



iPhone 6s Plus Rear Case Replacement

Transplant an iPhone 6s Plus into a new rear case.

Written By: Evan Noronha



INTRODUCTION

Use this guide to replace a bent or damaged rear case, or to swap out the rear case for cosmetic reasons. The rear case serves as the chassis for the entire phone, so replacing it involves removing all the iPhone's components.

You can also use this guide to replace the following parts:

- [IFC Bracket](#)
- Loudspeaker Mount
- Microphone Mount
- Front Panel Clips

TOOLS:

- [SIM Card Eject Tool \(1\)](#)
- [Flathead 3/32" or 2.5 mm Screwdriver \(1\)](#)
- [iFixit Opening Picks set of 6 \(1\)](#)
- [iOpener \(1\)](#)
- [P2 Pentalobe Screwdriver iPhone \(1\)](#)
- [Phillips #000 Screwdriver \(1\)](#)
- [iFixit Opening Tools \(1\)](#)
- [SIM Card Eject Tool \(1\)](#)
- [Suction Handle \(1\)](#)
- [Spudger \(1\)](#)
- [Tweezers \(1\)](#)
- [Standoff Screwdriver for iPhones \(1\)](#)

PARTS:

- [iPhone 6s Plus Blank Rear Case \(1\)](#)
- [iPhone 6s Plus OEM Rear Panel \(1\)](#)
- [iPhone 6 Plus/6s Plus/7 Plus Battery Adhesive Strips \(1\)](#)
- [iPhone 6s Plus NFC Bracket \(1\)](#)
- [iPhone 6s Plus Loudspeaker Mount \(1\)](#)
- [iPhone 6s Plus Microphone Mount \(1\)](#)
- [iPhone 6s Plus Front Panel Clips \(1\)](#)
- [iPhone 6s Plus Screw Set \(1\)](#)
- [iPhone 6s Plus Display Assembly Adhesive \(1\)](#)

Step 1 — Pentalobe Screws



⚠ Before disassembling your iPhone, discharge the battery below 25%. A charged lithium-ion battery can catch fire and/or explode if accidentally punctured.

- Power off your iPhone before beginning disassembly.
- Remove the two 3.4 mm Pentalobe screws on either side of the Lightning port.

Step 2 — Opening Procedure



- Optionally, apply mild heat to the lower edge of the iPhone using an [iOpener](#) or hair dryer for about a minute.

i Heat softens the adhesive securing the display, making it easier to open.

Step 3

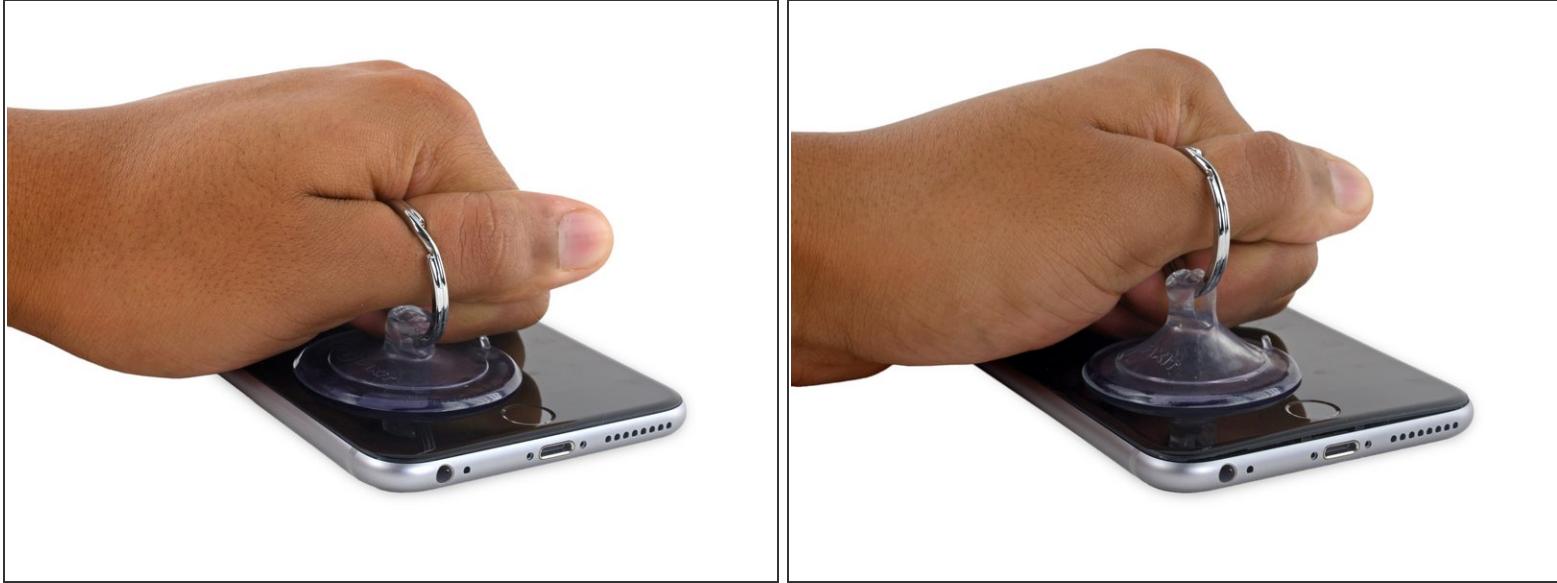


i Opening the display on the 6s Plus separates a thin strip of adhesive around the perimeter of the display. If you prefer to replace the adhesive, have a set of new adhesive strips ready before you continue. It's possible to complete the repair without replacing the adhesive, and you probably won't notice any difference in functionality.

- Apply a suction cup to the lower left corner of the display assembly.

i If your display is badly cracked, [covering it with a layer of clear packing tape](#) may allow the suction cup to adhere. Alternatively, very strong tape may be used instead of the suction cup. If all else fails, you can superglue the suction cup to the broken screen.

Step 4



- Pull up on the suction cup with firm, constant pressure to create a slight gap between the front panel and rear case.

⚠ Pulling too hard may damage the display assembly. Apply just enough pressure to create a small gap between the display assembly and the rear case.

Step 5



- The safest place to pry from is the notch in the front panel above the headphone jack.
- While still maintaining pressure on the suction cup, insert the flat tip of a spudger into the gap, directly above the headphone jack.

Step 6



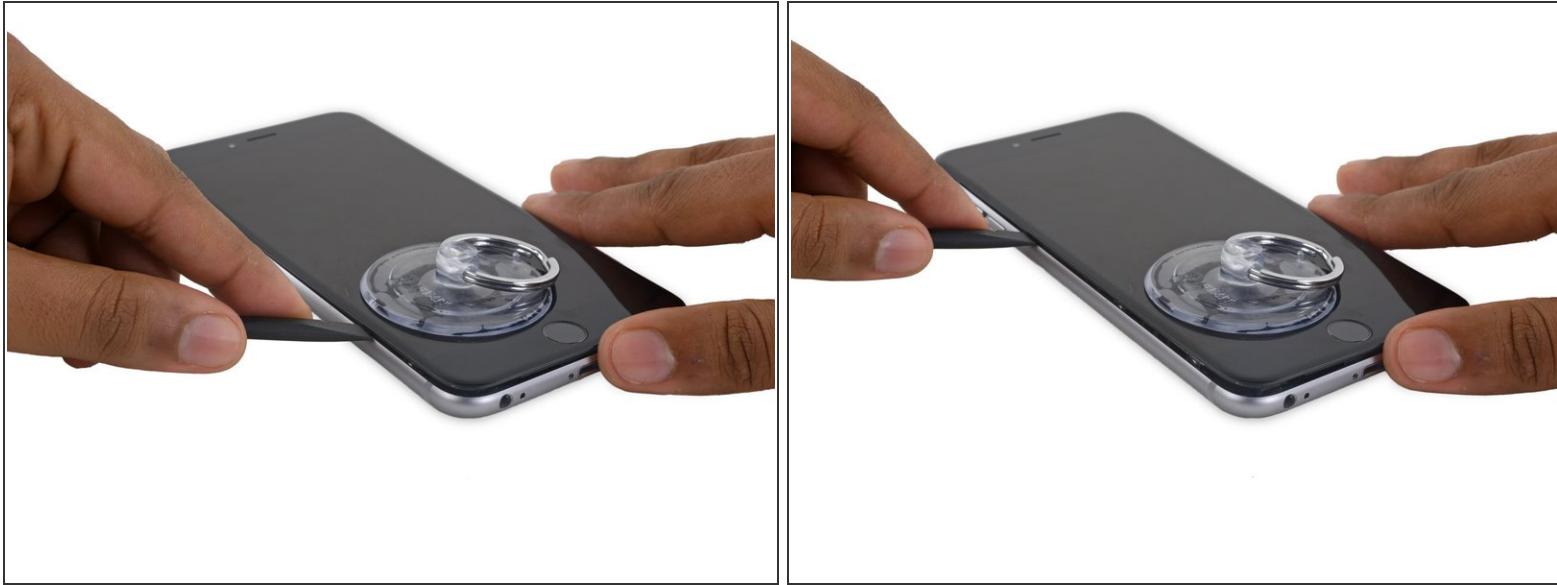
- Twist the spudger to widen the gap between the front panel and the rear case.

Step 7



- While firmly pulling up on the suction cup, slide the edge of the spudger under the bottom left corner of the display.

Step 8



- Slide the tip of the spudger up the left side of the phone, between the front panel and the rear case.

Step 9



- Insert the flat tip of the spudger under the right edge of the display.
- Slide the spudger up the right side.

