



iPod 4th Generation or Photo Front Panel Replacement

Written By: iRobot



INTRODUCTION

The plastic front half of your iPod case.



TOOLS:

- [iFixit Opening Tools](#) (1)
- [Spudger](#) (1)
- [T6 Torx Screwdriver](#) (1)
- [Anti-Static Project Tray](#) (1)



PARTS:

- [iPod 4G Front Panel](#) (1)

Step 1 — Rear Panel



i Before opening your iPod, ensure that the hold switch is in the locked position. The orange bar should be visible, indicating hold is active.

Step 2



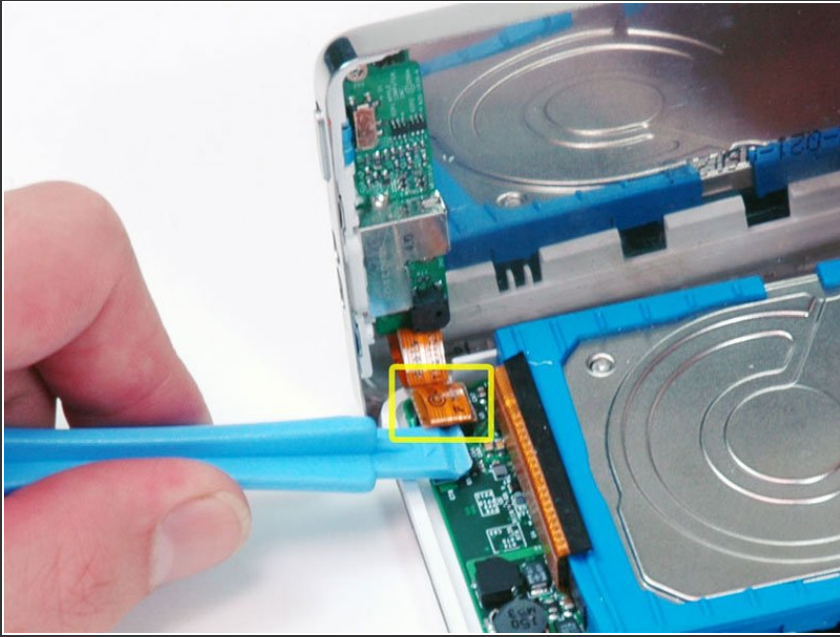
- Insert an opening pick as far as possible into the seam between the plastic front and the metal rear panel, on the right edge of the iPod.
 - ⓘ You may need to rock the pick back and forth to slide it in farther.
- Use the opening pick to pry up against the plastic front panel and release five retaining tabs (seen in the third photo).
- Slide the pick along the edge of the iPod and continue prying to release the rest of the retaining tabs.
- After all five tabs along the right side are free, the case should easily open.

Step 3



- ⓘ The iPod case is now open, but don't separate the two halves just yet. There is still an orange ribbon cable connecting the headphone jack to the logic board.
- Open the case like a book with the dock connector edge at the top, and lay the rear panel next to the front half of the iPod.

