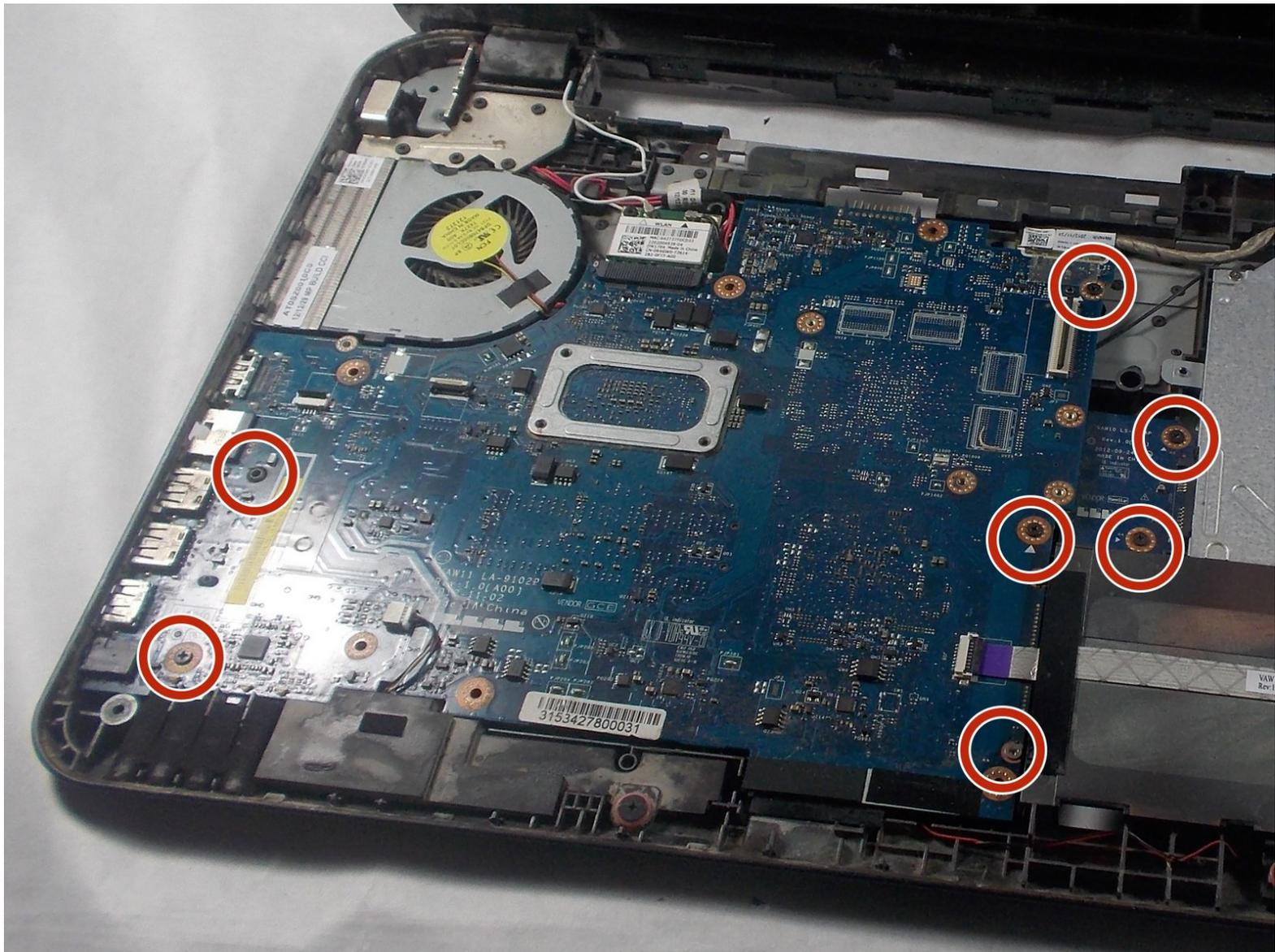




Dell Inspiron 17-3721 Fan Replacement

This guide will be showing how to replace a broken fan on the Dell Inspiron 17-3721.

