



Installing iPhone 3G Front Panel Assembly

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Tools used in this guide

- [Metal Spudger](#) (1)
- [Phillips #00 Screwdriver](#) (1)
- [Small suction cup](#) (1)
- [Spudger](#) (1)

Parts relevant to this guide

- [iPhone 3G Front Panel Assembly](#) (1)

The front panel assembly, including the digitizer, ear speaker, and home button, can be replaced on the iPhone 3G.






Step 1 — Display

- Remove the two Phillips #00 screws from the dock-connector end of the iPhone.
- Make sure to keep all the screws organized as you are taking the phone apart. They are different sizes.






Step 2

- Remove the metal handle from the suction cup. It's easier and safer to grip the suction cup's base instead of the metal handle.
- Be very careful when opening the iPhone so that the cables under the display are not severed. 
- There is a rubber gasket between the silver front bezel and black display assembly. A bit of force is required in this step to separate the iPhone's display assembly. 
- Use a small suction cup near the Home button to gently pull up the lower portion of the iPhone's display assembly.
- If the display assembly is too damaged to allow the suction cup to adhere, tape with a strong adhesive such as duct tape may be used. 



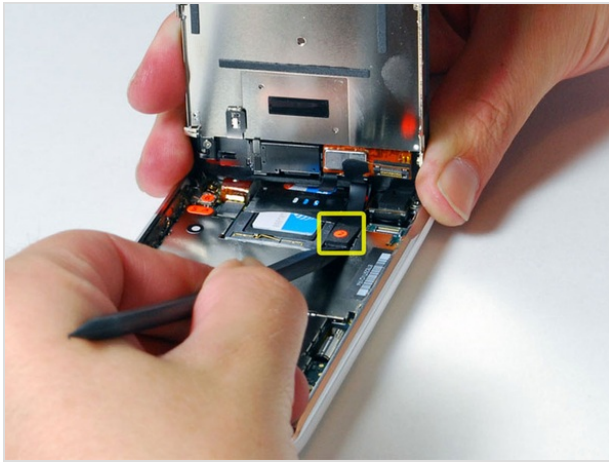
Step 3

- The display assembly is still connected to the iPhone by several cables, so don't try to remove it entirely just yet. 
- Rotate the display assembly up until it is at an angle of approximately 45 degrees.



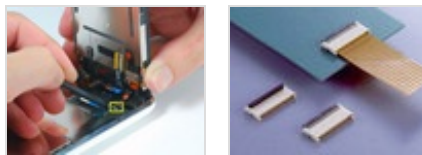
Step 4

- Continue to hold the display assembly with one hand, and use your other hand and a spudger to disconnect the black ribbon cable labeled "1."
- Ribbon cable "1" is connected with a plug style connector. The block at the end of the cable is the plug which is simply pushed into a socket on the circuit board. No other locking mechanism is used.






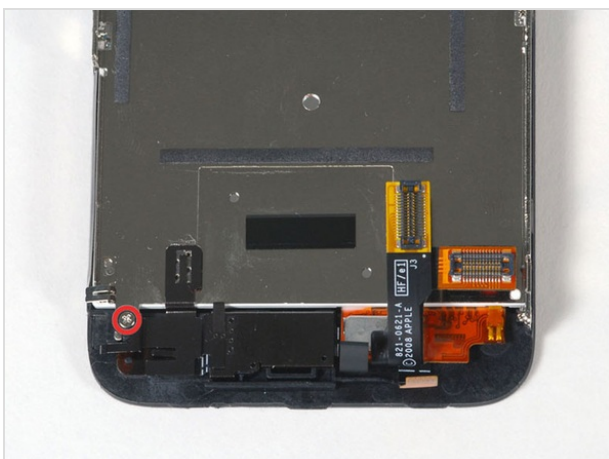
Step 5

- Rotate the display assembly up until it is roughly vertical. This will allow easier access for disconnecting the remaining cables.
- Use a spudger to disconnect the black ribbon cable labeled "2."



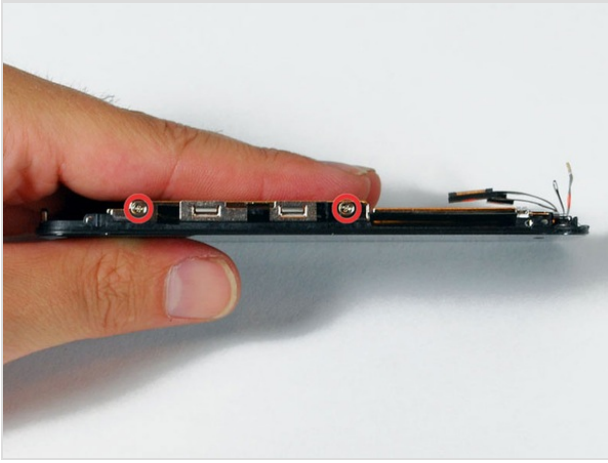
Step 6

- Ribbon cable "3" is held in place by a FPC style connector. You must unlock this connector before sliding the ribbon cable out. The locking mechanism is on the opposite side of where the cable is inserted - it swivels upwards 90 degrees. Use a plastic spudger to lift the locking mechanism. 
- The FPC locking latch is very delicate and is typically a different color than the body of the connector. (see the detail image of FPC connector open and closed) 
- Slide the ribbon cable out of the connector, and remove the display assembly from the iPhone.
- It's impossible to properly reinsert a ribbon cable into an FPC connector unless the lock is disengaged. Make sure the locking latch is open when attaching/detaching the cable. 



