



Super Nintendo Cartridge Replacement

Taking apart a Super Nintendo game cartridge for cleaning, modification, internal battery replacement, etc.

Written By: BWest



INTRODUCTION

When games have been in storage or used for years on end, they need to get a good dose of TLC. In extreme cases you need to crack them open to get everything. It can be tense opening up a loved game in the fear that you'll destroy it.

Alternatively, you can open up a game no one liked and make it into an innocuous enclosure for something else.



TOOLS:

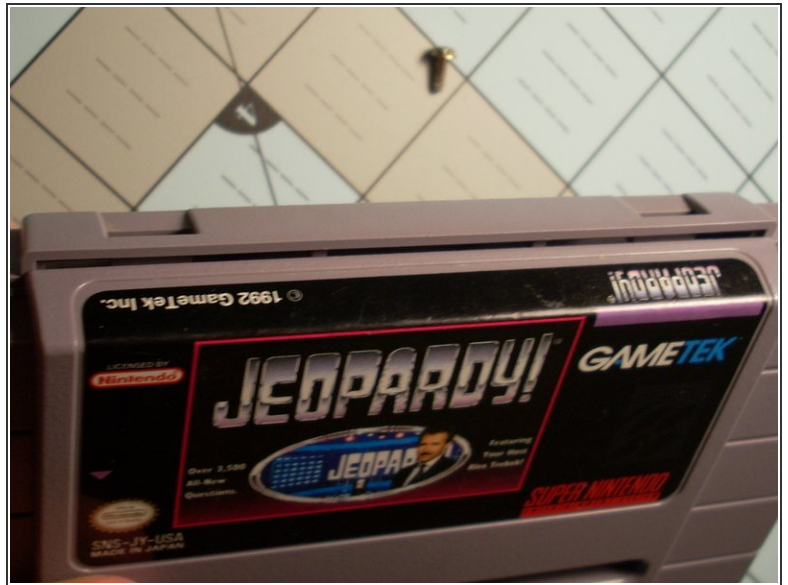
- [Gamebit 3.8mm](#) (1)



PARTS:

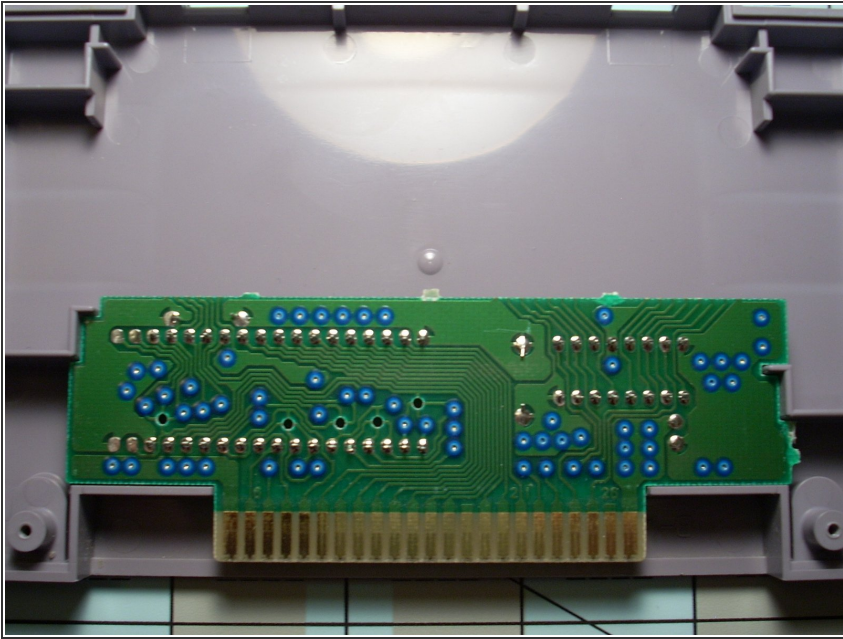
- [Cotton Swabs](#) (1)
- [Brasso or Isopropyl Alcohol](#) (1)

