![iFixit logo]

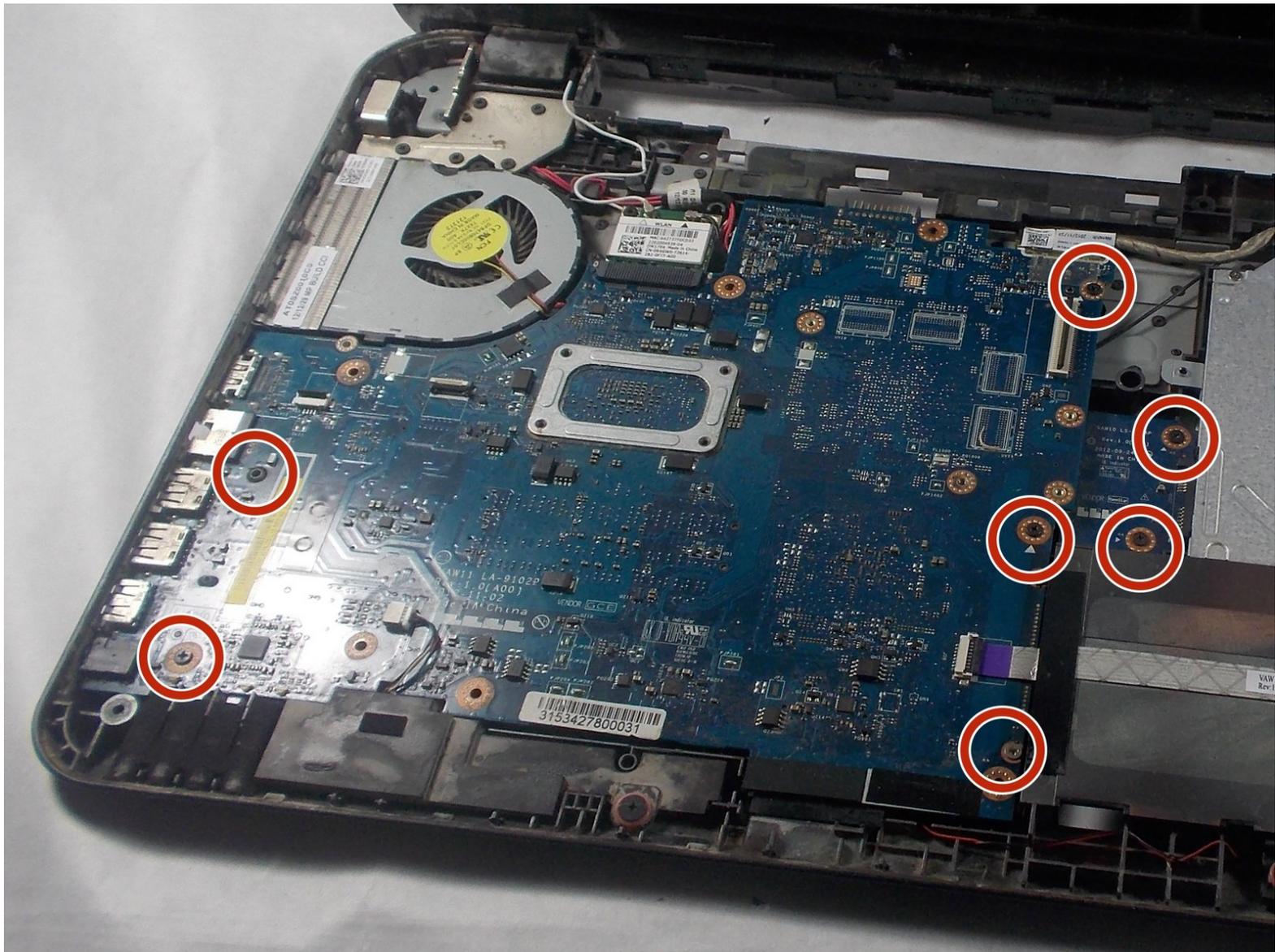# Dell Inspiron 17-3721 Fan Replacement

This guide will be showing how to replace a broken fan on the Dell Inspiron 17-3721.