Step 10



- Use a plastic opening tool to hold down the rear case while pulling up the suction cup to open the phone.

⚠ Do **not** remove the display completely, or you will damage the data cables connecting the display near the top edge of the iPhone.

Step 11



- Pull up on the small nub on the suction cup to remove it from the display.

Step 12



- Gently grasp the display assembly and lift it up to open the phone, using the clips at the top of the front panel as a hinge.
- Open the display to about a 90° angle, and lean it against something to keep it propped up while you're working on the phone.
- **⚠** Don't open the display more than 90°—it is still connected to the top of the phone by the display, digitizer, and front camera cables which can tear easily.
- Add a rubber band to keep the display securely in place while you work. This prevents undue strain on the display cables.
- **ⓘ** In a pinch, you can use an unopened canned beverage to support the display.

Step 13 — Battery Connector



- Remove two Phillips screws securing the battery connector bracket to the logic board, of the following lengths:

- One 2.9 mm screw
- One 2.3 mm screw

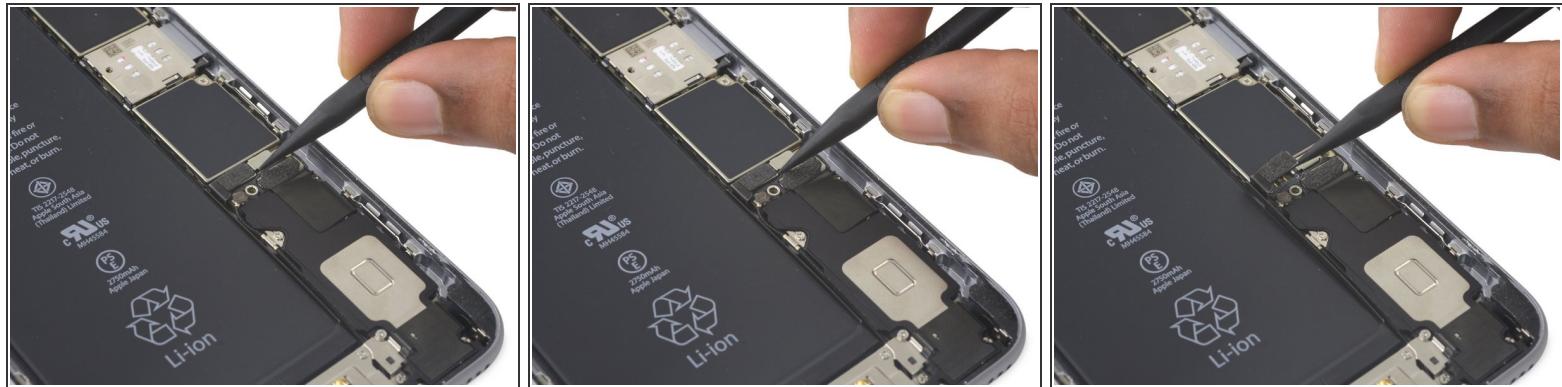
 Throughout this guide, [keep careful track of your screws](#) so that each one goes back where it came from during reassembly. Installing a screw in the wrong place can cause permanent damage.

Step 14



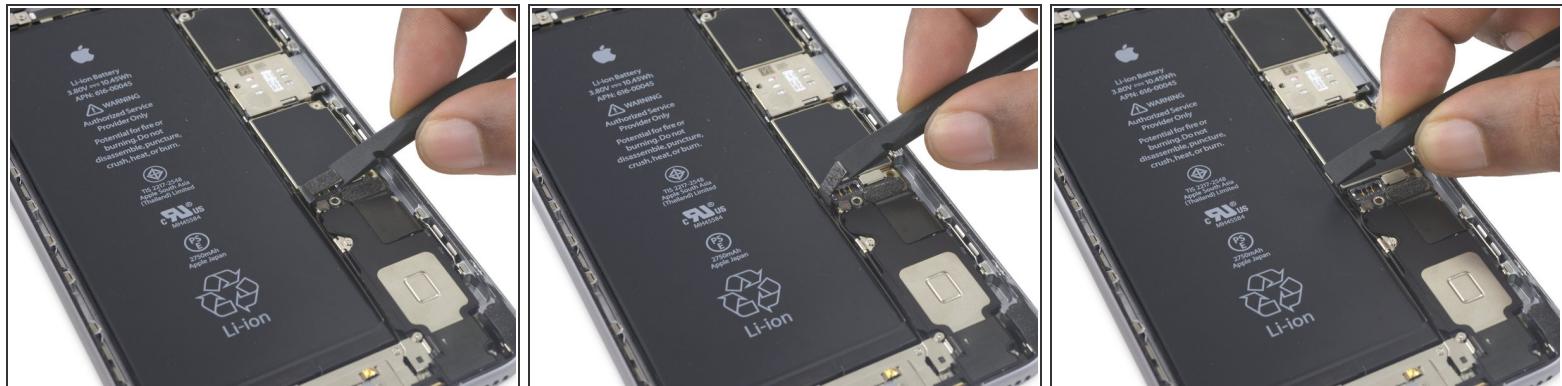
- Remove the battery connector bracket.

Step 15



- Use a spudger or a clean fingernail to disconnect the battery connector by prying it straight up off the logic board.

Step 16



- Bend the connector back to ensure it doesn't make contact and power the iPhone on while you're working on it.

Step 17 — Display Assembly



- Remove the following Phillips screws:
 - Three 1.3 mm screws
 - One 1.6 mm screw
 - One 3.0 mm screw

During reassembly, it's critical to place this 3.0 mm screw in the top-right corner of the bracket. Placing it anywhere else may damage the logic board.

Step 18



- Remove the display cable bracket.

Step 19



! Be careful to only pry up on the connector itself and not the socket on the logic board.

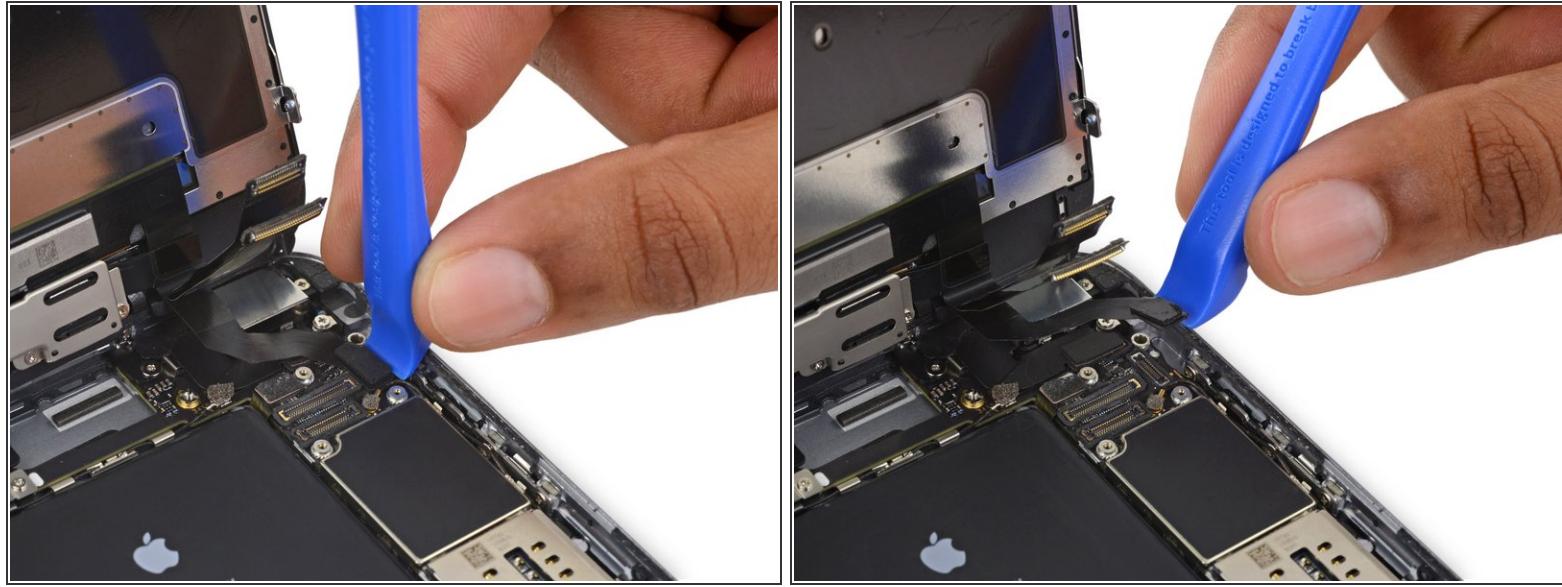
- Use a plastic opening tool to disconnect the front-facing camera and sensor cable connector.

Step 20



- Use a plastic opening tool to disconnect the digitizer cable by prying it straight up from its socket on the logic board.
- ☒ When reconnecting the digitizer cable, **do not press the center of the connector**. Press one end of the connector, then press the opposite end. Pressing in the center of the connector can bend the component and cause digitizer damage.

