



# My First Sony Cassette-Corder Teardown

Written By: Harry333



## INTRODUCTION

I've had this since I was 3, I think. Anyway it plays cassette tapes and IT HAS A MICROPHONE!!!! ooooooo!

The model number is TCM-4500

It was first introduced in the 1980's

### TOOLS:

- Phillips #1 Screwdriver (1)

## Step 1 — My First Sony Cassette-Corder Teardown



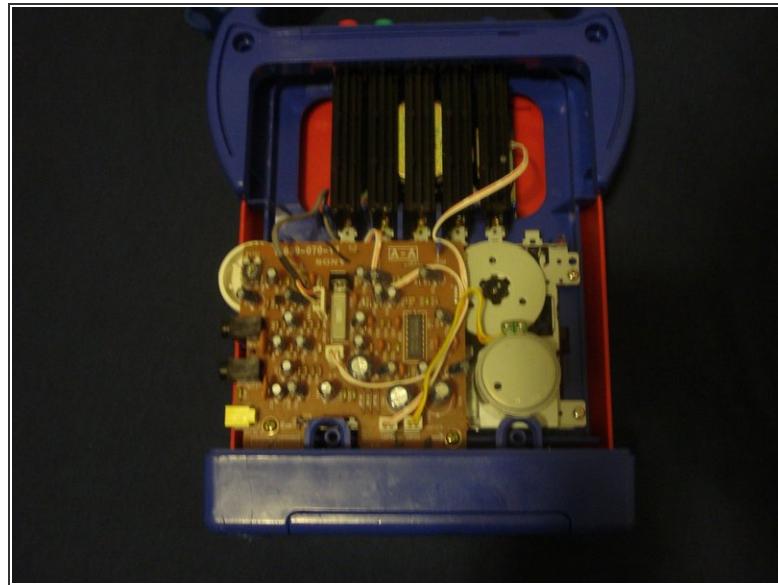
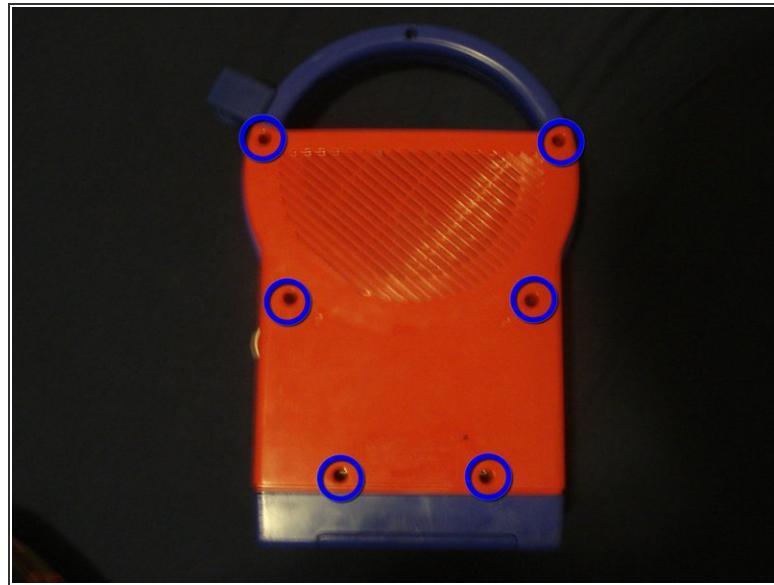
- Here we have a 'my first Sony' cassette player with a microphone
- It can even take a second microphone, sold separately of course
  - Main microphone plug
  - Secondary Microphone plug

