this apart so I can put this under Spinrite to fix the drive from a unreadable sector.

TOOLS:

- [Flathead Screwdriver](#) (1)
- [Metal Spudger](#) (1)
- [Phillips #00 Screwdriver](#) (1)

Step 1 — Maxtor OneTouch 4 Mini Teardown



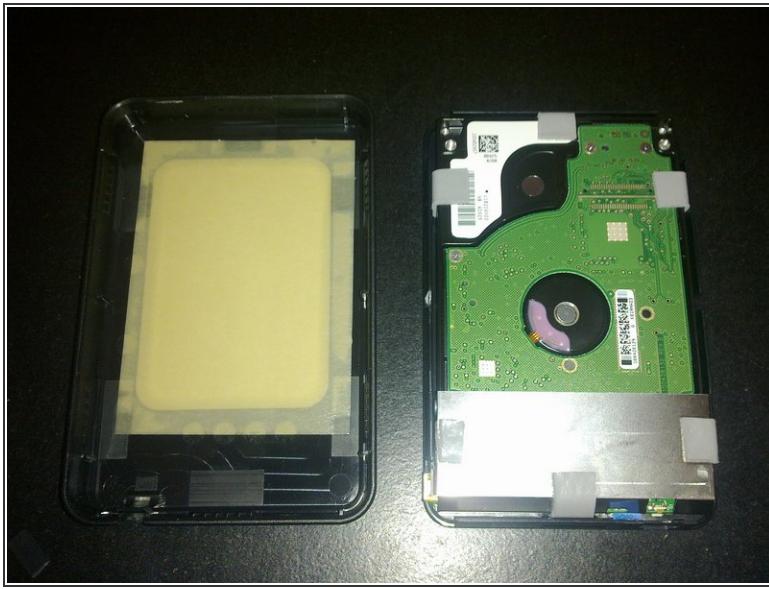
- This teardown is the same with the other onetouch 4 mini models.

Step 2



- The drive's enclosure doesn't have any screws or glue holding the case in place, it has a clamshell-style design that cradles the drive inside.
- There is a seam at the bottom edge of the drive where the 2 halves comes apart. A flat head screwdriver helps pry it open.

Step 3



- The drive is suspended in the middle of the enclosure by several foam rubber pads, which keeps the drive quiet and keep vibrations at a minimum.
- The metal plate covering the lower part of the drive is an EMF shield, and is where the SATA to USB board is held in.

Step 4



- Removing the shield is removing the 2 philips screws on the side of the drive where the shield is held in place.
- Lets see what kind of chip and drive do we have here on the next step....

Step 5



- The other side of the drive. The sticker on the connector, is the serial number.
- The controller board and the drive is connected using SATA.

Step 6



- The 2.5" hard drive in the Maxtor OneTouch 4 Mini isn't a Maxtor drive at all. It's a Seagate Momentus 5400.5 LD25.2 hard drive.
- Here is the Seagate product overview to the Momentus 5400.2 hard drive, model number [ST980210AS](#)
- Removing the EMF shield reveals a small PCB that plugs directly into the SATA and power connections of the Momentus 5400.5. It doesn't even have a physical connection to the RFI shield -- it just hangs off the back of the drive itself. The SATA connections to the drive are soldered to the PCB itself.
- The controller board's chip is made by Initio. It is a [Initio INIC-1605 USB to SATA Bridge Chip](#)

Step 7



Just to keep in mind, taking your external drive apart would void the drive's warranty. It's just something to know if your external drive is under warranty.

- Even though the hard drive's label reads "Not Suitable for Laptop Computer Use", it still works perfectly as a laptop hard drive.

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