Written By: Kevin Prairie

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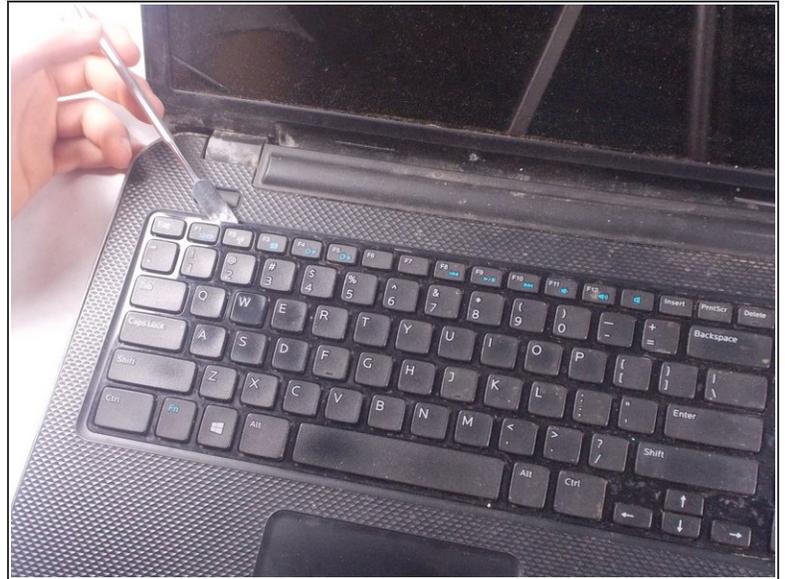© iFixit — CC BY-NC-SA

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INTRODUCTION

It is possible for the cooling fan inside a laptop to become very noisy due to dust, die out, or break all together. This guide will show how to remove and replace the fan of the device.
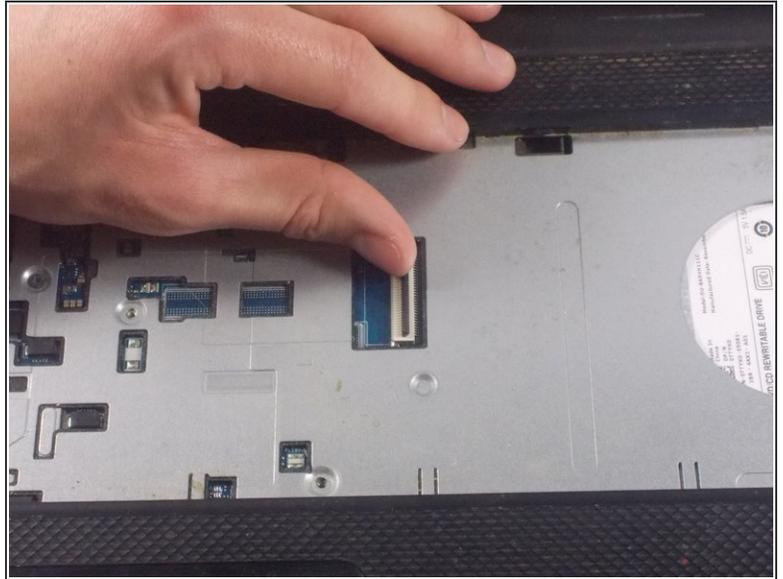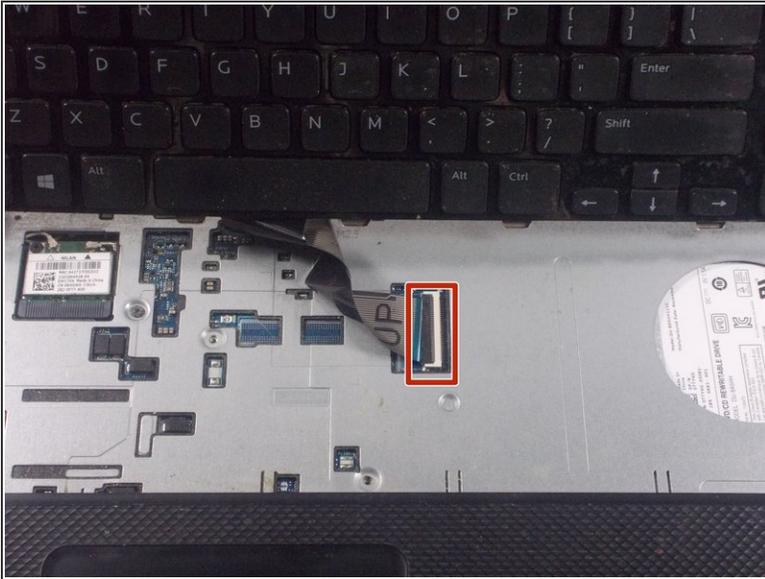
🔧 TOOLS:

- Phillips #0 Screwdriver (1)
- Phillips #1 Screwdriver (1)
- iFixit Opening Tools (1)
- Metal Spudger (1)

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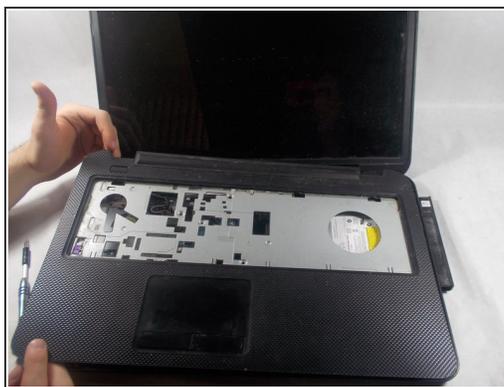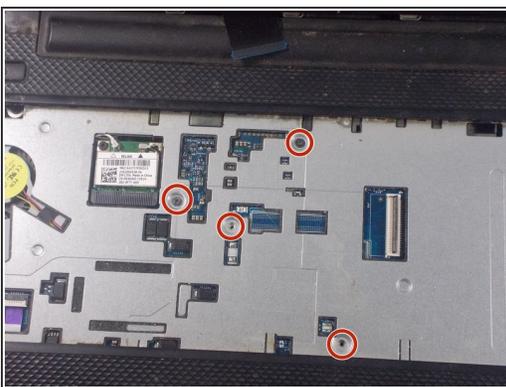
Step 1 — Keyboard

- Use a plastic opening tool or a metal spudger to pry out the tabs on top of the keyboard.

- After prying the tabs up, carefully pull the keyboard out of the laptop.

⚠ Use caution when prying the tabs up or lifting the keyboard up, as the plastic material and the strip on the keyboard can easily break.

Step 2

- Once the keyboard is lifted, locate the release tab.

- Using a plastic opening tool or your finger, lift the tab so that it opens .

- Once the tab is open, the strip on the keyboard can be removed.
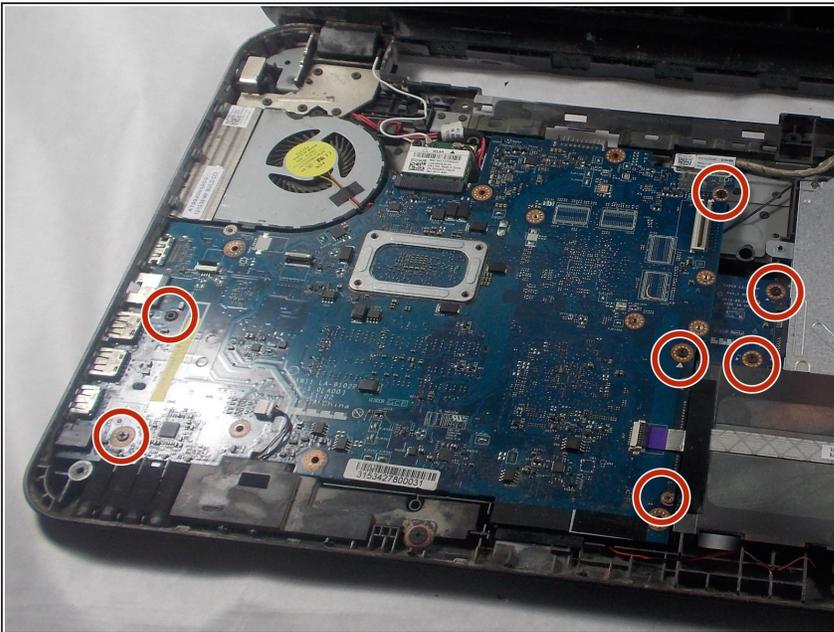
Step 3 — Optical Drive

- Remove the four 6 mm PH1 Philips head screws under the keyboard.

