



Nintendo Switch Fan Replacement

A free guide on how to replace the fan on a Nintendo Switch gaming console.

Written By: Blake Klein



INTRODUCTION

Follow this guide to replace the fan inside of your Nintendo Switch gaming console.

When reinstalling, make sure that you hook the right anchor point into the rubber grommet first before seating the fan.



TOOLS:

- [ESD Safe Tweezers Blunt Nose](#) (1)
- [JIS #0 Screwdriver](#) (1)
- [Tri-point Y00 Screwdriver](#) (1)
- [JIS #000 Screwdriver](#) (1)
- [Spudger](#) (1)



PARTS:

- [Nintendo Switch Fan](#) (1)

Step 1 — Rear Panel



- Remove the four 6.3 mm Tri-point Y00 screws from the rear panel.

Step 2



- Remove the single 6.1 mm Phillips #000 screw from underneath the kickstand.

Step 3



- Remove the two 2.7 mm Phillips #000 screws from the bottom of the device.

Step 4



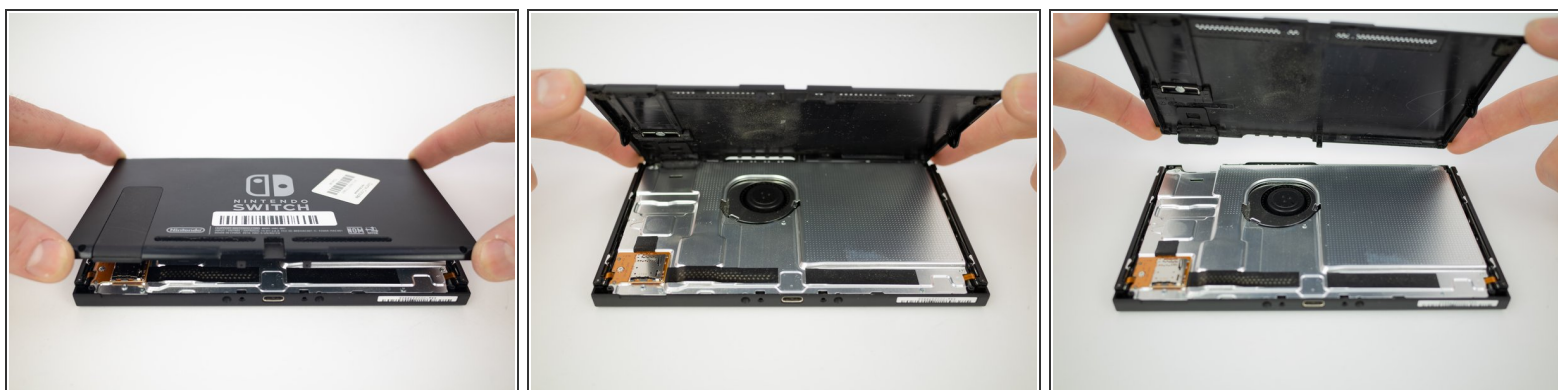
- Remove the single 2.7 mm Phillips #000 screw from the top of the device.

Step 5



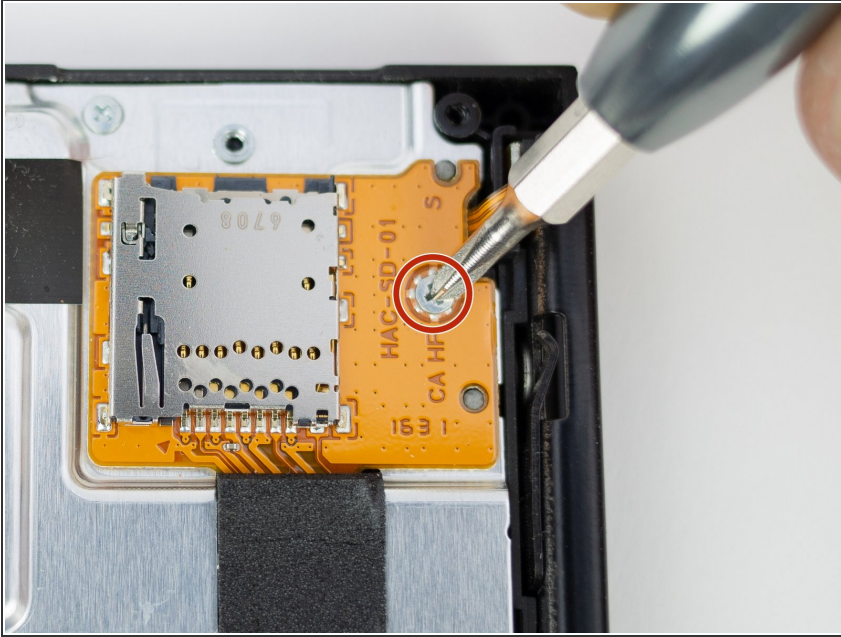
- Remove the single 3.8 mm Phillips #000 screw from the right Joy-Con rail.
- Remove the single 3.8 mm Phillips #000 screw from the left Joy-Con rail.