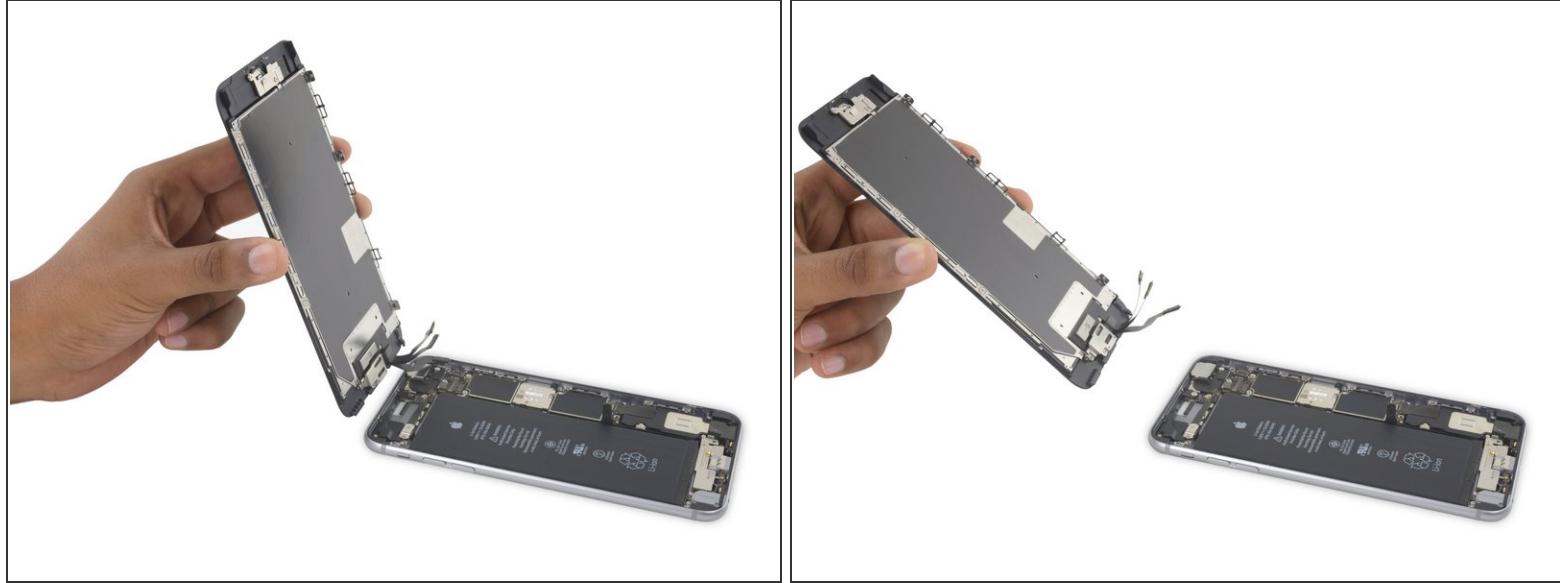
Step 21



⚠ Make sure the battery is disconnected before you disconnect or reconnect the cable in this step.

- Disconnect the home button/fingerprint sensor cable by prying it straight up from its socket on the logic board.

Step 22



- Remove the display assembly.
- ☒ During reassembly, pause here if you wish to [replace the adhesive around the edges of the display.](#)

Step 23 — iSight Camera



- Peel up any tape covering the iSight camera bracket screws.

Step 24



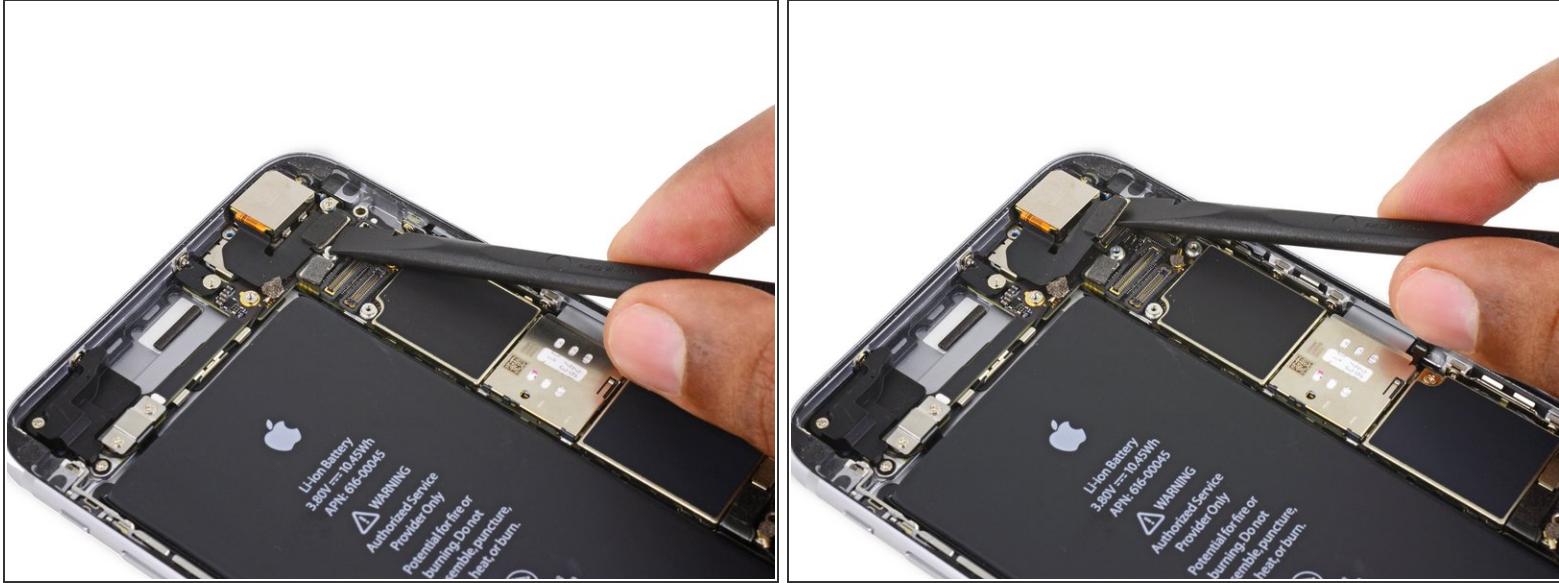
- Remove the following Phillips screws over the camera bracket:
 - One 1.9 mm screw
 - One 2.4 mm screw

Step 25



- Remove the iSight camera bracket.

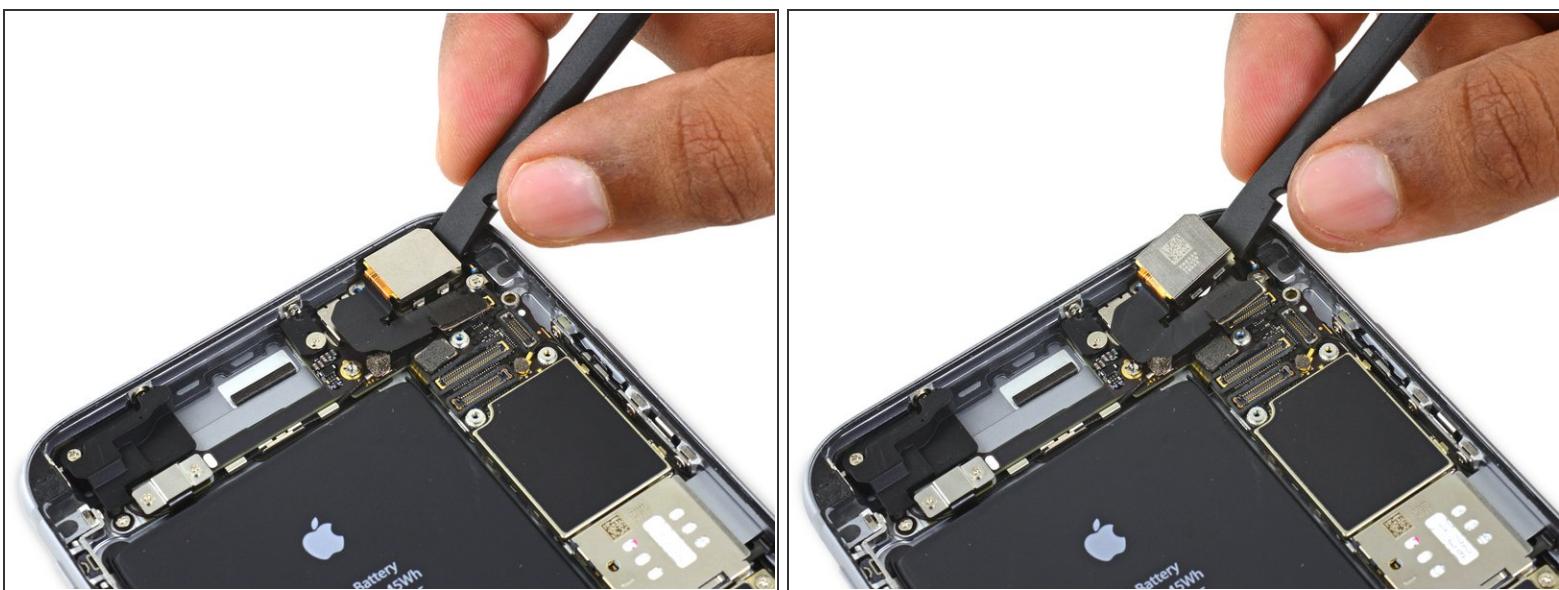
Step 26



- Disconnect the iSight camera connector from its socket on the logic board.