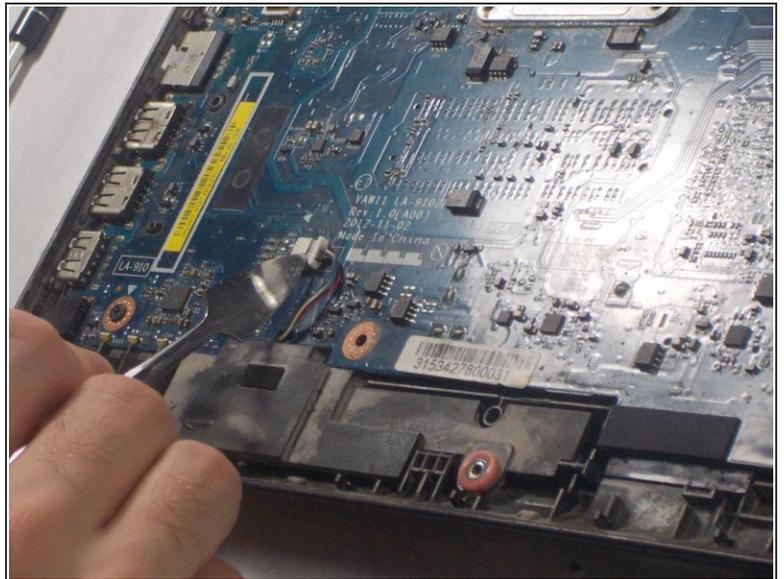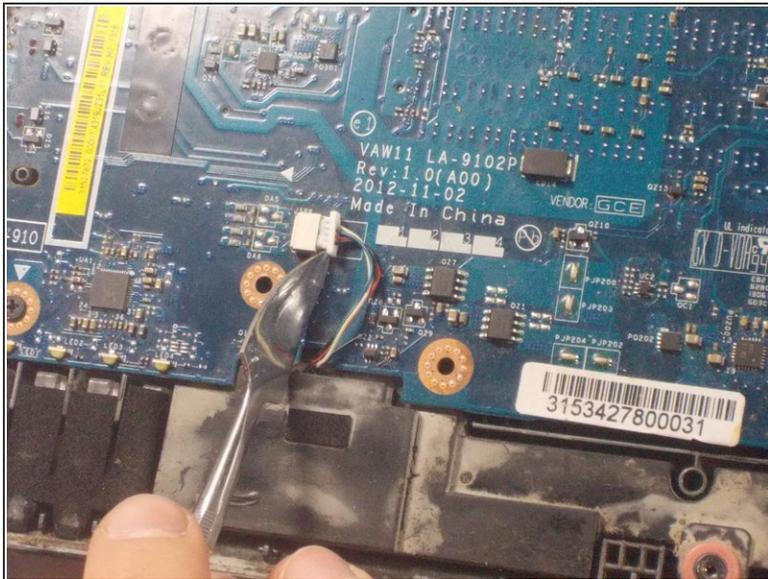- Carefully pop off the cover using the plastic opening tools and your hands.

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Step 4

- Remove the 4 mm PH1 Philips head screw holding down the optical drive.

- Use your hand to slide the drive out of the device.
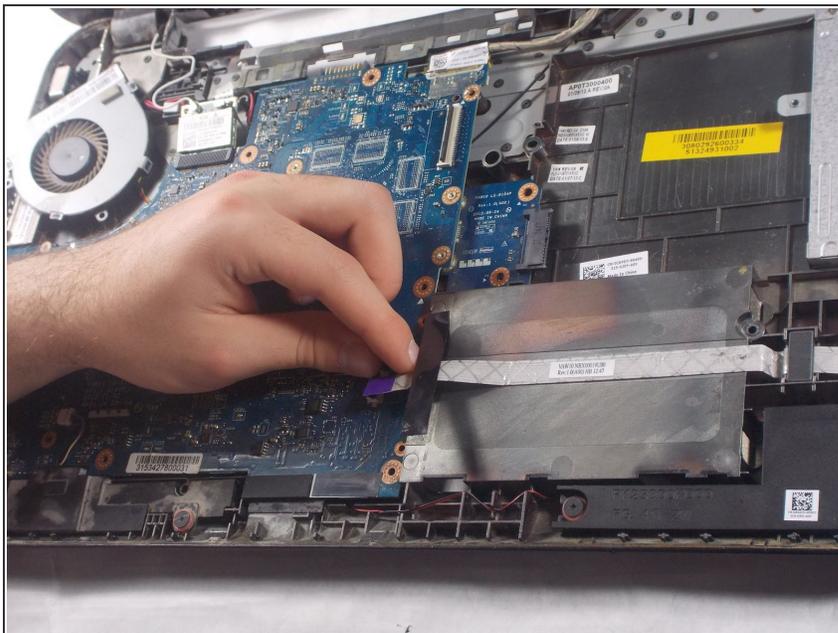
Step 5 — Fan

