



MacBook Air 13" Retina Display Late 2018 Left Speaker Replacement

Use this guide to replace the left speaker in a...

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INTRODUCTION

Use this guide to replace the left speaker in a 2018 MacBook Air. This is the speaker on the USB-C port side of the case.

TOOLS:

[P5 Pentalobe Screwdriver Retina MacBook Pro and Air](#) (1)
[Tweezers](#) (1)
[Spudger](#) (1)

PARTS:

[MacBook Air 13" \(Late 2018-Mid 2019\)](#)
[Left Speaker](#) (1)

Step 1 — Remove the screws securing the lower case



- i** Before starting this procedure, you should disable your Mac's **Auto Boot** feature. Auto Boot powers on your Mac when you open the lid, and may be accidentally triggered during disassembly. [Use this guide](#) to disable Auto Boot.
- If your MacBook is running Big Sur v11.1 or later, disabling Auto Boot may not work. You can proceed normally, but make sure to disconnect the battery as soon as you're inside.

⚠ Completely power off and unplug your MacBook Air before you start. Close the display and flip the entire laptop upside-down.

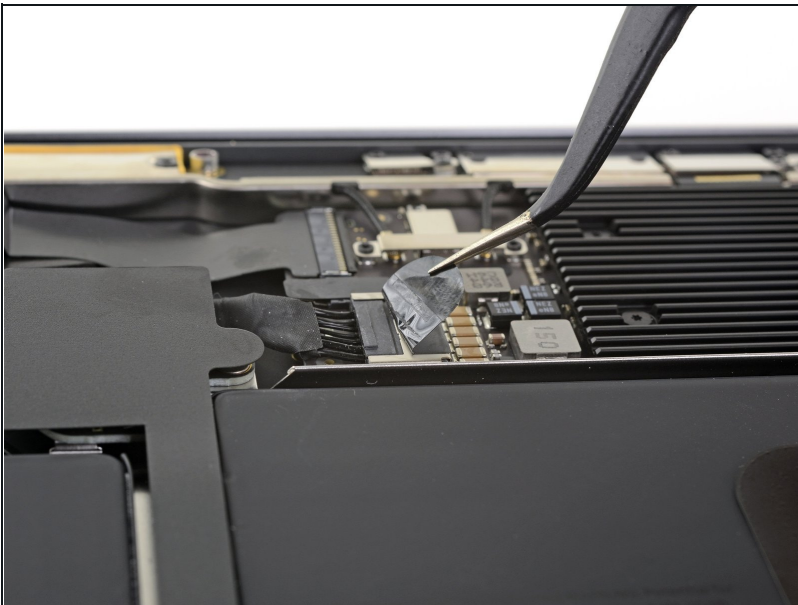
- Use a P5 driver to remove the following screws:
 - Two 7.9 mm screws
 - Two 7.1 mm screws
 - Six 2.6 mm screws