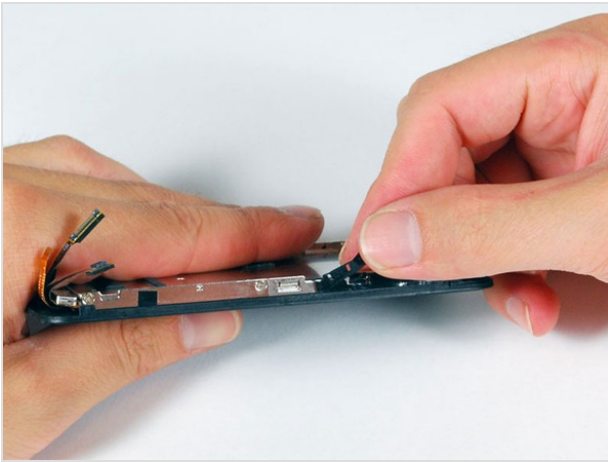
Step 7

- Remove the single Phillips #00 screw from the corner of the display assembly.



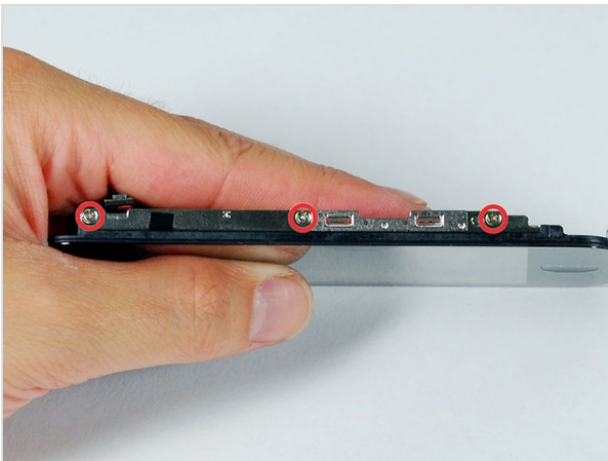
Step 8

- Remove the two Phillips #00 screws from the right side of the display assembly.



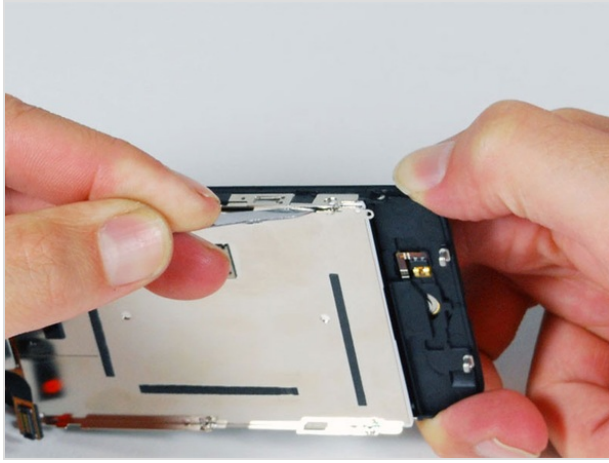
Step 9

- Turn the display over, and if there is a thin strip of black tape on the edge of the display assembly, carefully peel it up.
- Keeping the tape from sticking to itself can be tricky. We recommend placing the tape on a wax-coated piece of paper (any sticker backing will do).



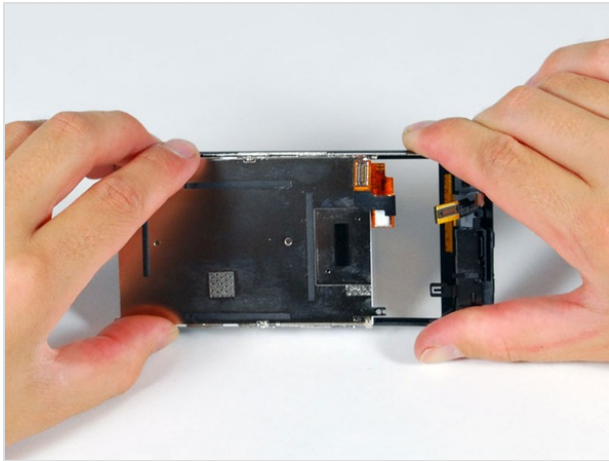
Step 10

- Remove the three Phillips #00 screws from the left side of the display assembly.



Step 11

- Turn the display assembly over and again carefully insert a metal spudger between the two metal rails along the edge of the display assembly. Gently rotate the spudger to lift the LCD up from the glass.



Step 12

- Separate the LCD and glass by sliding the LCD panel away from the ribbon cables on the glass.



Step 13 — Front Panel Assembly

- Front Panel Assembly remains.

This document was last generated on Feb 23, 2012.