



Samsung Stratosphere Flex Cable Replacement

Is your phone broken in two? Learn to replace the little cable responsible for holding your phone together.

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INTRODUCTION

This guide will show you how to remove and replace the cable that connects the bottom and top halves of the phone.

TOOLS:

- [iFixit Opening Tools](#) (1)
- [Tweezers](#) (1)
- [Phillips #000 Screwdriver](#) (1)

Step 1 — Battery



- Using your fingers, pry along the groove at the top of the phone.
- Pull back on the rear casing until it comes free from the device.
- The casing will make a cracking sound as it is removed.

Step 2



- With your fingers, pry from the bottom of the battery to loosen it.
- Lift away to remove the battery from the phone.

Step 3 — Motherboard



- Locate the red and white sim card located above the battery housing.
- Remove the sim card by sliding it downwards from its slot with your fingers.

Step 4



- Remove the seven silver 3mm screws securing the rear panel using the Phillips #000 screwdriver.

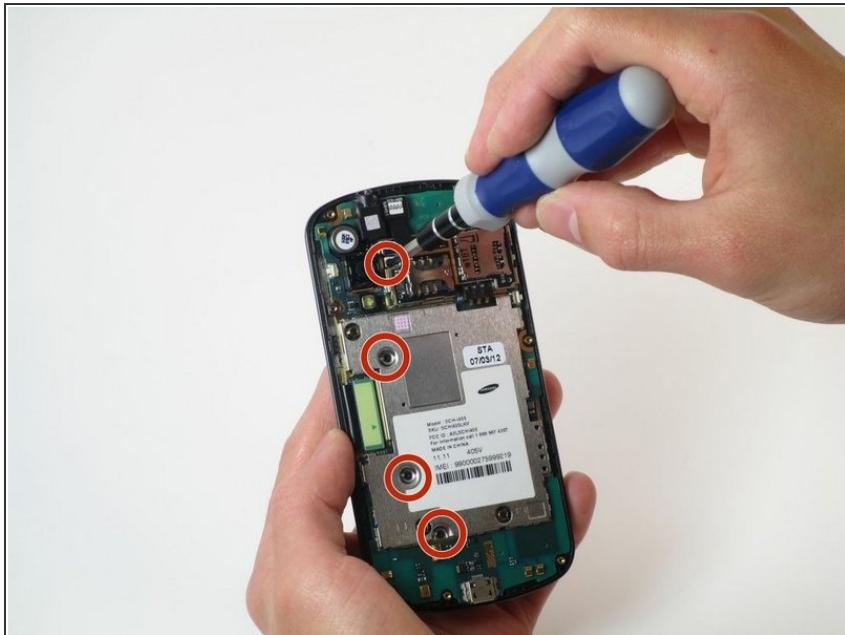
i Once loosened, some screws may get stuck in the casing. Use tweezers to remove them.

Step 5



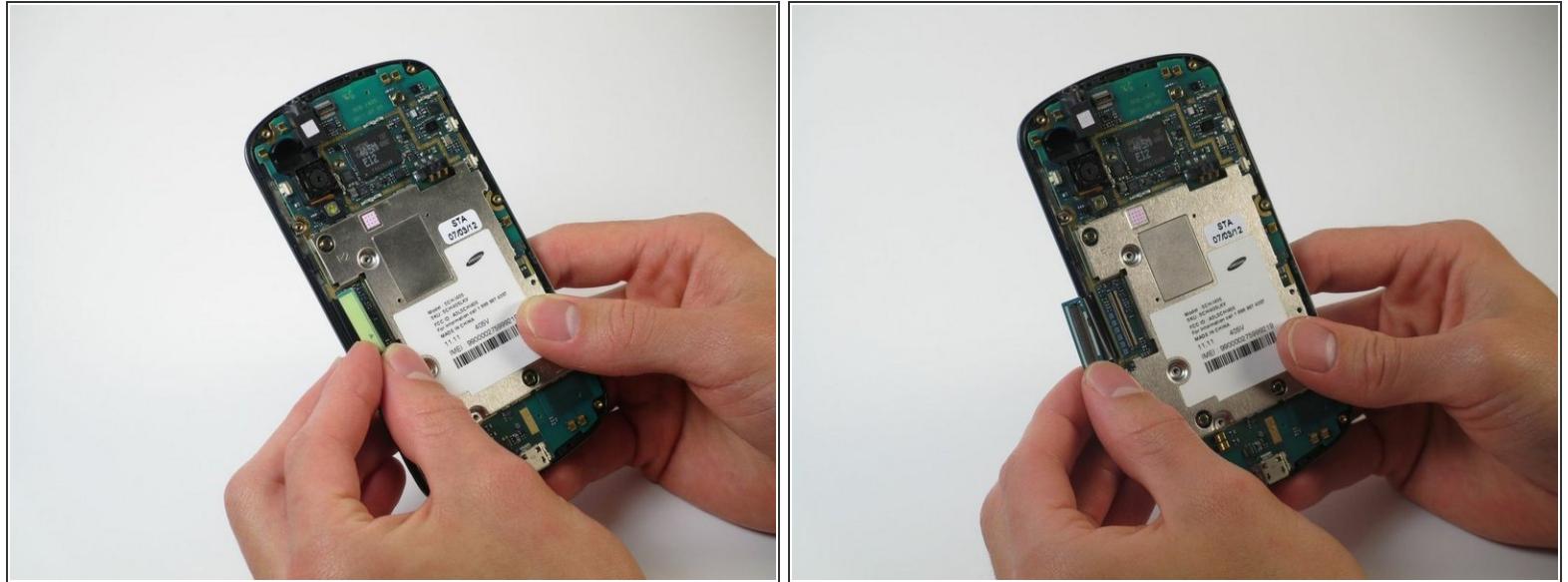
- Pry around the rear panel with a plastic opening tool to loosen it.
 Prying too deeply may damage delicate components inside the phone.
- Remove the rear panel from the phone with your fingers.

