



Oculus Quest 2 Controller Disassembly

This guide will walk you through the steps to d...

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INTRODUCTION

This guide will walk you through the steps to disassemble the Oculus Quest 2 controller to access the joystick and clean it to remove drift.

PROCEED AT YOUR OWN RISK. It is easy to lose pieces and damage the device. Opening it up like this will void the warranty if the device is still covered.

I first used Electrical Contact Cleaner to help fix the drift with some success, but the drift eventually would come back. Over time, the duration my controller would work without drift would decrease; so I decided to open up the controller to learn more about what was happening and how to correct it.

Before attempting this, I recommend trying Electrical Contact Cleaner first.

3 pieces of advice on using contact spray:

1. Remove the battery first!
2. Less spray is better. (If you completely saturate the joystick, it will take longer to dry since it is enclosed. I like to leave the controller upside down for 5-10 minutes to let it dry out.)
3. Make sure that you are pressing down on the joystick while spraying so that the cleaner can reach the sensor.
 - Once you have sprayed it, move the joystick around in circles. This will cause the 2 contact pieces to move the cleaner around on the sensor to try to clean it.
 - Pressing down on the joystick while moving it doesn't make a difference. In fact, it might actually make it less effective.

I hope this helps anyone adventurous enough to attempt this. At the very least, you will now understand what causes drift and why you can't soak the joystick with Electrical Contact Cleaner to fix it.

TOOLS:

[T5 Torx Screwdriver](#) (1)

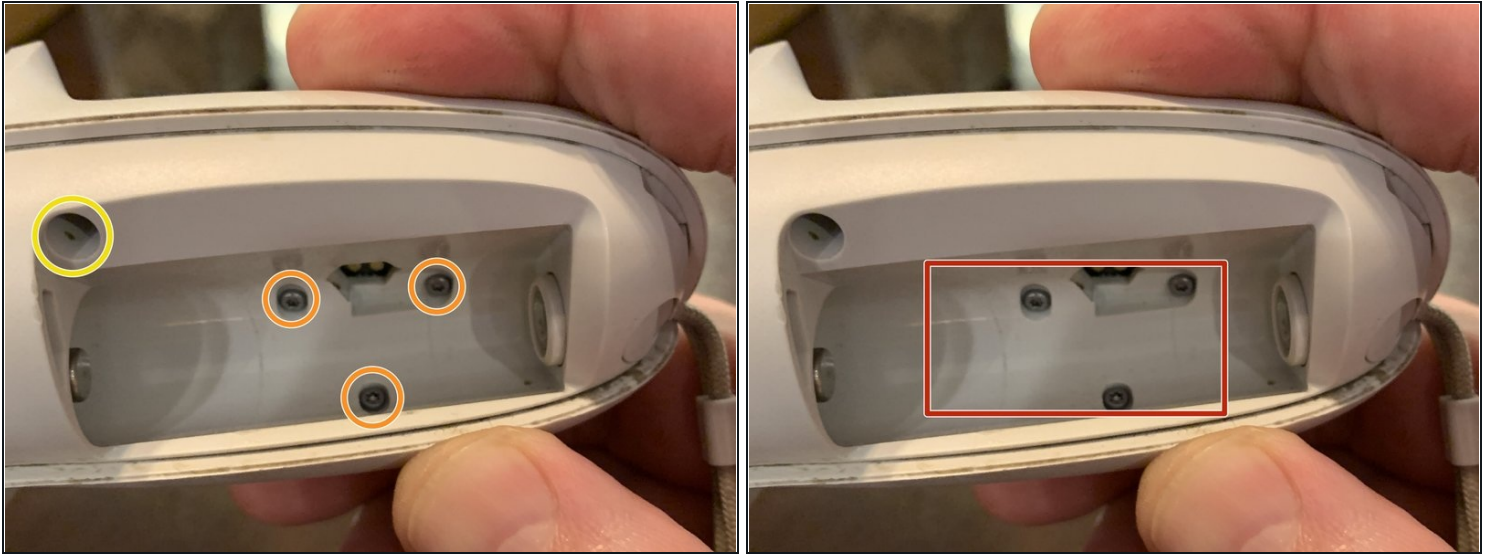
[Spudger](#) (1)

[Electrical Contact Cleaner](#) (1)

[Small Paintbrush](#) (1)

[T4 Torx Screwdriver](#) (1)