Step 6



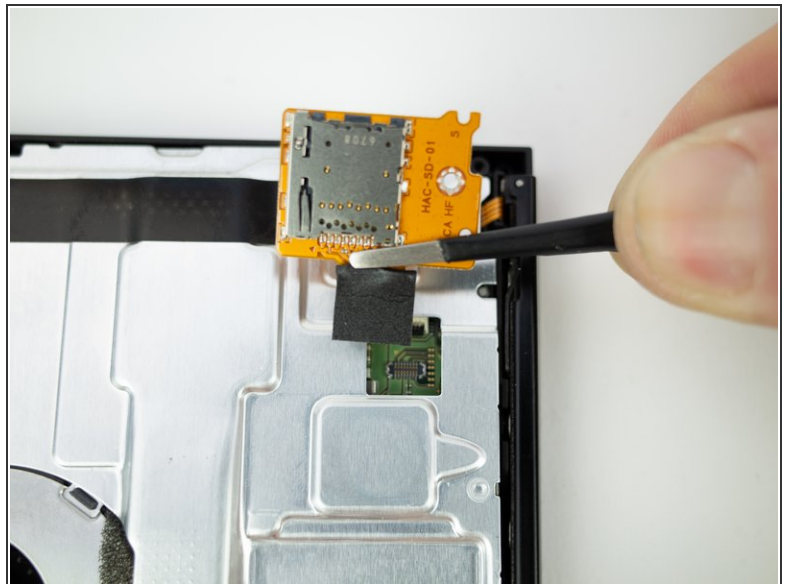
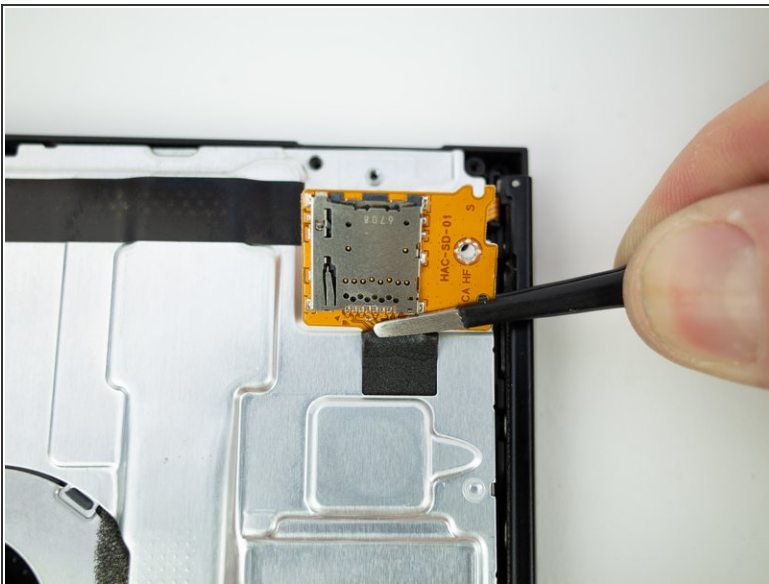
- Pull the rear panel up and off of the device.

Step 7 — Micro SD Card Reader



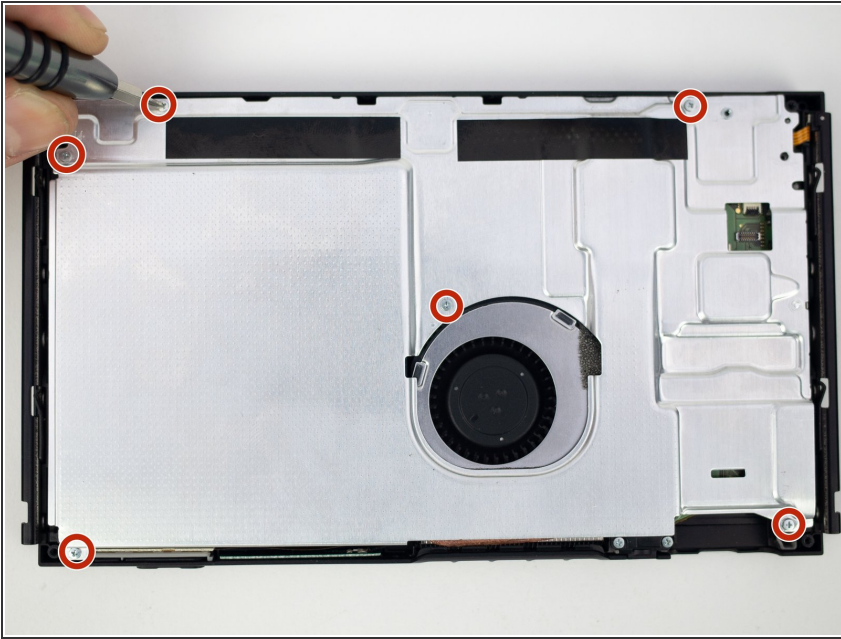
- Remove the single 3.1 mm Phillips screw from micro SD card board.