Written By: Kevin Prairie



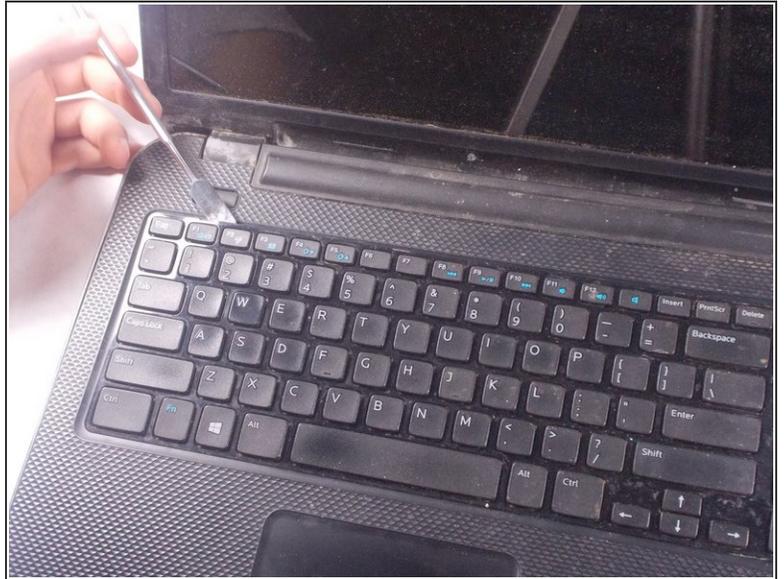
INTRODUCTION

It is possible for the cooling fan inside a laptop to become very noisy due to dust, die out, or break all together. This guide will show how to remove and replace the fan of the device.

TOOLS:

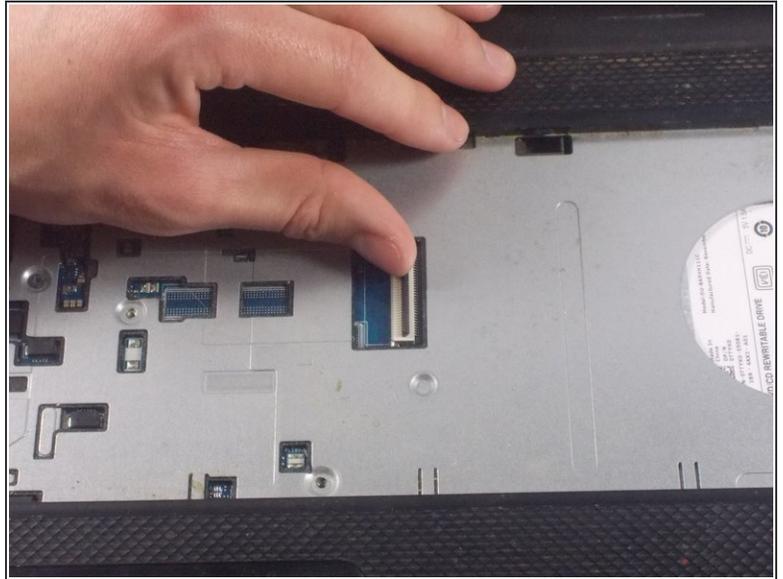
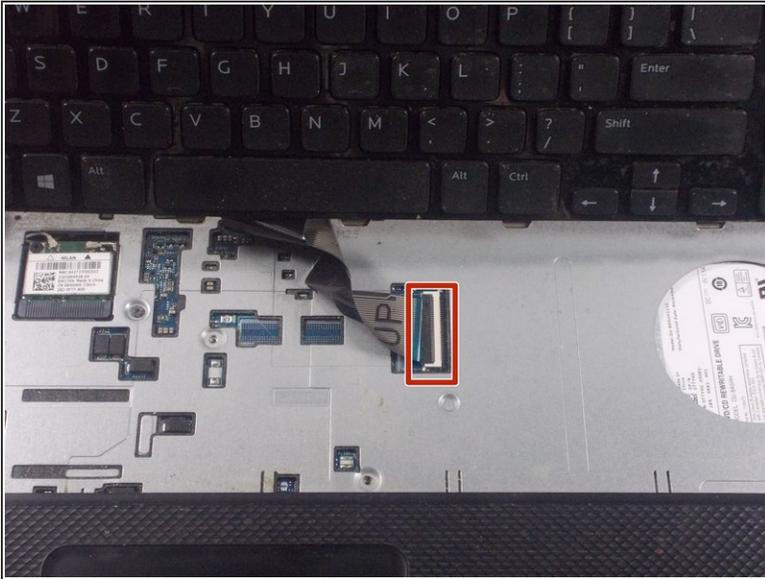
- [Phillips #0 Screwdriver](#) (1)
 - [Phillips #1 Screwdriver](#) (1)
 - [iFixit Opening Tools](#) (1)
 - [Metal Spudger](#) (1)
-