Step 1 — Remove Screws From Inside Battery Compartment



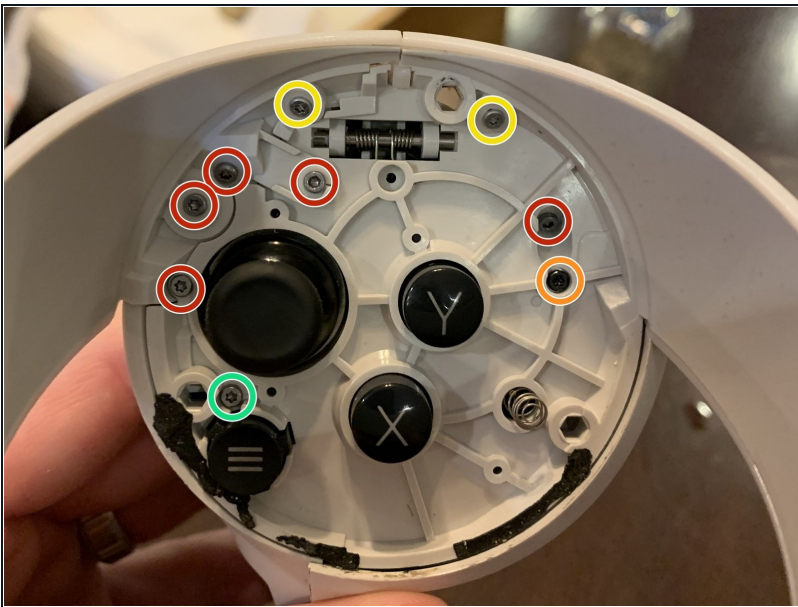
- Start by opening the battery compartment and removing the batteries, using your fingers or something else to gently pull them out.
- Peel off the three stickers that are hiding screws using your fingernails or something pointy, such as a pair of [tweezers](#).
 - ① The stickers cover three of the screws. They are not shown in this image.
- Unscrew the three T5 Torx screws behind the stickers using a small Torx screwdriver.
- Remove the fourth screw located inside the hole near the top of the battery compartment using the same Torx screwdriver.

Step 2 — Pry The Faceplate Off



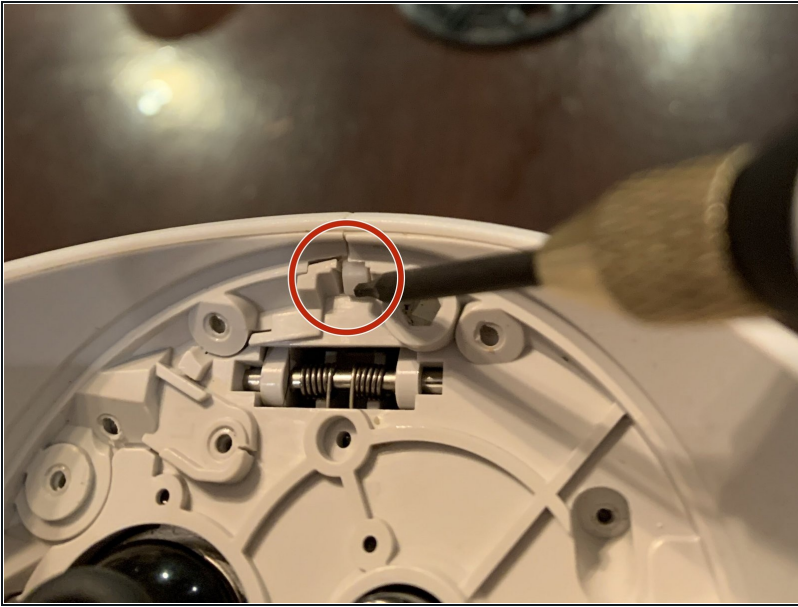
- Gently pry the faceplate off using a spudger or flathead screwdriver.
- ① The plate is secured with adhesive, so it may be a little difficult the first time you remove it. You don't need to worry since it is also held in place using plastic posts.

Step 3 — Remove Screws From Under The Faceplate



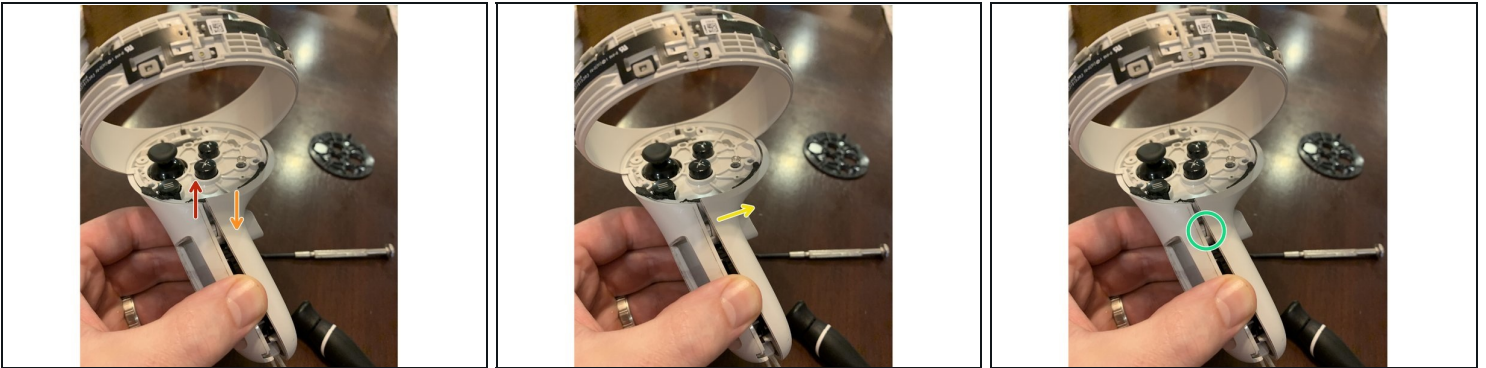
- Remove the five Torx T5 screws.
- Remove the longer, black T5 screw.
- Remove the two smaller T4 screws.
- ① These screws may be difficult to remove. Use constant, downward force with your driver to prevent stripping.
- Remove the single long silver T5 screw.

