



MacBook Pro 2016 Space Bar Removal

This applies to all 13" and 15" models of the...

Written By: Richard Coleman



INTRODUCTION

This applies to all 13" and 15" models of the Macbook Pro 2016 and possibly 2017 (untested). Information has been adapted and expanded on from @thebookyard's excellent answer to a similar question: [Does anyone know how to properly remove and replace spacebar](#).

Read the guide before attempting!



TOOLS:

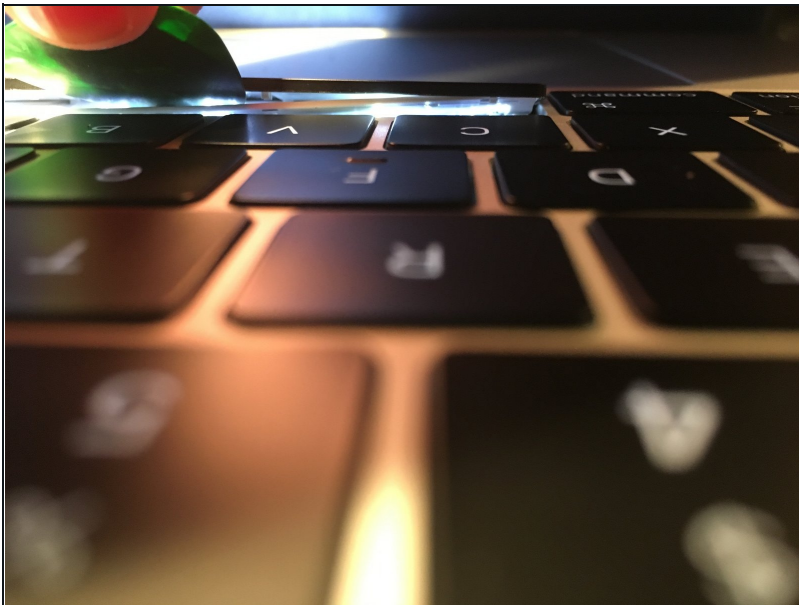
[iFixit Opening Picks \(Set of 6\)](#) (1)



PARTS:

[MacBook Pro 13"/15" Retina \(Touch Bar, Late 2016-2017\) Keyboard](#) (1)

Step 1 — Read the guide!



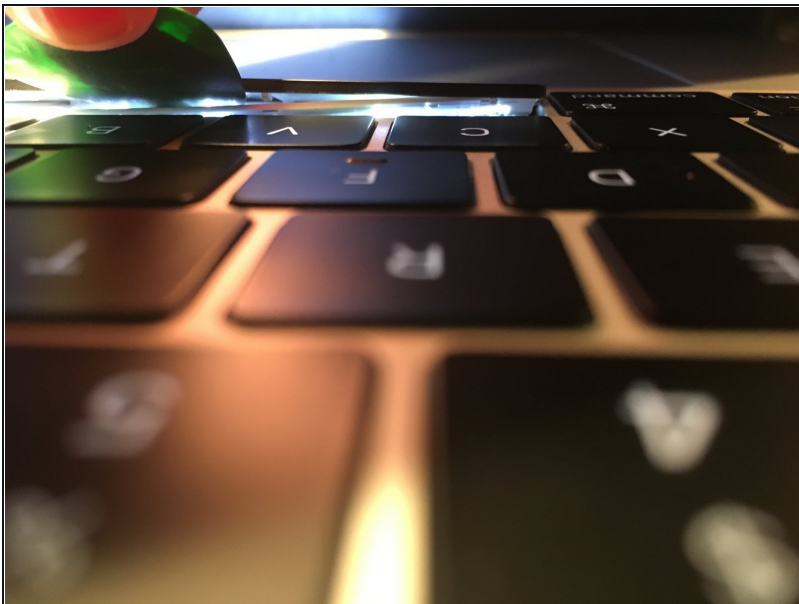
- Before you start, **READ THE WHOLE GUIDE FIRST**. This is fiddly and you especially need to see the bottom of the key before you start (steps 8 and 9). If you aren't careful you will damage your spacebar, and spares are currently difficult or impossible to obtain due to the laptop's newness.

Step 2 — Preparation



- Turn off your MacBook Pro and clean around the space bar using a cotton bud and isopropyl alcohol. This will help to prevent excess dirt from falling under the space bar, which will your problems.