Step 8



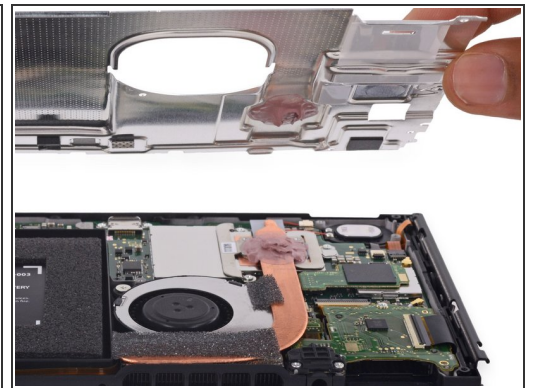
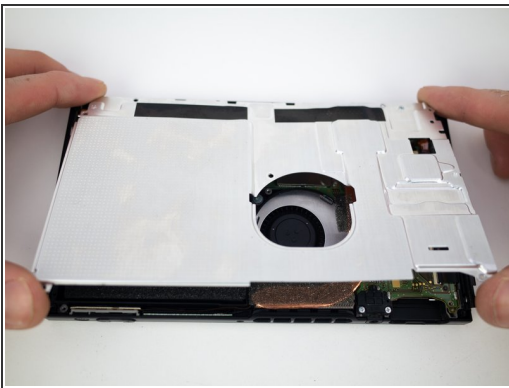
- Gently lift the micro SD card board straight up, away from the Switch to disconnect and remove it.
- ☒ During reassembly, line up the micro SD card board and lightly press on the foam pad until the press connector snaps into place to reconnect it.

Step 9 — Shield Plate



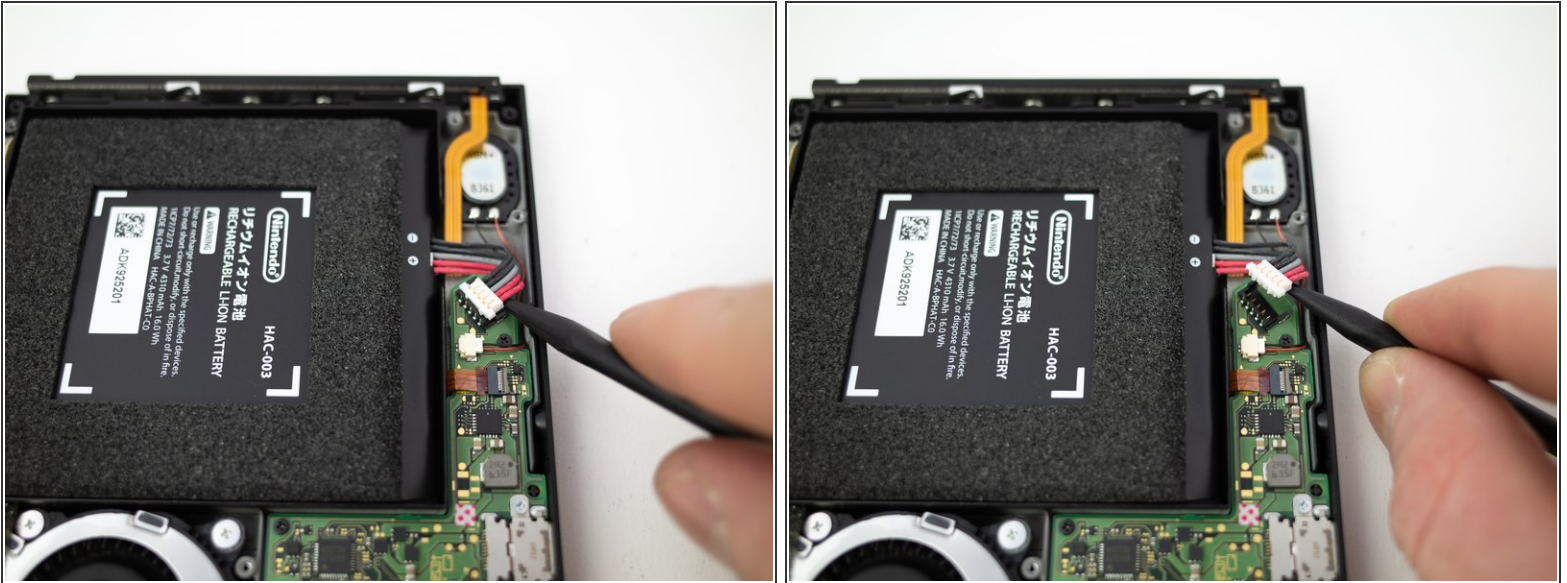
- Remove the six 3.1mm Phillips #000 screws from the shield plate.