Step 6



- Remove the four black 3mm screws securing the motherboard with the Phillips #000 screwdriver.

Step 7



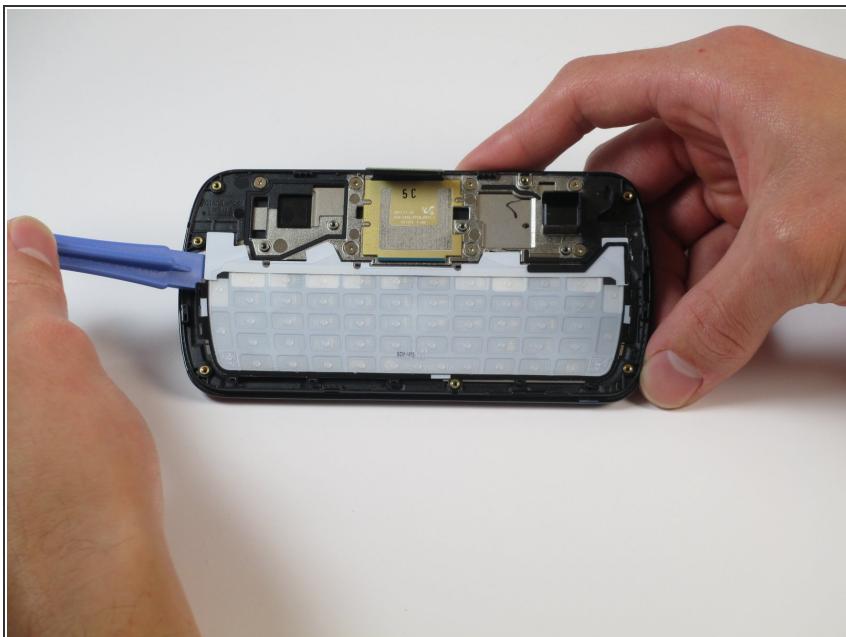
- Locate the flex cable attachment at the tab with a green arrow printed on top.
- Pry from the side the arrow is pointing with your fingers.
 - The cable will audibly snap as it is removed from its attachment.
- Let the cable hang loosely to the side of the phone.

Step 8



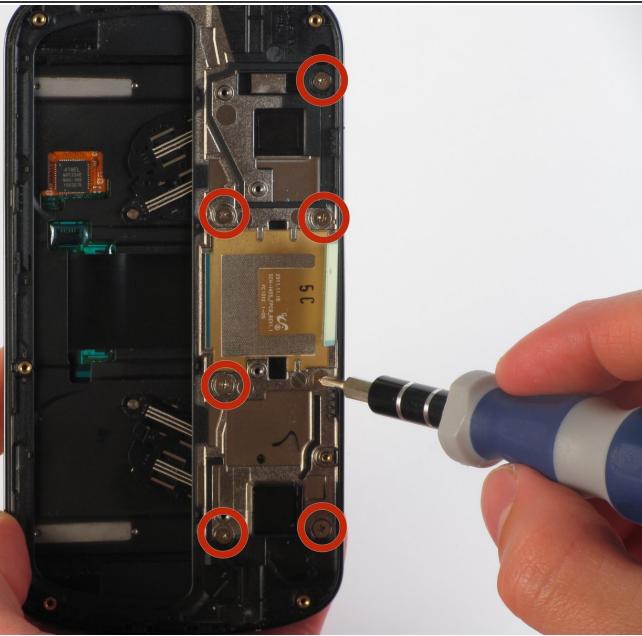
- Pull the motherboard up from the side opposite the loose flex cable.
- If necessary, use a plastic opening tool to separate the motherboard from the key pad underneath.
- Lift to remove the motherboard from the device.