Step 4 — Remove Outer Plastic Shell



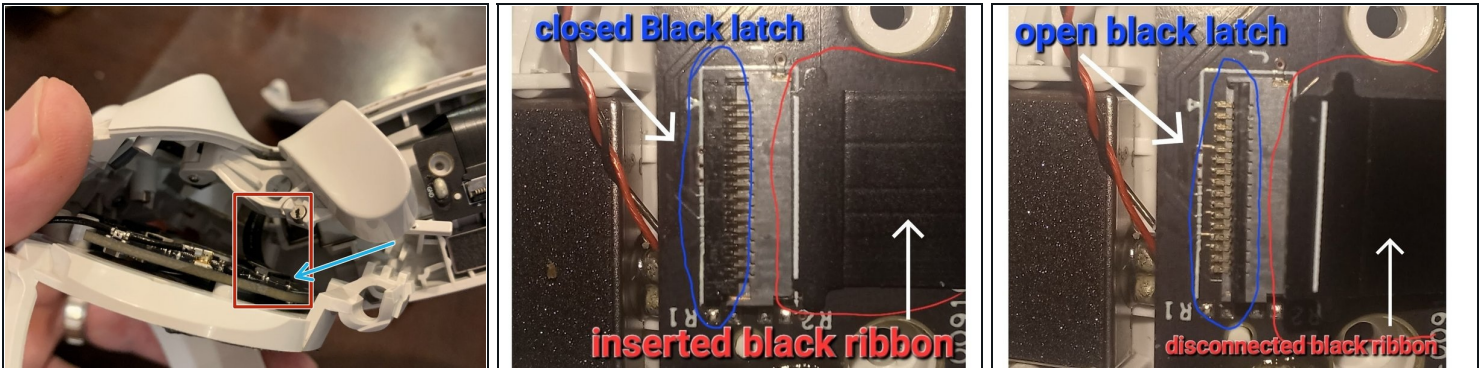
- Use a spudger or screwdriver to press the plastic notch until it releases.
- Starting from the side without the notch, gently remove the casing using your hands by moving it away from the center of the console.

Step 5 — Pry Controller Apart



- ⓘ There is a plastic pin that is inserted into a hole, to separate the parts you need to be a bit careful in the steps below.
- Using your hands, move the left half of the handle slightly (0.5cm) away from the controller.
 - While holding the left side as described above, push the right side towards the body of the controller.
 - Now you are able to slide the right part to the right and remove it.
 - The pin is located here.

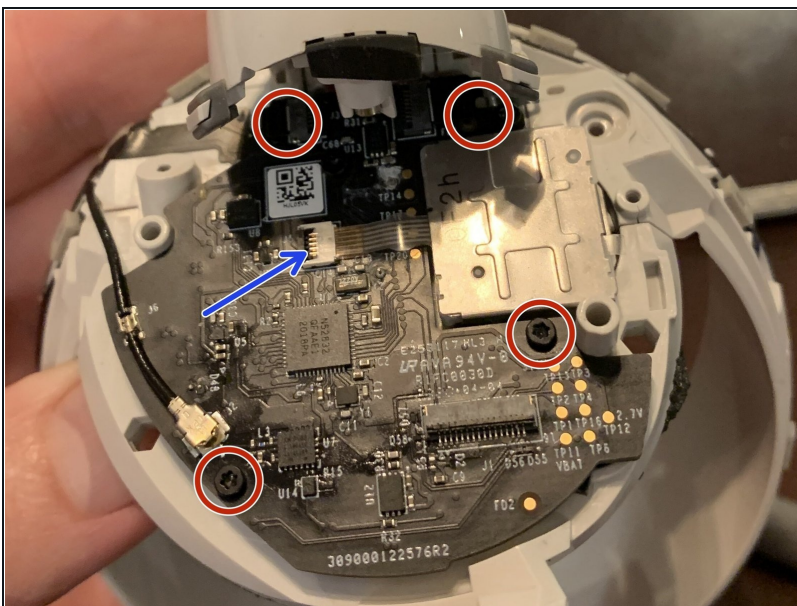
Step 6 — Disconnect The Ribbon from Main Circuit Board



- Disconnect the ribbon. There is a latch (possibly black - opposite from the ribbon side of the connector) you flip up on the main circuit board (blue arrow). This is easy to take apart but a pain to put back together. Make sure you have needle-nose pliers or tweezers for this when you put it back together.
- ① The main circuit board is not the battery circuit board you first come to. As seen in the 2nd and 3rd images.
- Blue arrow points to ribbon connector on main circuit board. White arrows on 2nd & 3rd images point to ribbon and connector latch on battery circuit board.

