Vivo X7 Repairability Assessment

Vivo X7 repairability assessment performed on January 9, 2017.

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INTRODUCTION

Although the Vivo X7 has an easy to remove battery, it is extremely difficult to open the phone, thus earning the phone a 6 out of 10 on the repairability scale.

TOOLS:
- iFixit Opening Tool (1)
- T2 Torx Screwdriver (1)
- Spudger (1)
- Tweezers (1)
- Metal Spudger (1)
- Phillips #00 Screwdriver (1)
Step 1 — Vivo X7 Repairability Assessment

- Front and back reference shots.

Step 2

- Extremely stiff clips keep the phone closed, even after removing the two T2 Torx screws.

- Use of metal tools may be required, which could damage the device during opening.
Step 3

- View of the inside.
- The only component in the rear case is a modular vibrator.

Step 4

- Battery tabs are very handily labeled!
- And very effective!
Step 5

- Removing the speaker assembly from the daughterboard is simple enough, screws and light adhesive.

- This foam tape appears to be a moisture barrier. Annoying for reassembly, but might protect against water damage.
Step 6

- Daughterboard has significant adhesive. Headphone jack and charging port are soldered to the board, making for more expensive replacements of either component.

- Under the daughterboard, home button bracket and home button come out easily.
Step 7

- First layer of components off the top end of the phone is a ton of brackets.
  - The interconnect cables could be removed at this point as well.
  - Only the front facing camera and SIM eject lever are removable before the motherboard.

Step 8

- Motherboard removed, only secured by screws.
  - Proximity sensor/flash blocks the rear camera connector and must first be removed.
  - Rear camera last thing off the main board.
Step 9

- Final components off of the display are the interconnect cables and earpiece speaker.

- The midframe-mounted fused display makes for an expensive part. The fact that it is the last part to be removed makes screen replacements time-intensive.
The Vivo X7 earns a **6 out of 10** on our repairability scale (10 is the easiest to repair):

- Battery is fairly easily accessible and removable.
- Parts could be more modular, especially mechanical/high wear components.
- The opening procedure is extremely tough, clips are very stiff and likely to be broken.
- The single unit display assembly is annoying to reach, and will be a costly part.
- Manufacturer does not provide user-accessible repair documentation.