Step 9 — Front Camera



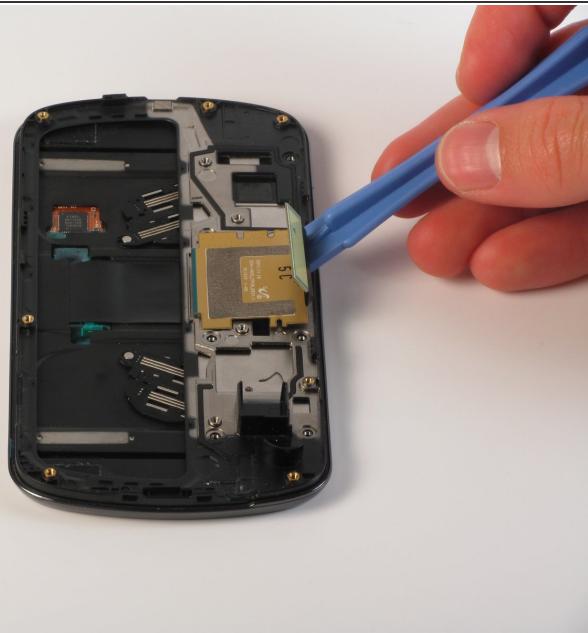
- Insert a plastic opening tool into any side of the phone case to separate the keyboard from the rear panel.
- Pry the keyboard away from the casing with the plastic opening tool.
- The keyboard should come off with almost no force at all.

Step 10



- Remove the 7 silver 2mm screws attaching the silver metal plate to the rear panel with the Phillips #000 Screwdriver.

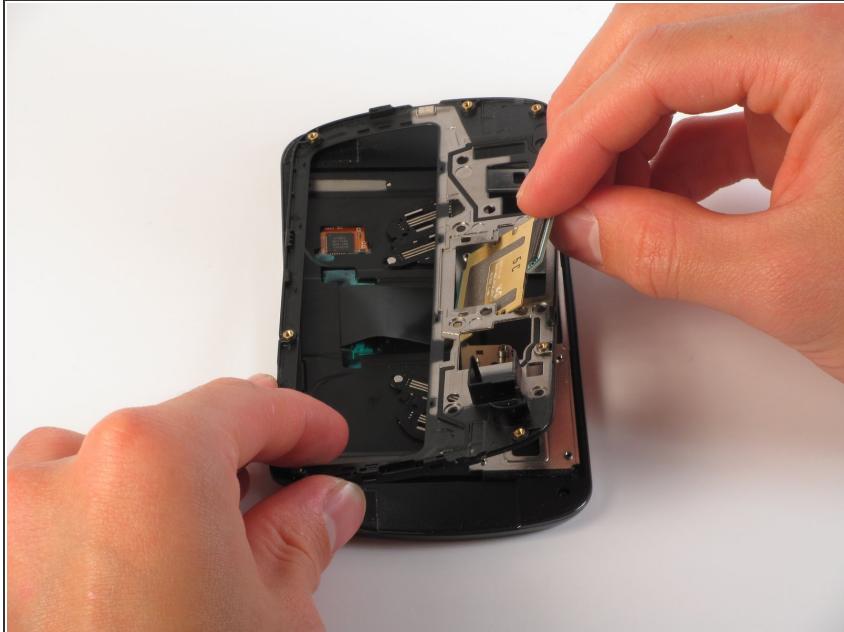
Step 11



- Use the plastic opening tool to carefully loosen the golden metal plate.

