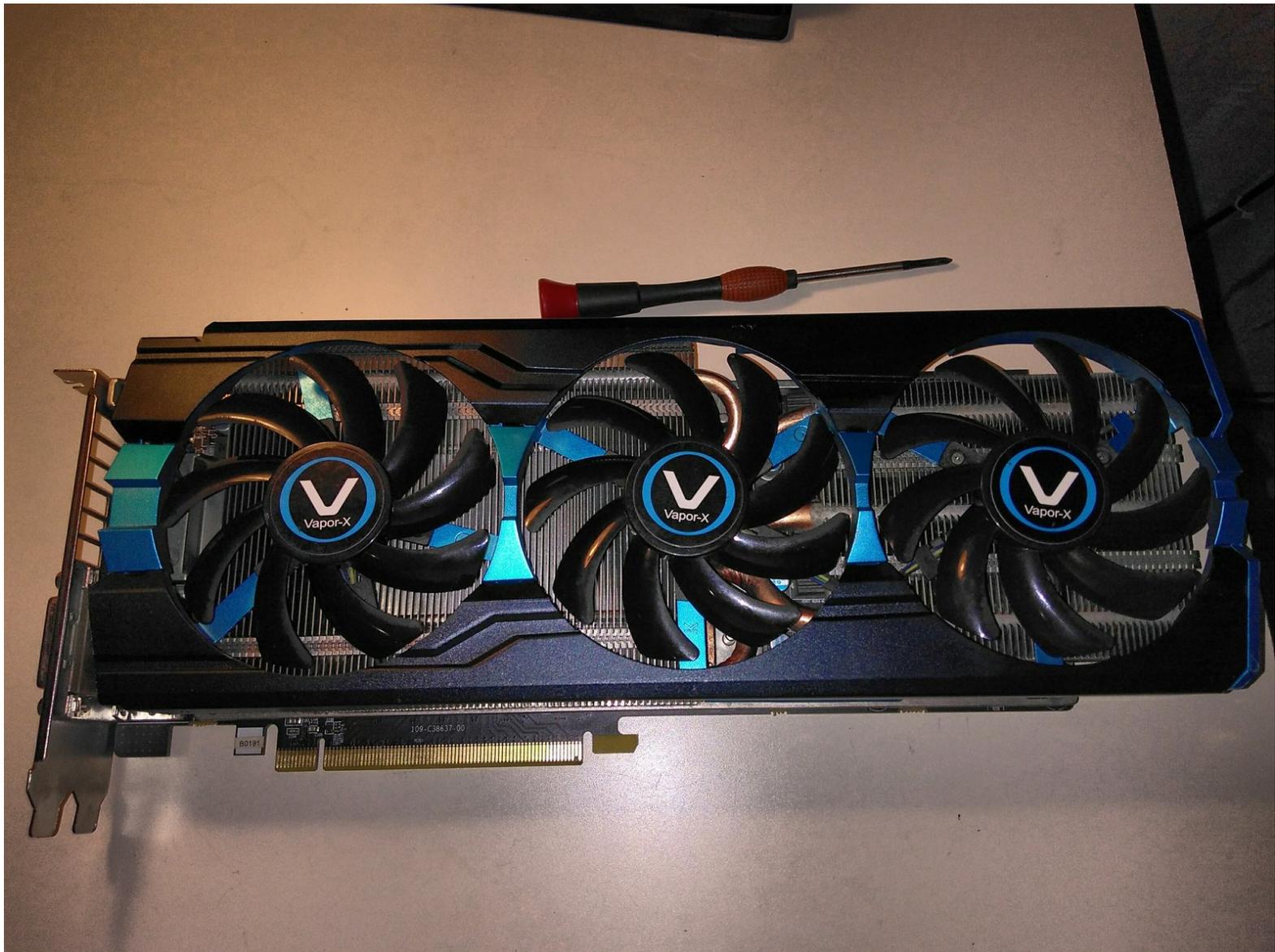




# Sapphire Vapor-X AMD R9 280x Teardown

Guide to clean the GPU, heatsink and fans.

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## INTRODUCTION

This guide exist because I want to clean the fans and heatsinks, I will show to you photos of the best order to stripdown the GPU.