Step 1 — Keyboard



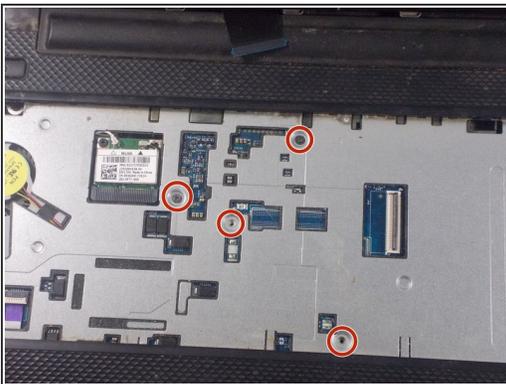
- Use a plastic opening tool or a metal spudger to pry out the tabs on top of the keyboard.
 - After prying the tabs up, carefully pull the keyboard out of the laptop.
- ⚠ Use caution when prying the tabs up or lifting the keyboard up, as the plastic material and the strip on the keyboard can easily break.

Step 2



- Once the keyboard is lifted, locate the release tab.
- Using a plastic opening tool or your finger, lift the tab so that it opens .
- Once the tab is open, the strip on the keyboard can be removed.

Step 3 — Optical Drive



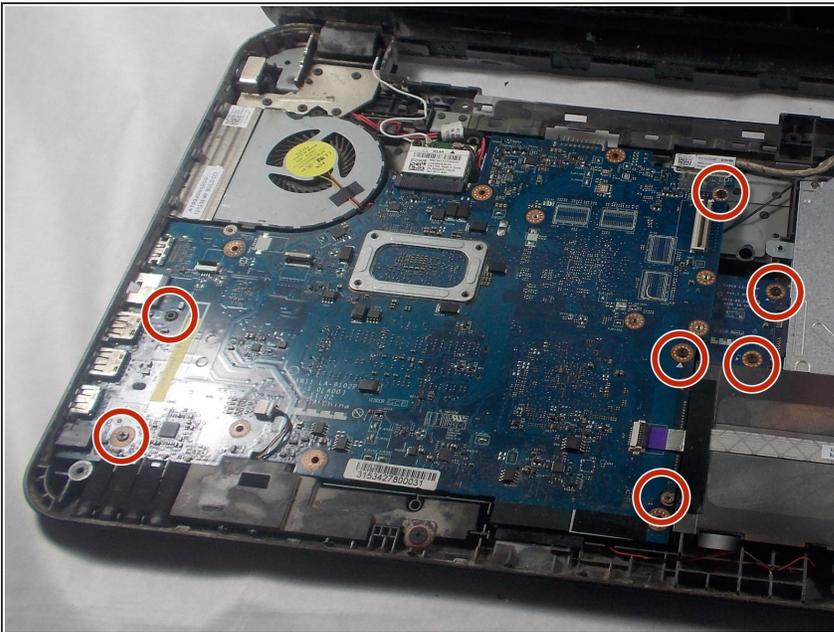
- Remove the four 6 mm PH1 Philips head screws under the keyboard.
- Carefully pop off the cover using the plastic opening tools and your hands.

