



Samsung Galaxy S III Broken Front Glass Replacement

How to repair a broken front glass on the Galaxy S III.

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INTRODUCTION

Say you dropped your phone and the glass is now cracked but the display is still working. You don't need to change the full display (\$199), only the front glass (\$6-\$10).

TOOLS:

- Spudger (1)
- iFixit Opening Tools (2)
- Phillips #00 Screwdriver (1)
- Heat Gun (1)
- iFixit Opening Picks set of 6 (1)
- Packing Tape (1)
- infrared thermometer (1)
- Tesa 61395 Tape (1)

PARTS:

- Samsung Galaxy SIII Front Glass (1)
This is only the front glass for the display, not the display itself.

Step 1 — Front Glass



- If your phone already has a protective screen applied to it, you are ready to begin.
- If it doesn't, cut a piece of packaging tape the size of the screen and apply it to the screen. This will help you remove the broken glass later.

Step 2



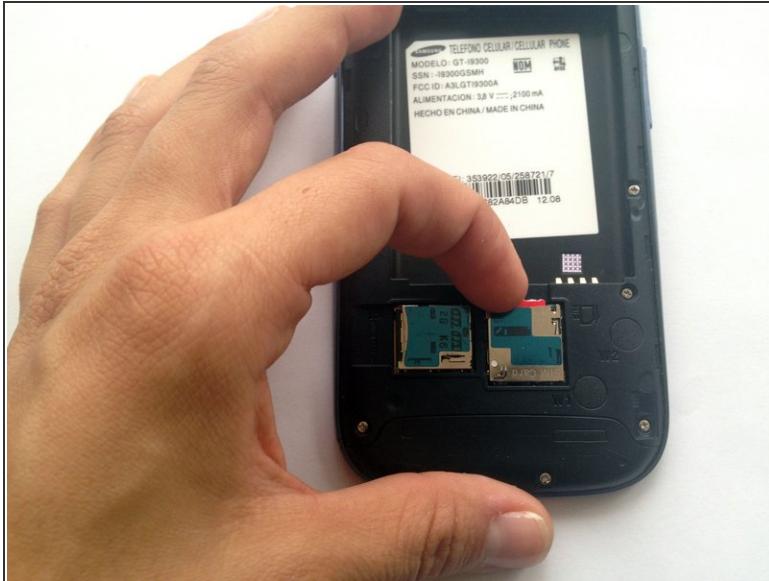
- With a [plastic opening tool](#), pry open the back case. It will come out very easily.

Step 3



- Take out the battery. There are no cables attached.

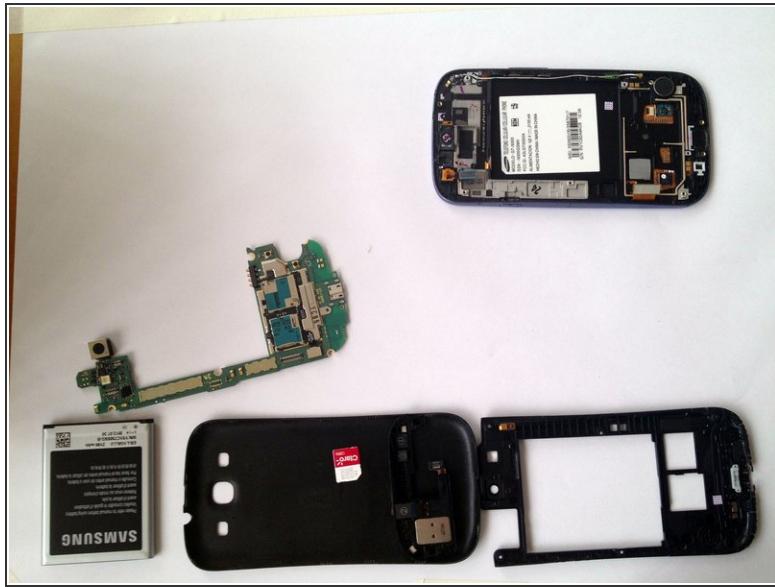
Step 4



- If your provider/version of phone takes a SIM card, remove it by pushing it in a bit until you hear a small click, and then slide it out.

(i) Sprint USA does not use SIM card.

Step 5



- At this point you can already go to the next step, which is using a [heat gun](#). However I felt safer by taking out the motherboard too.
- If you decide to take out the motherboard follow the [Samsung Galaxy S III Motherboard Replacement](#), it has all the details.

Step 6



⚠ You need to have lots of patience in this procedure. Take your time.