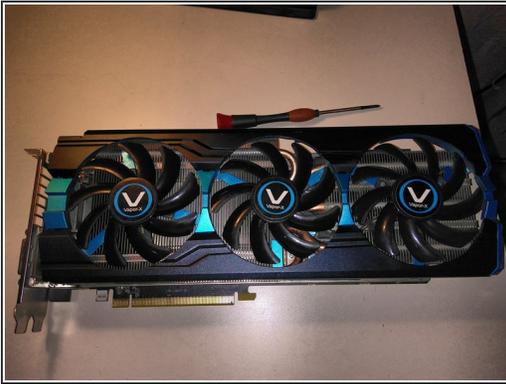
If you want to clean the heatsink or fans you will need thermal paste because it needs a complete teardown to release the fans.

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### TOOLS:

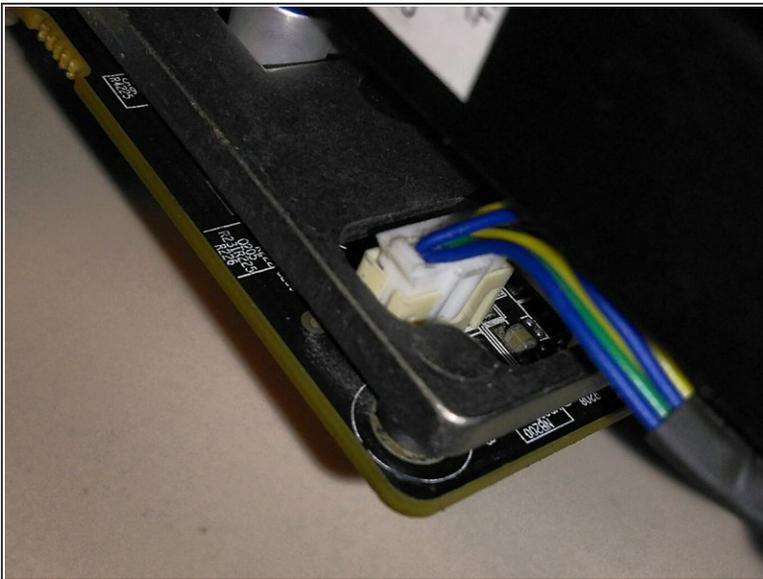
- [Pro Tech Toolkit](#) (1)
  - [Thermal Paste](#) (1)
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## Step 1 — Sapphire Vapor-X AMD R9 280x Teardown



- To strip down the GPU you will need a Phillips screwdriver

## Step 2



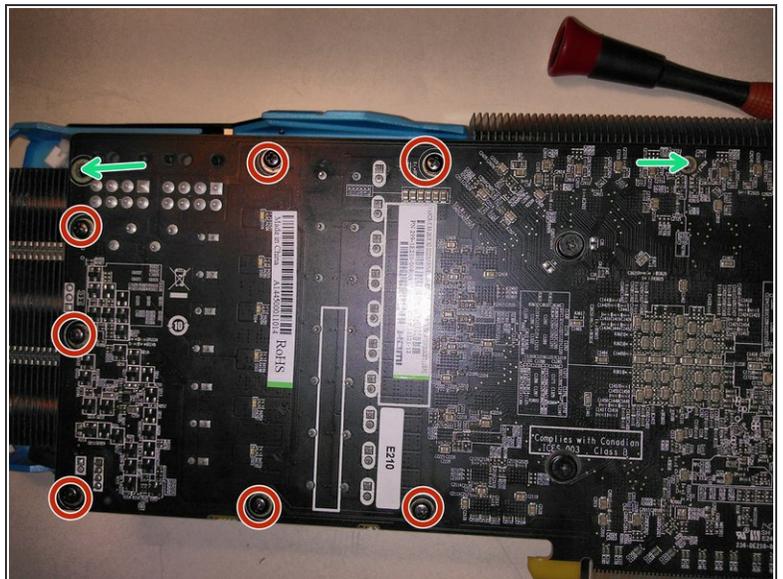
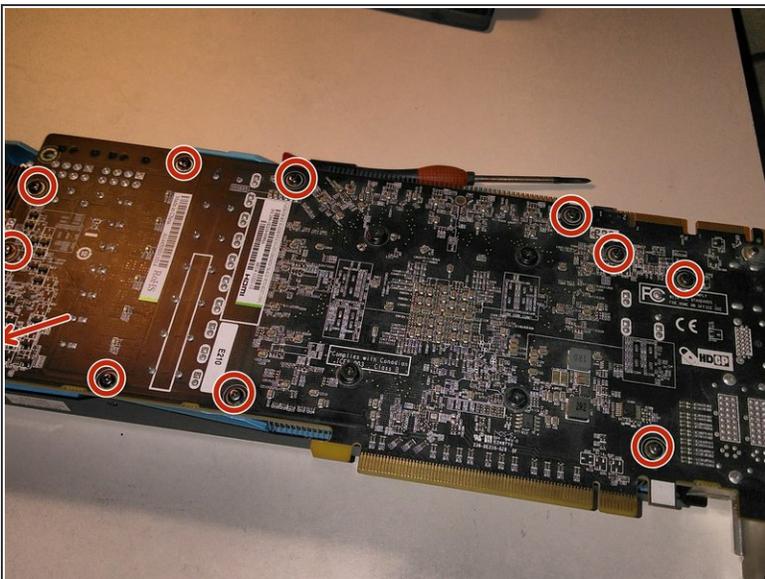
- Disconnect the fans and the light connector

