Amazon Fire Tablet (5th Generation) Repairability Assessment

Repairability assessment for the Amazon Fire Tablet, 5th Generation performed on January 5, 2017.

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INTRODUCTION

Disassembly of the Amazon Fire Tablet 5th Generation revealed a simple design with a LCD display, motherboard, battery, and unfused digitizer. The digitizer and battery adhesives needed some elbow grease to break through, but overall we were happy to award this design a 7 out of 10 for repairability.

TOOLS:
- iFixit Opening Tool (1)
- Plastic Cards (1)
- Phillips #0 Screwdriver (1)
- Spudger (1)
Step 1 — Amazon Fire Tablet (5th Generation) Repairability Assessment

- Front and back reference shots.

Step 2

- There are only clips holding the assembly together. No adhesive makes for much easier device access.

- The plastic back cover comes off to reveal the battery, motherboard, and display hiding on the other side.

- We can also see smaller components, including a speaker and a camera.
Step 3

- This battery isn't super easy to remove. It's held in with several adhesive strips that require force to separate.

- We use a card to fight the adhesive and we can pry the battery out with a bit of effort.

- At the top of the motherboard there's a little tamper evident sticker.
Step 4

- We can remove the motherboard after removing five Phillips screws, and disconnecting two ZIF and two press connectors.
- Front-facing camera is modular and easily pops out.
- Rear-facing camera is soldered to the board and is not going anywhere.

Step 5

- Just the display assembly's left. How hard is a digitizer replacement?

  🔄 Hard.
Step 6

- The Amazon Fire Tablet earns a **7 out of 10** on our repairability scale (10 is the easiest to repair):
  - The plastic case assembly is held together by clips and no adhesive, and opening only requires prying with an iFixit opening tool.
  - The digitizer and LCD panel are not fused together.
  - All of the screws in the device are Phillips screws.
  - The battery is modular, but it is held in place by somewhat stubborn adhesive.
  - Removing the digitizer and LCD panel requires fighting through some very resilient adhesive.
  - Manufacturer does not provide user-accessible repair documentation.