Step 4



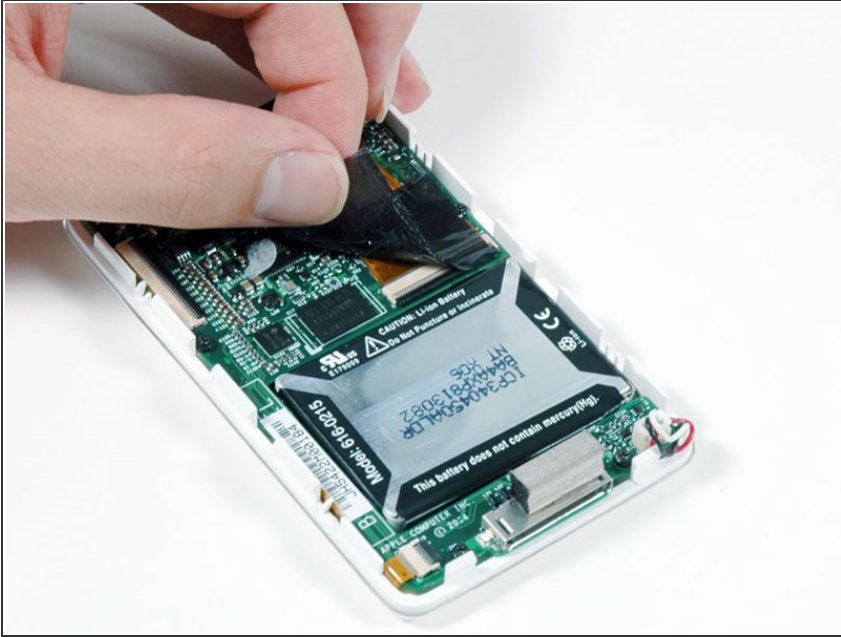
- Use a plastic tool or your fingernails to carefully disconnect the orange headphone jack cable. Be sure to pull straight up on the connector, not the cable itself.

Step 5 — Hard Drive



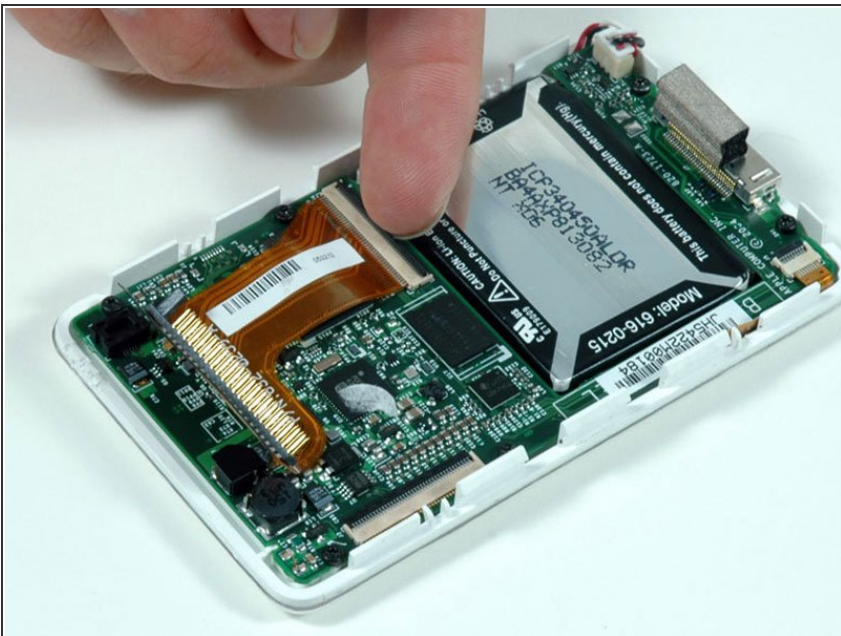
- Grasp the hard drive with one hand and carefully disconnect the orange ribbon cable from the hard drive using your other hand.
- ⓘ If the cable doesn't come free easily, it may be helpful to gently wiggle the cable from side to side.