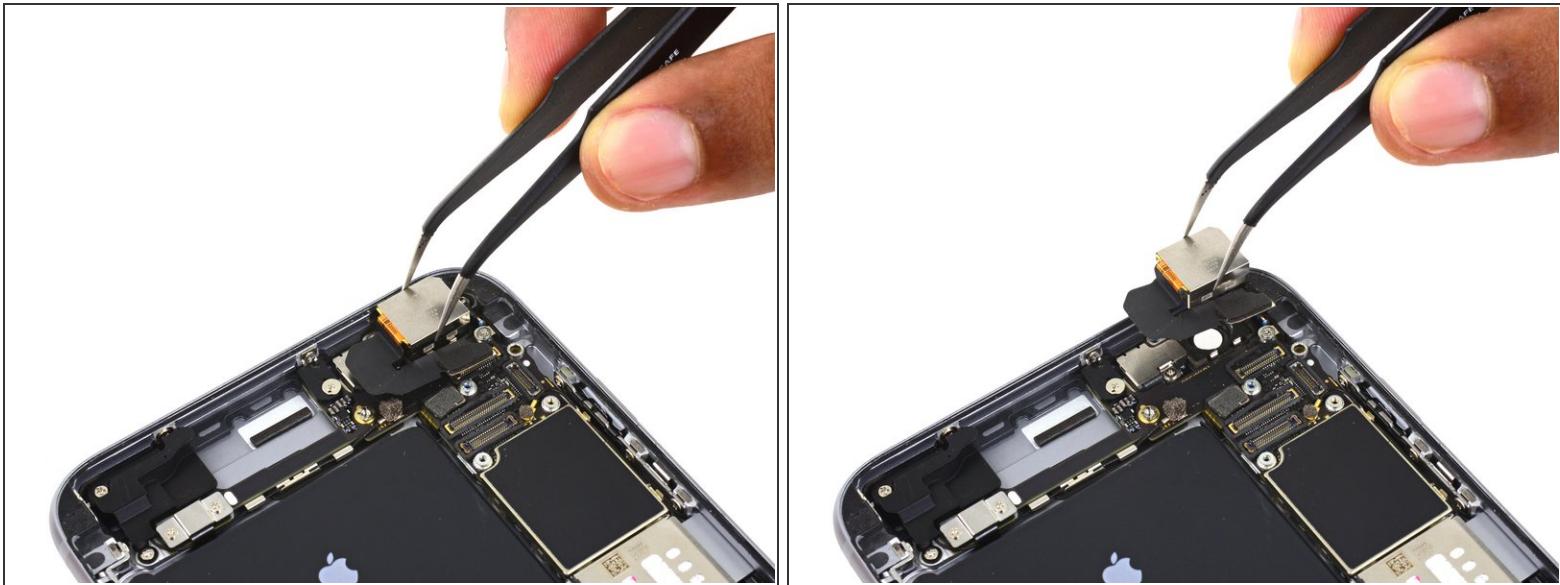
⚠ Be sure to pry up *only* the connector and not the socket on the logic board.

Step 27



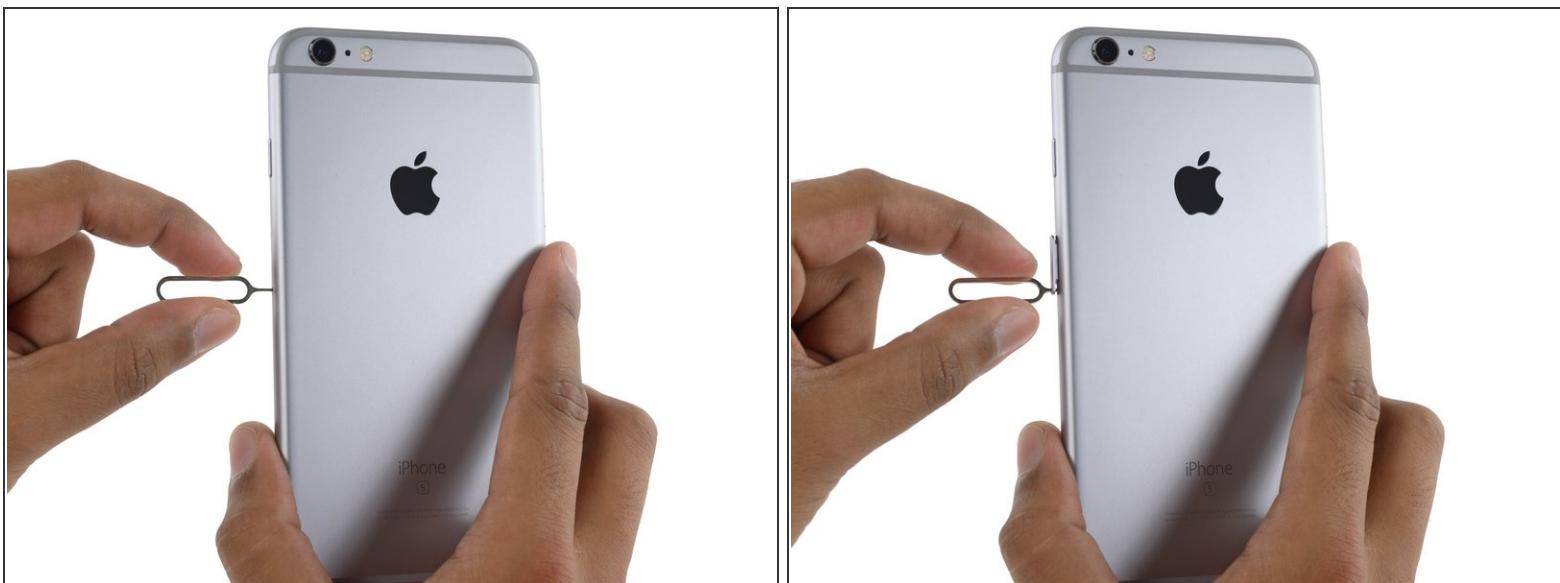
- Insert the flat end of the spudger between the iSight camera and rear casing.
- Gently pry the camera out from its housing.

Step 28



- Remove the iSight camera.

Step 29 — SIM Tray



- Insert a SIM eject tool into the hole in the SIM tray.
- Press to eject the SIM tray.

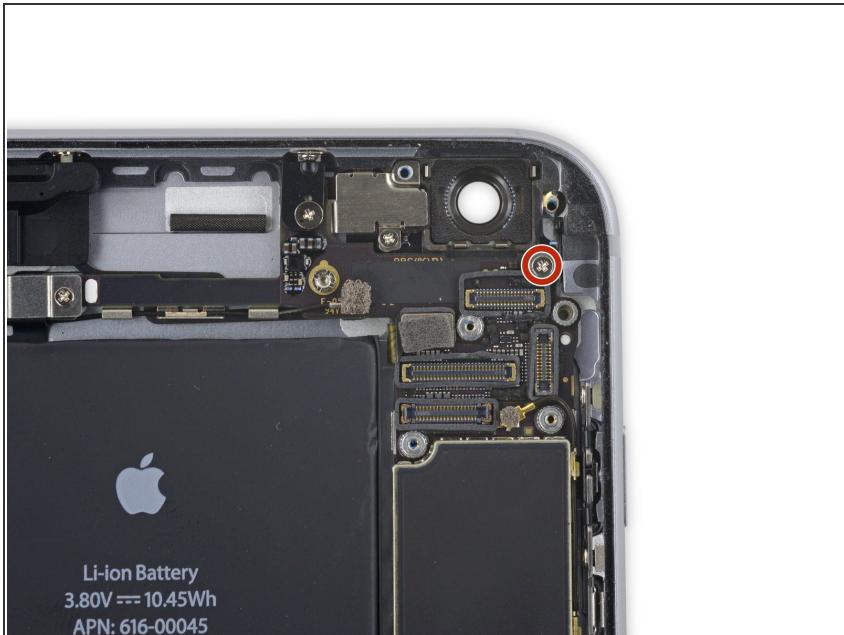
Step 30



- Remove the SIM tray.

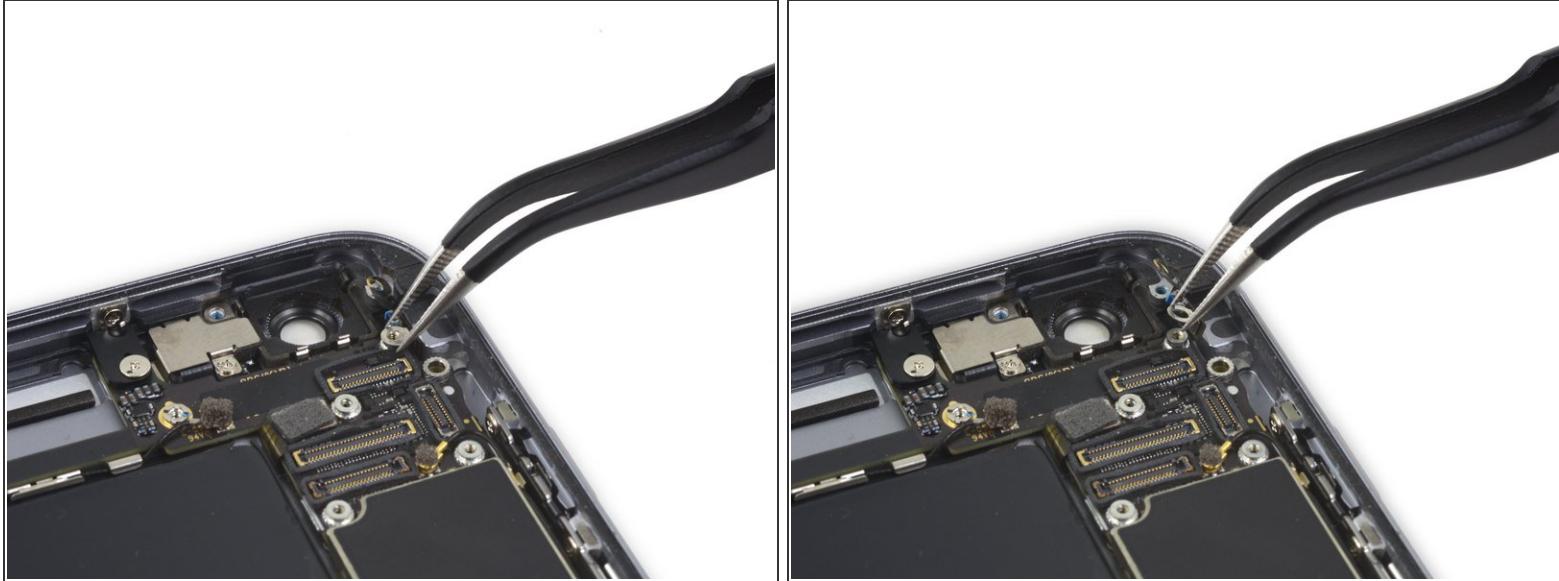
 When reinserting the SIM tray, be sure to orient the tray such that the SIM eject hole is on the bottom.