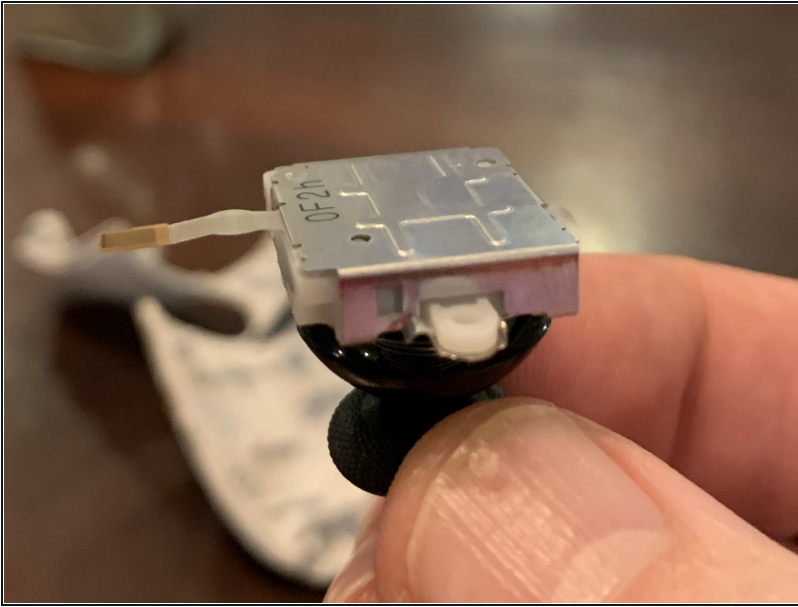
⚠ The connector can be damaged if you are not careful.

Step 7 — Remove Screws From Circuit Board And Disconnect Joystick



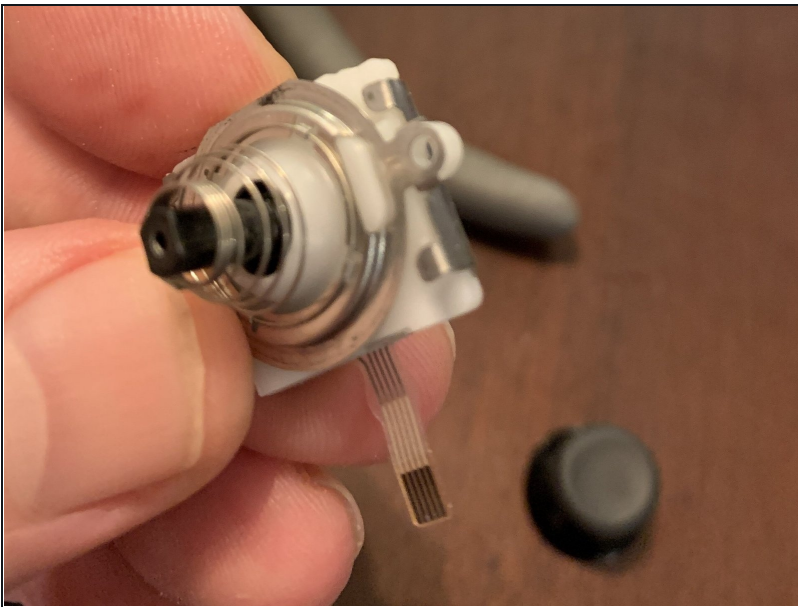
- Now, you need to remove the 4 screws holding the circuit board to the controller.
- The joystick has a small ribbon (blue ribbon) as well, but it is easy to connect and disconnect. Flip the latch up to disconnect the joystick ribbon.
- ① You are NOT going to remove it completely, just lift it high enough to remove the joystick.

Step 8 — Remove Joystick



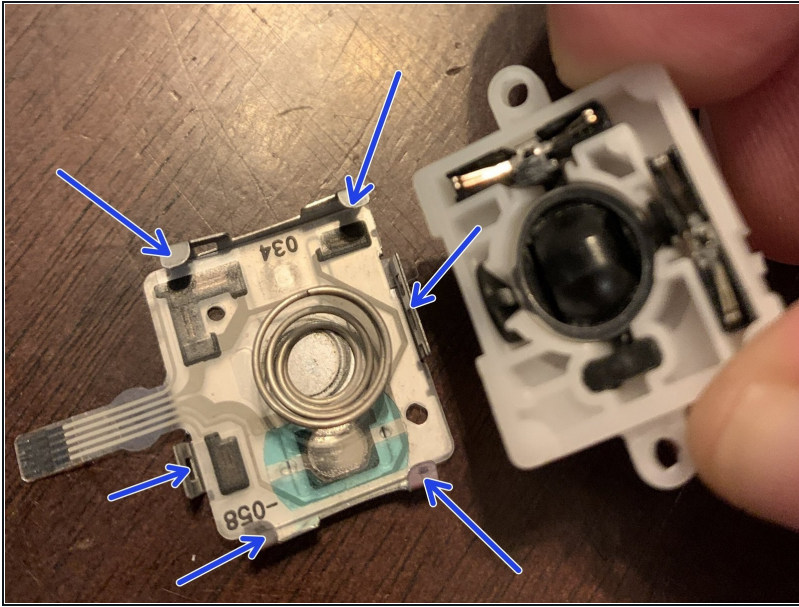
- Lift up the circuit board and pull the joystick free. The X button and the Oculus button may fall out. Not a big deal, just make sure they are put back in the correct position before sealing everything up.