- Remove the seven 6mm PH1 Philips head screws from the motherboard.

- (i) There may be more or less screws in your motherboard as the laptops do vary.

Step 6

- Located on the lower left of the motherboard, disconnect the wire that connects the speaker by pushing it or pulling it away from the white box.
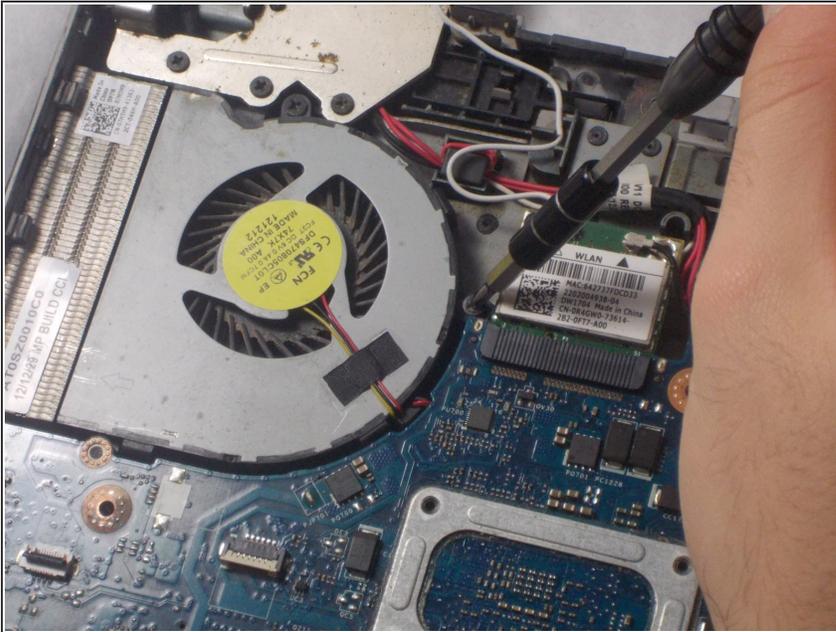
Step 7

- Located on the lower right of the motherboard, flip up the black hatch and remove the ribbon cable by gently tugging it outwards.

⚠️ Ribbon cables are very fragile and can tear easily. Handle with care.

Step 8

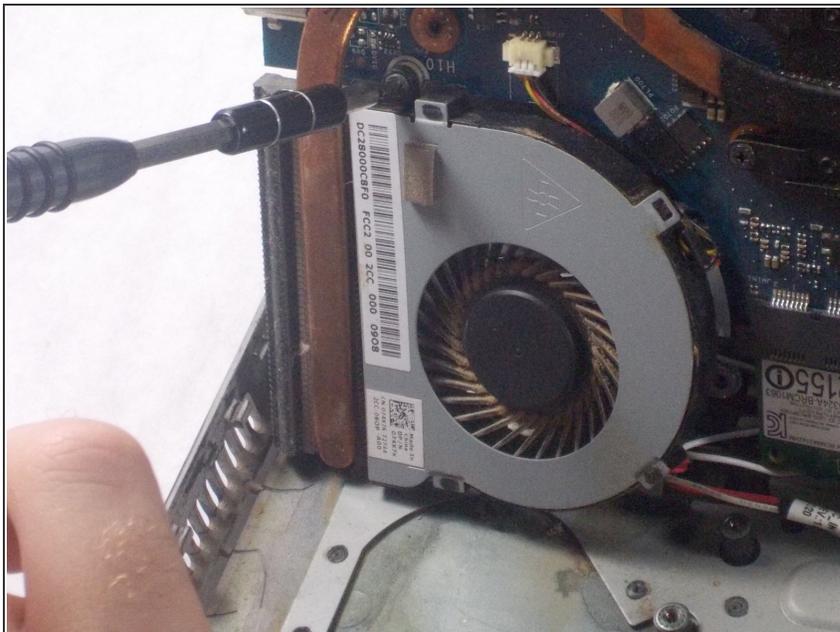- Remove the 4mm PH1 Philips screw to the right of the fan.

