



# PowerBook G4 Aluminum 17" 1-1.67 GHz Logic Board Replacement

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## INTRODUCTION

This motherboard includes all ports on the right side except USB.

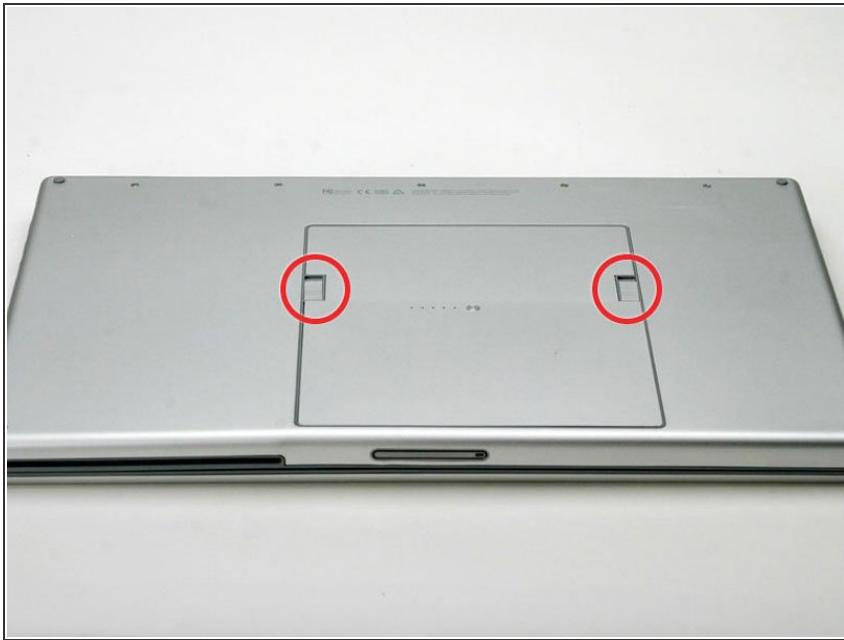
### TOOLS:

- Anti-Static Wrist Strap (1)
- Arctic Silver ArctiClean (1)
- Arctic Silver Thermal Paste (1)
- Phillips #00 Screwdriver (1)
- Spudger (1)
- T8 Torx Screwdriver (1)

### PARTS:

- G4 Aluminum 17" 1 GHz Logic Board (1)
- G4 Aluminum 17" 1.5 GHz Logic Board (64 VRAM) (1)
- G4 Aluminum 17" 1.33 GHz Logic Board (1)
- G4 Aluminum 17" 1.67 GHz (LR) Logic Board (1)

## Step 1 — Battery



- Orient the computer so that the side with the line of screws on it is away from you.
- Use your thumbs to push both battery release tabs away so that the edge of the battery lifts up.
- Lift the battery out of the computer.

## Step 2 — Upper Case



- Remove the three identical Phillips screws from the memory door.

## Step 3



- Lift the memory door up enough so that you can get a grip on it, and slide it toward you, pulling it away from the casing.

## Step 4



- Release the tabs on each side of the RAM chip at the same time. These tabs lock the chip in place and releasing them will cause the chip to "pop" up.
- Pull the chip directly out from its connectors. If there is a second RAM chip installed, pop it out in the same manner.

## Step 5



*(i)* This is a diagram of the trackpad ribbon clamp connector you will disconnect in the next step.

- 1) With your fingernails, grasp the locking bar on either side slide it a small amount (about 1/16" or 2 mm) towards the battery.
- 2) After disengaging the locking bar, slide the cable out of the connector.

## Step 6



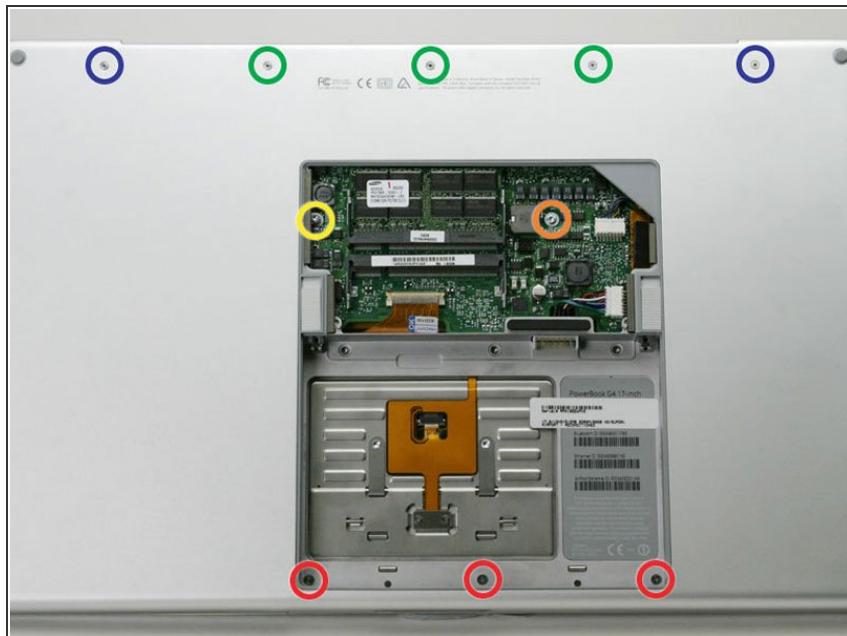
For this step, you only need to move the connector about 2 mm. Pulling too hard or too far will damage the connector.