Step 3 — Background information



- The spacebar on the 2016 MacBook Pro has 3 layers: the top black layer (the keycap), an intermediate white plastic layer (the scissor clip) and the bottom layer (the base of the keyboard). We are going to work our way between the keycap and the scissor clip, as this way the keycap can be removed, cleaned and replaced without damage.

Step 4 — Removing the key



- Slide a **thin** guitar pick or card (**not a credit card, most are too thick**) vertically down the right edge of the key.

Step 5 — Removing the key



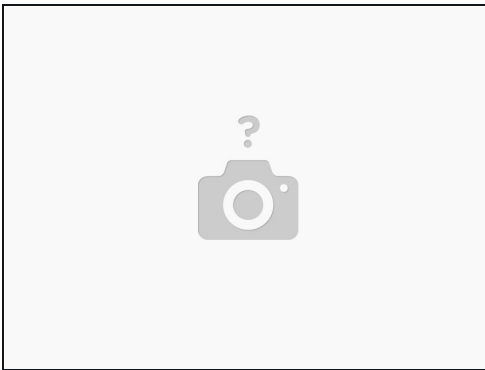
- Push the pick **right and down** from its top. This should pull the edge of the keycap up. **Make sure not to push the pick to the left (inwards, under the key) yet.** If you push the pick left too early, it will end up under the scissor clip.

Step 6 — Removing the key



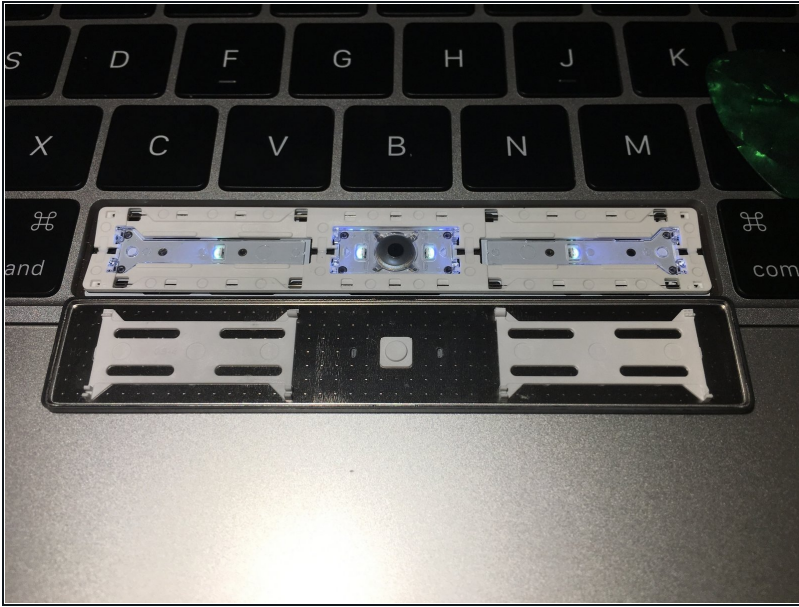
- Once the pick is horizontal, push it in towards the centre of the key. You should feel some resistance. Twist the pick and the first clip should pop free. This does not require much force.

Step 7 — Removing the key



- Working from the top of the key now, repeat the process for the other 3 clips along the key. When you have done this, the key will be hinged at the bottom and free at the top. You should be able to rotate the key so it is almost vertical, and lift it out with no resistance.

Step 8 — Clean under the key



- Using a cotton bud and some isopropyl alcohol, clean under the key. Remove any crumbs with a pair of fine [tweezers](#).
- Yes, I know my laptop is on. Do as I say, not as I do!

Step 9 — Replace the key



- Note the different types of clip on the key. The **ones on the right in the photo should go into the trackpad side of the keyboard**, where they sit in small holes. Put the bottom side of the key in, ensuring it sits in the holes.
- You can see from the shape of the clips on the right why you have to take the key off from the top side. If you try from the bottom, you'll break the clip like I did on the bottom right in the photo.
- Don't worry too much about broken clips. My space bar still works well despite 3/8 of the clips having been broken in the making of this guide. Hopefully you'll be more successful with the proper knowledge beforehand.

Step 10 — Profit



- Finally, press along the top side of the key to reconnect the four clips. The key is now replaced.
-