Step 4



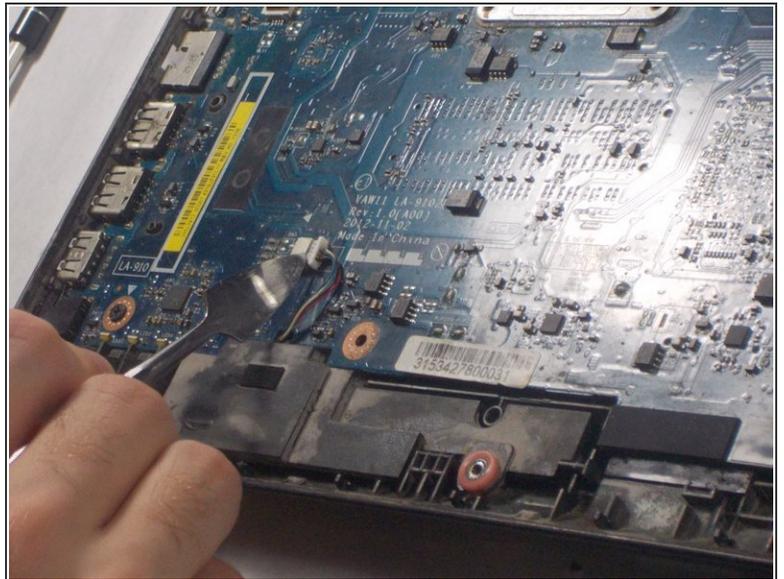
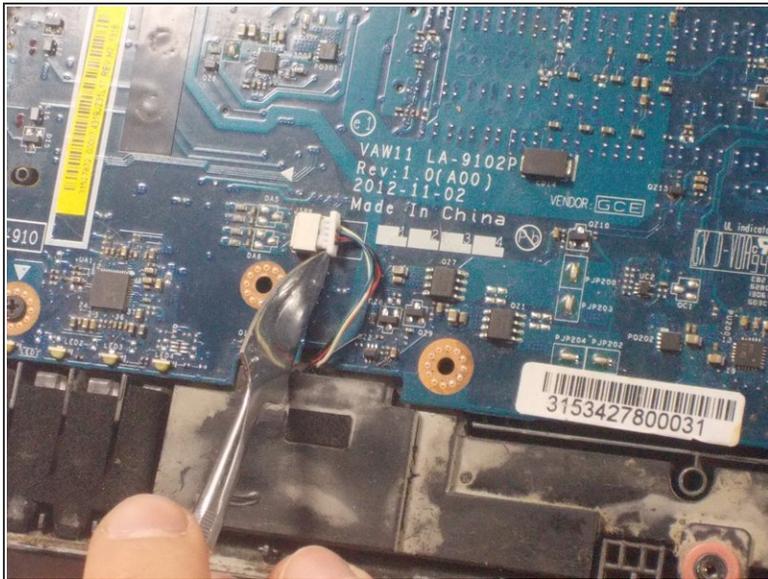
- Remove the 4 mm PH1 Philips head screw holding down the optical drive.
- Use your hand to slide the drive out of the device.

Step 5 — Fan



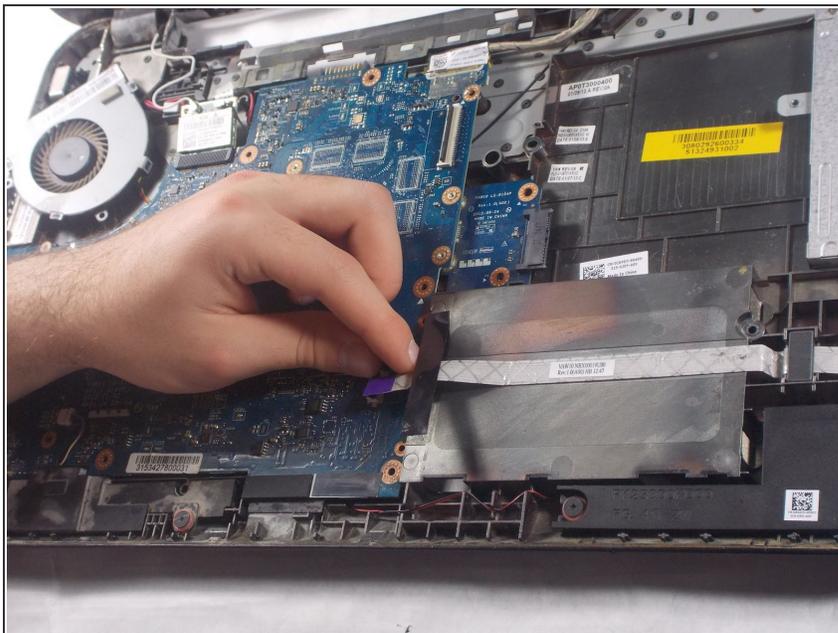
- Remove the seven 6mm PH1 Philips head screws from the motherboard.
- ⓘ There may be more or less screws in your motherboard as the laptops do vary.