- Loosen the trackpad connector by pulling the locking bar toward the battery housing, using the tips of your fingers.
- Slide the trackpad cable out of the loosened connector.

 When reattaching the trackpad ribbon cable, make sure that the orange cable is slid into the connector above the locking bar.

- Note: When reassembling the case, the trackpad cable can get stuck below the slot to the motherboard. It's possible to nudge it out slowly by gently prodding it on either side with a small screwdriver. You don't need to use much force to do this. Eventually it will just pop back out and you can reconnect as per the instructions above. Also, note that the locking bar comes loose so if you see a little piece of plastic lying around when reassembling, that's what it is. :)

## Step 7



- Remove the following 10 screws from the bottom case:
  - Three 1.7 mm Phillips from the front edge of the battery compartment.
  - One 3.9 mm T8 Torx to the right of the memory card.
  - One 6.9 mm T8 Torx at the left edge of the memory compartment.
  - Three 12.4 mm fully threaded Phillips from the center of the row of screws along the back edge of the case.
  - Two 15.1 mm 2.5 mm threaded Phillips, one from either end of the row of screws along the back edge of the case.

## Step 8



- Turn the computer over and rotate it so that the DVI port faces you.
- Remove the four identical Phillips screws spread along this edge of the case.

## Step 9



- Turn the computer 180 degrees so that the power receptacle faces you, and remove the four Phillips screws (identical to those in the last step).

## Step 10



- Open the computer and turn it so that the screen faces you.
- Pull the upper case off, lifting from the back, and working around the edges.

## Step 11



- Use a spudger to loosen the casing if it sticks.
- Once the casing is entirely free, lift it off of the computer.

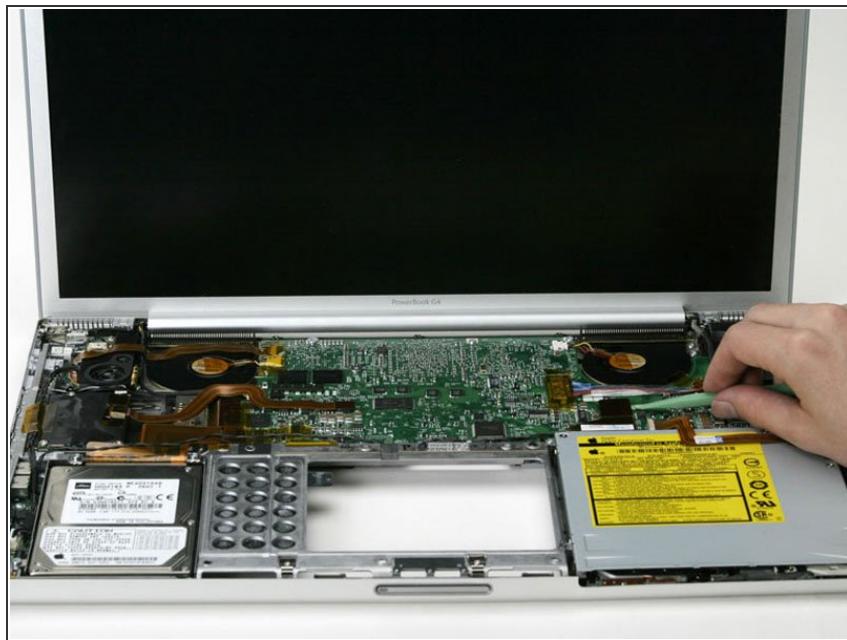
## Step 12 — SuperDrive



- Remove the four ( 3 - 6.9 mm & 1 - 4 mm) T8 Torx screws from the four corners of the SuperDrive.

The shorter screw goes in the front, right corner.

## Step 13



**⚠** The optical drive ribbon cable is very fragile. Be sure to gently lift up the cable on the sides. Do not lift up on the cable from the end closest to the display.