Step 6 — Hard Drive Cable



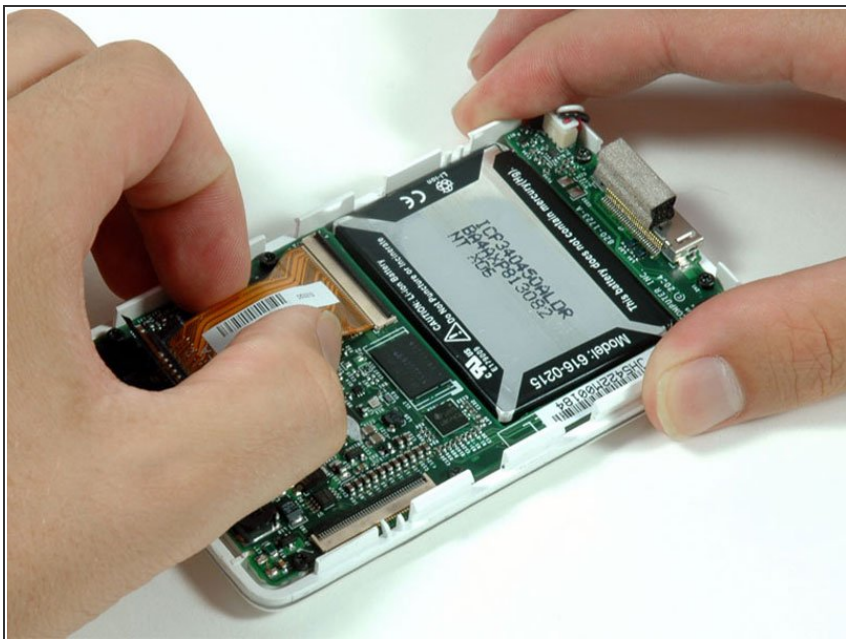
- Peel up the black adhesive strip covering the hard drive ribbon cable.

Step 7



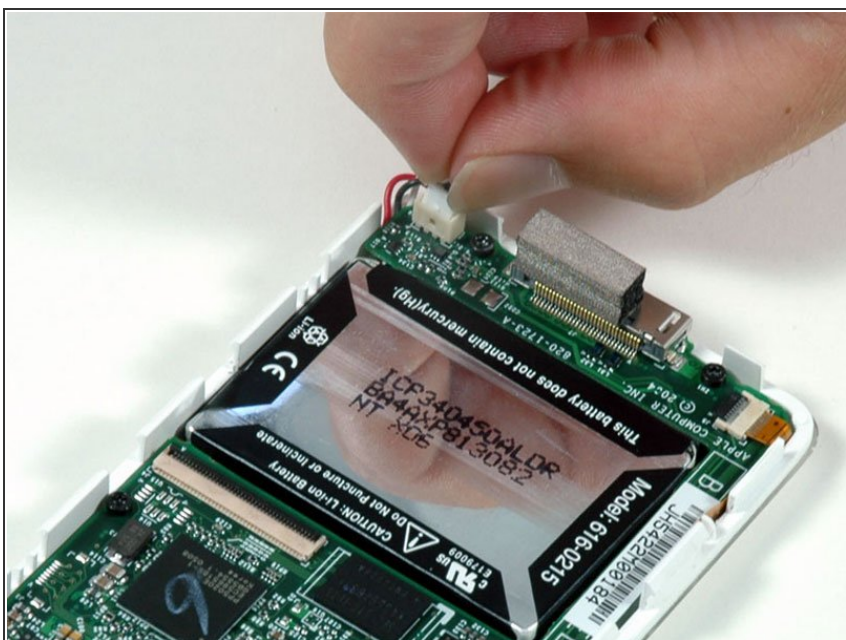
- Use the tip of your finger or a spudger to carefully flip up the black connector securing the hard drive cable to the logic board. Note that the black retaining clip flips 90 degrees toward vertical, in the direction of the cable.

Step 8



- Pull the orange hard drive cable directly out of its connector.