Step 9 — Remove Rubber Cap



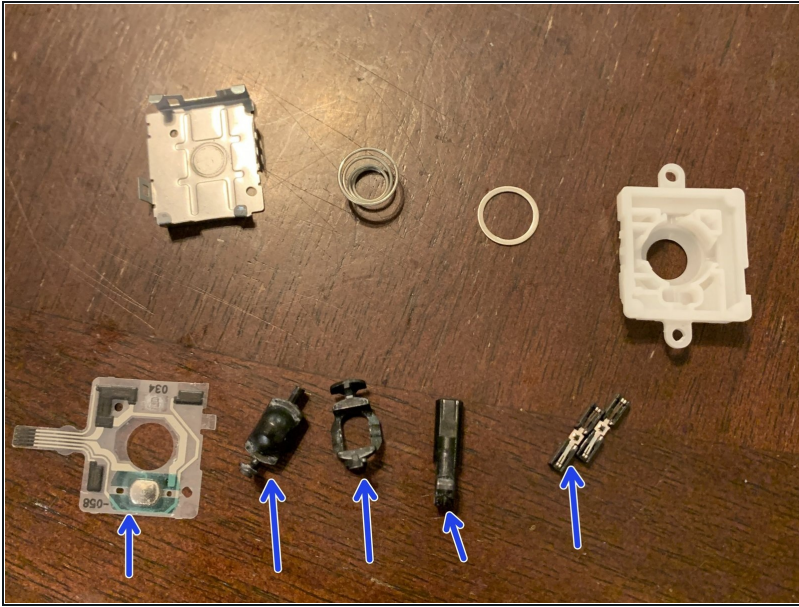
- Pull the rubber cap off of the joystick.

Step 10 — Open Joystick Housing



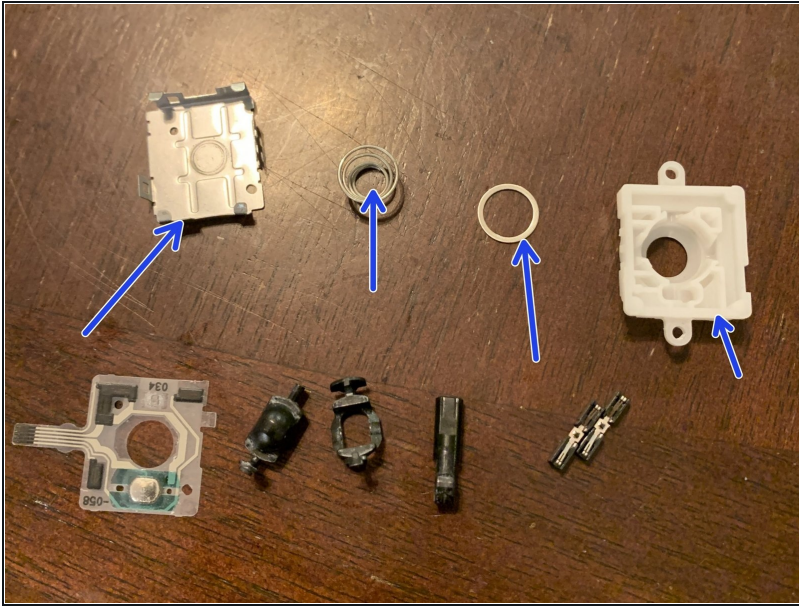
- The housing is held together by the tabs on the bottom plate. Bend them back to pop it off. Be careful doing this, there are a lot of little pieces and a spring that can go flying.