Step 31 — Logic Board



- Remove the single 1.4 mm Phillips screw holding the NFC bracket in place.

Step 32



- Remove the NFC bracket.

Step 33



- Remove the two 2.7 mm Phillips screws securing the audio control cable bracket to the logic board.

Step 34



- Remove the audio control cable bracket.

Step 35



- Disconnect the audio control cable by prying its connector straight up from its socket on the logic board.

Step 36



- Disconnect the cellular antenna cable by prying its connector straight up from its respective socket on the logic board.

Step 37



- Disconnect the Wi-Fi diversity antenna cable by prying its connector up from the logic board.

Step 38



- Disconnect the power button flex cable from its socket on the logic board.

Step 39



- Disconnect the Lightning connector interconnect antenna cable by prying it up from the logic board.

Step 40



- Use the flat end of a spudger to disconnect the Lightning connector flex cable from the logic board.

Step 41



- Deroute the antenna cable from the two clips on the right edge of the logic board.

Step 42



- Remove the following screws:

- One 1.3 mm Phillips screw
- One 2.6 mm Phillips screw
- One 2.2 mm standoff screw

(i) Standoff screws are best removed using an [iPhone Standoff Screwdriver Bit](#) and [driver handle](#).

⚠ In a pinch, a small flathead screwdriver will do the job—but use extra caution to ensure it doesn't slip and damage surrounding components.

Step 43



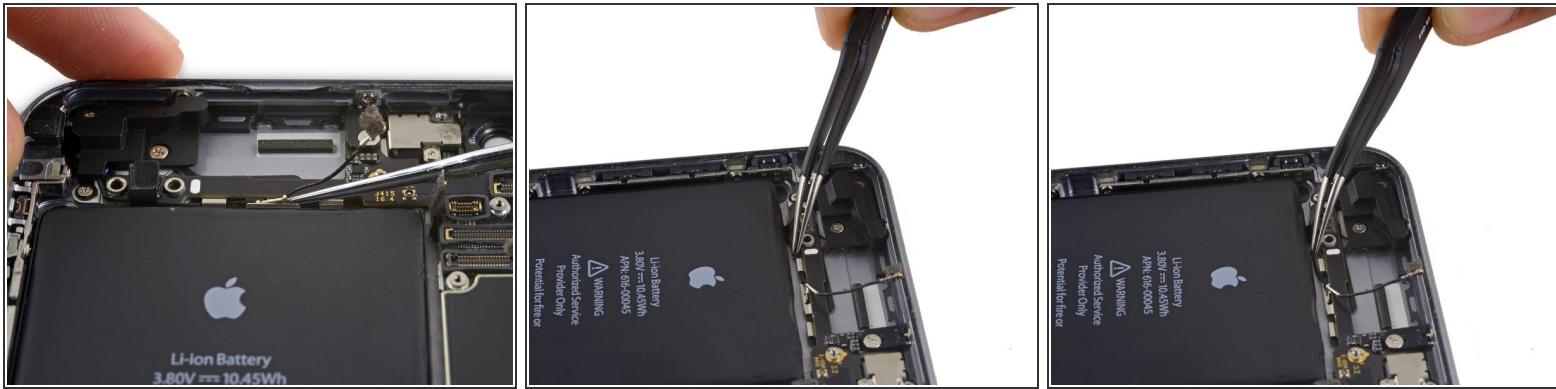
- Remove the bracket.

Step 44



- Deroute the upper left cellular antenna cable from the first logic board clip by nudging it out from under the clip, towards the battery.

Step 45



- Continue derouting the cellular antenna cable from the second and third logic board clips.
- Use the pointed tip of a spudger to gently pry the cellular antenna cable from the middle logic board clip.

⚠ Don't try to remove it by pulling on the cable, as it will tear easily.

★ In order for the cable to reach its socket on the logic board, you must route it above the logic board and underneath the audio control flex cable, as shown in the first photo.

Step 46



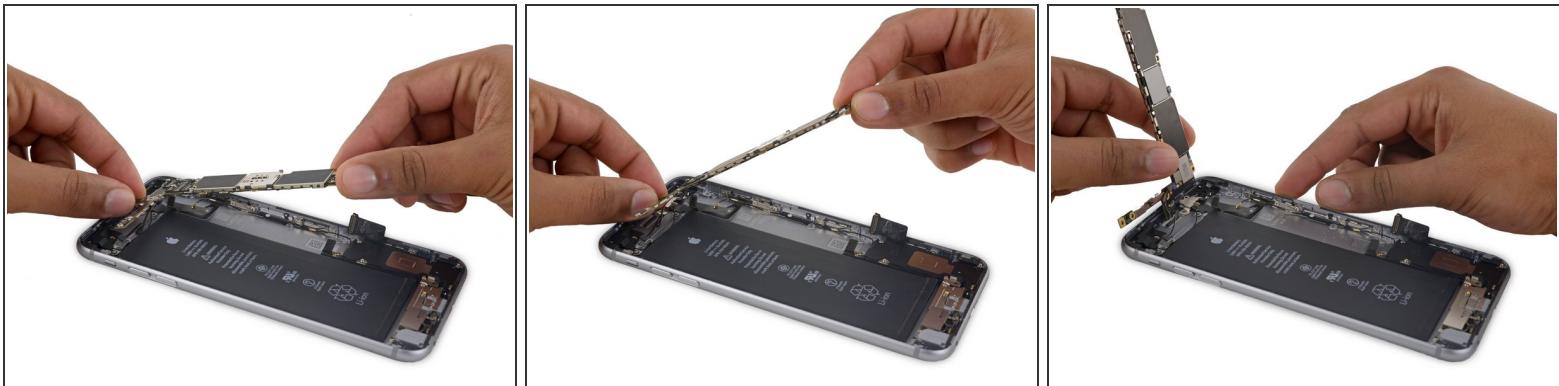
- Remove the final 2.0 mm Phillips screw directly below the SIM card reader.

Step 47



- Carefully raise—but do **not** remove—the logic board, lifting it from the bottom edge nearest the Lightning connector.

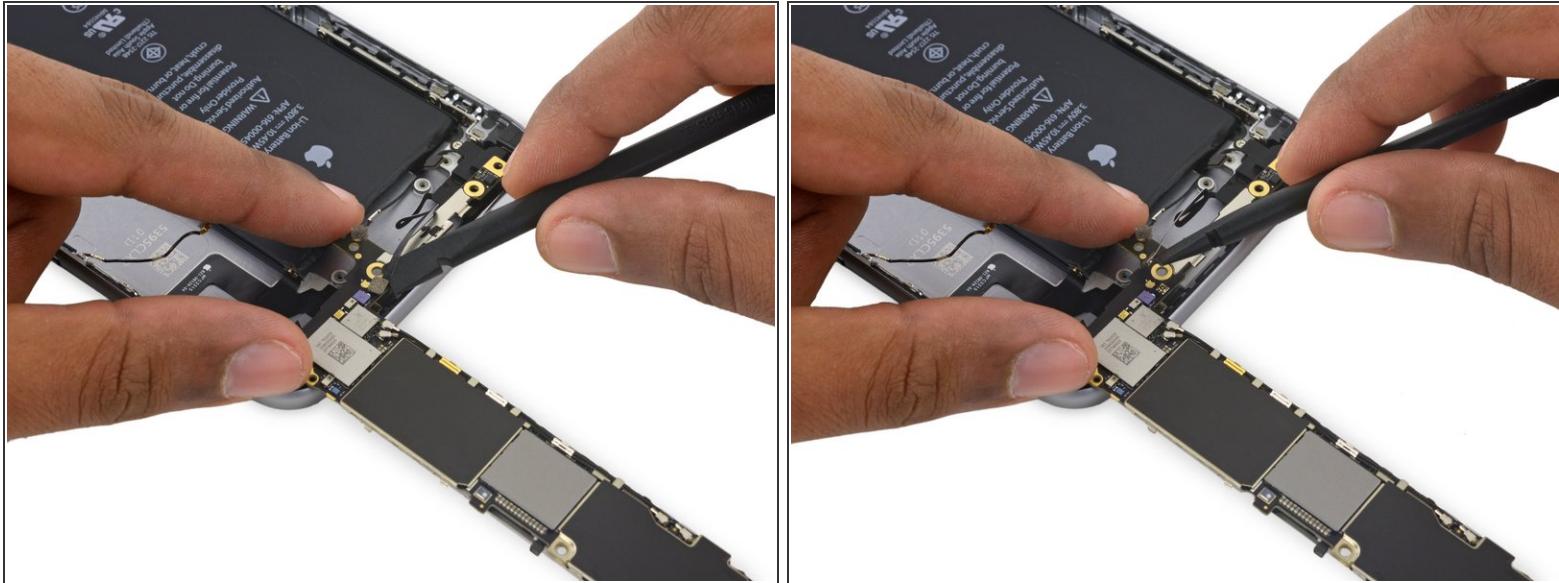
Step 48



- Tip the logic board up to a vertical position to expose the single antenna connector on the underside, near the top edge of the board.

