



iPhone XS Max Battery Replacement

If your iPhone XS Max is running slow or needs to be recharged all the time, use this guide to replace the battery.

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INTRODUCTION

iPhone batteries are rated to hold 80% of their capacity for up to 500 charge cycles, which lasts roughly 18-24 months for most users. After that, your iPhone may need to be charged far more frequently, and iOS may warn you that performance is affected (in other words, your phone will run slower). Use this guide to replace your battery and restore your iPhone to like-new performance.

If your battery is swollen, [take appropriate precautions](#).

Note: After the repair, your iPhone may [display a warning](#) about the “genuineness” of the battery, even when using original Apple parts. If your iPhone functions normally, you can safely ignore the warning.

For optimal performance, after completing this guide, [calibrate](#) your newly installed battery: Charge it to 100% and keep charging it for at least two more hours. Then use your iPhone until it shuts off due to low battery. Finally, charge it uninterrupted to 100%.

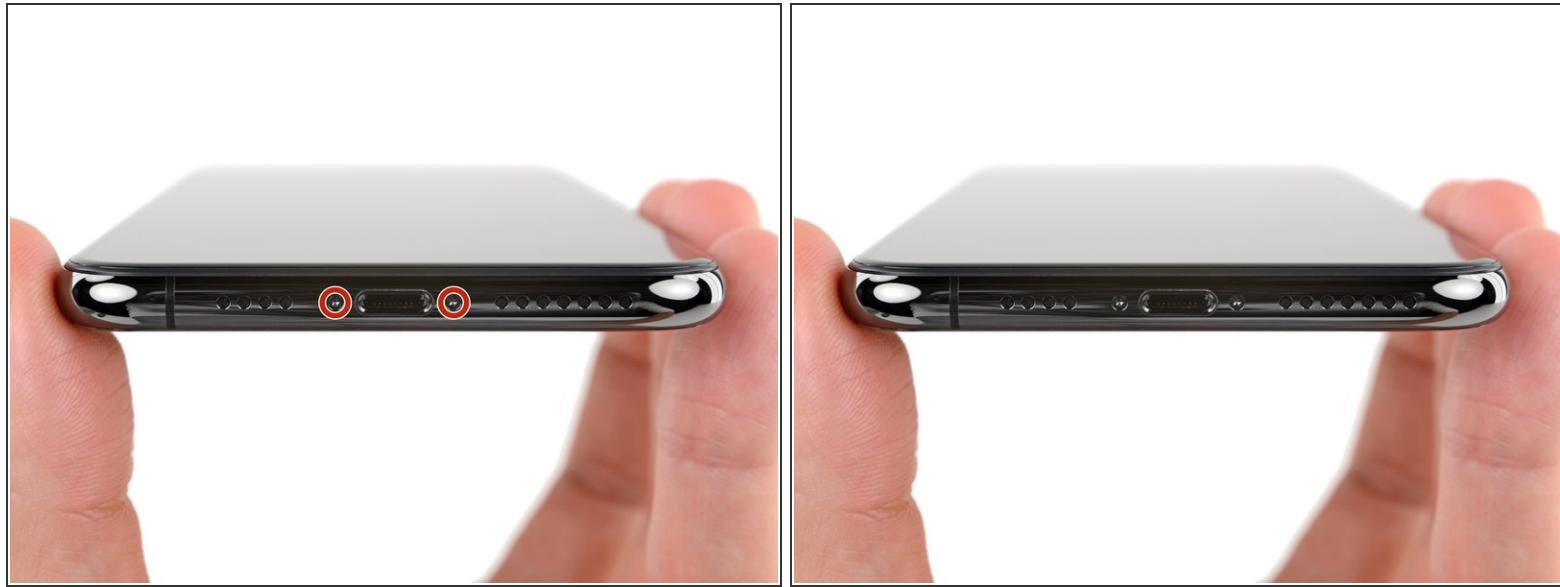
TOOLS:

- [P2 Pentalobe Screwdriver iPhone](#) (1)
- [iOpener](#) (1)
- [iFixit Opening Picks set of 6](#) (1)
- [Suction Handle](#) (1)
- [iSclack](#) (1)
- [Tri-point Y000 Screwdriver Bit](#) (1)
- [Spudger](#) (1)
- [Tweezers](#) (1)
- [Phillips #000 Screwdriver](#) (1)
- [Standoff Screwdriver for iPhones](#) (1)

PARTS:

- [iPhone XS Max Replacement Battery](#) (1)
- [iPhone XS Max Battery Adhesive Strips](#) (1)
- [iPhone XS Max Display Assembly Adhesive](#) (1)

Step 1 — Pentalobe Screws



⚠ Before you begin, discharge your iPhone 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 6.9 mm-long pentalobe screws at the bottom edge of the iPhone.
- Opening the iPhone's display will compromise its waterproof seals. Have replacement seals ready before you proceed past this step, or take care to avoid liquid exposure if you reassemble your iPhone without replacing the seals.

Step 2 — Opening Procedure



- ➊ Heating the lower edge of the iPhone helps soften the adhesive securing the display, making it easier to open.
- Use a hairdryer or heat gun or [prepare an iOpener](#) and apply it to the lower edge of the iPhone for about a minute in order to soften up the adhesive underneath.

Step 3



(i) The next two steps demonstrate the iSclack, a handy tool that we recommend for anyone doing frequent repairs. **If you aren't using the iSclack, skip down two steps for an alternate method.**

- If the plastic depth gauge is attached at the center of the iSclack, remove it now—it's not needed for larger iPhones like the XS Max.
- Position the suction cups near the bottom edge of the iPhone—one on the front, and one on the back.
- Press both suction cups firmly into place.

