Samsung Series 9 15" Repairability Assessment

Repairability assessment of the Samsung Series 9 15" Notebook performed on Friday January 13, 2017.

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INTRODUCTION

Proving once again that thin and light can still be repairable when thoughtfully designed, the Series 9 15" scores a near-perfect 9 out of 10.

TOOLS:

- Phillips #0 Screwdriver (1)
- iFixit Opening Tool (1)
- Spudger (1)
- iFixit Opening Picks set of 6 (1)
Step 1 — Samsung Series 9 15” Repairability Assessment

- Reference shots.

Step 2

- Opening procedure is piece of cake. Remove 10 Phillips screws and lift the rear panel off.
  - It's clipped in along the back edge but not very strongly.

- Internal view.

- This is seriously cool. From here we can remove: SSD, RAM, battery, right speaker, display assembly, wireless card, (modular!) headphone jack and thermal assembly.
  - That's pretty much everything you'd ever want to tinker with in a laptop. The only commonly-replaced components we can't reach is the keyboard, trackpad, and motherboard.
### Step 3

- To keep things uniform, we're starting with the battery.
- It's held in with seven Phillips screws and comes out in a flash.

### Step 4

- We then start picking parts off the motherboard and the peripheries.
- Along the way, we discover room for not one, but two RAM modules.
  - That addition, along with the standard, removable SSD means this laptop is super upgradable.
Step 5

- We *could* remove the motherboard at this point, but pause to take a look at this trackpad.

- Seemingly held in place with just five screws, but we remove them and it won't budge.

- Then we peel off this pair of taped-in brackets, pry from the top bracket, and successfully remove the trackpad assembly.
**Step 6**

- Next up is the fan. It's secured with two screws.

- And the daughterboard. After unscrewing three Phillips screws it will not budge, so we had to break up the adhesive holding it in.

**Step 7**

- Motherboard removal. Pretty straightforward as long as you remember to clear the standoff pins on the far right edge.
Step 8

- Finally we remove three screws from each of the display hinges and the display assembly is free.
Step 9

The Samsung Series 9 15" earns a **9 out of 10** on our repairability scale (10 is the easiest to repair):

- All screws are Phillips screws.
- RAM, SSD, and battery are all easily replaced.
- Relatively flat, modular design means that most components can be replaced quickly without having to remove other obstructions.
- A moderate amount of adhesive on the I/O board and trackpad brackets complicates some reassembly procedures.
- Manufacturer does not provide user-accessible repair documentation.