Step 11 — Joystick Parts Bottom Row



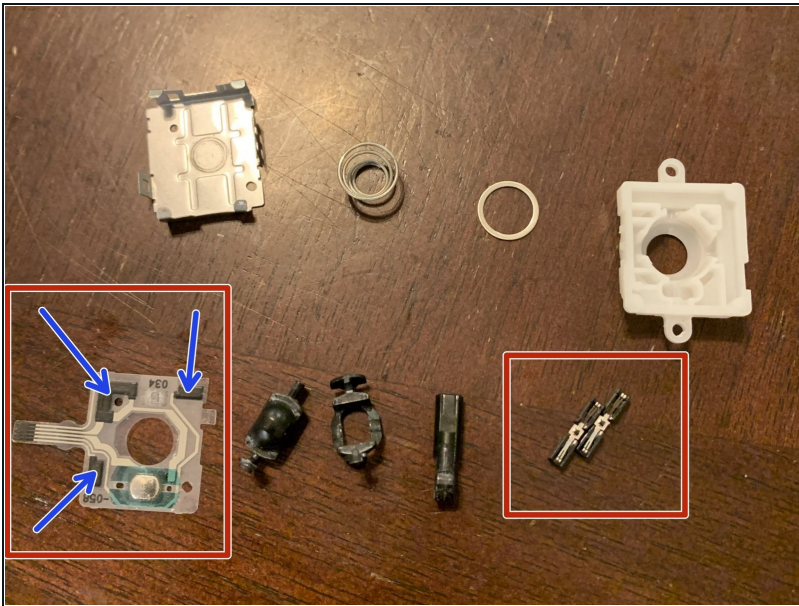
- Here are all of the pieces inside the joystick on the bottom row.
- 1 - The sensor that causes drift when dirty
- 2 - The bottom part of the joystick that the stick fits into. This is what moves the sensor left/right.
- 3 - This piece sits on top of #2. This is what moves the sensor up/down
- 4 - The stick. This fits through the hole in #3 and fits inside #2.
- 5 - These two pieces are what make contact with the sensor and they are moved around by #2 and #3
- MISSING FROM PICTURE - There is a little black plastic piece that is in the shape of an arch that locks #2 into place in the housing.

Step 12 — Joystick Parts Top Row



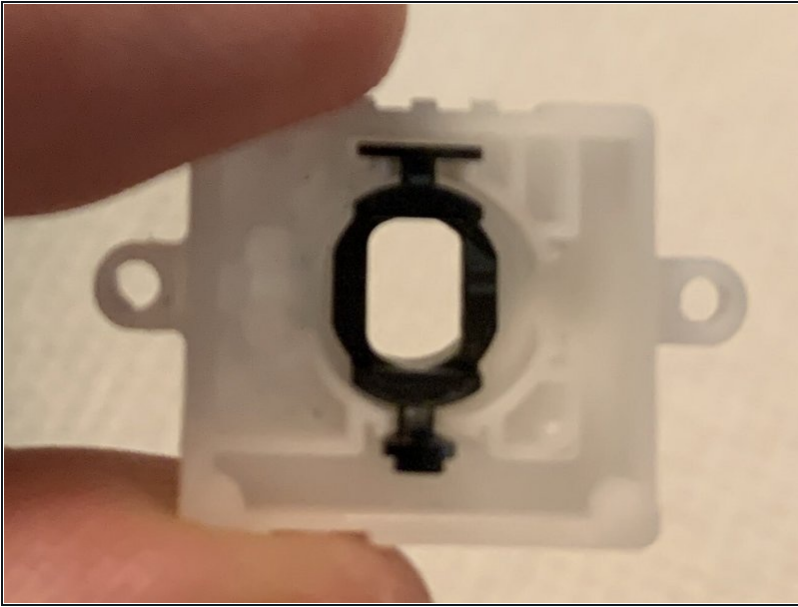
- Here are all of the pieces inside the joystick on the top row.
- 6 - Metal housing
- 7 - Spring for pressing down on the joystick
- 8 - Metal ring to keep the joystick in place and to create contact with the spring (#7)
- 9 - Plastic housing

Step 13 — Clean Sensor And Contacts



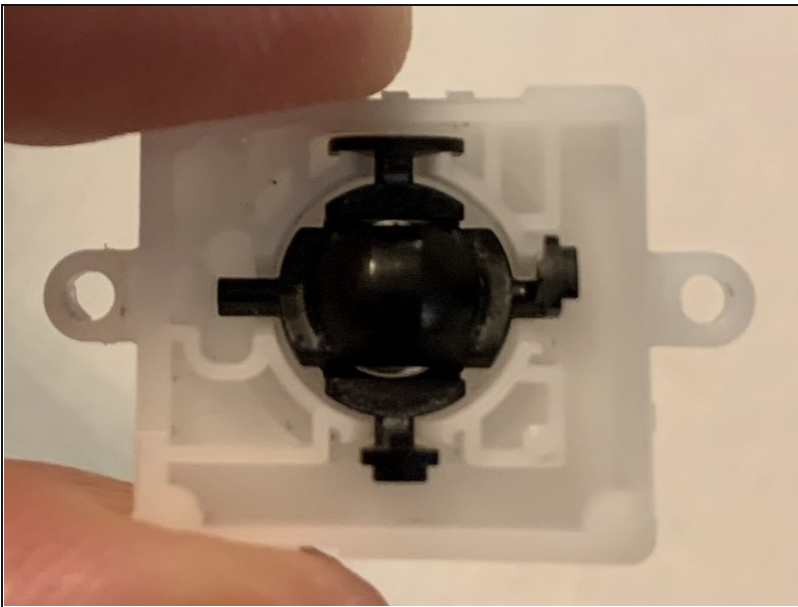
- Now that you have it taken apart, use contact cleaner to clean both pieces in the red box on the right and clean the sensor in the red box on the left. Cleaning the sensor is the most important. After spraying with contact cleaner, I use a small paint brush to clean it.
- The 3 black sections (blue arrows) are what recognize up/down/left/right. If there is anything on those, it causes drift. The more you use the controller, the more the black material breaks down and leaves residue behind. Also, the more you use it, the more sweat/dust/dirt find their way into the housing.
- If you use the controller long enough, eventually this will breakdown and can't be fixed. This is a problem with all controllers, not just Oculus.

