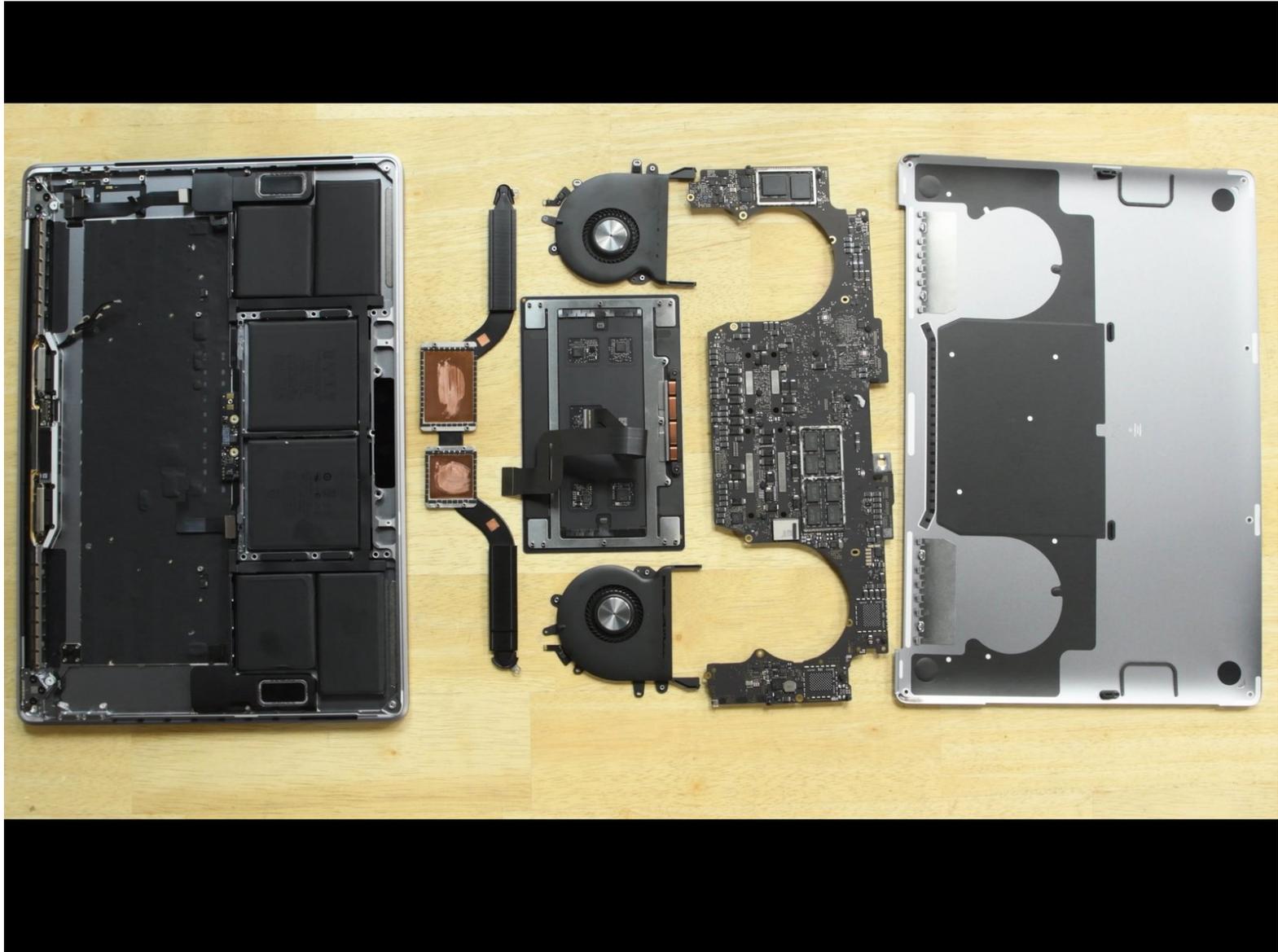




MacBook Pro 15" Touch Bar 2018 Teardown

Teardown of the MacBook Pro 15" Touch Bar 2018, performed on July 16, 2018.

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INTRODUCTION

ICYMI, Apple's having a midsummer's nightmare:

- **June 22:** Apple announced a free keyboard replacement program after mounting pressure from a [class-action lawsuit](#) over the faulty design of the butterfly keyboard in Macbook Pros.
- **July 12:** Apple [quietly discontinued the 2015 MacBook Pro](#) after a three-year run—which means every laptop in their Pro lineup comes equipped with the controversial butterfly keyboard.
- **July 13:** Apple launched the new MacBook Pro and carefully mentioned that its third-generation keyboard was re-engineered purely for *quietude*. We found a [silicone membrane](#) under each key cap, seemingly designed to prevent the ingress failures we keep hearing about. And then we found a [patent](#) to prove it—from 2016.
- **July 16:** We teardown the MacBook Pro 15" Touch Bar 2018 and score it a 1.

TOOLS:

- [Pro Tech Toolkit](#) (1)
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Step 1 — Final Thoughts

REPAIRABILITY SCORE:



- The trackpad can be replaced without removing the battery.
- The processor, RAM, and flash memory are soldered to the logic board. Repairs and upgrades will be impractical at best.
- The top case assembly, which includes the keyboard, battery, and speakers, is firmly glued in place—making all those components hard to replace separately.
- The Touch ID sensor doubles as the power switch, and is paired with the T2 chip on the logic board. Fixing a broken power switch may require help from Apple, or a new logic board.