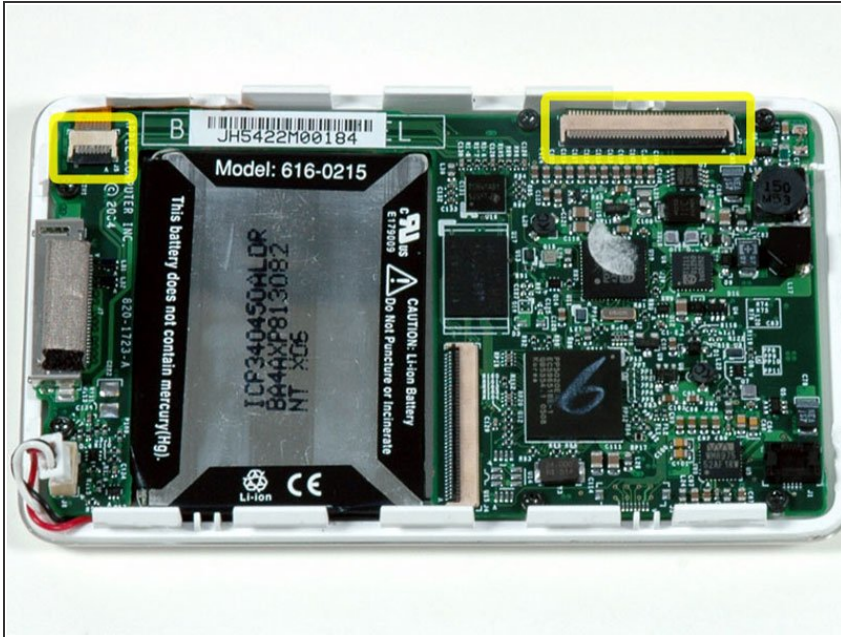
Step 9 — Logic Board



- Carefully disconnect the white battery connector from the logic board. Be sure to pull only on the

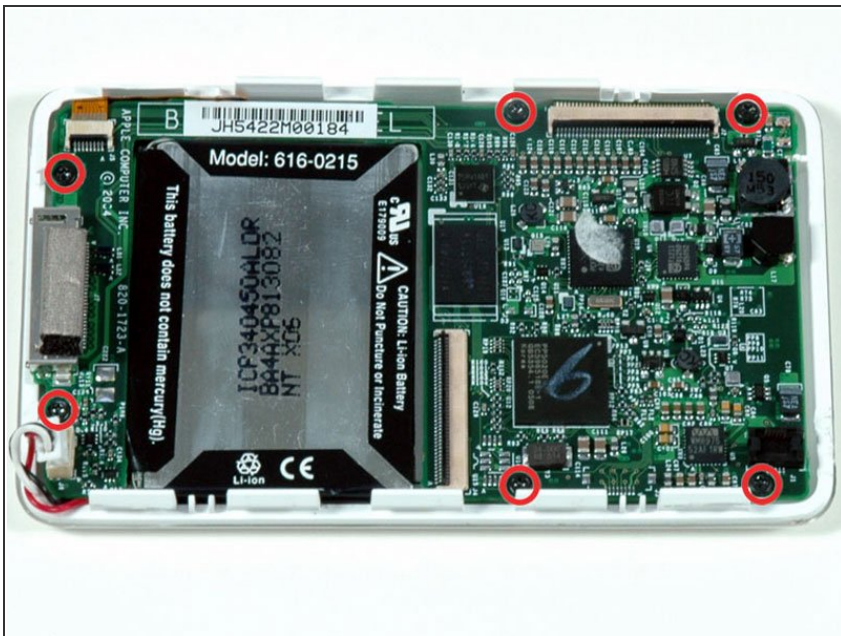
connector itself and not on the cables.

Step 10



- Use a spudger to flip up the black retaining bars securing the display and click wheel connectors to the logic board.
- ⓘ If you have an iPod Photo, the display connector (to the right of the picture) is located more centrally on the logic board.