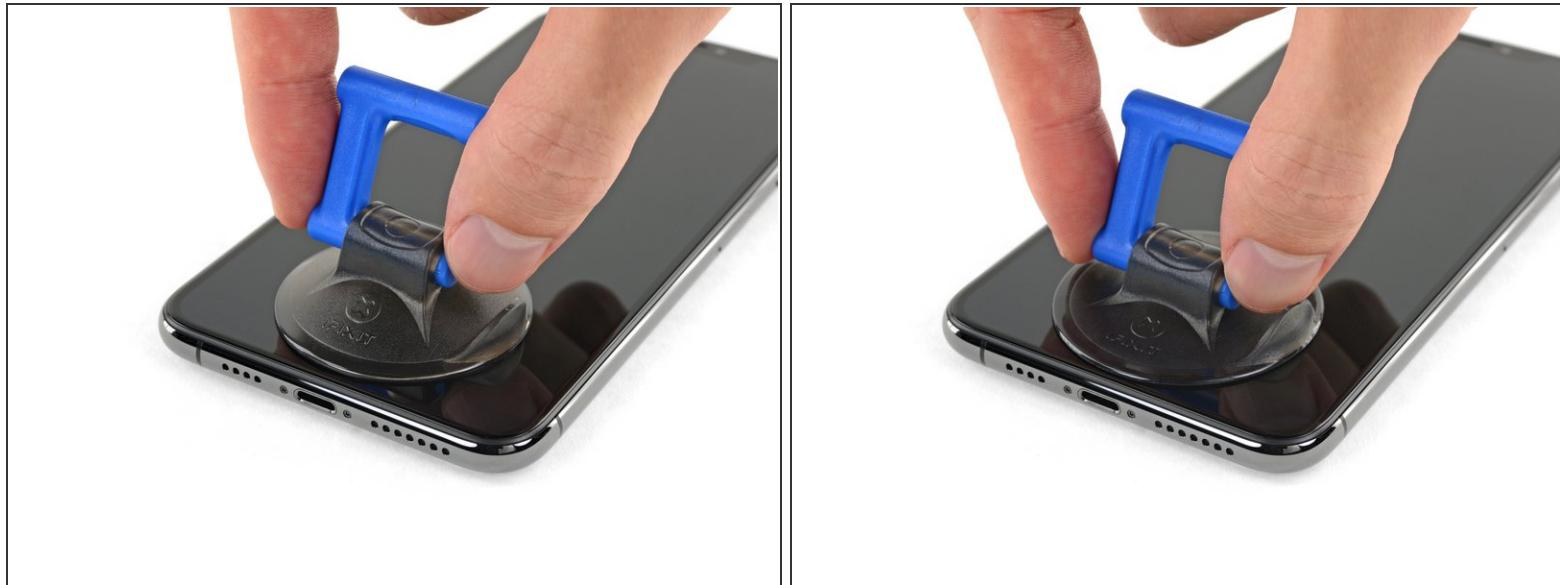
(i) If your display or back glass is badly cracked, [covering it with a layer of clear packing tape](#) may help the suction cups adhere. The iSclack also includes two pieces of tape for this purpose.

Step 4



- Hold onto your iPhone securely and close the handle of the iSclack to slightly separate the screen from the rear case of the phone.
⚠ Don't try to completely separate the screen; a small opening along the bottom edge is all you need.
- Insert an opening pick into the gap under the display on the lower edge of the iPhone.
- **Skip the next two steps.**

Step 5



- If you're using a single suction handle, apply it to the bottom edge of the phone, while avoiding the curved portion of the glass.
- 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 6



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

(i) The watertight adhesive holding the display in place is very strong; creating this initial gap takes a significant amount of force. If you're having a hard time opening a gap, apply more heat, and gently rock the screen up and down to weaken the adhesive until you create enough of a gap to insert your tool.

Step 7



- Slide the opening pick around the lower left corner and up the left edge of the iPhone, slicing through the adhesive holding the display in place.

⚠ Don't insert the opening pick too far into the iPhone, or you may cause damage to internal components.

Step 8



- Re-insert your pick at the bottom edge of the iPhone, and slide it up the right side to continue separating the adhesive.

⚠ Don't insert the pick very far, or you may damage the display cables along this side of the iPhone. Insert it only a few millimeters, or about the width of the display bezel.

Step 9



i The top edge of the display is secured with both glue and clips.

- Slide the opening pick around the top corner of the display, while gently pulling or wiggling the display **down** in the direction of the Lightning port.

⚠ The clips will break if you use too much force. Work carefully and be patient.

⚠ Again, don't insert the pick more than a few millimeters—about the width of the display bezel—or you may damage the front panel sensor array.

- Slide the pick to the opposite corner and cut any remaining adhesive securing the display.

Step 10



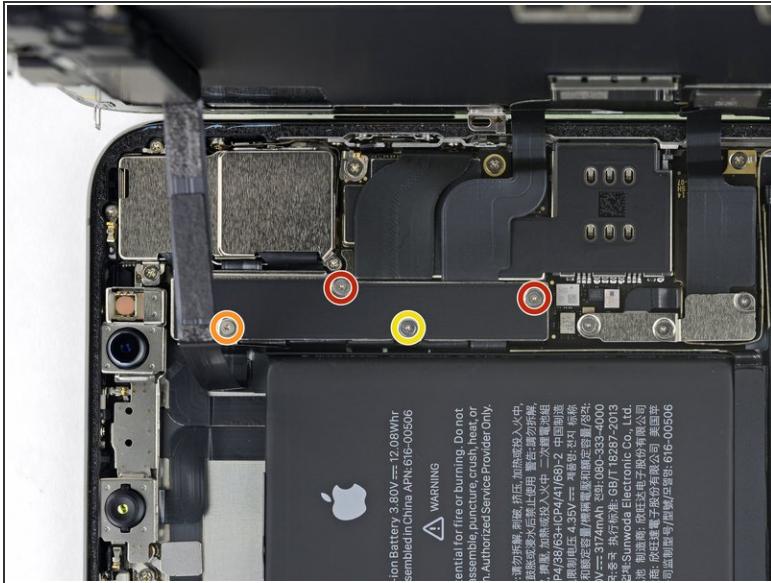
- Pull on the small nub on the suction cup to remove it from the front panel.
- If you used an iSlack and it's still affixed to the iPhone, remove it now.

Step 11



- Open the iPhone by swinging the display up from the left side, like the back cover of a book.
- ⚠ Don't try to fully separate the display yet, as several fragile ribbon cables still connect it to the iPhone's logic board.
- Lean the display against something to keep it propped up while you're working on the phone.
- 📌 During reassembly, lay the display in position, align the clips along the top edge, and carefully press the top edge into place before snapping the rest of the display down. If it doesn't click easily into place, check the condition of the clips around the perimeter of the display and make sure they aren't bent.