Step 10



- Remove the shield plate from the device.
- ★ A thick pink thermal compound bridges the gap between the shield plate and the copper heat sink underneath. For best results, whenever the shield plate is removed, refer to our [thermal paste guide](#) to remove the old thermal compound and replace it with an appropriate, thick compound such as [K5 Pro](#) during reassembly.

Step 11 — Battery Disconnect



- Insert the pointed end of a spudger underneath the white connector and pry upwards to disconnect the battery from the motherboard.

Step 12 — Heat Sink



- Remove the three 3.1mm Phillips #000 screws from the heatsink.

Step 13



- Pull the heatsink up 45 degrees and rotate it to the right to remove.

☑ Before reassembly, follow the [thermal paste guide](#).

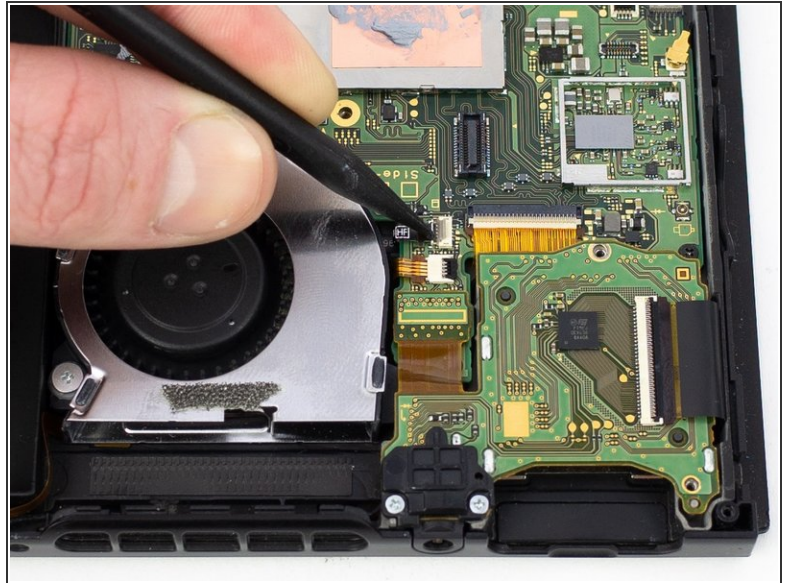
- Clean all the thermal paste off the underside of the heat sink using isopropyl alcohol (>90%) or Artic Silver ArctiClean.
- Clean and **replace** the thermal paste on the processor cover.

Step 14 — Fan



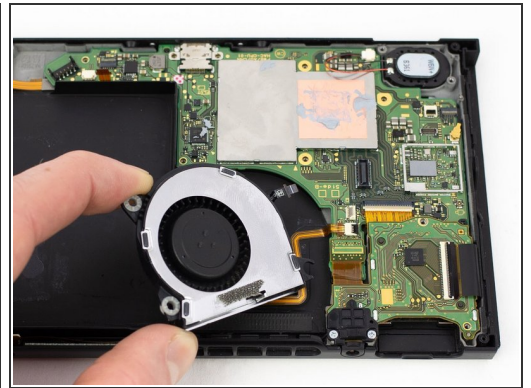
- Remove the two 4.8mm JIS #000 screws from the fan.

Step 15



- Use a spudger to flip up the small gray locking flap on the fan [ZIF](#) connector.

Step 16



- Lift the left side of the fan out of its recess and rotate it 15 degrees towards you.
- Pull the fan out and away from you to unhook it from the rubber grommet.

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