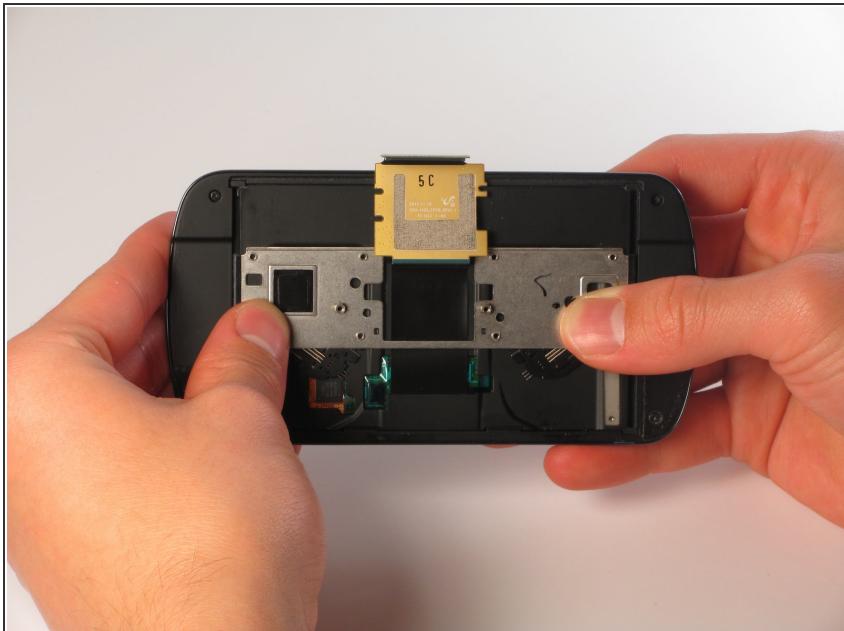
(i) The golden metal plate is stuck to the rear panel with a strong adhesive, so a moderate amount of force may be needed.

Step 12



- Lift the gold plate with your fingers, repositioning it to slide through the keyboard casing underneath.
- Carefully take off the keyboard casing with your fingers.
- The golden metal plate should fit through the wide slot of the casing.

Step 13



- Slide the silver metal plate down and away from the to the flex cable and gold metal plate.

i The metal plate is attached to springs that offer a small amount of resistance, so it will snap into place.

Step 14



- Unscrew the 4 black 3mm screws from the rear panel with the Phillips #000 Screwdriver.

Step 15

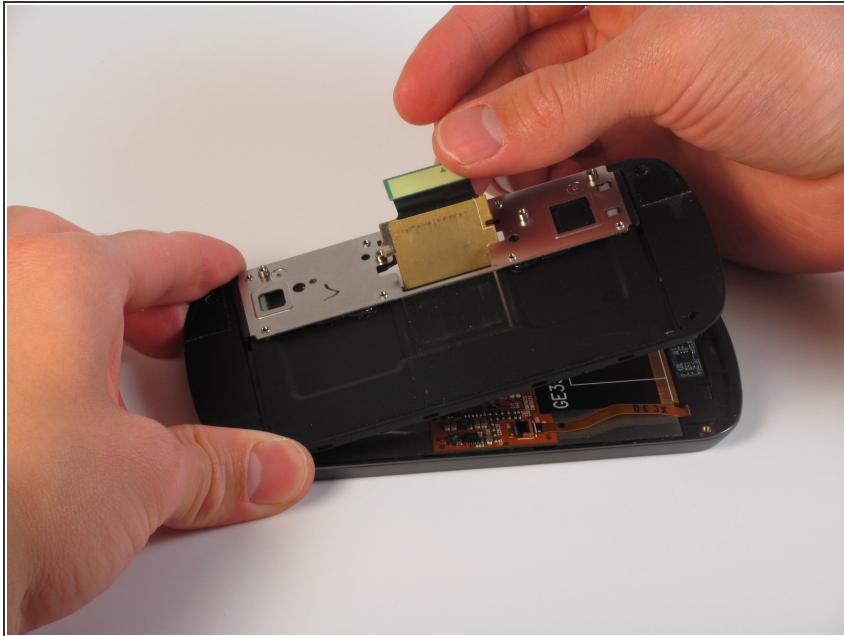


- Insert the plastic opening tool into the groove at the top of the rear panel.
- Firmly slide the plastic opening tool all around the rear panel. The panel will audibly snap as it comes apart.

(i) These 2 pieces are attached well, so a significant amount of force is needed to separate them.

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Step 16



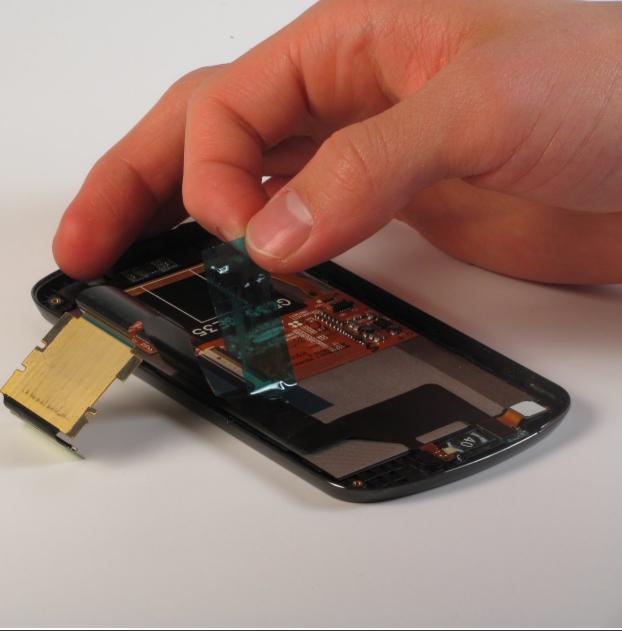
- Lift the flex cable and position it so the part containing the metal plate can come free.
- Pull the part containing the metal plate away from the rest of the rear panel.