Step 6



- Located on the lower left of the motherboard, disconnect the wire that connects the speaker by pushing it or pulling it away from the white box.

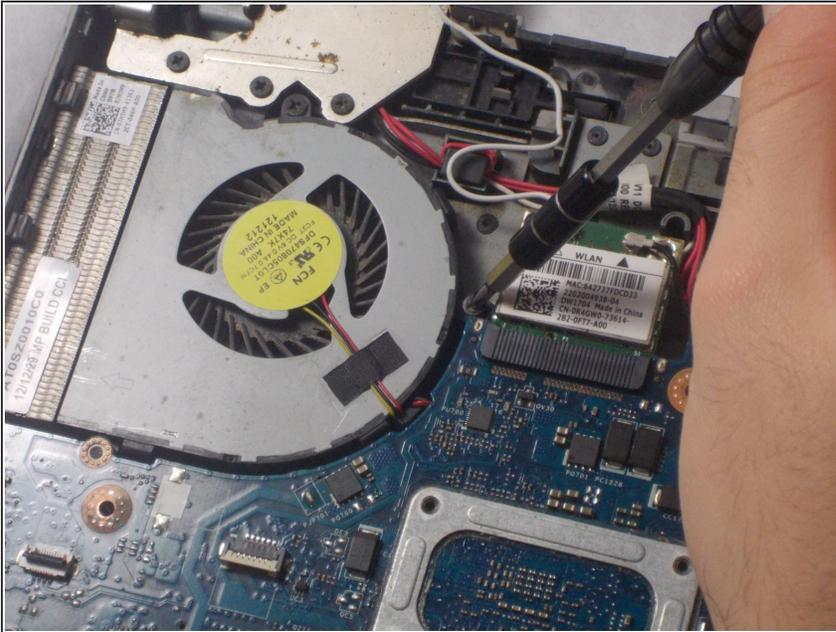
Step 7



- Located on the lower right of the motherboard, flip up the black hatch and remove the ribbon cable by gently tugging it outwards.

⚠ Ribbon cables are very fragile and can tear easily. Handle with care.

Step 8



- Remove the 4mm PH1 Philips screw to the right of the fan.

Step 9



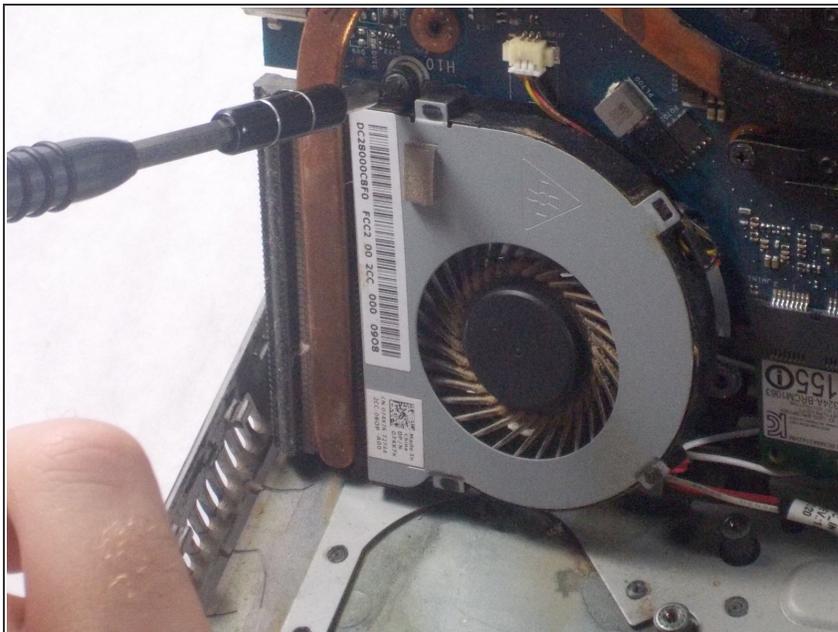
- Remove the 4mm PH1 Philips screw to the top of the fan.

