

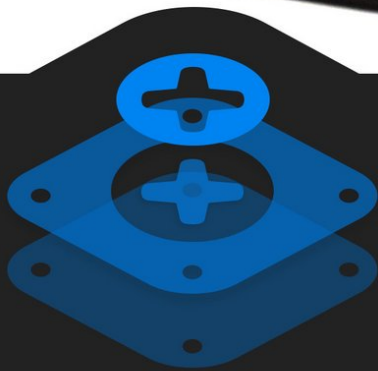


Floppy Disk Teardown

Teardown of a floppy disk, performed October 27, 2016.

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Floppy Disk



TEARDOWN

INTRODUCTION

Facts about floppy disks

- The casings are hard
- The disks are floppy
- Once opened, they don't go back together
- They're old.

TOOLS:

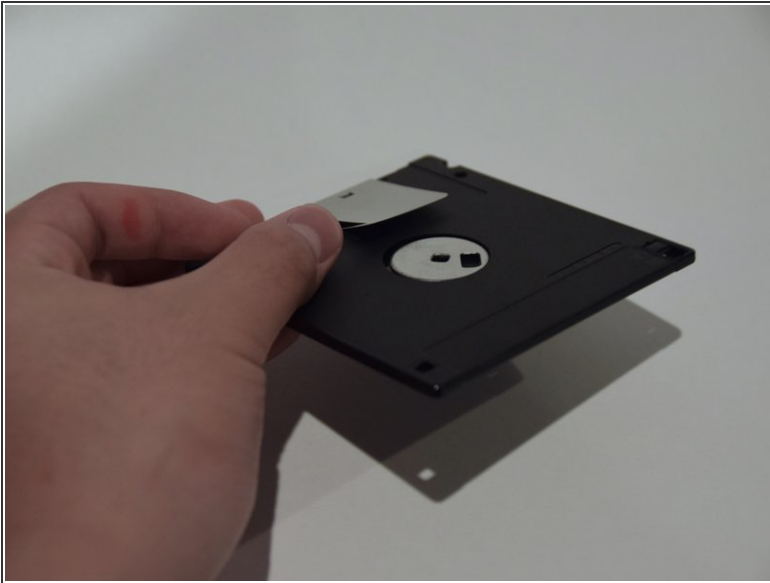
- [Jimmy](#) (1)

Step 1 — Floppy Disk Teardown



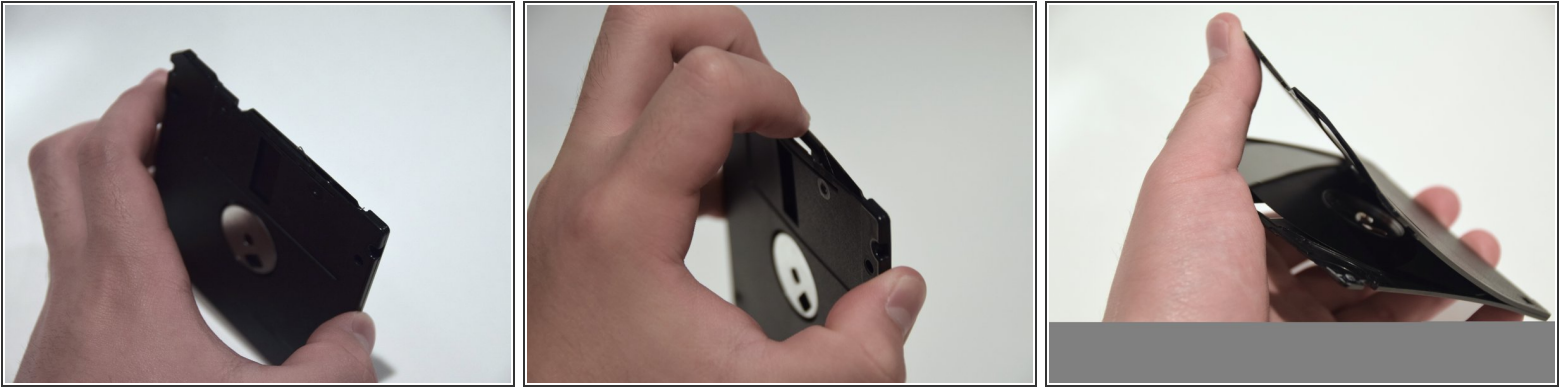
- The floppy disk has gone the way of the dinosaur.
 - Except for Google's lovable jumping [dinosaur](#).
 - These disks might hold one or two photos at best; they probably won't hold much more though at only 2MB.
 - It's worth noting that today's photos taken can be upwards of 10MB on their own!
- ⓘ *We liked skimmilk05's teardown so much (and his amazing attempt at his own teardown graphic) we supplied one of our own for this truly unique community contributed teardown. - iFixit Staff <3*