Step 17



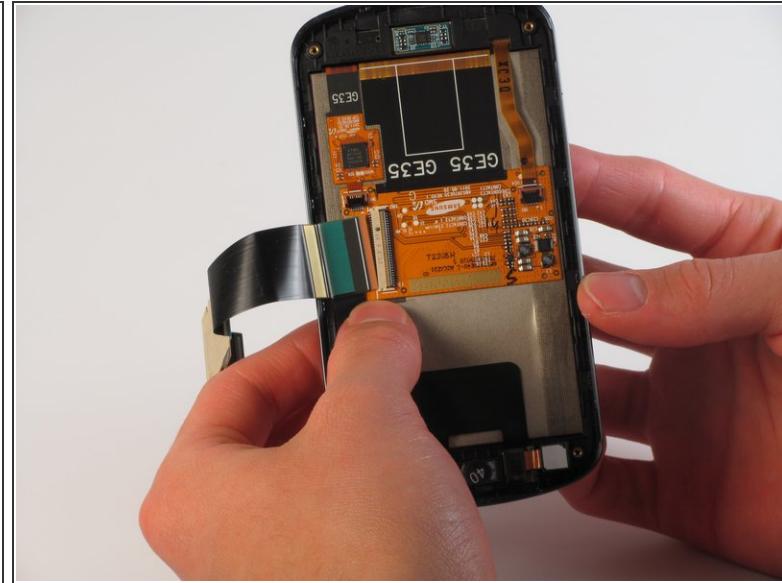
- Use tweezers to loosen the front-facing camera from the plastic casing.
- Pull the black rectangular piece, attached to the front facing camera, away from the rear panel.

Step 18 — Flex Cable



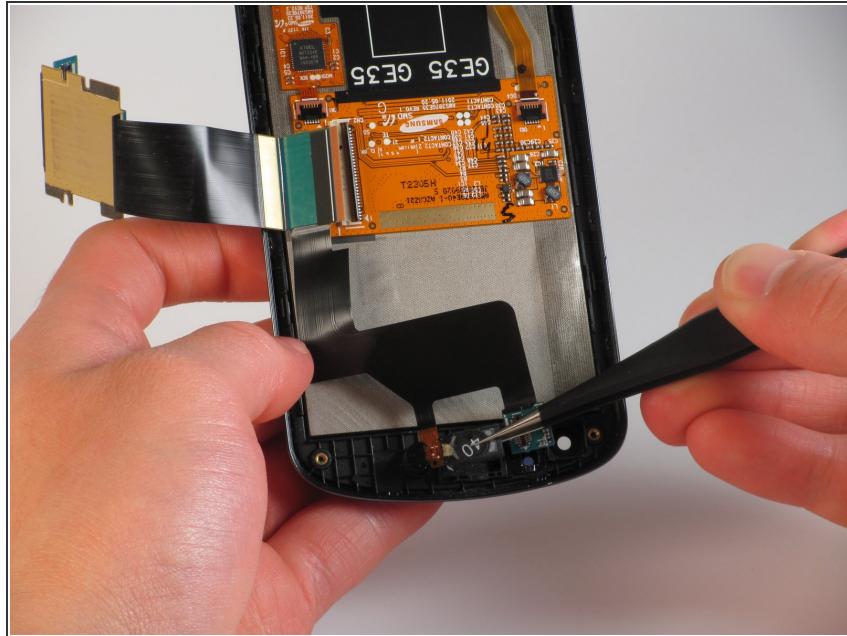
- Carefully peel the blue tape from the bottom of the flex cable and set it aside.

Step 19



- Use one of the plastic opening tools to loosen the flex cable from its central housing.
- Pull lightly on the flex cable to free it from the housing.
- The cable may audibly snap as it is freed from its attachment.

Step 20



- Use tweezers to loosen the flex cable and speaker from the bottom of the phone.
- Pull upward with the tweezers and the flex cable will come loose.

i The flex cable will come free with the front-facing camera attached. In order to remove the front-facing camera, see our guide [here](#).

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