Step 14 — Reassemble Joystick Housing



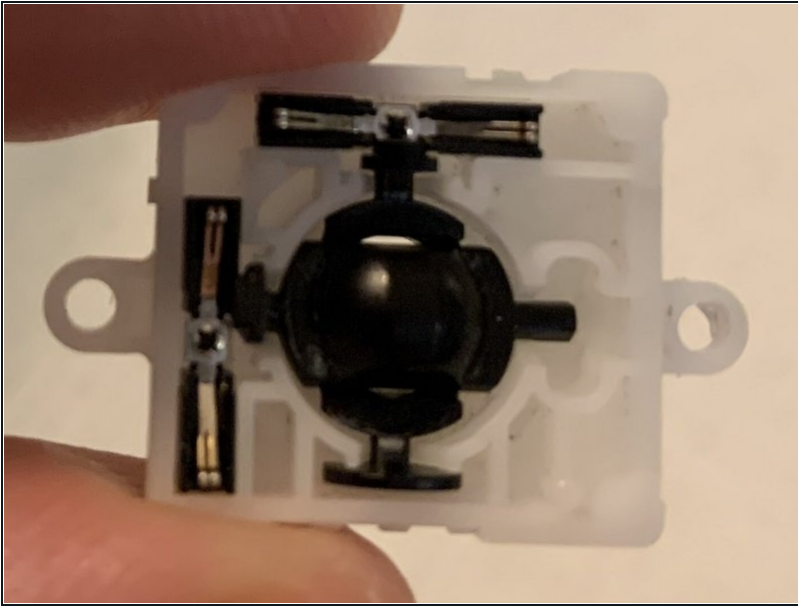
- Place #3 into the plastic housing

Step 15 — Reassemble Joystick Housing



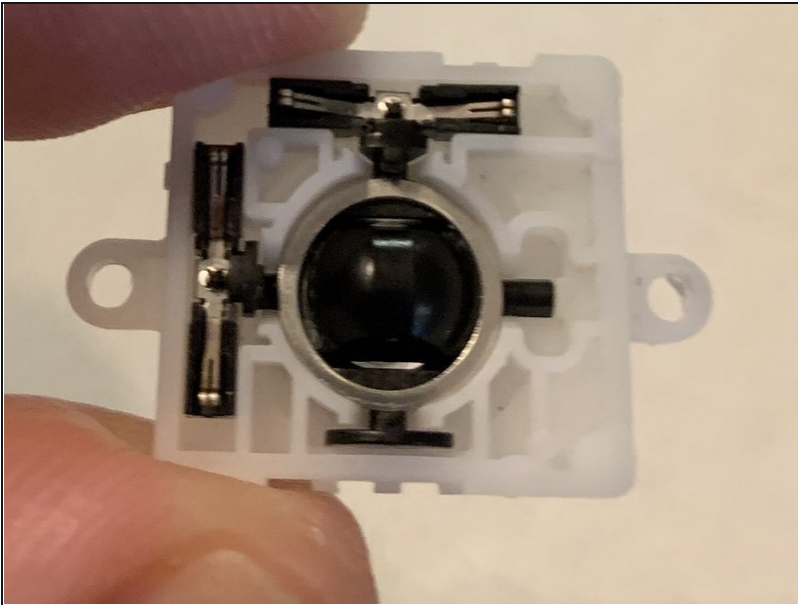
- Put the stick through the opening and attach #2 to the bottom of the stick like this. Both #2 and #3 can only sit in the plastic housing a certain way. If it doesn't move correctly, this is probably the problem.