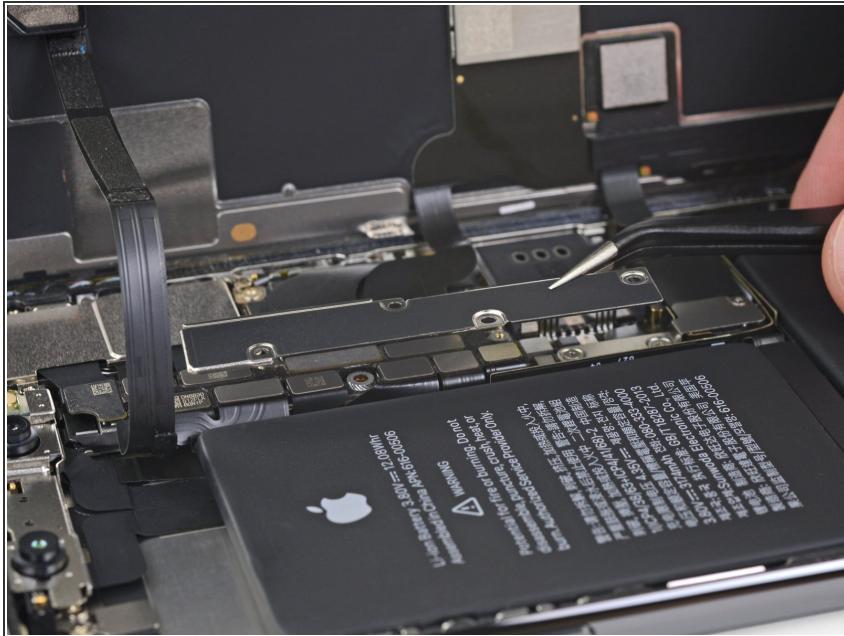
Step 12 — Display Assembly



- Remove four Y000 screws securing the logic board cover bracket, of the following lengths:
 - Two 1.1 mm screws
 - One 1.5 mm screw
 - One 3.7 mm screw

ⓘ Throughout this repair, keep track of each screw and make sure it goes back exactly where it came from to avoid damaging your iPhone.

Step 13

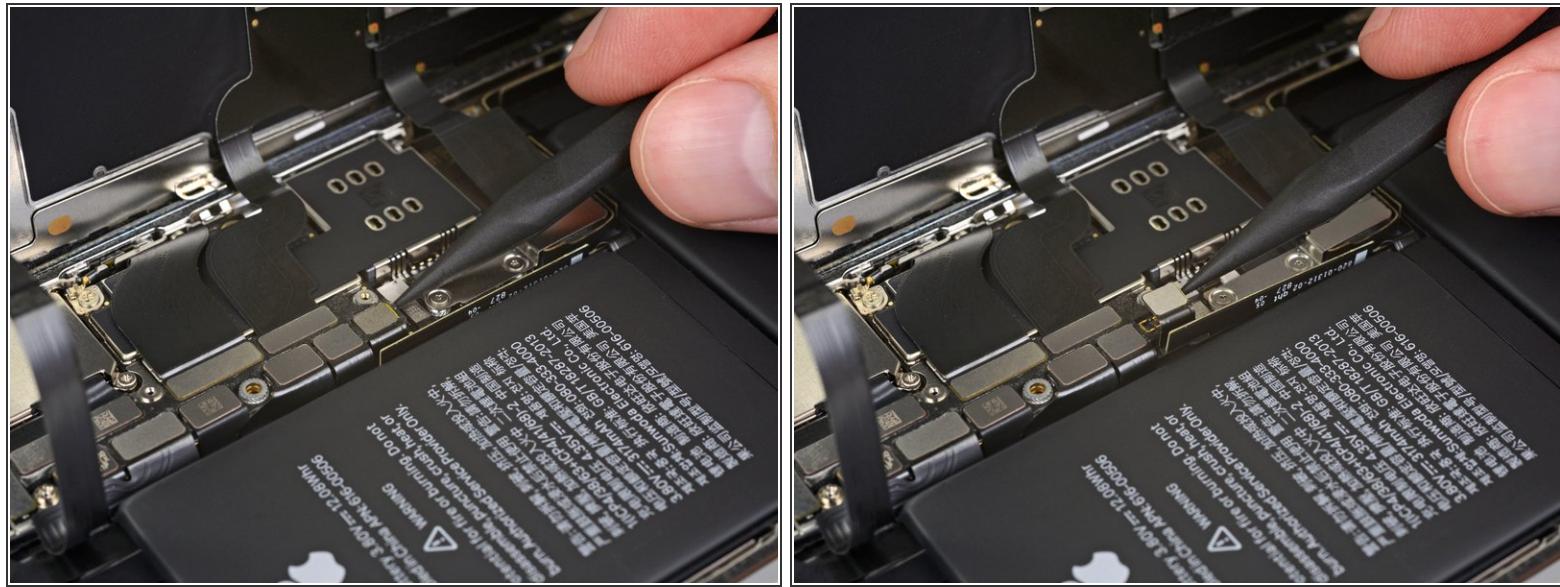


- Remove the bracket.

i The bracket may be lightly adhered in place. Lift gently but firmly to separate it.

» During reassembly, this is a good point to power on your iPhone and test all functions before you seal the display in place. Be sure to power your iPhone back down completely before you continue working.