### Step 3



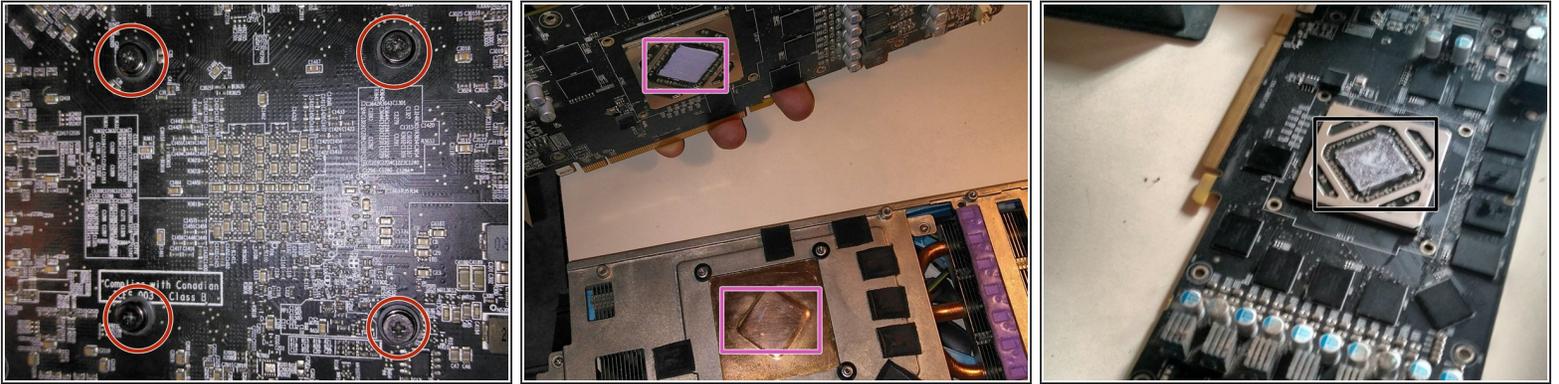
- Remove the pair of screw that join the heatsink to the output base.
- Note! This pair of screws is unique to this join. Keep them separate from other screws.