⚠ Do not attempt to fully remove the logic board yet, as the Wi-Fi/Bluetooth antenna is still connected to the underside of the board.

Step 49



- Gently lay the logic board upside-down, with the top portion resting against the rear case of the iPhone.
- Use the flat end of the spudger to disconnect the Wi-Fi/Bluetooth antenna cable from its socket on the back of the logic board.

Step 50



- Remove the logic board.

Step 51 — Speaker Assembly



- Use the flat end of a spudger to peel the Lightning connector flex cable off the speaker.

Step 52



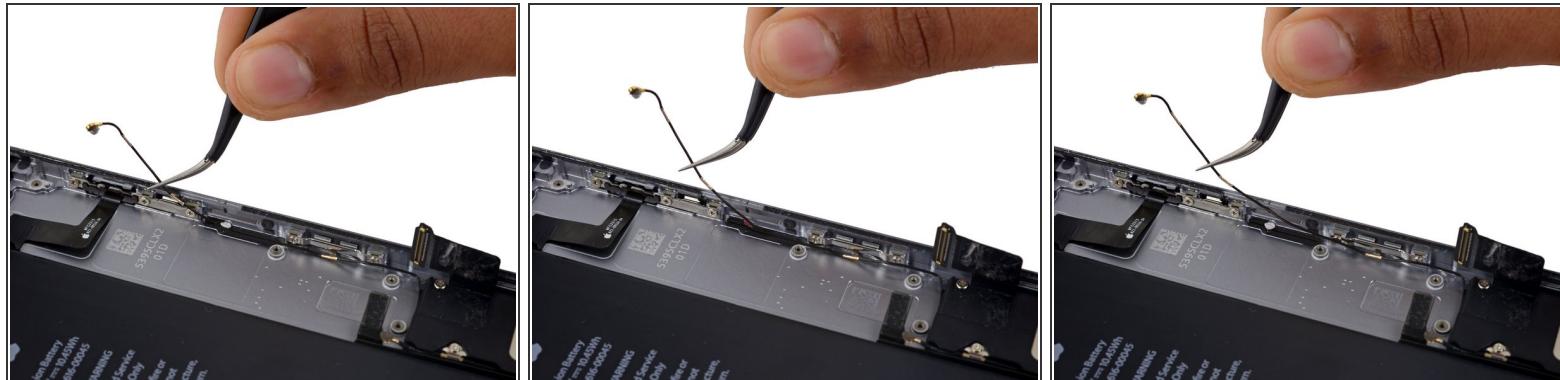
- Remove the following three Phillips screws from the Taptic Engine cable bracket:
 - Two 3.5 mm screws
 - One 2.7 mm screw
- Remove the bracket.

Step 53



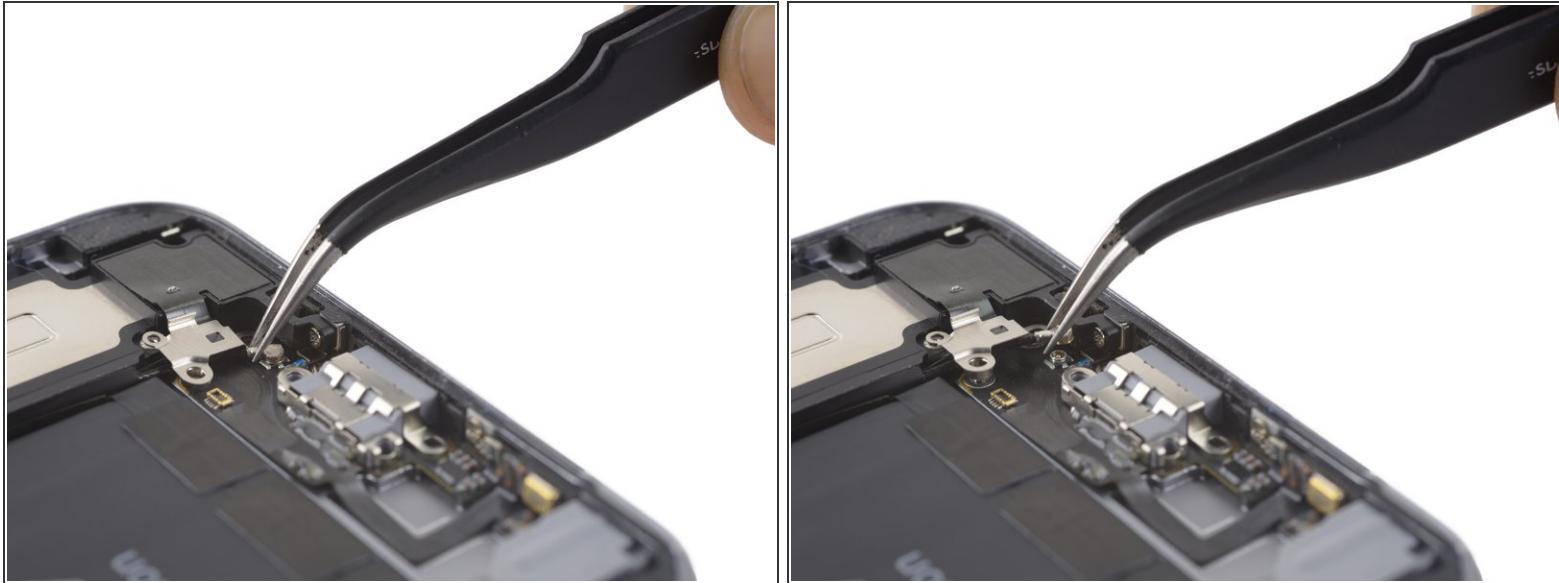
- Remove the five Phillips screws securing the speaker to the rear case:
 - Two 2.7 mm screws
 - One 2.5 mm screw
 - One 1.5 mm screw
 - One 1.7 mm screw

Step 54



- Deroute the Wi-Fi diversity antenna cable from its rubber sleeve.
- If the white water damage indicator sticker makes it difficult to deroute the antenna cable, gently peel the sticker back for better access.

Step 55



- Use a pair of tweezers to disconnect the Wi-Fi diversity antenna cable from the Lightning connector flex cable.

Step 56



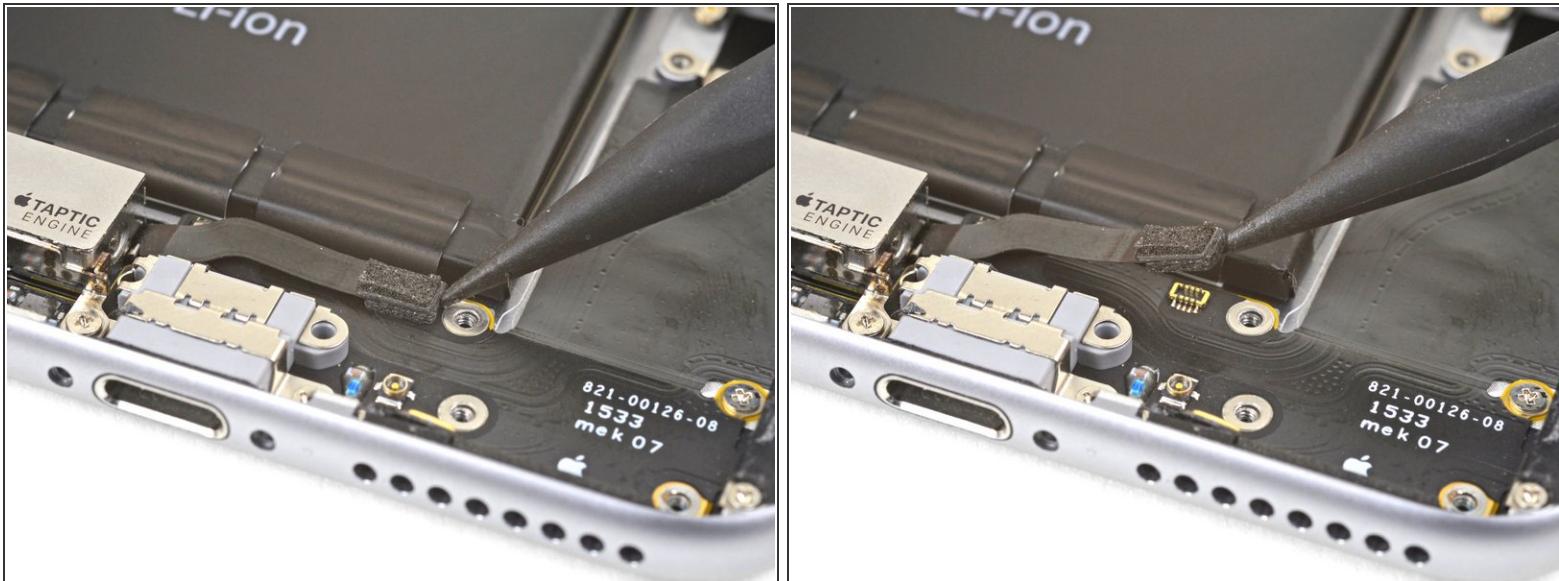
- Remove the final 2.6 mm Phillips screw securing the speaker to the rear case.