Step 9

- Remove the 4mm PH1 Philips screw to the top of the fan.

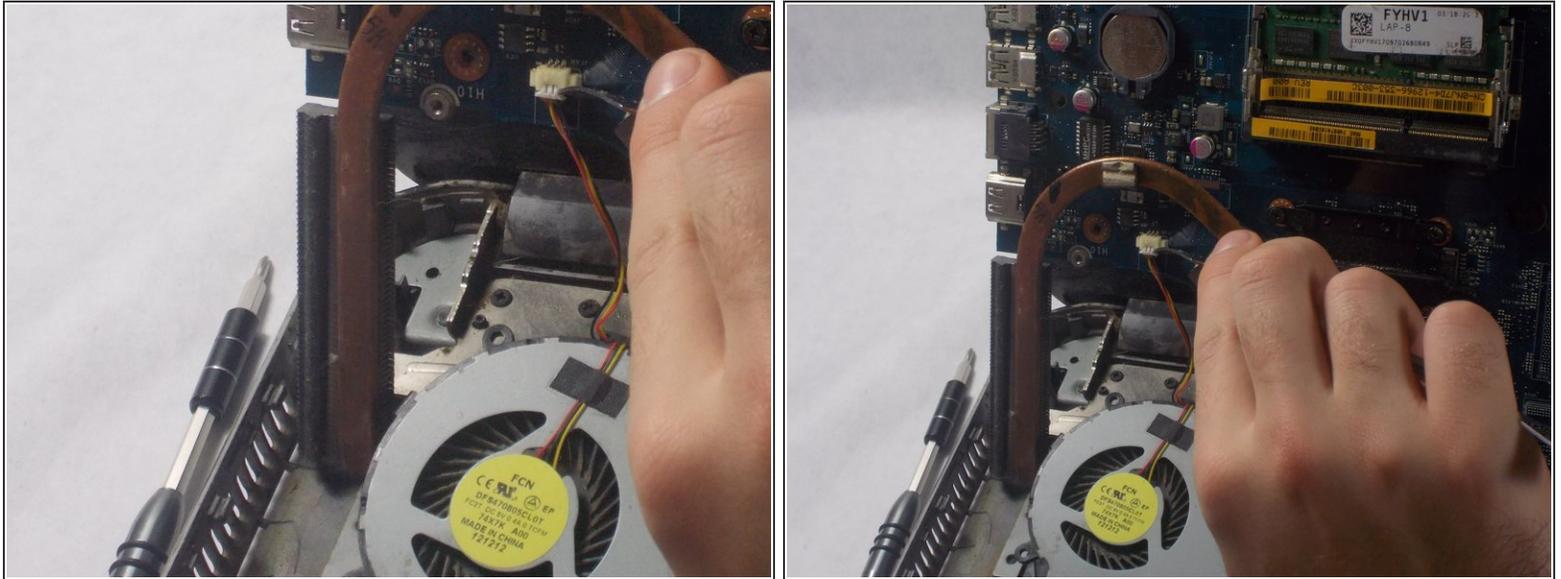This document was generated on 2019-11-01 10:57:58 AM (MST).

Step 10

- Remove the motherboard from the USB sockets to the left by first pulling the motherboard to the right and then flip the motherboard up against the screen.

Step 11

- Located on the lower left, remove the 4mm PH1 Philips screw to the top of the fan.

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Step 12

- Remove the wire for the fan by pulling or pushing the white tab from the white box.

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

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