### Step 4



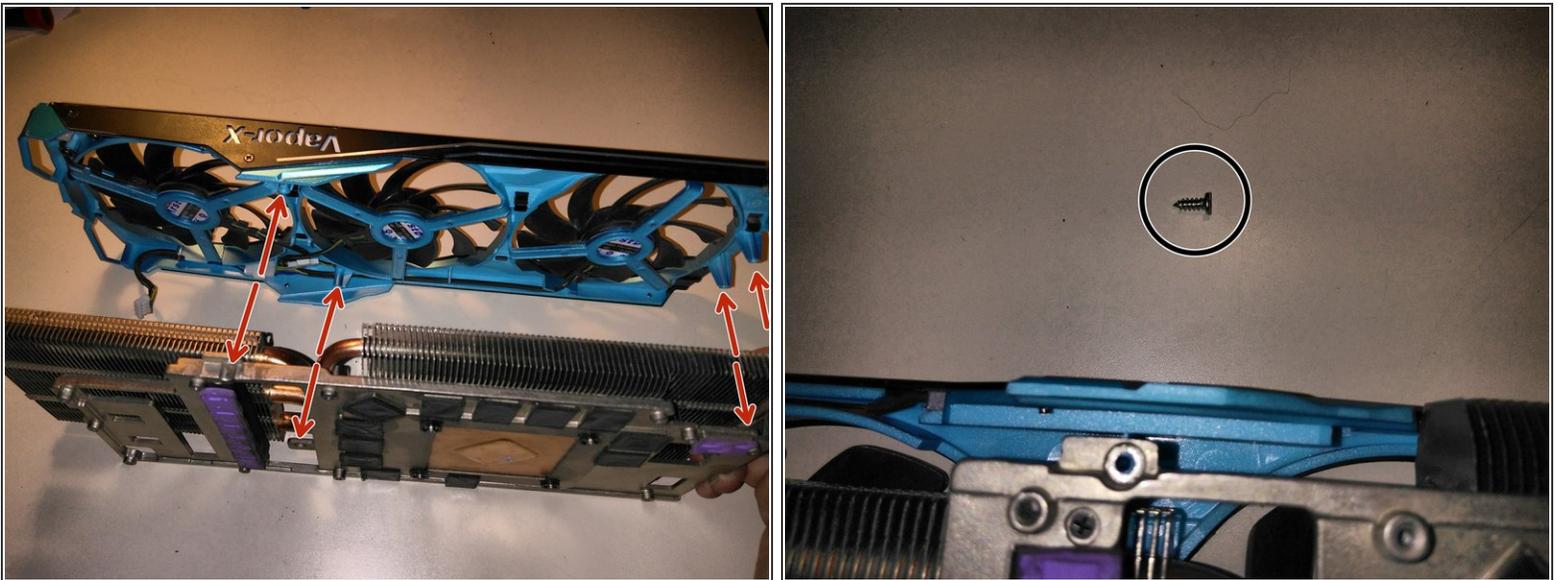
- Remove 11 screws, those (+ the next 4 screws) work joining the heatsink+fans group to the gpu
- Note: Ignore 2 empty holes

## Step 5 — Heatsink removal



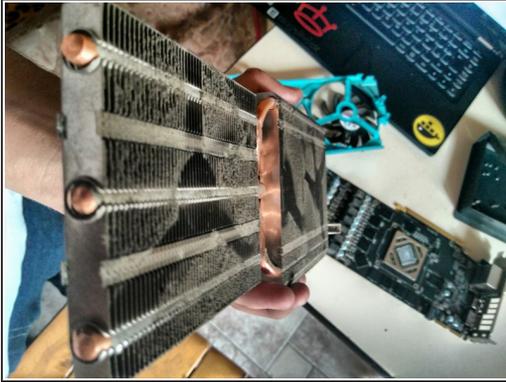
- Now release 4 of the screws that hold the GPU Core to the heatsink
- Note this is the clean, thermal paste ready photo
- This is the 3 years dirty one

## Step 6 — Fan support removal



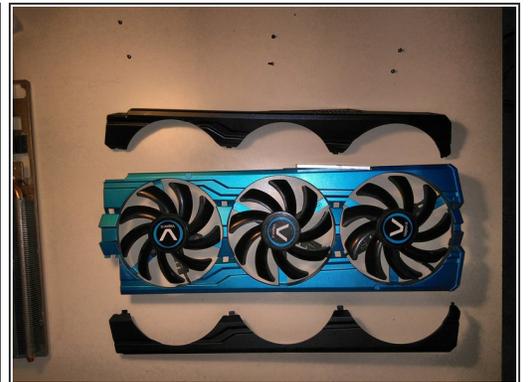
- Remove 4 screws to separate the fans of the heatsink
- ⓘ Note these screws are pointed tip for plastic
- ☞ At this point you'll release the heatsink is not very clean