Step 57



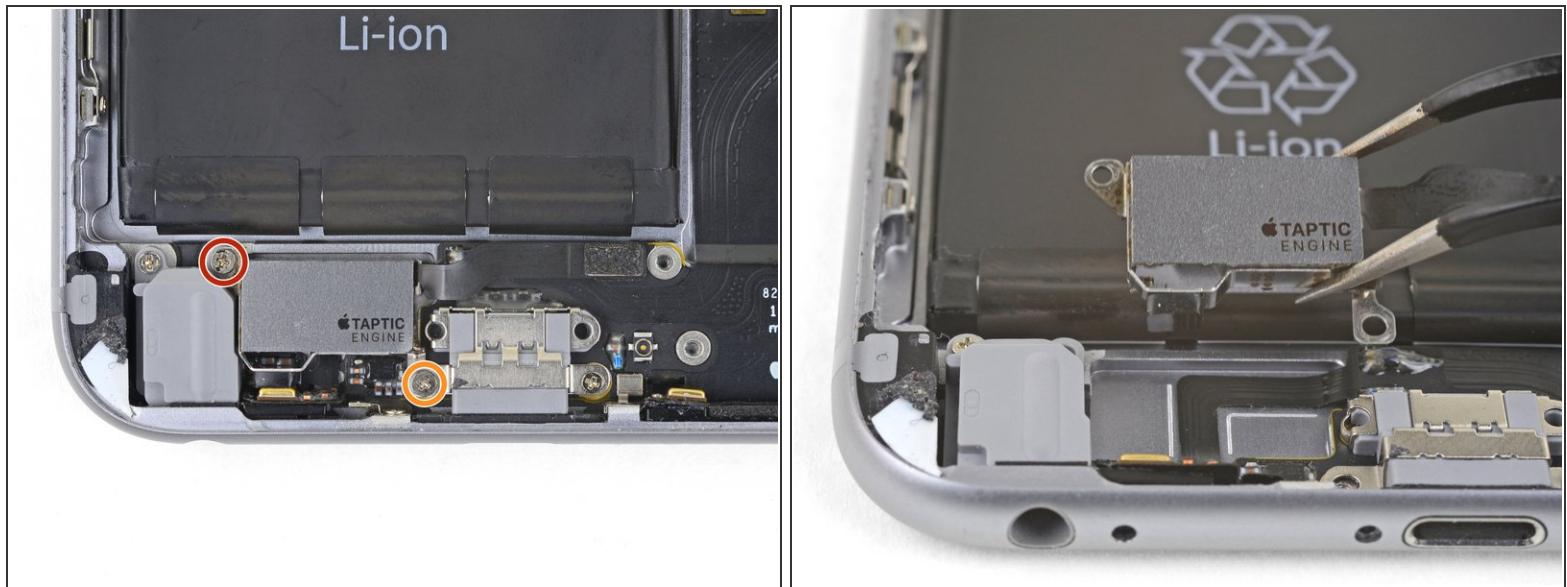
- Use the flat end of a spudger to lift the speaker assembly out of its housing.
- Remove the speaker assembly.

Step 58 — Lightning Connector and Headphone Jack



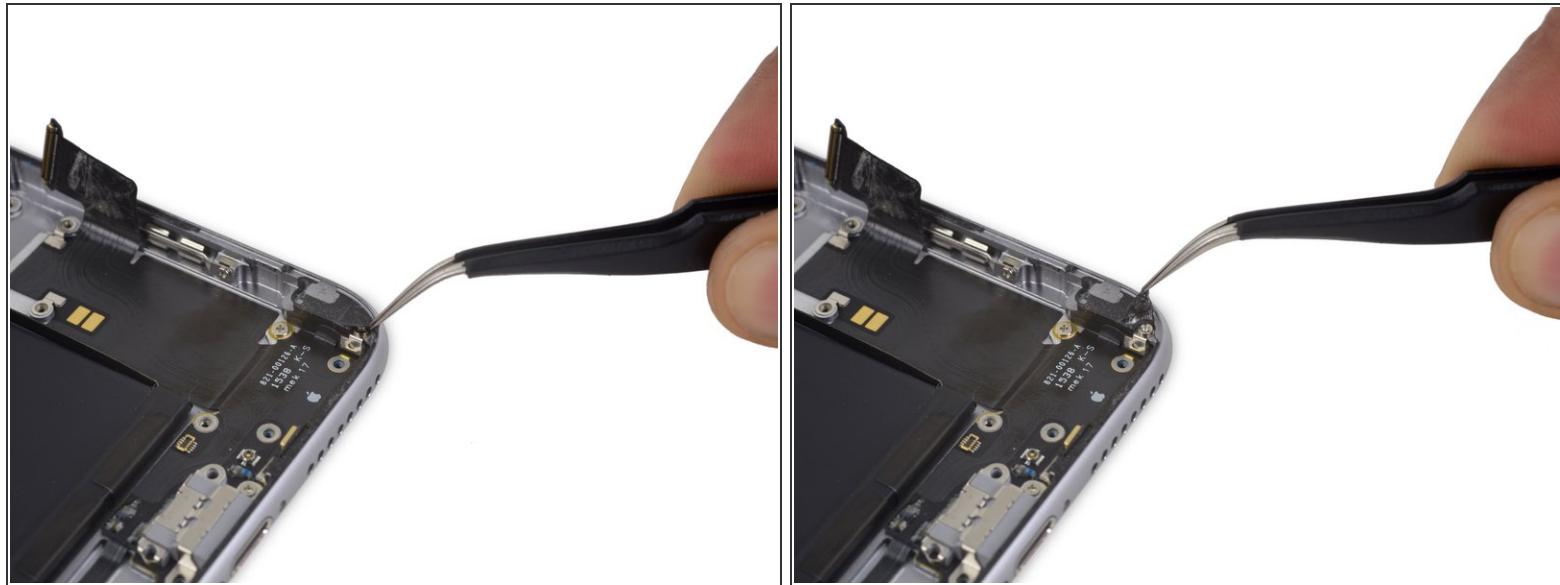
- Use the point of a spudger to disconnect the Taptic Engine flex cable from the lower flex cable.

Step 59



- Remove the two Phillips screws securing the Taptic Engine to the rear case:
 - One 3.1 mm screw
 - One 2.1 mm screw
- Remove the Taptic Engine.

Step 60



- Peel back the tape over the screw securing the Lightning connector flex cable to the lip of the phone.

Step 61



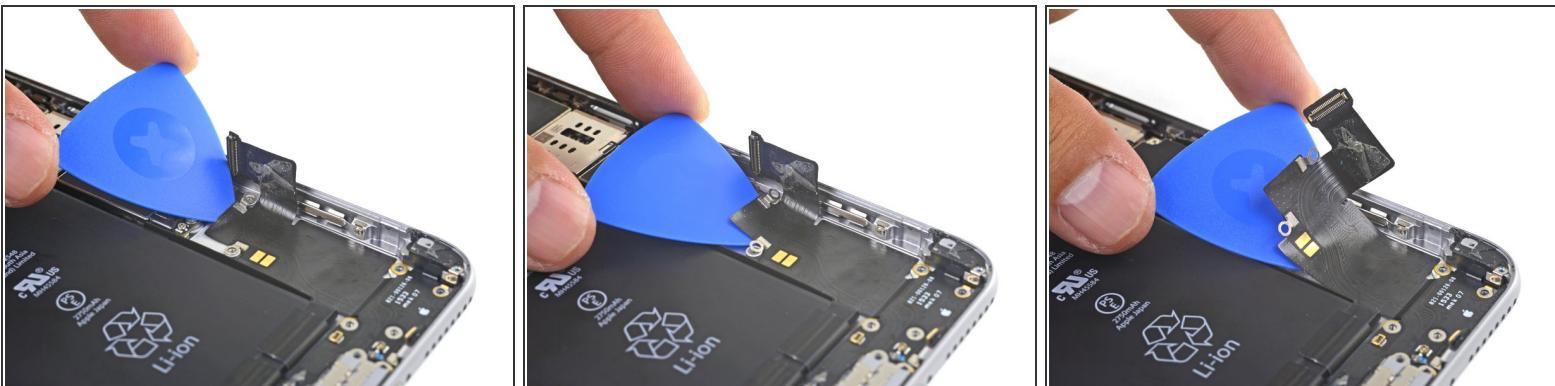
- Remove the following five Phillips screws:
 - One 2.9 mm screw
 - One 1.9 mm screw
 - One 1.5 mm screw
 - One 1.6 mm screw
 - One 1.3 mm screw set in the bottom edge of the rear case

Step 62



- [Prepare an iOpener](#) and lay it across the bottom of the phone to soften the adhesive holding the Lightning connector flex cable in place.
- Wait about a minute for the adhesive to soften before removing the iOpener and continuing.