- Using an infrared thermometer heat the surface to 170-180° F (roughly 70-80° C). This will loosen the glue but not damage the electronics.
- Hold the gun at about 3 inches from your phone (in this picture it looks like its right on top). With the heat gun set to low, heat up the borders for about 3 to 5 minutes depending on the strength of your heat gun.
- You must be careful when using the heat gun on this device. If the device is heated up too much then it may melt the digitizer and cause discoloration. If you start to see any discoloration then shut off the gun immediately.
- If you are working with a hair dryer, it might take up to 1 hour.

⚠ This melts the glue that holds the glass to the frame and to the display. The glass is glued to them.

Step 7



- Using a [guitar pick](#) or a [plastic opening tool](#), very carefully start to work separating the edges of the glass.
- Make sure to go from top to bottom.
- You will need to use the heat gun a number of times as you go down separating the glass. For glasses with lots of damage you will need to go extra carefully as to not damage the LCD with the shattered glass pieces.

Step 8



 When you start separating the screen, you need to start *from the top borders and work your way to the center*, ungluing the **whole screen** from top to bottom. Leave some opening tools in to prevent the glass from bonding again to the LCD.

- Be extra careful when you get to the bottom because the menu buttons are glued to the glass.

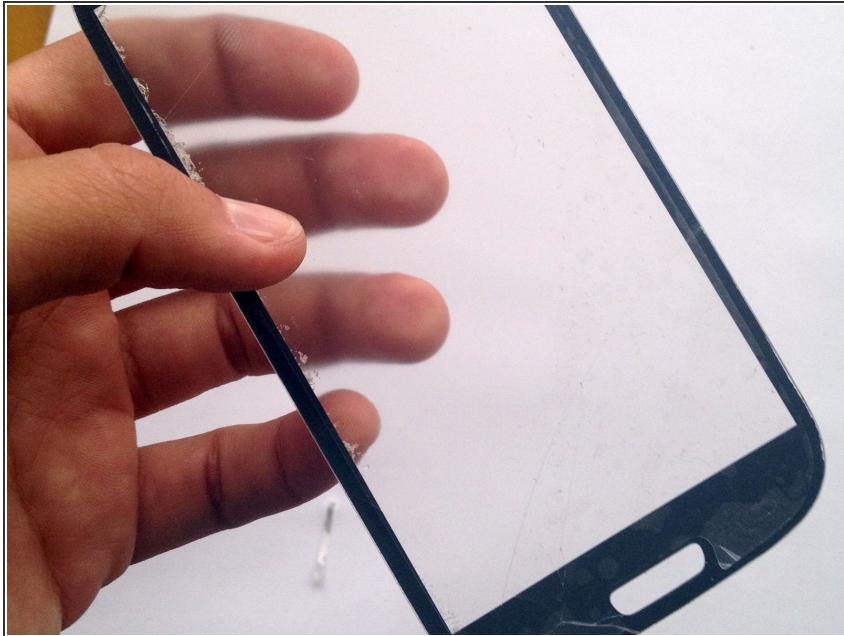
- Do not pull the glass just yet, you might damage the cables. Pull the screen from the top to the bottom to the point where you can see the menu and return button cables.

Step 9



- **Extra** attention is necessary with this step, don't damage the buttons or cable! With a spudger, detach the buttons from the inner side of the glass. This might require a little extra heat. Also, the best strategy is to start in the middle, under the black ribbon that connects the two buttons, and then move sideways to separate each one.
- *Edit* Thanks to the awesome guy or gal who uploaded the missing pics ^__^

Step 10



- Take out the broken glass. I was able to take it all in one piece.
- If your glass is very shattered you will need to pick up the small pieces with tweezers, one by one or stick tape to the glass before you take it out. You can also use screen protectors.

Step 11



- Take this small metal piece from your old glass, you will need to put it in the new one.

Step 12



- Clean up the glue that remains on the borders. A small microfiber with a bit of WD40 or windex can help you take all the glue off.

i Be sure to not use too much WD40 or windex.

! When cleaning out the glue, do NOT attempt to scrap glue out of the cracks between the LCD and the frame. A very small amount of force toward the center or from underneath will crack the LED.

- Cut up two small 1mm pieces of the sticker tape and glue the buttons to the phone to keep them in place.

i It's very important to make sure the buttons line up exactly with the picture.

Step 13



- Put pieces of the sticker tape along the inner frame of the phone.
- Clean up the digitizer with lint free wipes or a clean microfiber towel. I used some lens cleaner to leave it spotless and smudge free.

Step 14



- Take out the plastic from the new glass, make sure you dont touch the inner side of the screen.
- There are thin protective plastic layers on both sides of the glass. Peel them out before placing the glass on your phone.

Step 15



- ⓘ Check the glass against the light to make sure it is streak free before applying. If packaging left noticeable marks clean with glass cleaner and let dry before applying
- Peel off the paper from the sticker tape and put on the new glass. Press on the edges to secure adhesion.

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