Step 14



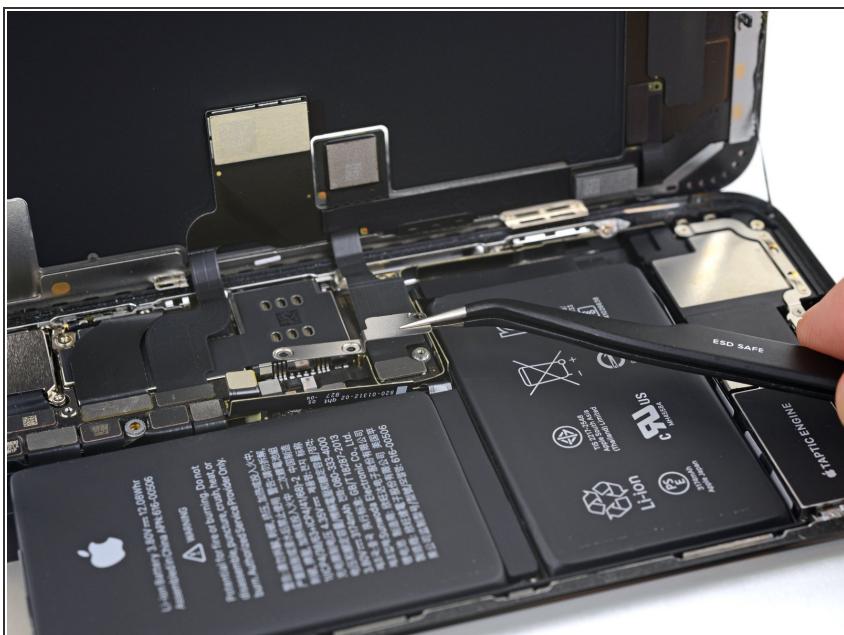
- Use a spudger or a clean fingernail to pry the battery connector up from its socket on the logic board.
 - Try not to damage the black silicone seal surrounding this and other board connections. These seals provide extra protection against water and dust intrusion.
- Bend the connector slightly away from the logic board to prevent it from accidentally making contact with the socket and providing power to the phone during your repair.

Step 15



- Remove the three Y000 screws securing the display connector bracket:
 - Two 1.1 mm screws
 - One 1.5 mm screw

Step 16



- Remove the bracket.

Step 17



- Use the point of a spudger or a fingernail to disconnect the front panel sensor assembly connector.

Step 18



- Use a spudger or a fingernail to disconnect the OLED panel cable connector.

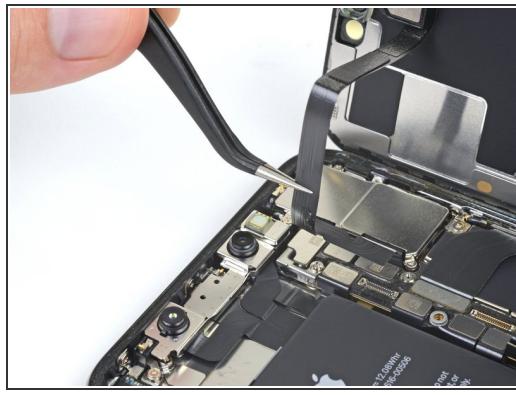
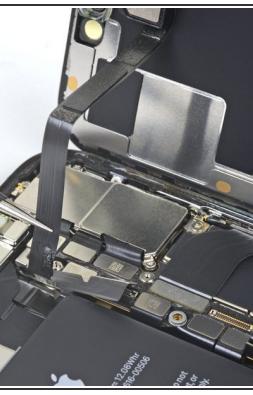
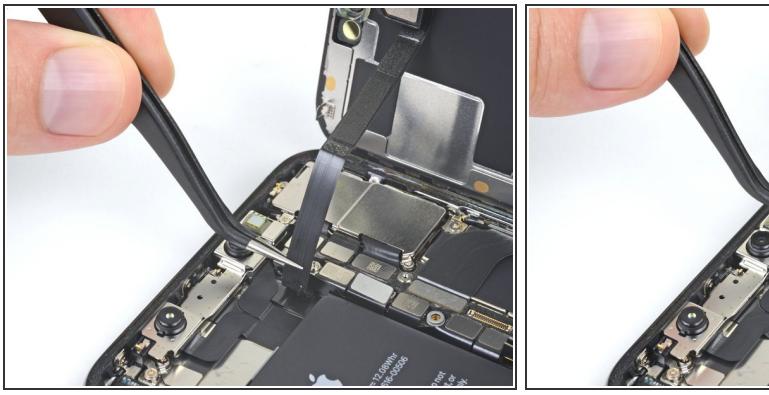
 To re-attach [press connectors](#) like this one, carefully align and press down on one side until it clicks into place, then repeat on the other side. Do not press down on the middle. If the connector is misaligned, the pins can bend, causing permanent damage.

Step 19



- Use a spudger or fingernail to pry the digitizer cable connector up from its socket.
 - ❖ If any part of your screen doesn't respond to touch after your repair, disconnect the battery and then re-seat this connector, making sure it clicks fully into place and that there's no dust or other obstruction in the socket.

Step 20



- ➊ The front panel sensor assembly flex cable is lightly adhered in place.
 - Carefully lift the cable until the adhesive separates.

Step 21



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

Step 22 — Lower Speaker



- Remove the five 1.4 mm tri-point Y000 screws securing the bracket below the Taptic Engine and main speaker.