Step 2 — Remove the lower case



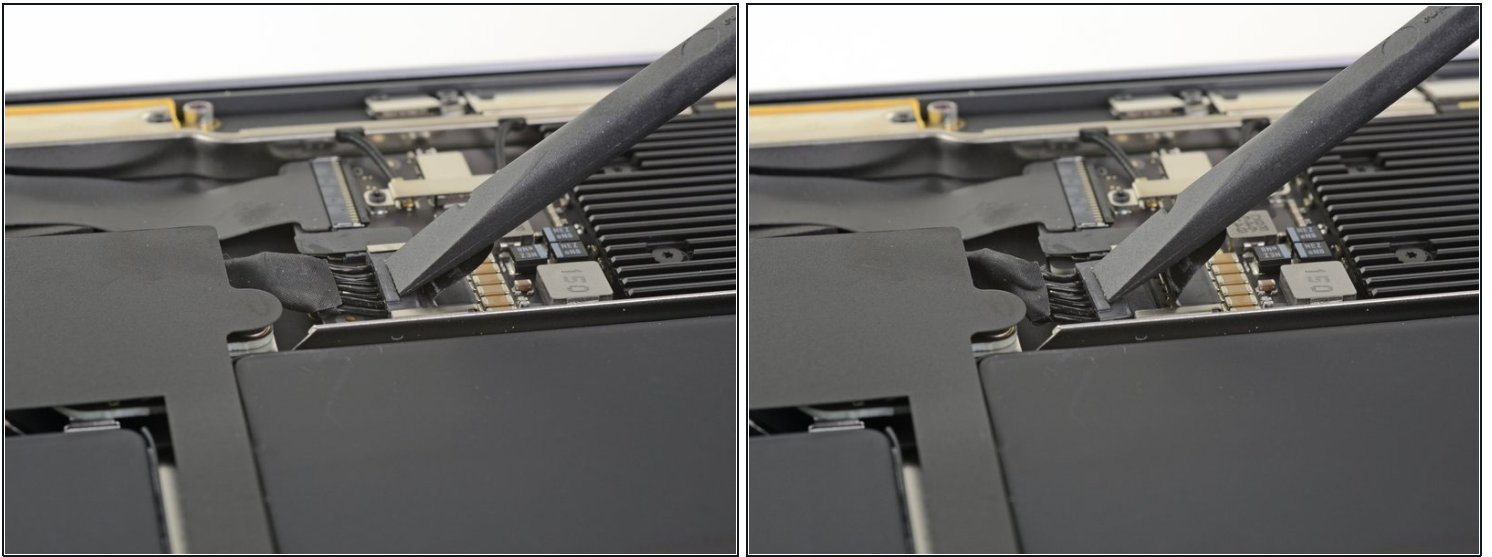
- Wedge your fingers between the display and the lower case and pull upward to pop the lower case off the Air.
- Remove the lower case.
- ★ After reassembly, your MacBook might not turn on until it's connected to a power source (a low power phone charger may work). To test your repair, plug in your charger, allow two minutes for your MacBook to turn on, and check that everything works as expected.

Step 3 — Disconnect the battery



- Peel back the tape covering the battery connector enough to reveal the connector underneath.

Step 4



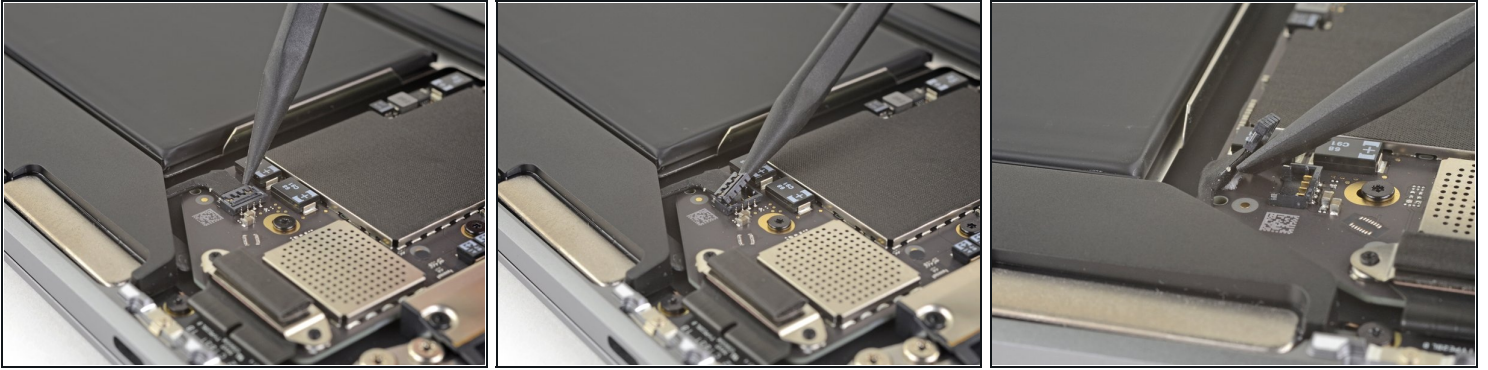
- Use a spudger to slide the battery connector parallel to the logic board and out of its socket on the logic board.