## Step 2



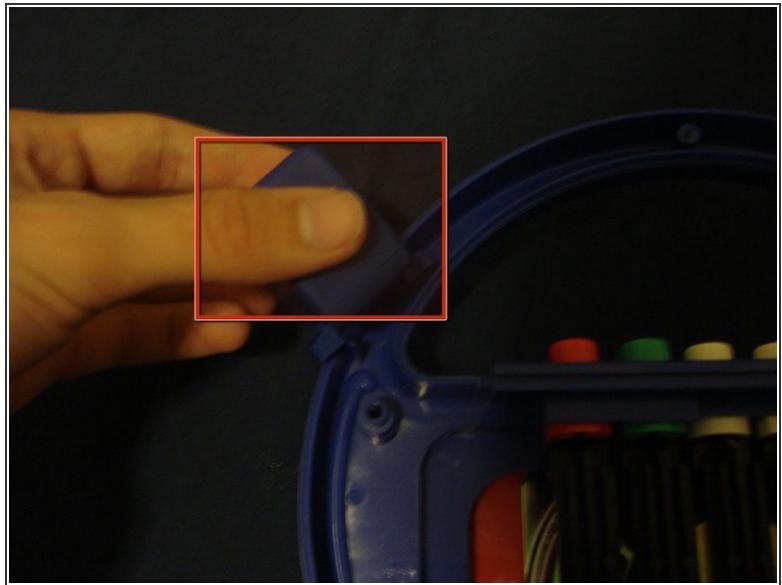
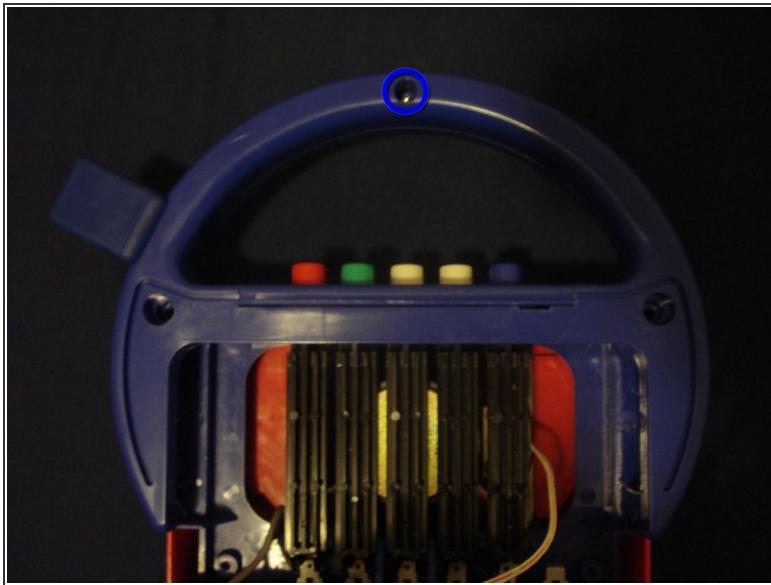
- This model uses four C-cell batteries, these have been in here since I was 10, hmmm... wonder if there's any juice left?
- Time to take the batteries out
  - Push down at one end of each row of batteries towards the spring
  - With the tension released pull out on the battery until it comes out
  - Repeat until all four are removed
- Thumbs up to Sony for providing nice visual instructions for those kiddies

## Step 3



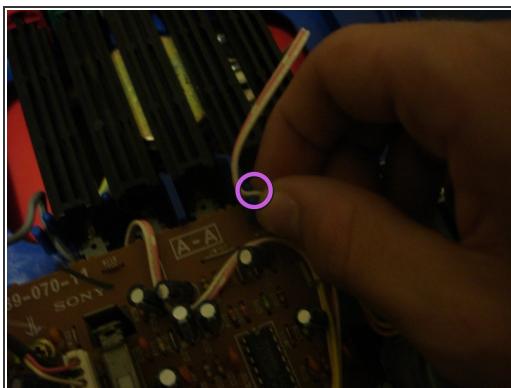
- To remove the red back cover you need to remove six screws placed around the border of the cover. Note! The bottom 2 screws are longer than the other 4. These 2 are 35mm long whilst the other 4 are only 30mm long. Don't mix them up !
- And voilà! Now we have a nice view of all the internal components

## Step 4



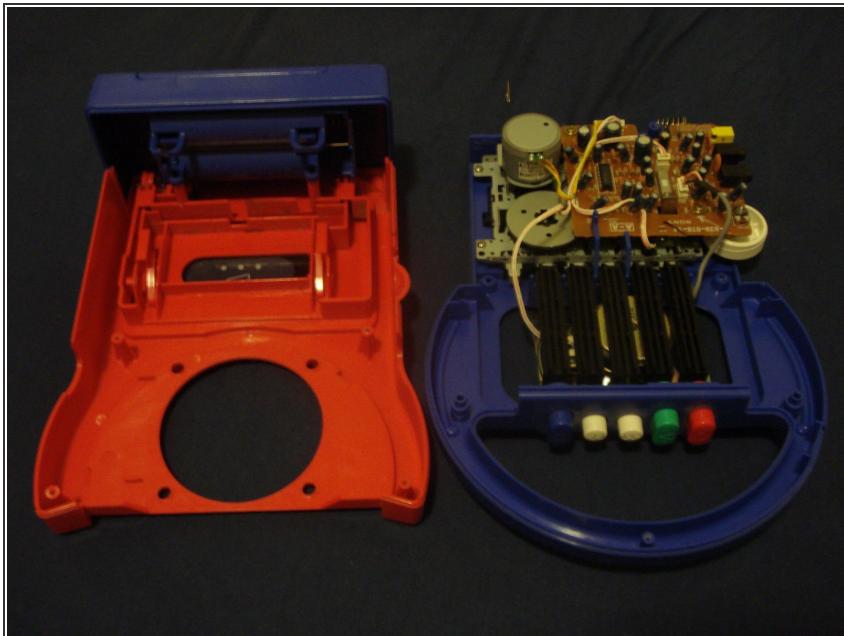
- Remove one screw to take off the rear part of the carrying handle
- We also gain access to the rubber microphone holder