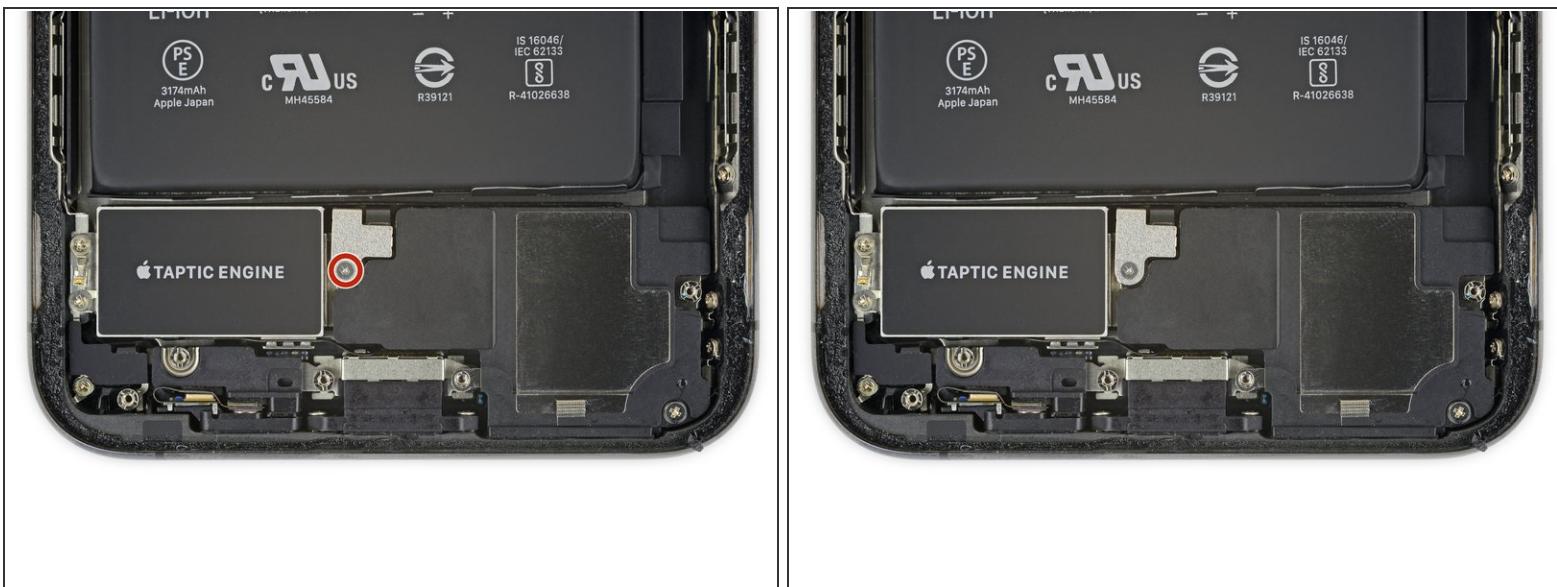
Step 23



(i) The bracket is lightly adhered in place.

- Gently lift to unstick and remove the bracket, being careful not to bend it.
- If necessary, apply a little heat with a hair dryer or heat gun to soften the adhesive. (Putting an iOpener on the bracket is not recommended, as this may bend the spring contacts along the top.)

Step 24



- Remove the 1.3 mm tri-point Y000 screw securing the speaker connector cover.

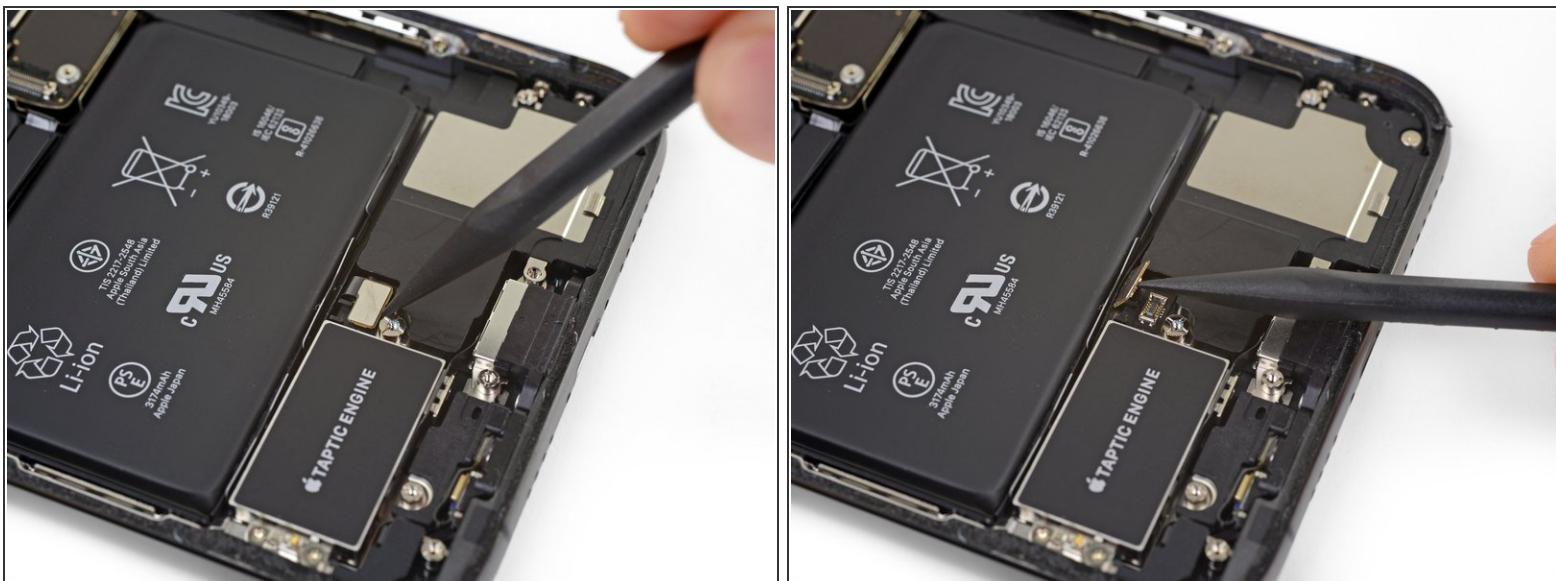
Step 25



- Push the speaker connector cover towards the battery, and then lift to unclip and remove it.

⚠ Be very careful not to poke or puncture the battery with your tools.

Step 26



- Use the tip of a spudger to pry up and disconnect the speaker connector.

Step 27



- Remove the three screws securing the speaker:

- One 2.7 mm Phillips screw
- One 2.9 mm standoff screw
- One 3.1 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 28



⚠ When prying up the speaker, take care not to damage the speaker flex cable you just disconnected. If necessary, bend the cable toward the battery so the speaker has room to come out.

- Insert a spudger under the top edge of the speaker, near the edge of the iPhone's case.
- Gently pry up and lift the top edge of the speaker slightly.

★ When reinstalling the speaker, check the position of the flex cable and make sure it doesn't get trapped underneath the speaker.

Step 29



- While prying up the speaker, use tweezers to peel away the plastic bumper strip from the top edge of the speaker.
- *(i)* If necessary, apply a little heat to soften the adhesive and make the bumper strip easier to separate.

Step 30



- Hold the speaker by its side edges and rock it side-to-side, separating the adhesive securing it to the bottom edge of the iPhone.
- Pull the speaker away from the bottom edge of the iPhone until the adhesive gasket separates.