- Carefully disconnect the orange optical drive ribbon from the logic board.

## Step 14



- Lift the optical drive at the right, front corner, and slide it out of the computer (be careful not to catch the PRAM battery cable).

**i** If you have a CD or any other object jammed in your optical drive, we have an [optical drive repair guide](#).

## Step 15 — Logic Board



**i** If you have already removed the DC-in board, your computer may differ slightly from the images in this section. This part does not affect this procedure.

- Close the display (cover it with a protective cloth, if you're worried about scratching the screen) and flip the computer over.
- Disconnect the two cables and one ribbon in the RAM compartment.

## Step 16



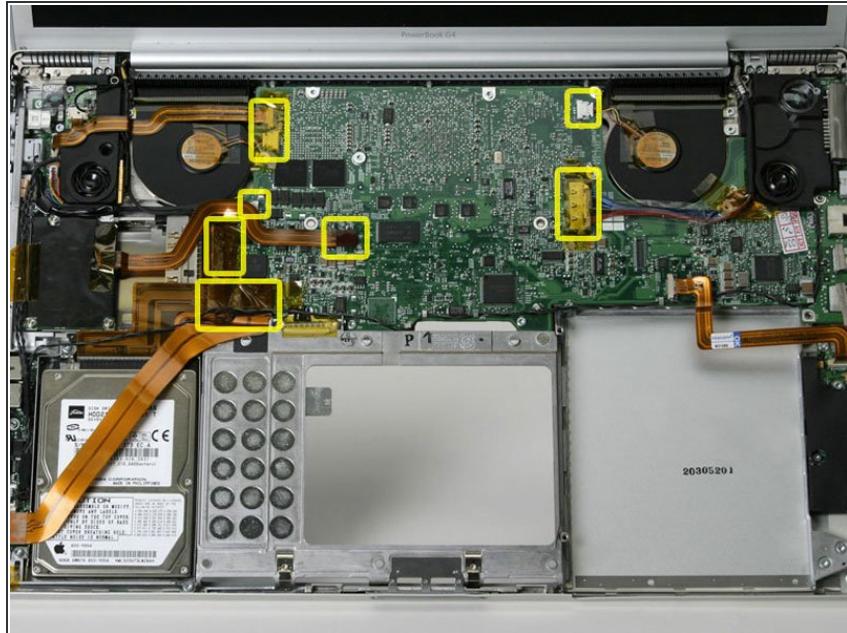
- Turn the laptop back over and open it up.
- Remove the single T8 Torx screw from the right speaker assembly.
- Deroute the display data cable from the left side of the speaker and pull the speaker assembly off the logic board.

## Step 17



- In order to deroute the speaker cable from the front edge of the logic board, you must disconnect the PRAM battery cable.
- Deroute the speaker cable from the front edge of the logic board.

## Step 18



- Disconnect the 9 indicated cables from the logic board, starting in one place and moving around the board.

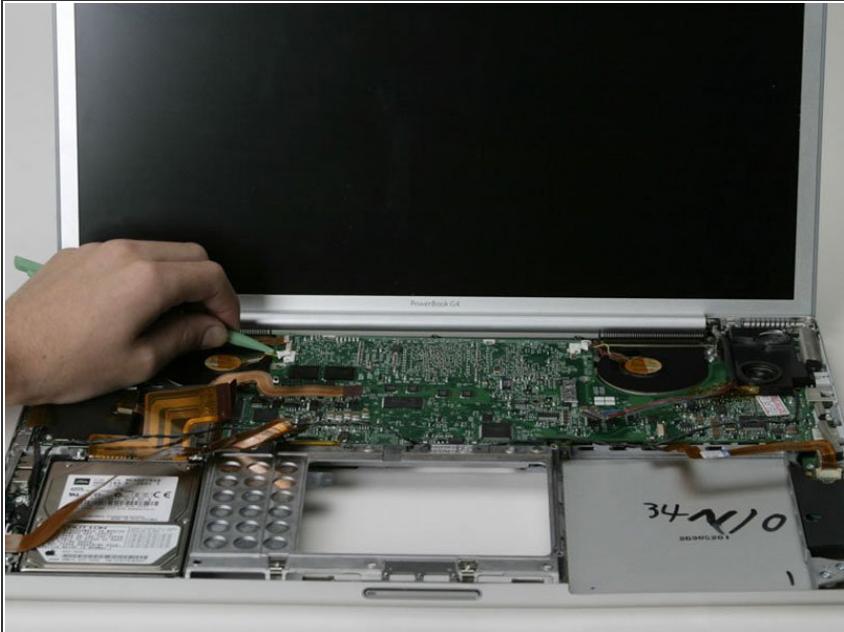
**i** There should be no cables connected to the top of the logic board at this point.