## Step 5



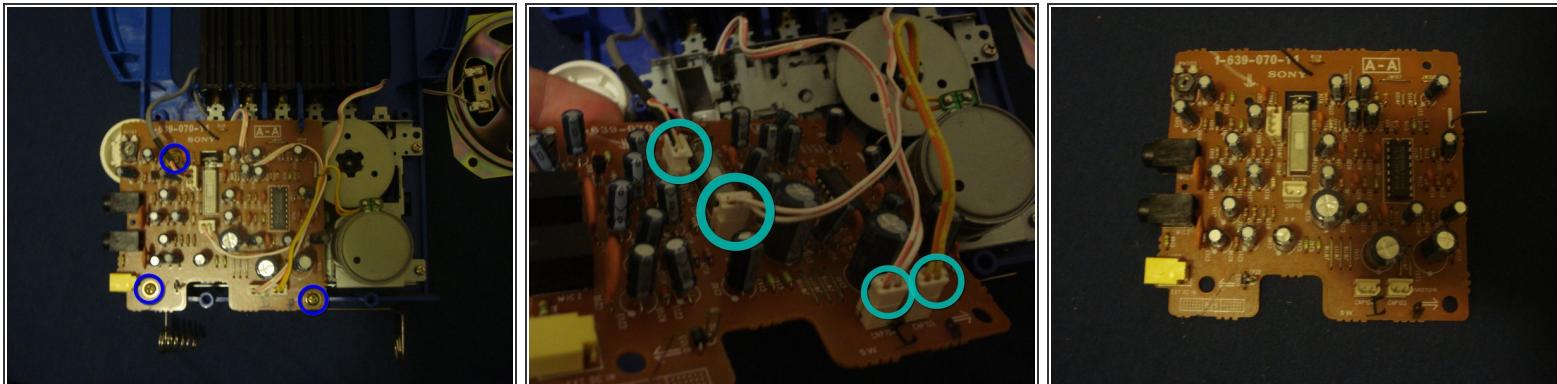
- To remove the speaker first you'll need to get some slack on the wire, do this by pulling it out of a plastic holder thing
- Proceed to lift up the blue chassis and remove the four screws holding the speaker down
- *(i)* These screws also hold the yellow speaker grill to the front

## Step 6



- It was a bit of a fight but I was able to pull the blue chassis out of the front piece of the red case
- There were no fasteners holding them together

## Step 7



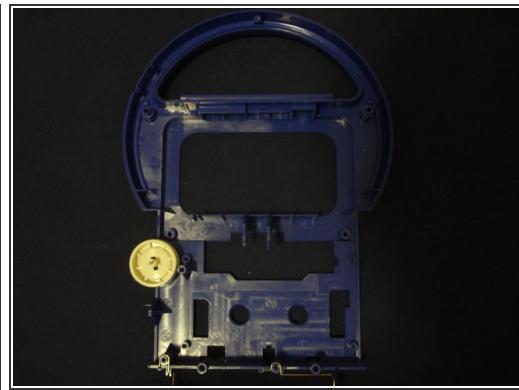
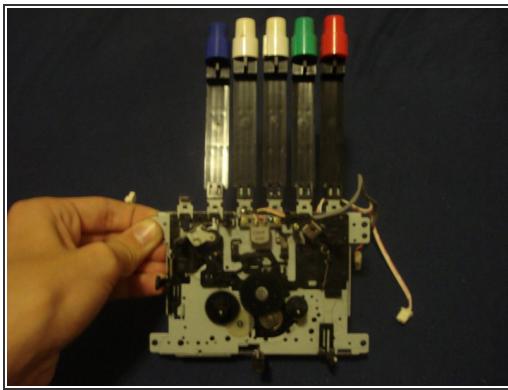
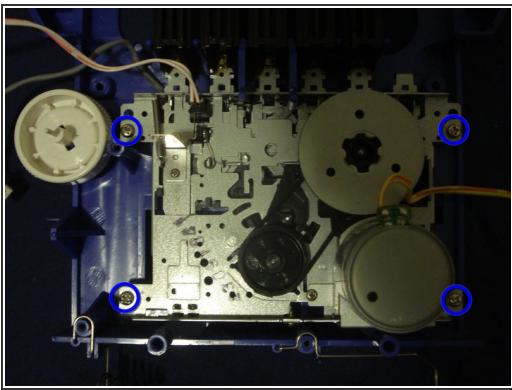
- Take out three screws to remove the main circuit board
- Then unplug four sockets attached to the circuit board
- And here we have the only circuit board in this device, don't see any big processors on it, I guess I can't turn it into a super computer :(