Step 31



- Remove the speaker.
- ☒ The speaker's adhesive gasket is not reusable. Peel away any remaining adhesive residue with tweezers.
- ☒ To help protect against water and dust intrusion, replace the adhesive gasket during reassembly. Prep the area by cleaning it with a bit of isopropyl alcohol and a lint-free cloth or coffee filter so that the gasket adheres properly. Install a new gasket onto the speaker, and then install the speaker.

Step 32 — Taptic Engine Assembly



- Use a spudger to disconnect the Taptic Engine flex cable by prying it straight up from its socket.

Step 33



- Remove the two 1.9 mm Phillips screws securing the Taptic Engine.

Step 34



- Grasp the plastic bumper strip and carefully lift it over the speaker connector.

Step 35



- Remove the Taptic Engine assembly.

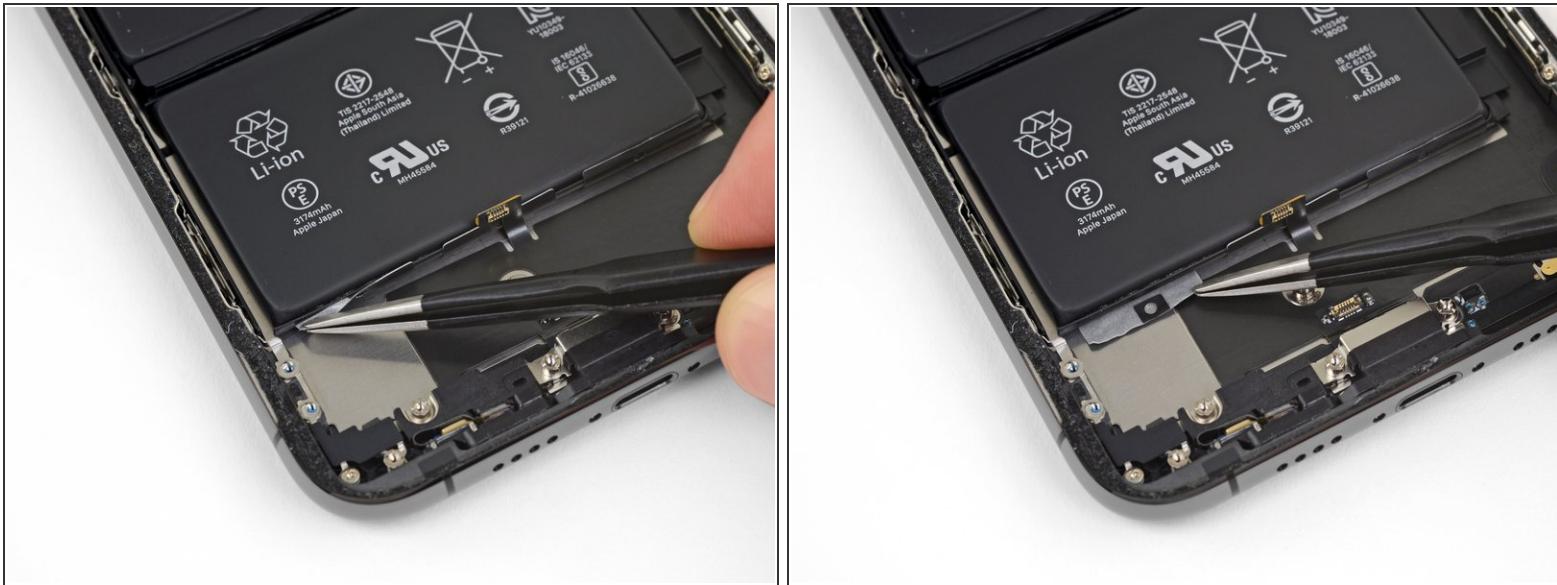
 The contact clip on the left side of the Taptic Engine may fall off. Be sure it's installed correctly as shown before reinstalling the Taptic Engine in the iPhone.

Step 36 — Battery



- ⓘ The battery is secured to the rear case by four pieces of stretch-release adhesive—one on the top cell, and three on the bottom.
- Each piece of adhesive has a black pull-tab at the end, which is lightly adhered to the side edge of the battery.

Step 37



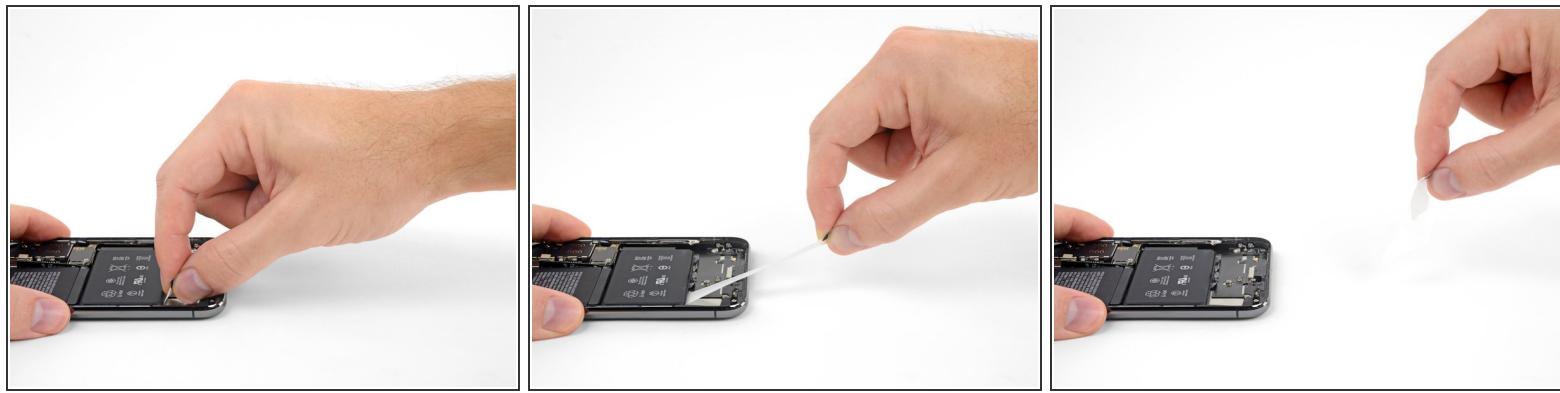
- Separate the first battery adhesive tab from the bottom edge of the battery.
- Each tab has a small loop in the center; insert a tool through the loop if you're having trouble grabbing hold of the tab.
- ⚠ Don't jab the battery with any sharp tools. A punctured battery may leak dangerous chemicals or catch fire.

