Step 1 — HP ProBook 440 G7 Repairability Assessment

- Exterior reference photos.

- The laptop isn't ingress-proofed, so many gaps in the keyboard and lower case, including ports, vents, speaker grilles etc. may allow water damage or particle buildup.

- The hinges, keyboard, and ports also offer points of mechanical failure.
The lower case is secured by a few Phillips screws, three of which are conveniently held captive, eliminating the chance of losing these screws.

The only drawbacks here are the plastic clips, which were stubborn and may break over time—one broke during our initial disassembly.

Nothing is left in the rear case, making for painless replacement.

Many of the important components in the computer itself are immediately accessible. A flat design makes for easy, independent replacement of interior components.
Step 3

- The RAM sticks are immediately and independently accessible (under a sticker) with no further tools. Simple clips hold them in place.

- The standard blade-style SSD slides right out after removing a single Phillips screw.

- The HDD is held in place by two Phillips screws, and it has a handy diagram printed on it to assist with removal and replacement.

- The battery is replaceable after removing two Phillips screws. Immediate access and no adhesive make for a very simple replacement procedure.

- The wireless card is accessible after disconnecting the two coax interconnect cables. The cables are labeled, making for painless reassembly.

- Additionally, component locations are labeled on the motherboard and ribbon cables for increased ease of reassembly.
Step 4

- The heatsink, fan, and speaker bar are readily and independently removed after some screws; they can also come out upon opening, making replacement a breeze.
Step 5

- The trackpad and card reader live under the battery and are both held down with more Phillips screws. They come out without a fuss.
- The CMOS battery is attached to the card reader board, and is easily unplugged and removed.
- The fingerprint sensor, initially under the HDD, is held in place by a metal bracket and comes out freely after dislodging the bracket.
Step 6

- The motherboard has the majority of the computer's ports soldered to it. This is a slight ding to repairability, considering these components are high wear and may eventually need replacement.

- The CPU and GPU are also soldered, limiting upgrade opportunities.

- Most users won't have the micro soldering skillset necessary to swap a single port, and a non-modular part like this motherboard is expensive to replace.

- The single modular left-hand USB port is available for removal once the heatsink is removed.
Step 7

- The keyboard assembly is held in place with rivets, so if any of the keys stop working, the entire case assembly will likely need to be replaced.

Step 8

- The display assembly is readily available for replacement upon opening the device.
  - While laptops get dropped less frequently than handheld mobile devices, they are still portable, and therefore droppable, so access to the screen is important.
  - Just a few Torx screws secure the hinges of the display assembly.
Step 9

- The cable cover and the plastic bezel of the display assembly come off together. The unit is secured with plastic clips and mild adhesive and is fairly easy to remove, as long as you begin prying around the bezel, not the cable cover.
Step 10

- The hinges have long arms (presumably to add rigidity to the display) that prevent them from being removed until the screen is removed from the display.

- The screen is held in place with excellent rubbery stretch-release adhesive. The pull tabs are not very obvious and may potentially be overlooked, resulting in some dangerous prying, but will likely be noted in HP’s documentation.

- The camera board is lightly adhered in place and connected with a ZIF connector.

- The display antennas are the remaining components in the display case.
  - Since the cables route through the display hinge, they may experience stress from repeated flexing, necessitating replacement.
  - They will need to be peeled up off their adhesives, and the various foil tapes will also need to be replaced without deformation, complicating repair.
Step 11

- Back in the upper case, removing the display gives you access to the modular power port and the power button cover.

- Unfortunately the power button cover is secured with mushroomed plastic, meaning it can't be removed without damage. If it is already damaged, it will still be hard to properly replace.

ℹ️ Button covers aren't a super high repair priority, but it should be relatively painless to improve this design and prevent what could be a major issue ie inability to turn on the laptop.
Step 12 — Final Thoughts

- The HP ProBook 440 G7 earns a 9 out of 10 on our repairability scale (10 is the easiest to repair):
  - The RAM, SSD, battery, and display are easily accessible and removable.
  - Almost all moving parts, including the HDD, trackpad, and fan are modular and can be independently replaced.
  - All screws are standard Phillips and Torx.
  - Manufacturer provides free user-accessible repair documentation.
  - The keyboard is secured with rivets instead of screws.
  - Most ports are soldered directly to the motherboard.