## Step 8



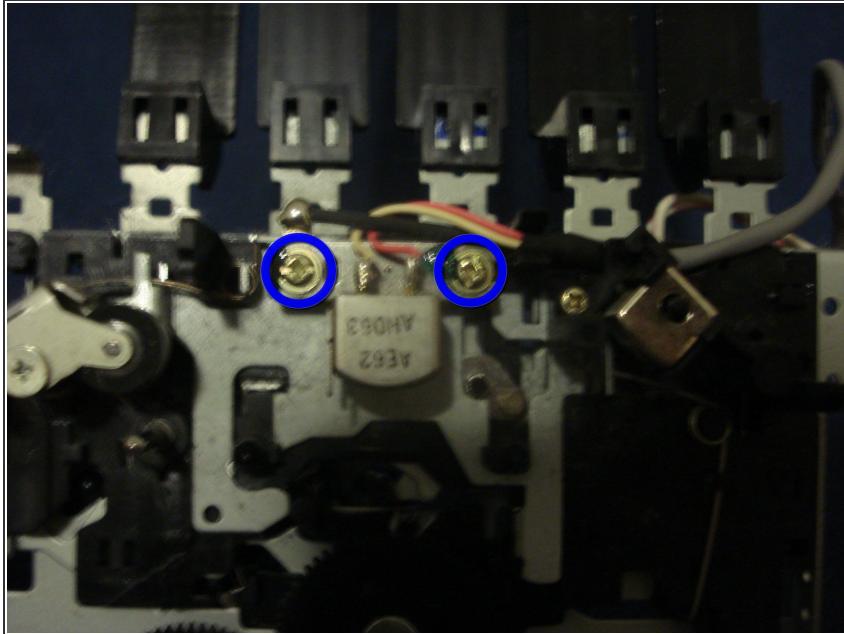
- After unplugging the circuit board we can completely remove the speaker
- It packs a whopping 3 1/2 inch speaker

## Step 9



- Remove four screws to loosen the tape drive chassis
- Then pull up and back to take the chassis out
- With the tape drive chassis on its own we can look at Sony's weird button system, we also have the blue chassis with no components on it

## Step 10



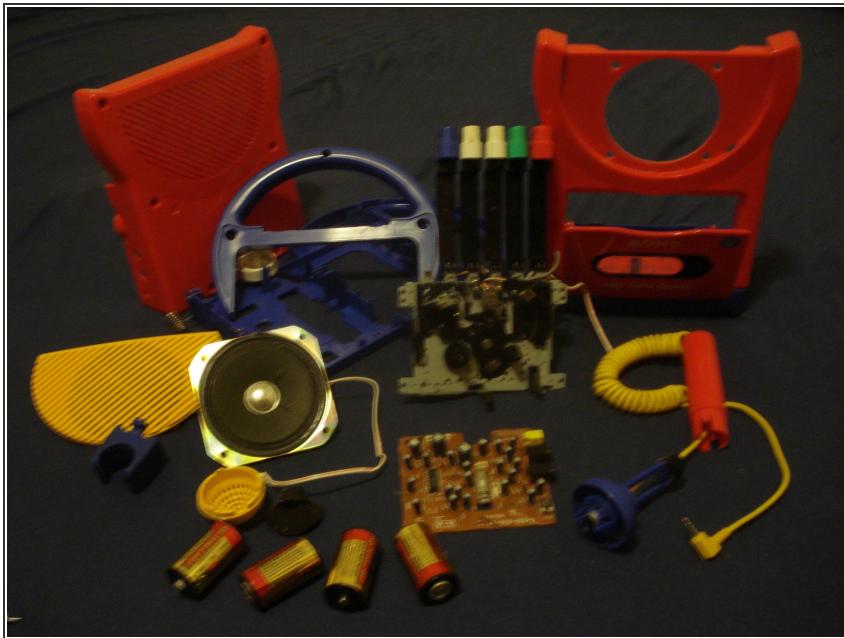
- Take out two screws to remove the tape reader/writer

## Step 11



- To take the microphone apart just pull very hard on the red handle and it will come out, its held on by two tabs
- Take off the yellow cover by wedging a flathead screwdriver in the crack and prying it off
- Now we can look at a little microphone, and surprisingly it even has its own windscreens

## Step 12



- So here we have it all disassembled, and THERE WERE NO 'WARRANTY VOID' STICKERS ANYWHERE!!!

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