Step 2 — Removing the Cover



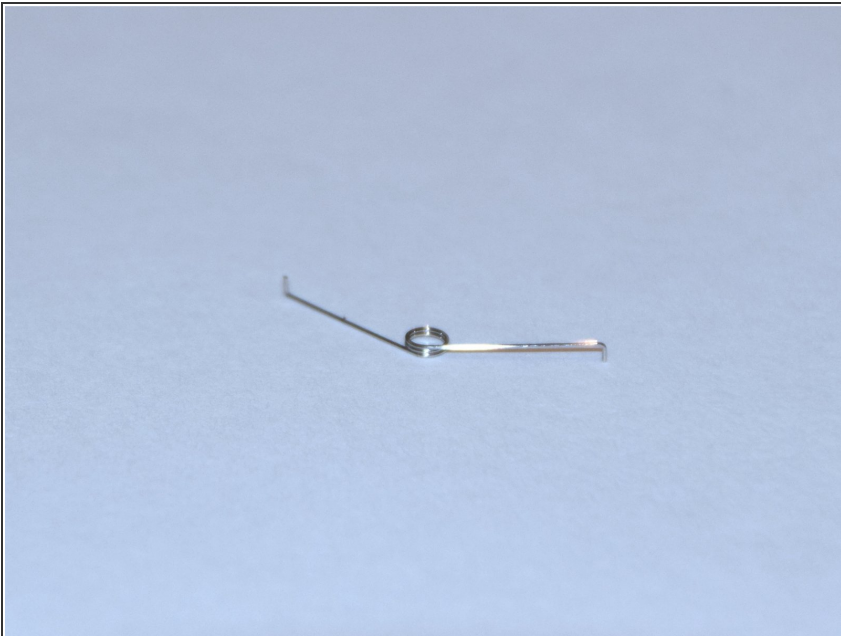
- Thin metal pieces are good places to start.
 - This one's so thin that you can bend it with a finger.
 - This one wasn't too hard, but if you're having trouble getting it up, a [Jimmy](#) comes in handy.

Step 3 — Removing the Casing



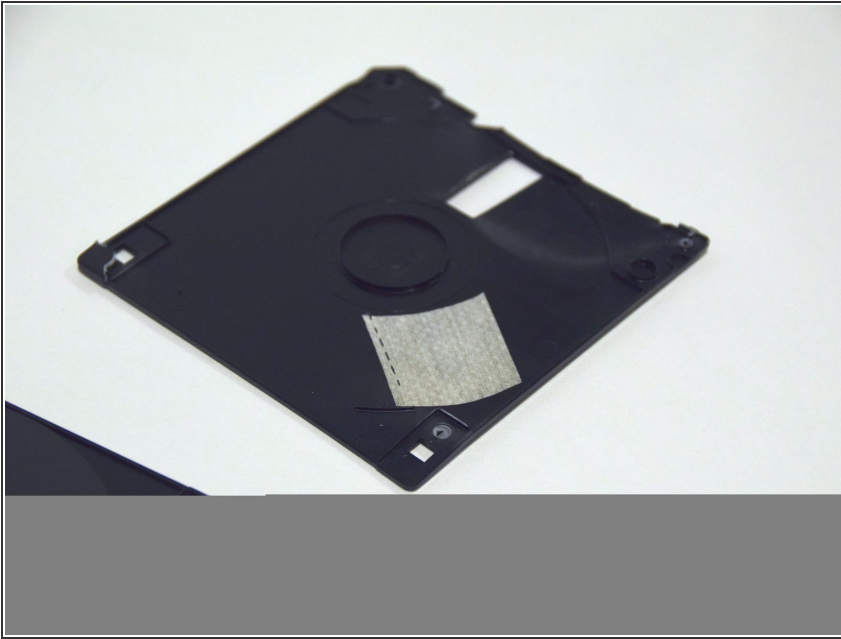
- With some careful prying, the entire lid pops right off.
- You may need a spudger, metal spudger, Jimmy, or a combination of the three to get into the crack where the metal piece once was.
 - There are little pushpins holding the two halves together, but they were pulled apart during disassembly, easy as [1, 2, 3!](#)
- And we get a glimpse of [what's inside!](#) Spoiler alert: not much is there.

Step 4 — The Spring



- In cracking open the casing, we lost a tiny little [spring](#).
- [Boing.](#)
- [Boing.](#)
- Playtime's over. Best guess as to what it is? Keeping that metal piece over the tape inside.

Step 5 — The Cleaning Pad



- On the inside, we see a small pad, probably to clean the turning disk that's inside.
- This one was pretty nasty. [Eww.](#)
- This pad is glued into the casing with some tough adhesive; the manufacturer really didn't want this pad coming out on its own.

Step 6 — The Disk



- [Aha!](#)
- The meat n' bones of the floppy disk, the disk itself!
- Ever wondered why the floppy disk was called the "floppy" disk, even though it was in that hard plastic case? This is why.

Step 7 — The Disk



- More floppy goodness.

Step 8 — Wrap-up



- It's a pretty simple device in all. Not much else to say here.

Step 9 — Final Thoughts

REPAIRABILITY SCORE:



- Floppy Disk Repairability Score: **1 out of 10** (10 is the easiest to repair)
 - This antique technology has virtually no replacement parts.
 - Replacement of the tape or cleaning pads are impossible without breaking the case.
 - The cleaning pads are held on with tight adhesive, making replacement difficult.
 - Attempts to use heat to loosen adhesive may result in the case melting.
 - High susceptibility to magnets make this device very sensitive.