## Step 19



- Remove the following 12 T8 Torx screws from the logic board:
  - Four 3.9 mm, three along the front edge of the logic board, and one just above the right fan connector.
  - Three 6.9 mm large-headed screws in the upper, left corner of the logic board.
  - Five 6.9 mm scattered on the right half of the logic board.

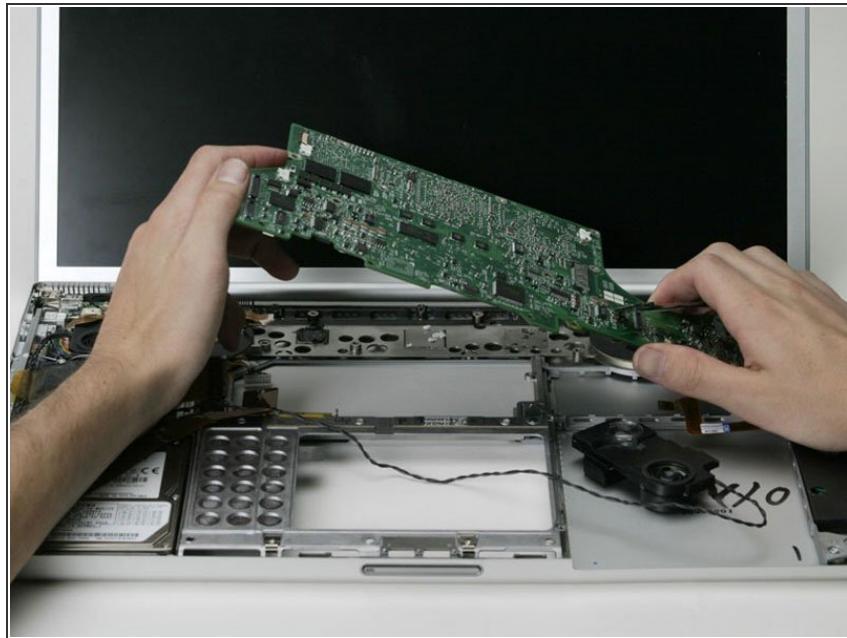
## Step 20



- Use a spudger to gently (very gently) pry up the left side of the logic board.

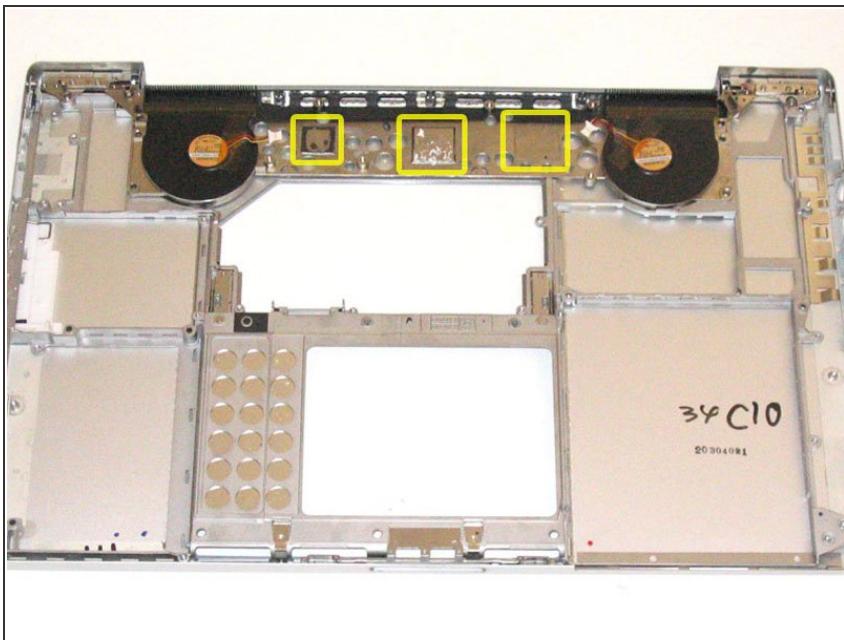
***i*** If the logic board does not immediately come free, it may be necessary to soften the thermal paste between the logic board and heat sink. You can soften the thermal compound using a hairdryer. Move the hairdryer back and forth between the two fans about one inch above the logic board for one minute. At this point, logic board should now come free easily.

## Step 21



- Grasp the logic board at the left edge with one hand and at the thinnest section with the other hand. Lift the left edge of the board up to approximately a 30 degree angle (if you don't have your protractor handy, just lift until the DVI port clears the right hinge).
- Once the logic board clears the ports, slide it out to the left.

