# iPhone 5 Front Panel Replacement

Replace the Front Panel on your iPhone 5.

Written By: Andrew Optimus Goldberg

## INTRODUCTION

Use this guide to replace your iPhone's cracked or otherwise damaged front panel.

The front panel does **not** come with the home button, front camera assembly, earpiece speaker, or the LCD shield plate.

Need a guide for the iPhone 5s screen instead? We got you covered!

[video: http://youtu.be/-lfP-3z_9Zg]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>TOOLS:</strong></th>
<th><strong>PARTS:</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Phillips #000 Screwdriver (1)</td>
<td>- iPhone 5 LCD Screen and Digitizer (1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Plastic Opening Tools (1)</td>
<td>- iPhone 5 LCD Screen and Digitizer (1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Small Suction Cup (1)</td>
<td>- iPhone 5 LCD Screen and Digitizer (1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- P2 Pentalobe Screwdriver iPhone (1)</td>
<td>- iPhone 5 LCD Screen and Digitizer (1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Anti-Static Project Tray (1)</td>
<td>- iPhone 5 LCD Screen and Digitizer (1)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This kit contains the part and all tools needed.

- iFixit iPhone 5/5s Epic Screen Protector (1)
- iPhone 5 Front Panel Assembly Cable Bracket (1)
Step 1 — Display Assembly

- If your display glass is cracked, keep further breakage contained and prevent bodily harm during your repair by taping the glass.

- Lay overlapping strips of clear packing tape over the iPhone's display until the whole face is covered.
  
  This will keep glass shards contained and provide structural integrity when prying and lifting the display.

⚠️ Wear safety glasses to protect your eyes from any glass shaken free during the repair.

Step 2

⚠️ Before disassembling your iPhone, be sure it is powered off.

- Remove the two 3.6 mm Pentalobe screws next to the Lightning connector.
The next two steps demonstrate using the iSclack, a great tool for safely opening the iPhone 5 that we recommend for anyone doing more than one repair. **If you aren't using the iSclack, skip to step 5.**

- Close the handle on the iSclack, opening the suction-cup jaws.

- Place the bottom of your iPhone in between the suction cups, against the plastic depth gauge.
  - The top suction cup should rest just above the home button.

- Open the handles to close the jaws of the iSclack. Center the suction cups and press them firmly onto the top and bottom of the iPhone.
Step 4

- Hold onto your iPhone securely and close the handle of the iSclack to separate the suction cups, pulling the front panel up from the rear case.

- The iSclack is designed to safely open your iPhone just enough to separate the pieces, but not enough to damage the home button cable.

- Peel the two suction cups off your iPhone.

- **Skip the next three steps and continue on step 7.**
Step 5

- Press a suction cup onto the screen, just above the home button.

Be sure the cup is completely on the screen to get a tight seal.

If you're opening an iPhone with cracked glass, neatly lay a couple strips of packing tape across the front and squeeze out as many bubbles as you can. This will give the suction cup a surface to grab, and minimize the spread of broken glass.
Step 6

Make sure the suction cup is firmly attached to the front panel assembly.

- While holding the iPhone down with one hand, pull up on the suction cup to slightly separate the front panel assembly from the rear case.

Take your time and apply firm, constant force. The display assembly is a much tighter fit than most devices.

- With a plastic opening tool, begin to gently pry the rear case down, away from the display assembly, while you pull up with the suction cup.

There are several clips attaching the front panel assembly to the rear case, so you may need to use a combination of the suction cup and plastic opening tool to free the front panel assembly.
Step 7

- Continue to pry up around the sides of the front panel assembly, detaching the clips along the left and right side.
Step 8

⚠️ Do not try to completely remove the front panel assembly from the rear case, as there are several ribbon cables still attached at the top of the iPhone.

⚠️ Be sure to disconnect the battery first before proceeding with the repair as not doing so can sometimes cause the phone to run hot and/or have issues with touch sensitivity.

- Once the clips have been released on the bottom and sides of the front panel assembly, pull the bottom of the assembly away from the rear case.