Step 63



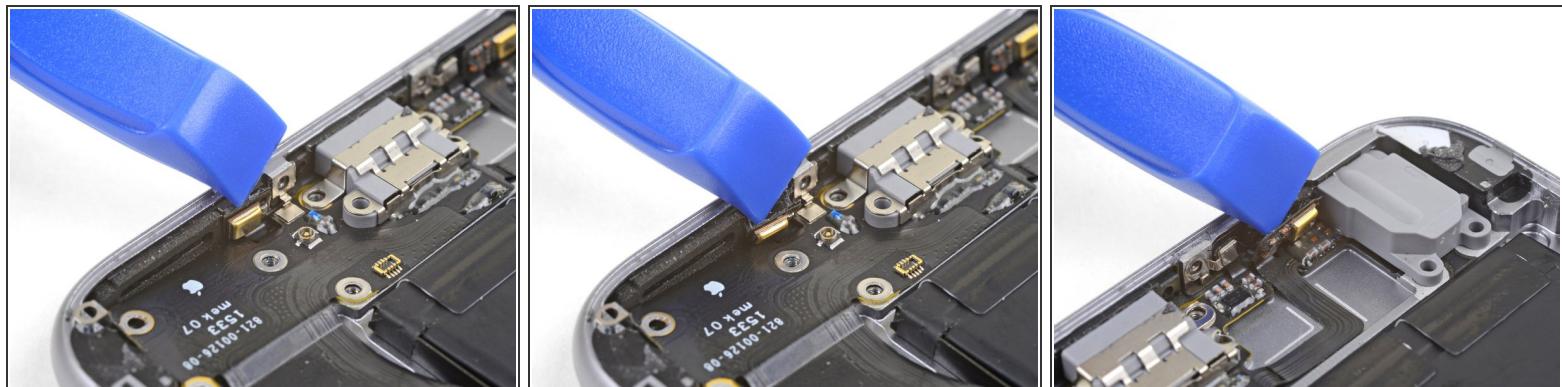
- Insert an opening pick under the Lightning connector flex cable and slowly slice through the adhesive holding the cable to the rear case.

Step 64



- Continue sliding the opening pick underneath the flex cable.

Step 65



- Use an opening pick to pry the left microphone off the edge of the rear case.

Step 66



- Insert the point of a spudger into the headphone jack and wiggle it slightly to loosen the headphone jack from the bottom edge of the case.

Step 67



- Remove the Lightning connector assembly.

i If your replacement part did not come with a [headphone jack gasket](#), use tweezers to remove the gasket from the old part and transfer it to the replacement part.

★ Before re-installation, use a spudger to scour any remaining adhesive residue from the rear case. You can use high concentration isopropyl alcohol to help with the process.

Step 68 — Power Button Cable Assembly



- Remove the following four Phillips screws:
 - Three 2.0 mm screws holding the power button bracket in place
 - One 1.3 mm Phillips screw over the flash and microphone bracket

Step 69



- Remove the flash/microphone bracket.

Step 70



- Use the pointed end of a spudger to lift the flash out of its housing in the rear case.

Step 71



- Use the flat end of a spudger to peel the power button flex cable off the rear case.

Step 72



- Insert the tip of a spudger underneath the microphone portion of the flex cable and gently pry it off of the rear case.

Step 73



- Slide an opening pick underneath the power button flex cable to pry the cable off the rear case.

Step 74



- Remove the power button flex cable.

Step 75 — Power Button Cover



- Gently nudge the power button cover out of its slot in the rear case.

Step 76



- Remove the button cover.

Step 77 — Rear Case



- Remove the following screws holding the cellular antenna in place:
 - One 2.7 mm Phillips screw
 - One 1.7 mm Phillips screw
 - One 1.3 mm Phillips screw

Step 78



- Remove the cellular antenna.

Step 79



- Remove the single 1.3 mm Phillips screw securing the Wi-Fi/Bluetooth antenna to the rear case.

Step 80



- Remove the Wi-Fi/Bluetooth antenna.

Step 81



- Use a pair of tweezers to peel back the tips of the three battery adhesive strips along the bottom edge of the battery.

Step 82



- Gather all three tips of the battery adhesive strips in one hand.

⚠ Be sure to not wrinkle any of the strips during this procedure—they will become very difficult to deal with and will not straighten out again.

Step 83



- Pull the adhesive strips straight out, keeping the strips flat and wide until they are completely removed. For best results, pull the strips at a 60° angle or less.

ⓘ The strips will stretch to many times their original length. Continue pulling until you completely remove all three strips.

⚠ Hold down the battery with one hand as you're pulling, or the elastic strips will fling the battery from the phone once they're separated from the rear case.

Step 84



- ***i* If you successfully removed all three adhesive strips, move on to the next step.** Otherwise, you will need to pry the battery from the rear case.
- Prepare an iOpener and apply it to the back of the rear case, directly over the battery. Alternatively, you can apply heat using a heat gun or hair dryer.
- After about a minute, flip the phone over and use a plastic card to tear through any remaining adhesive.

Step 85

- Remove the battery.



Step 86

- Remove the three 2.4 mm Phillips screws over the audio control cable bracket.



Step 87



- Use the flat end of a spudger to peel up the volume control flex cable.

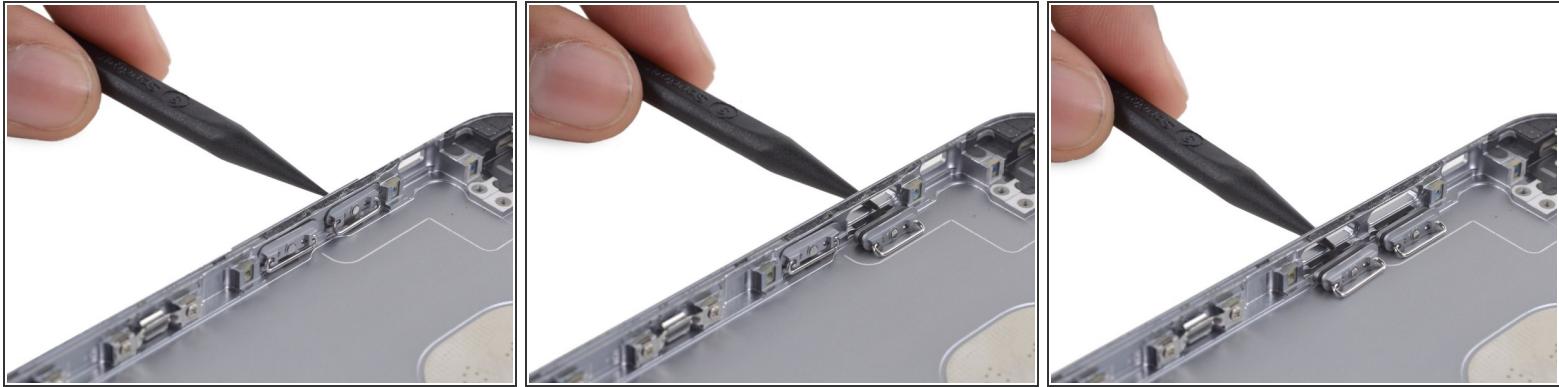
Step 88



- Remove the volume control flex cable.

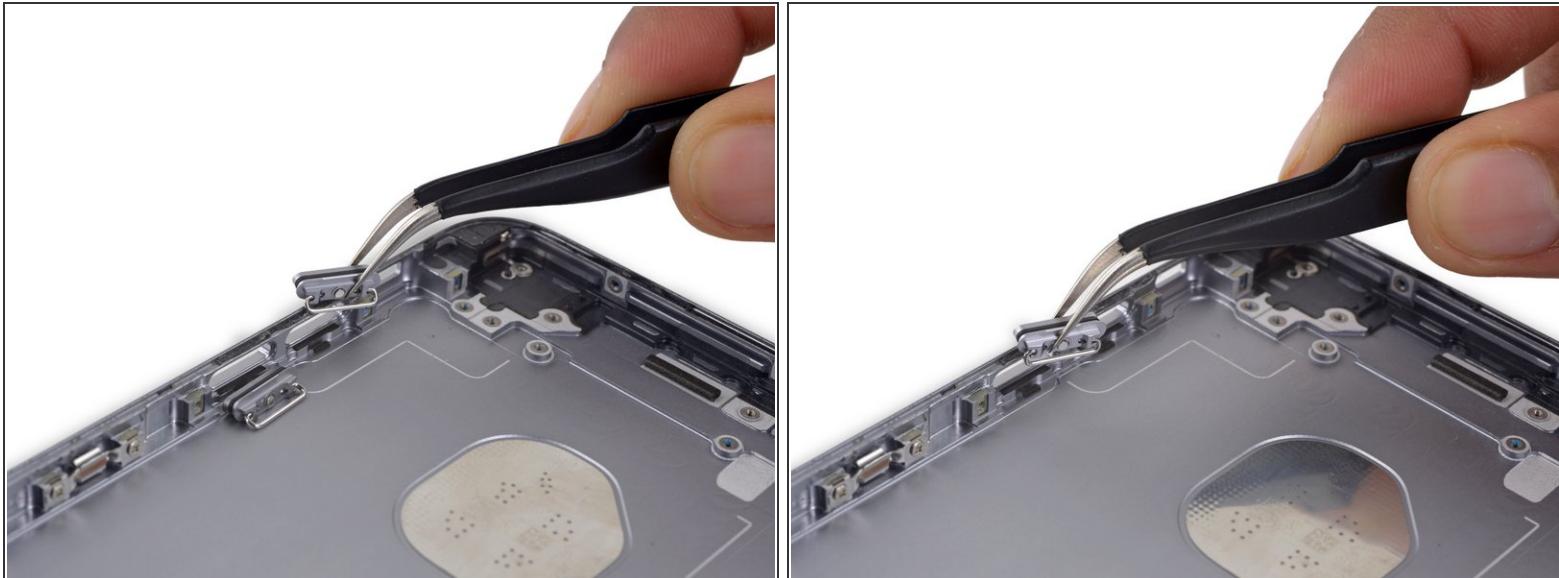
 During reassembly, put the volume control switch in place first, followed by the mute switch.

Step 89



- Use the pointed tip of a spudger to nudge the volume control button covers out of their slots in the rear case.

Step 90



- Remove the volume control button covers.

Step 91



- Only the rear case remains.

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