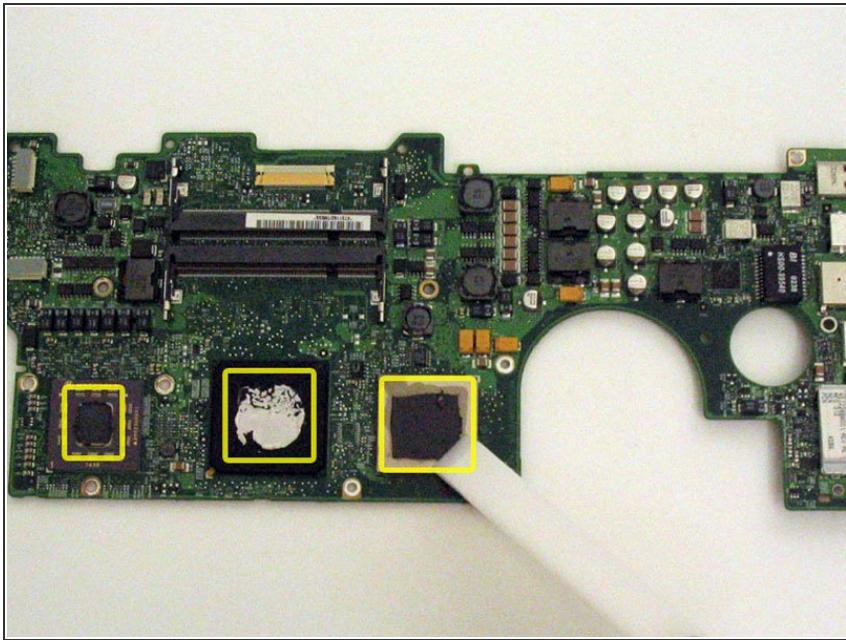
## Step 22



Important. When you reinstall a logic board, you'll need to replace the thermal paste that goes between the processor on the logic board and the heat sink. Failure to remove the old paste and apply a new layer can cause the computer to overheat and sustain damage. The following steps refer to replacing the thermal paste between the processor and heat sink; follow these steps only when you are ready to place the logic board in the computer.

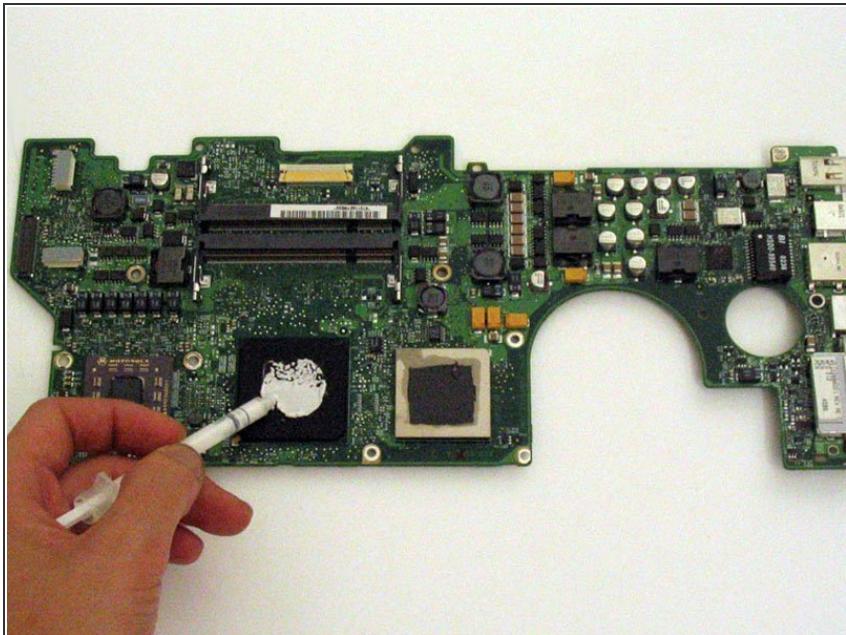
- Use a firm plastic edge to scrape the thermal material off the raised copper heat conduit in three places. Clean the surface with rubbing alcohol.
-  For more advanced instructions on this procedure, see our [Applying Thermal Paste Guide](#).

## Step 23



- Use a firm plastic edge to scrape the thermal material off the three indicated chips.

## Step 24



- Apply a new layer of thermal paste to all three chips.
- When replacing the logic board, make sure all cables are routed around and above - not under - it, and to connect the two cables that do go beneath before pushing the board into place.
- When you place the logic board back in the computer, try not to move it around once the processor has come into contact with the newly-applied thermal paste.

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