Step 38



- Repeat the above step to separate the remaining two adhesive tabs from the bottom edge of the battery.
- ⚠ Take care not to damage the speaker cable connector just below the center adhesive tab.

Step 39

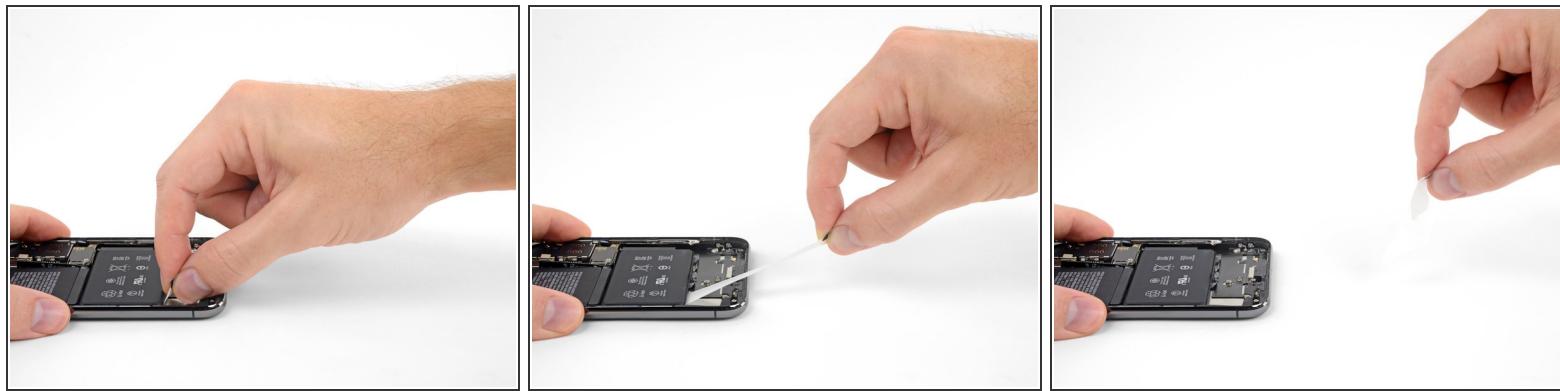


i In the following steps, you'll pull each tab to slowly stretch out the adhesive underneath the battery. This special stretch-release adhesive loses its tack when stretched and then comes out in your hand, allowing you to lift out the battery with ease.

! If the strips break, don't panic! They don't always work as intended. Keep reading for some additional steps for removing broken strips.

- To increase your odds of success:
 - Don't press down on the battery. Hold the iPhone firmly by its sides.
 - Keep the strips flat and unwrinkled as you pull.
 - Pull *very slowly*, giving the strip time to stretch and separate. It takes around 15-30 seconds of stretching to remove each strip.
 - Pull at a low angle so the strip doesn't snag along the bottom edge of the battery.
- If a strip does break off underneath the battery and cannot be retrieved, move on to the other strips and then continue with the additional steps below.

Step 40



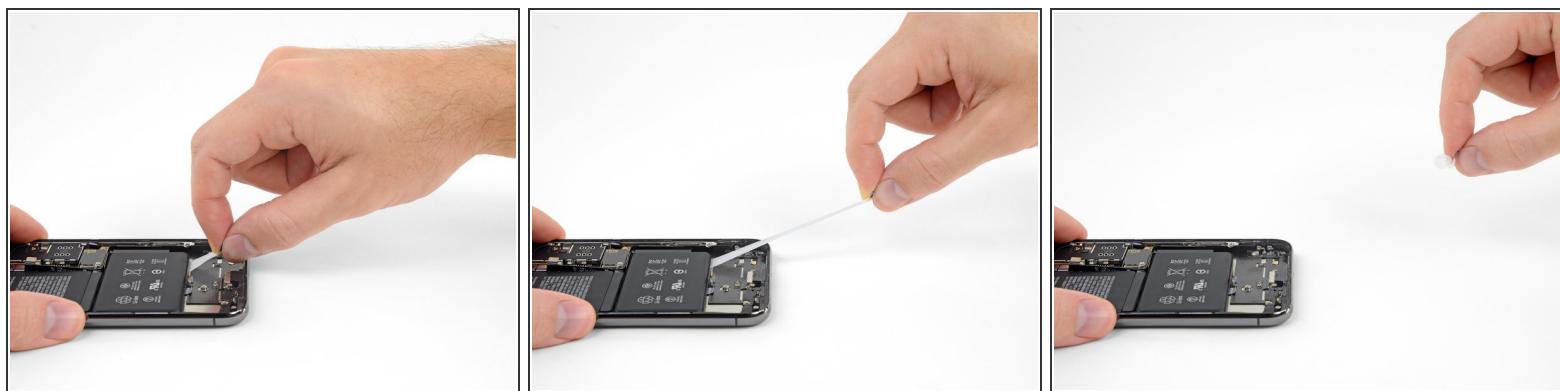
- Grab one of the outer battery adhesive tabs and slowly pull it away from the battery, toward the bottom of the iPhone.
- Pull steadily, maintaining constant tension on the strip until it slips out from between the battery and the rear case.

i The strip will stretch to many times its original length. Continue pulling and re-grab the strip near the battery if necessary.

i If the battery adhesive tabs break during the removal process, use your fingers or blunt tweezers to retrieve the remaining length of adhesive, and continue pulling.