Step 1 — Cartridge



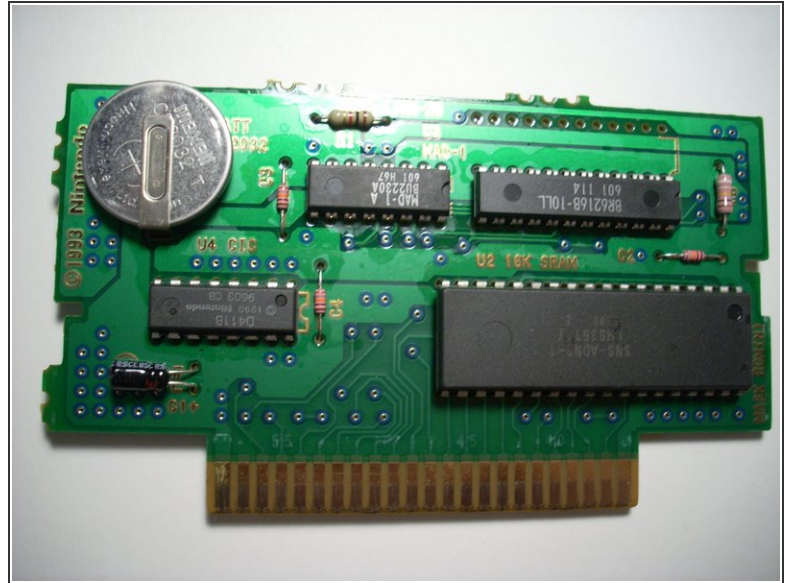
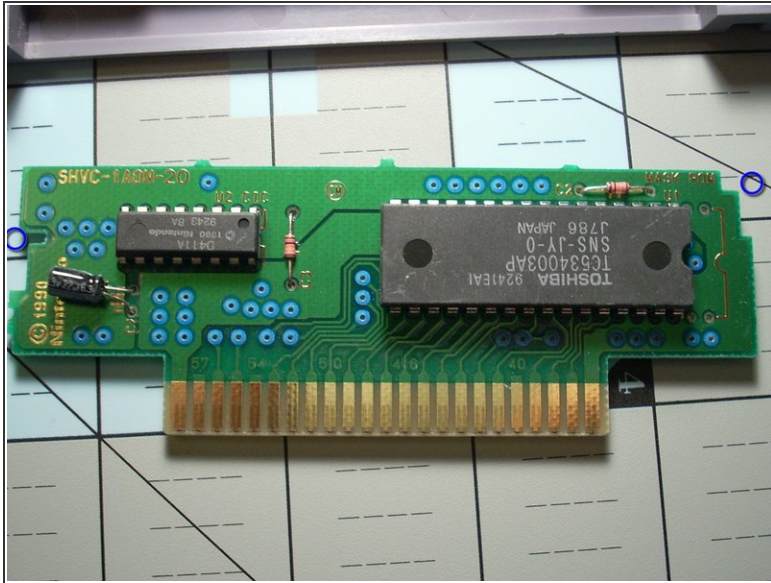
- On the bottom front corners of the cartridge you should see two screws using the 3.8mm "Gamebit" screwdriver bit. A 3.0U Spanner bit can also get them out.
- Once the screws are out, slide the front part of the plastic casing down to clear the tabs on the top of the case.
- The two halves of the case should open easily.

Step 2



- At this point the game board and pins are freely accessible.
- Here you can fully clean the pin set and inspect for damage to the circuit board.
- Cleaning the pins is the easiest part; use a cotton swab and either a rich mixture isopropyl alcohol or Brasso. Other people swear by an eraser(the white kind), but it can lead to damage if you're not careful. Personally, Brasso works the best.

Step 3



- i** NOTE: The top edges of the board are made asymmetrically so it can only go into the casing one way. *Near the Blue Circles*
- Games with battery backup (allowing for save games to be stored in SRAM) allow access to the battery at this point for replacement. Most of the time the battery is a button cell: CR2032.
 - !** The battery is soldered in. You will have to break it out and re-solder the new battery in.

To reassemble the cartridge, follow these instructions in reverse order.