Step 5 — Remove the left speaker adhesive



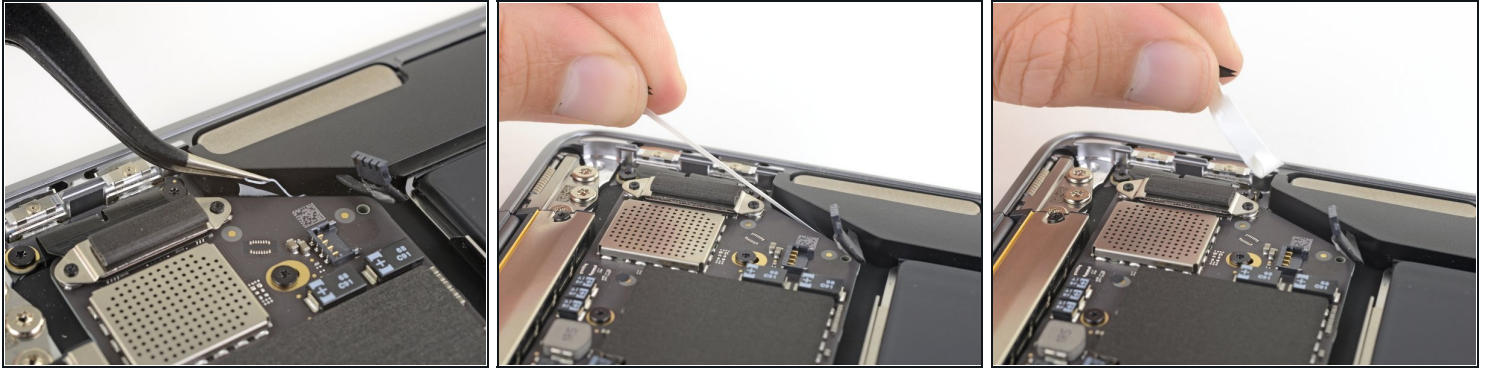
- Use a pair of tweezers to lift up the black adhesive pull tab at the bottom of the left speaker, enough so you can grab it with your fingers.
- Grab the adhesive strip pull tab and slowly and carefully pull the adhesive strip out from under the speaker.
 - ① Keep the angle of the adhesive strip as parallel to the laptop as you can. Try to avoid dragging it across the inside of the case.
- If the adhesive strip breaks, leave it in and proceed to the next step.

Step 6



- Slide the tip of a spudger underneath the left speaker cable and pry straight up to disconnect the speaker.
- With the connector disconnected, slide the flat end of a spudger under the cable to separate the adhesive securing the cable to the logic board.

Step 7



- Use tweezers to lift the adhesive pull tab at the top of the left speaker enough that you can grab it with your fingers.
- Grab the adhesive strip pull tab and slowly and carefully pull the adhesive strip out from under the speaker.
 - ① Keep the angle of the adhesive strip as parallel to the laptop as you can. Try to avoid dragging it across the inside of the case.
- ① If the adhesive strip breaks, or if the first adhesive strip broke, use a [heated iOpener](#) or heat gun to help remove the adhesive:
 - Apply heat to the speaker to soften the adhesive underneath.
 - Carefully slide a spudger or opening pick underneath the speaker to separate the adhesive.

Step 8 — Remove the left speaker



- Lift the left speaker straight up from the bottom and remove it.

Compare your new replacement part to the original part—you may need to transfer remaining components or remove adhesive backings from the new part before installing.

To reassemble your device, follow the above steps in reverse order.

Take your e-waste to an [R2 or e-Stewards certified recycler](#).

Repair didn't go as planned? Check out our [Answers community](#) for troubleshooting help.