Step 10



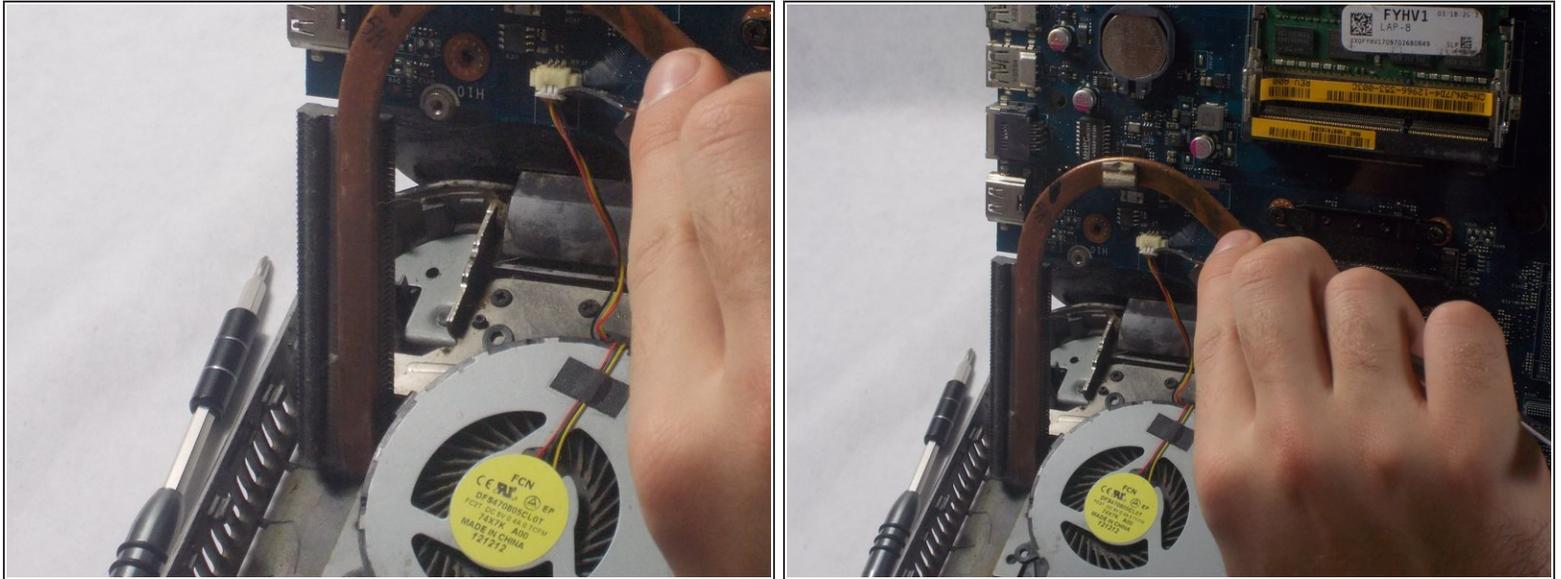
- Remove the motherboard from the USB sockets to the left by first pulling the motherboard to the right and then flip the motherboard up against the screen.

Step 11



- Located on the lower left, remove the 4mm PH1 Philips screw to the top of the fan.

Step 12



- Remove the wire for the fan by pulling or pushing the white tab from the white box.

To reassemble your device, follow these instructions in reverse order.