



# Apple Powerbook 540c Disassembly

Full Powerbook Teardown

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 **TOOLS:**

- [T8 Torx Screwdriver](#) (1)
  - [IC Extractor/Connector Puller](#) (1)
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## Step 1 — Battery/PCMCIA Module



- Slide the release button toward you and pull out the main battery from the right battery bay of the computer.
- Repeat the procedure for the second battery, if installed, in the left battery bay of the computer.
- If a PCMCIA card is installed, eject the card first, then remove the PCMCIA card cage from the left battery bay.

## Step 2 — Keyboard



- Using a T8 torx driver, remove the middle two bottom housing screws
- Using a small flat-blade screwdriver, lift the front of the keyboard and pull it forward slightly.
- Rotate the keyboard so that it is perpendicular to the top cover.
- Release the locking tabs on the two keyboard cable connectors and disconnect the cables from the motherboard
- Lift off the keyboard.

### Step 3 — Hard Drive



- Using a T8 torx driver, remove the hard drive mounting screw.
- Using a small flat-blade screwdriver, pry up the front of the hard drive and slide it forward.
- Lift the drive partway out of the unit and disconnect the hard drive cable.
- Remove the hard drive.

### Step 4 — Hard Drive Replacement



- If you are replacing the hard drive, remove the four screws and remove the hard drive bracket and insulator.

## Step 5 — Floppy Drive



- Using a T-8 torx driver, remove the two floppy drive screws.
- Using a small flat-blade screwdriver, pry up the cable end of the floppy drive and slide the drive to the left.
- Slide the drive forward slightly and lift it partway out of the unit.
- Disconnect the floppy drive cable from *the motherboard* and remove the drive.
- If you are replacing the floppy drive or floppy drive cable, release the locking tabs and disconnect the cable from the drive.

## Step 6 — Clutch Covers



- Open the unit and rotate the display assembly as far back as it will go.
- Using a flat-blade screwdriver and your fingers, press in on both sides of the wide end of the right clutch cover and release the two front latches.
- Rotate the clutch cover up, release the third latch, and remove the cover.
- Repeat for the other clutch cover.

## Step 7 — Display Access Cover



- Using a small flat-blade screwdriver, pry up the display access cover at the three slots in the front of the cover.
- Remove the display access cover.

## Step 8 — Display Assembly



- Disconnect the interconnect to logic board cable.
- Using a T-8 torx driver, remove the two display mounting screws.
- Slide the display assembly to the left so that the right clutch clears the loop of the interconnect to logic board cable.
- Remove the display assembly.

## Step 9 — Center Base Cover



- Using a T-8 torx driver, remove the two rear panel screws.
- Pull the center base cover forward slightly and slide it to the right to release the two screw carriers.
- Remove the center base cover.



## Step 10 — Top Case



- Rotate the feet to the up position.
- Using a T-8 torx driver, remove the screw located under each foot.
- Remove the four screws at the front edge of the bottom case
- Remove the remaining screw on the inside top edge of the case.
- Carefully lift and rotate the top case toward you and disconnect the track pad cable from the motherboard.
- Remove the interconnect to logic board cable from the opening for the right clutch.
- Remove the top case.

## Step 11 — Daughterboard EMI Shield



- With a T8 Torx driver, remove the three mounting screws on the EMI shield.
- Using a small flat-blade screwdriver, pry up and remove the daughterboard EMI shield.

## Step 12 — Daughterboard



- Remove the plastic retainer bar.
- You will need an IC extractor. I do not recommend using a flat head screwdriver
- Place the legs of the IC extractor in the notches at the end of the daughterboard and pull up.

## Step 13 — RAM



- Remove the two screws from the plastic retainer bar.
- Gently but firmly slide the plastic retainer bar away from the RAM card to release it.
- Insert the IC puller along the two notches on either side of the RAM card.
- Gripping the IC puller firmly, pull straight up to remove the RAM card.

## Step 14 — Modem



- To remove the modem card, place the legs of the IC extractor in the notches at the end of the board and pull up.

## Step 15 — Interconnect to Logic Board Cable



- Disconnect the interconnect to logic board cable from the motherboard and remove the cable.

## Step 16 — Side Panels



- Using a T-8 torx driver, remove the three right side panel mounting screw.
- Lift the panel slightly, slide it back, and remove it from the CPU stiffener.
- Using a T-8 torx driver, remove the three left side-panel mounting screws.
- Slide the panel to the left and remove it from the CPU stiffener.

## Step 17 — CPU Stiffener



- Unlatch the left side panel from the back panel.
- Rotate the feet to the up position.
- Lift the CPU stiffener straight off the unit.

## Step 18 — Motherboard



- Remove the motherboard mounting screw and standoff.
- Carefully pry the motherboard from the positioning peg located below the standoff.
- Slide the board forward and lift it out.

## Step 19 — Hard Drive Cable



- Turn over the motherboard.
- Disconnect the hard drive cable from the motherboard.

## Step 20 — Microphone Assembly



- Carefully disconnect the microphone cable from the interconnect board.
- Using a small flat-blade screwdriver, pry up and remove the microphone assembly.

## Step 21 — Backup Battery



- Using a small flat-blade screwdriver, pry up and remove the backup battery cover.
- Carefully disconnect the backup battery cable.
- Remove the cable from the cable guides.
- Pry up and remove the backup battery and cable.

## Step 22 — Trackpad Assembly



- Using a T-8 torx driver, remove the front two mounting screws.
- Disconnect the trackpad cable assembly and remove it from the unit.
- Using a T-8 torx driver, remove the remaining two mounting screws
- Pry up and remove the trackpad actuator assembly.
- With your fingers, push up from underneath the trackpad logic board and remove it from the top case



## Step 23 — Display Bezel Disassembly



- Disconnect the speaker cable from the interconnect board.
- Remove the bottom two bezel mounting screws.
- Pry off the two rubber bumpers and remove the top two bezel mounting screws.
- Pull the display bezel forward and lift it off the rear housing.

## Step 24 — Display



- Remove the four mounting screws.
- Disconnect the backlight cable from the inverter board.
- Lift the display from the rear housing.

## Step 25 — Inverter Board



- Remove the two mounting screws
- Disconnect the interconnect to inverter cable and the backlight cable.
- Remove the inverter board.

## Step 26 — Interconnect Board



- Disconnect the interconnect to display cable and the interconnect to inverter cable.
- Remove the two mounting screws.
- Remove the interconnect board.

## Step 27 — Interconnect to Inverter Cable



- Disconnect the interconnect to inverter cable from the interconnect and inverter boards.
- Remove the cable from the back housing.

## Step 28 — Interconnect to Display Cable



- Disconnect the interconnect to display cable from the back of the display.
- Remove the cable.

## Step 29 — Clutches



- Remove the mounting screw for the right clutch and remove the clutch.
- Repeat for the left clutch

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