Nintendo Game Boy Advance SP Motherboard Replacement

This guide provides a step by step guide on how to get the motherboard out of the way so you can access the button panel.

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INTRODUCTION

The motherboard is the green electrical plate that runs the device. Without the motherboard, the device will not function. This is why we advise against removing the motherboard from the system. Any accidental tug can tear the golden ribbon cable. If that happens you now have more problems then you came here with in the first place!

🔧 TOOLS:

- Phillips #00 Screwdriver (1)
- iFixit Opening Tools (1)
- Tri-wing Screwdriver (1)

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Step 1 — Removing the Battery

- ● Use a standard Phillips #00 screwdriver to loosen the 4mm screw that keeps the battery cover attached to the device.

Step 2

- ● Lift the battery cover up and remove it from the device.

- ⓘ The screw will remain attached to the battery cover because of Nintendo's design.
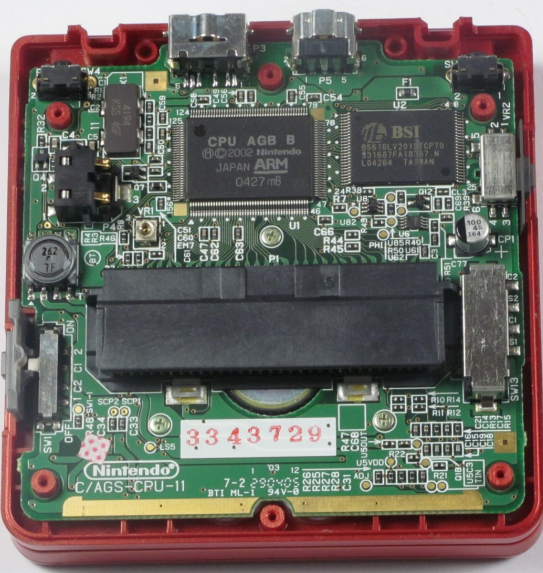
Step 3

- Use your fingers or a plastic opening tool to remove the battery from the device.
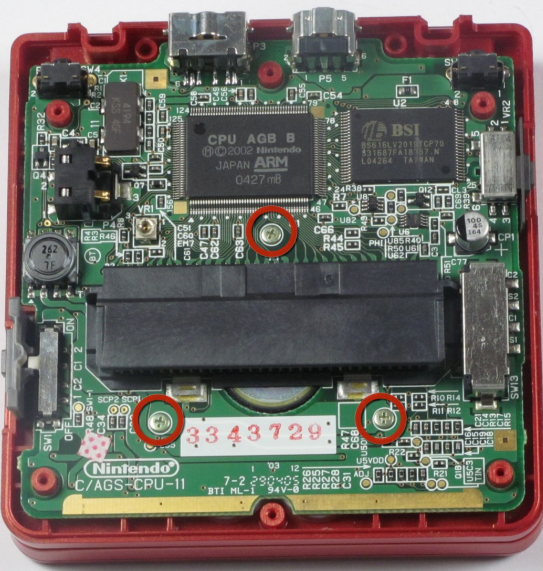
Step 4 — Removing the Back Cover

- Using the tri-wing screwdriver, unscrew the screws holding the back cover to the device. The six screws that need to be removed include:

  - Four #00 6.45mm tri-wing screws that are located at the corners of the device.

  - Two #00 4.6mm tri-wing screws that are located at the top-center and bottom-center of the device.

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Step 5

- Lift the back cover off of the device.

Step 6 — Motherboard

- Using a Phillips #00 screwdriver, remove the three Phillips #00 4 mm long screws that hold the motherboard to the button panel.

Step 7

⚠ Be careful not to tear the ribbon cable that's connected to the screen. If you tear it, games will not appear on the device's screen!

● Flip the motherboard up and rest it on the other half of the device, so that the back of the buttons are visible as seen in the picture.

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