Step 11



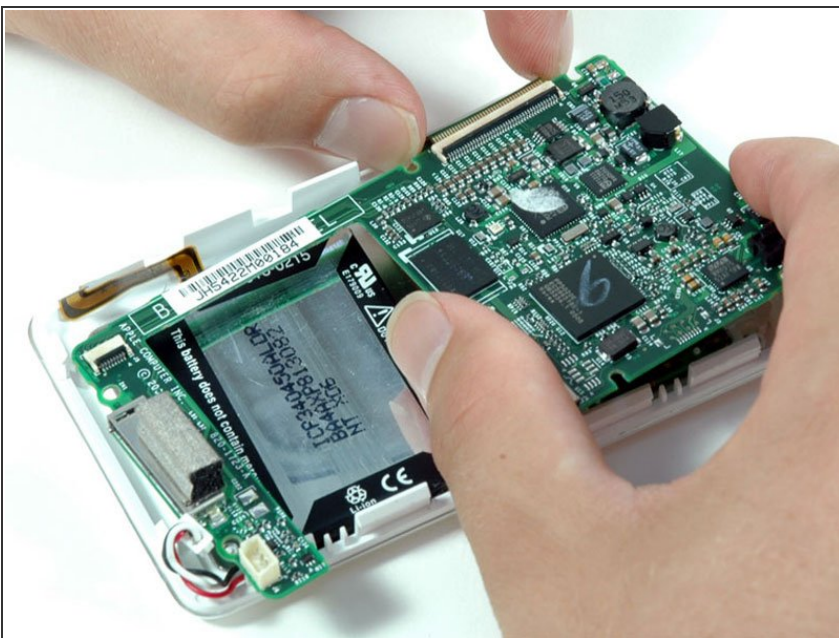
- Remove the 6 black T6 Torx screws securing the logic board to the front panel.
- ⓘ If you have an iPod Photo, there will only be 5 screws, as there is no screw in the top right corner of the iPod.

Step 12



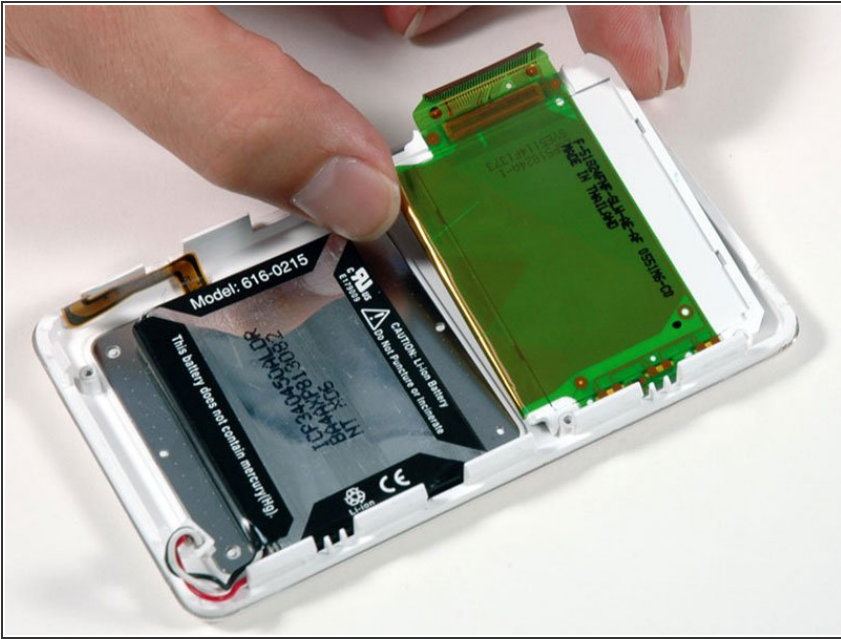
- Slide the orange click wheel ribbon cable out of its connector. You must unlock this connector before sliding the ribbon cable out. The locking mechanism is on the opposite side of where the cable is inserted - it swivels upwards 90 degrees. Use a plastic spudger to lift the locking mechanism.

Step 13



- Carefully lift up the large end of the logic board and disconnect the display connector.
- Lift the logic board out of the iPod.

Step 14 — Display



- Lift the display panel out of the iPod. There may be some mild adhesive connecting the display to the front panel.

Step 15 — Front Panel



- Use a spudger to pry the battery off the front panel.
- Lift the battery up and out of the iPod.

Step 16



- Front panel remains.

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