How to fix touch buttons on Sony SRS-X7

Touch buttons become non-functional, rendering speaker almost-useless.

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INTRODUCTION

Over time, the touch buttons on the SRS-X7 may stop functioning. Double-sided tape used during manufacturing is the cause of the problem - probably as a result of degradation of the glue causing a change in capacitance.

Rather than paying a Sony service department to look at your speaker, repair it yourself economically.

Unfortunately the manufacturer chose not to issue a recall over this problem.

TOOLS:

- X-ACTO Knife (1)
- Masking Tape (1)
- Microfibre cloth (1)
- Heat Gun (1)
- Tissue (1)
- Safety Glasses (1)

Whenever prying with a knife, I recommend wearing safety glasses. If the blade breaks, shrapnel could fly into your eye causing damage or blindness.

Step 1 — Lift up plastic cover around buttons

- ** IMPORTANT ** Wear safety glasses for this step. Whenever prying with a knife, I recommend wearing safety glasses. If the blade breaks, shrapnel could fly into your eye causing damage or blindness.
- Use an xacto-knife or pocket knife sharpened to a 15 degree angle.
- Twist the knife blade in order to lift up the cover.
- Do not scratch the bezel or cover, and try to avoid scratching the painted surface under the cover.

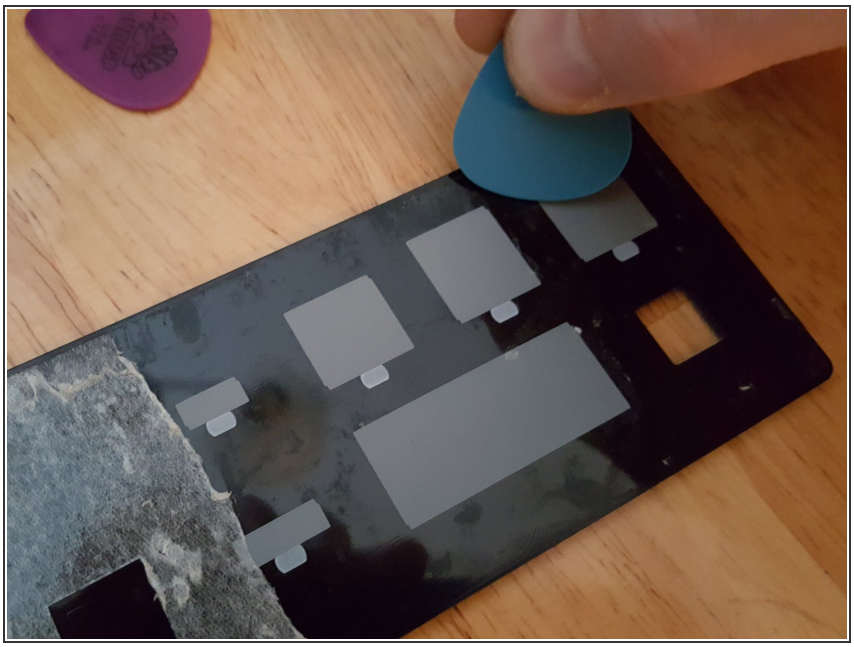
Step 2 — Slip several guitar picks under cover around the perimeter.

- Slide guitar picks along the long edges in order to help break the bond between the cover and the housing along the edges.
- Substitute guitar picks with playing cards if you don't have guitar picks.

Step 3 — Carefully pull off the top cover, starting at one edge and working your way to the other edge.

- Careful application of heat may assist.
- Use a hair dryer or a heat gun set to low (150C or lower).
- Move the heat source around, don't concentrate it in one spot to avoid melting or warping the plastic.

Step 4 — Carefully remove double-sided tape and glue around the buttons.



- Use low-heat and a guitar pick to carefully scrape off any tape/glue.
- Again, move the heat source around, don't concentrate it in one spot to avoid melting or warping the plastic.
- Don't use a knife or other sharp implement, otherwise you will scratch the paint and light guides off.

Step 5 — Add a few drops of compatible adhesive in key areas.

- Put very small amounts of adhesive at the points identified with little squares of masking tape. Don't add the little squares of masking tape!
- Silicone sealant works well.
- Avoid putting adhesive over the areas directly above the touch pads or the grey light spreader on the upper-left.
- Best to apply adhesive to the chassis, rather than the cover.
- Keep in mind, adhesive spreads a lot, so little means VERY LITTLE.

Step 6 — Apply masking tape to the cover and bezel.

- Apply masking tape to the cover.
- Apply masking tape to the bezel.
- This will simplify adhesive clean-up.

Step 7 — Re-install cover.

- Align the cover with the bezel, and press it in place.
- Wipe excess adhesive using a tissue, and dispose of the tissue immediately. Do not re-use the issue.
- Carefully remove the masking tape.
- Gently wipe the cover with moderate downwards force in order to improve adherence.

Your speaker should now be re-assembled and ready to rock.