- Lift the front panel assembly slowly up to about 90 degrees from the rear case.
Step 9

Remove the following screws securing the front panel assembly cable bracket to the logic board:

- Two 1.2 mm Phillips screws
- One 1.6 mm Phillips screw

This screw tends to not be attracted to a magnetized screwdriver. Take care not to lose it when removing, and make sure it gets back into the right place—a magnetized screw may interfere with the compass.

Step 10

Remove the front panel assembly cable bracket from the logic board.

User note: To ensure correct installation, make sure you clip the small hooks of the bracket under and then lower towards the outside of the phone.
Step 11

- Use a plastic opening tool to disconnect the three front panel assembly cables:
  - Front-facing camera and sensor cable
  - LCD cable
  - Digitizer cable

⚠️ When reassembling your phone, the LCD cable may pop off the connector. This can cause white lines, or nothing at all to appear when powering your phone back on. If that happens, simply reconnect the cable and power cycle your phone. The best way to power cycle your phone is to disconnect and reconnect the battery.

Step 12

- Remove the front panel assembly from the rear case.
Step 13 — Earpiece Speaker

- Remove two screws securing the front-facing camera bracket to the display assembly.
  - One 4.1 mm Phillips screw
  - One 2.2 mm Phillips screw

Step 14

- There is a small, black plastic spacer underneath the metal bracket at the upper screw. The upper screw goes through the metal bracket then through this plastic spacer.
Step 15

- Remove the earpiece speaker bracket from the display assembly.

Step 16

- Remove the earpiece speaker from the iPhone.
Step 17 — Front-Facing Camera and Sensor Cable

- Starting under the earpiece speaker contacts, use a plastic opening tool or the tip of a spudger to pry the front facing camera cable out of the display assembly.

⚠️ **Caution:** Removing the earpiece speaker contacts can cause them to tear. Use extreme caution when peeling the contacts up.
Step 18

- Remove the front-facing camera and rear microphone assembly.

ℹ️ If you are installing a new part, your new part may have two tabs with holes in it used for manufacturing purposes. These tabs can be cut off with scissors.

ℹ️ There is a small, square plastic and metal holder for the proximity sensor. This holder is essential for the proximity sensor to function correctly.

ℹ️ If replacing the proximity sensor or camera make sure that the holder remains adhered to the back of the display. If it comes off with the old proximity sensor, remove it from the old sensor and use a tiny bit of adhesive to re-attach it to the back of the display.
Step 19 — Home Button Ribbon Cable

- Remove the two 1.3 mm Phillips #000 screws securing the home button bracket to the display assembly.

- NOTE: When reinstalling the two 1.3 mm Phillips #000 screws, take care not to over tighten them as they can penetrate the other side of the display.
Step 20

- Use a plastic opening tool to pry the edge of the home button ribbon cable up from the display assembly.

- Start on the right, at the area of the ribbon cable between the gold contact points, and work to the left.

⚠️ Going left to right may rip your ribbon cable as the contacts are well adhered to the front panel.

⚠️ Prying directly at one gold contact point or the other may break its soldering and pop it off the ribbon cable.

ℹ️ If you have trouble sliding the plastic opening tool under the contact points, flip the tool over and gently push against the right side of the contacts to loosen the adhesive, then try again.
Step 21 — Front Panel

- Use a plastic opening tool to pry the home button up from the display assembly.

Step 22

- Remove the home button from the display assembly.
Step 23

- Remove two 1.2 mm Phillips screws from each side of the LCD frame (four total).

Step 24

- Remove the two screws securing the LCD shield plate to the display assembly:
  - One 1.4 mm Phillips screw
  - One 2.6 mm Phillips screw
Step 25

- Remove the LCD shield plate from the display assembly.

Step 26

- The bare display assembly remains.
  - For reassembly, make sure to transfer over the LCD shield, home button, front facing camera assembly, front facing camera lens bezel and earpiece speaker to your new part.

- Make sure to remove the protective cover from your new display assembly as well as the protective cover on the back of the LCD.

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