Step 16 — Reassemble Joystick Housing



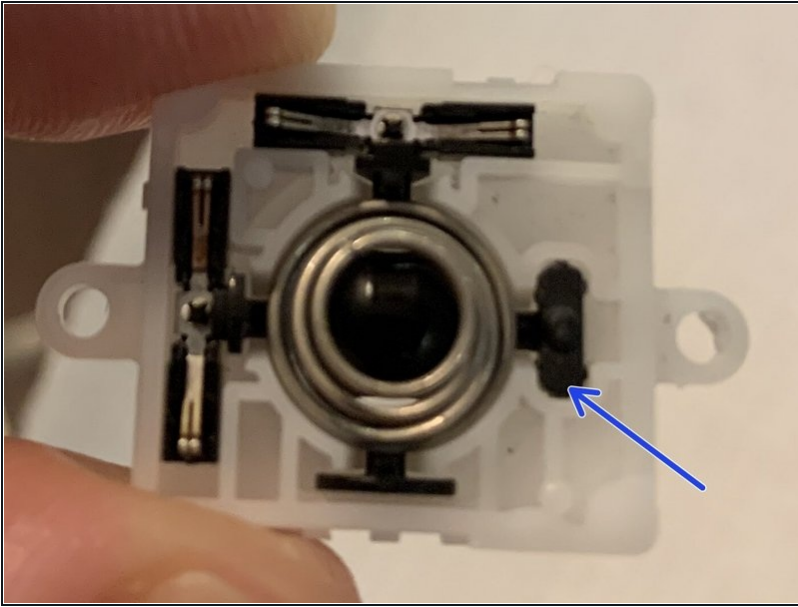
- Slightly push the stick up so that you can place both #5s in the groove. #2 and #3 sit on top of #5. At this point you should be able to see how the joystick makes #5 move.

Step 17 — Reassemble Joystick Housing



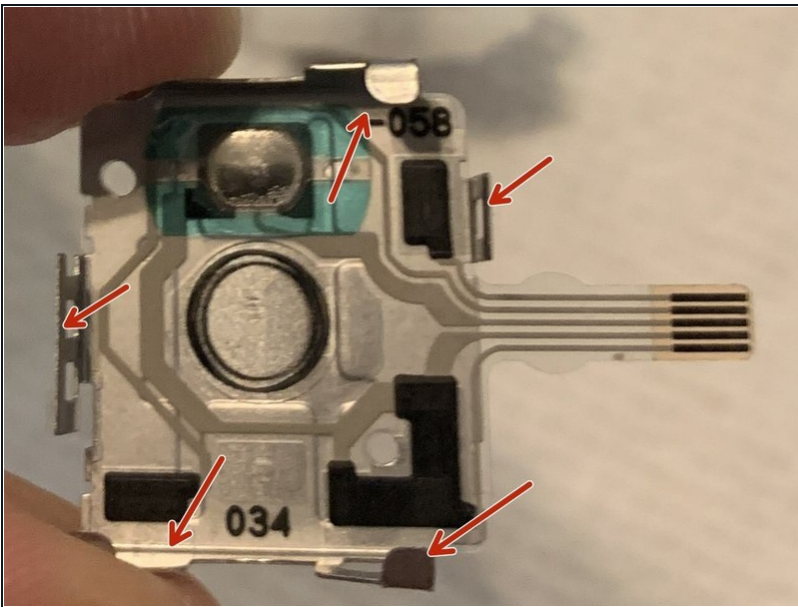
- Place the metal ring on.

Step 18 — Reassemble Joystick Housing



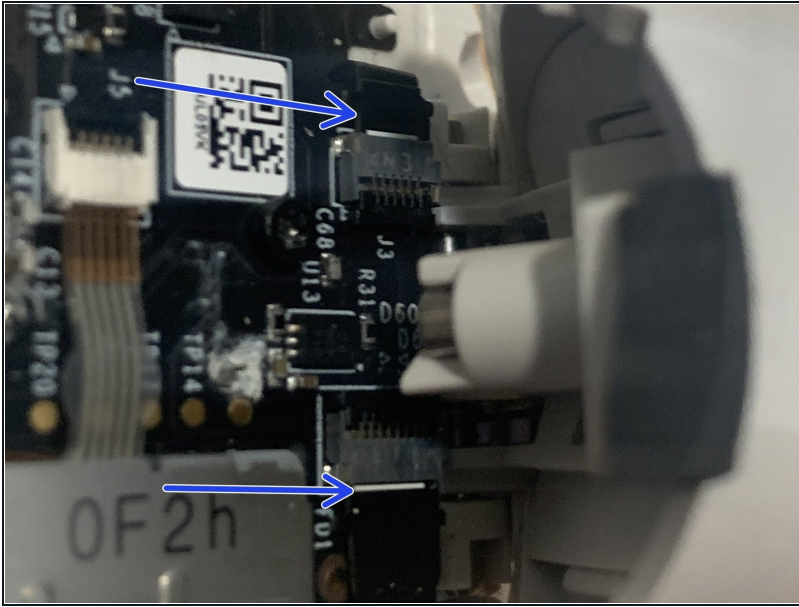
- Place the spring on and the tiny little black piece. That tiny little black piece (blue arrow) locks #2 in place.

Step 19 — Reassemble Joystick Housing



- Put the sensor on the metal housing. It can only fit one way.
- Now, sandwich the housing together without letting anything slip.
- Bend the metal tabs back into place so that it is secured.

Step 20 — Conclusion



- Reverse the instructions to put it back together. Be careful with the ribbon I mentioned in Step 6.
- Some of the pieces require a little finesse to reassemble, especially the piece that goes around the trigger.
- Make sure that you didn't disconnect any of the ribbons. The last time I did this, I accidentally loosened one of the ribbons under the trigger (blue arrow) and eventually it disconnected.

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