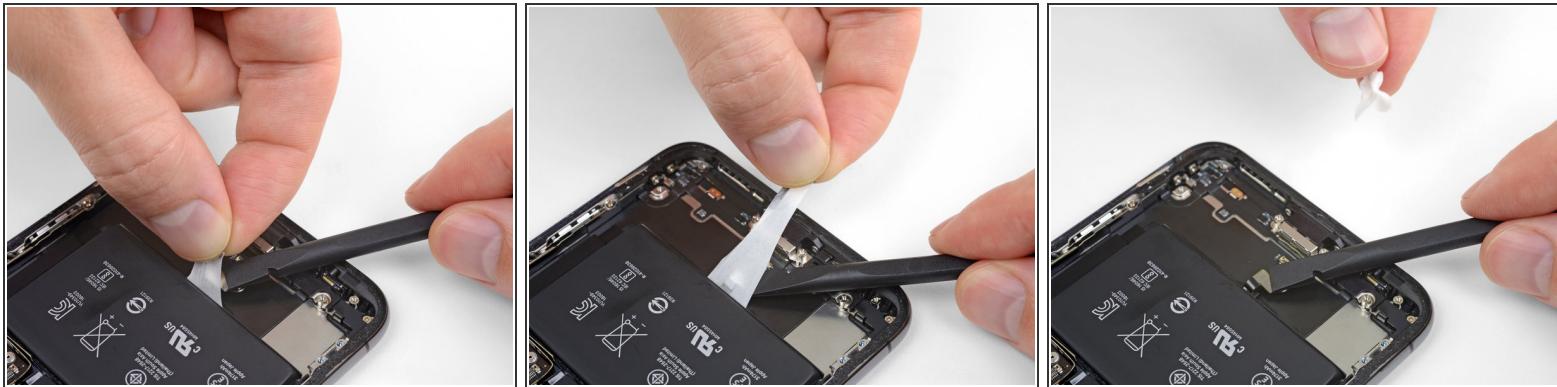
! If any of the adhesive strips break underneath the battery and cannot be retrieved, try to remove the remaining strips, and then proceed as instructed below.

Step 41



- Repeat the previous step to remove the strip on the opposite side, leaving the center strip for last.

Step 42



- Remove the center strip, being very careful not to snag it on the speaker flex cable.
- ⚠ If necessary, pause and use a spudger to un-stick the speaker flex cable from the adhesive strip.

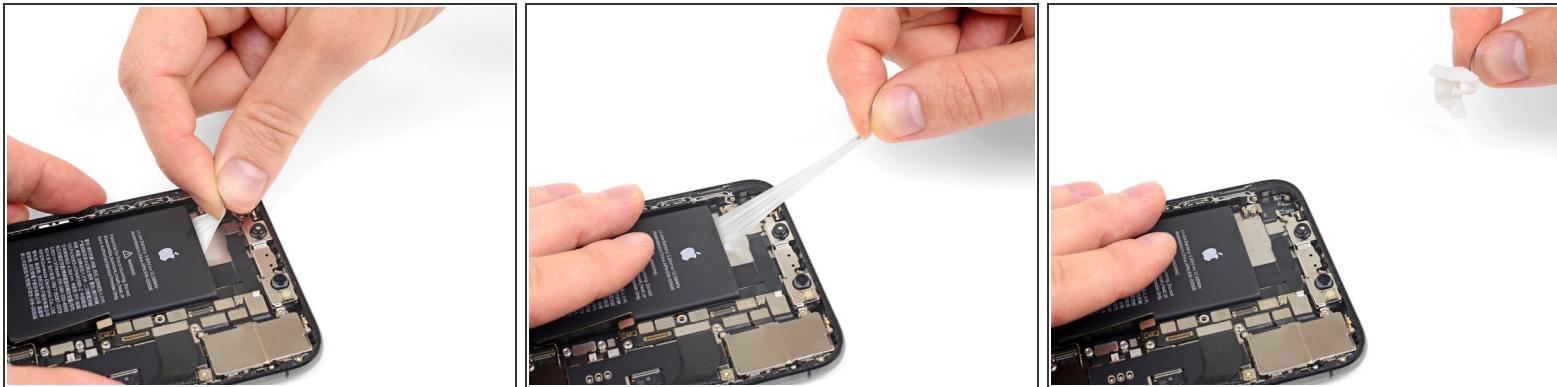
Step 43



⚠ The final pull tab lies very close to the Face ID hardware. If damaged, Face ID can only be repaired by Apple, so work with care.

- Peel and separate the pull tab on the final adhesive strip, on the top edge of the upper battery cell.

Step 44



- Pull and remove the final adhesive strip.
⚠ The strip may fling the battery when it separates from the iPhone, so hold your hand over the battery to secure it—but don't press down on the battery itself, or the added pressure may cause the adhesive strip to break off underneath the battery.
- **If you removed all four adhesive strips successfully, skip the next step.**
- Otherwise, if any of the adhesive strips broke off underneath the battery and could not be retrieved, **continue with the next step below.**

Step 45



- If any of the adhesive strips broke off and the battery remains stuck to the rear case, [prepare an iOpener](#) or use a hair dryer to heat the rear case directly behind the battery.

⚠ Heat the iPhone until the rear case is slightly too hot to comfortably touch. Don't overheat the iPhone, or you may accidentally ignite the battery.

- Flip the iPhone back over and thread a strong piece of string (such as dental floss or a length of thin guitar string) underneath the battery.
- **ⓘ** Wear gloves to protect your fingers, or wrap each end of the string around a tool.
- Pull the string from side to side in a sawing motion to separate the adhesive. This can take some time since the adhesive is slow to deform, but with patience it will come free. **Do not deform or damage the battery.**
- Start from the top or bottom edge of the battery, and pull toward the middle. Don't pull the string through the middle third of the battery, or you may damage the ribbon cables or the wireless charging coil directly underneath.

⚠ If you choose to use pry tools to lift the battery out of the iPhone, use extreme caution or you may damage the ribbon cables or the wireless charging coil directly underneath the battery.

Step 46



- Grasp the battery from the bottom edge and remove it from the iPhone.
- ➡ Reinstall the Taptic Engine and speaker before installing a new battery. This helps keep the battery aligned correctly during installation.
- ➡ If your new battery does not come with adhesive preinstalled, refer to [this guide](#) for help replacing the adhesive strips.
- ➡ Perform a [force restart](#) after reassembly. This can prevent several issues and simplify troubleshooting.

Compare your new replacement part to the original part—you may need to transfer remaining components or remove adhesive backings from the new part before installing.

To reassemble your device, follow the above steps in reverse order.

Take your e-waste to an [R2 or e-Stewards certified recycler](#).

Repair didn't go as planned? Check out our [Answers community](#) for troubleshooting help.