## Step 7 — Your dirt heatsink



- ☞ This is good time to clean the heatsink if it's dirty

## Step 8 — Release the metal plate



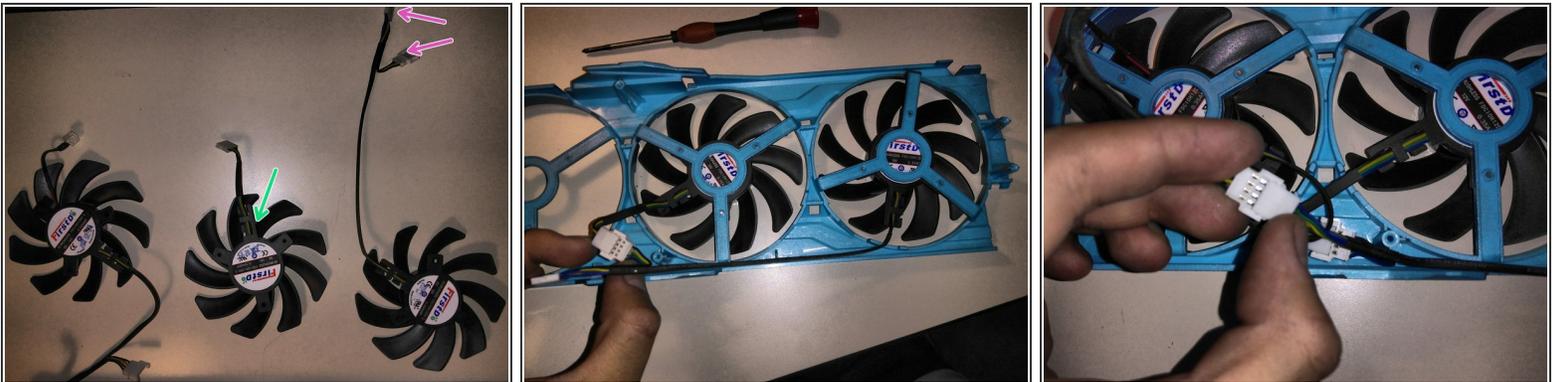
- Remove 3 screws per side (6 screws in total) to release the 2 metal plates

## Step 9 — Fan and light release



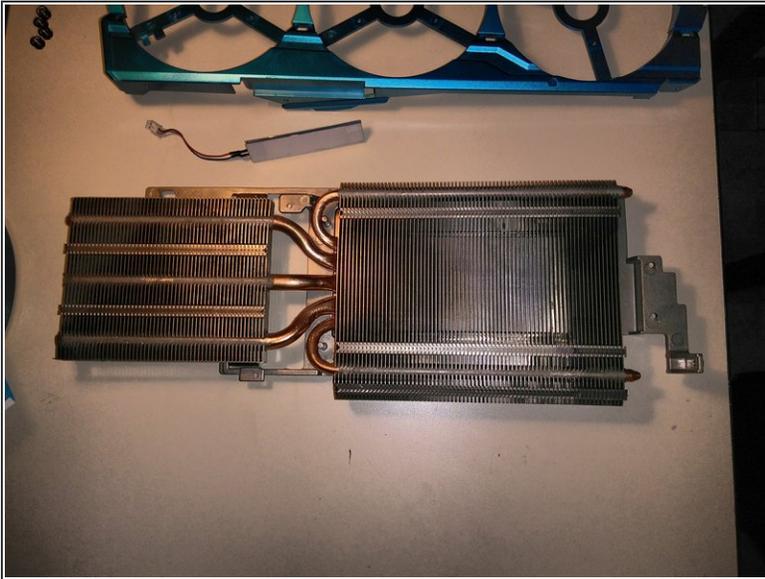
- Remove 3 screws (per fan 9 in total) to release each fan
- Remove 2 screws that holds the light and fan wires
- unplug and remove the light

## Step 10 — Fans remove



- At this point you can easy remove the fans
- Note: the one with the shorter cable and 4 wires is the center one (for the GPU core)
- the one with double 4 wire connector is the nearest to the gpu outputs

## Step 11 — final teardown



- At this point you can easily clean your fans, the fan support (it's plastic) and the plates

## Step 12 — Re assembly notes



- when you're joining the heatsink (plus the fan support), I recommend you put the block on the edge of the table for optimal position

Remember to clean the old thermal paste and replace with a new coat