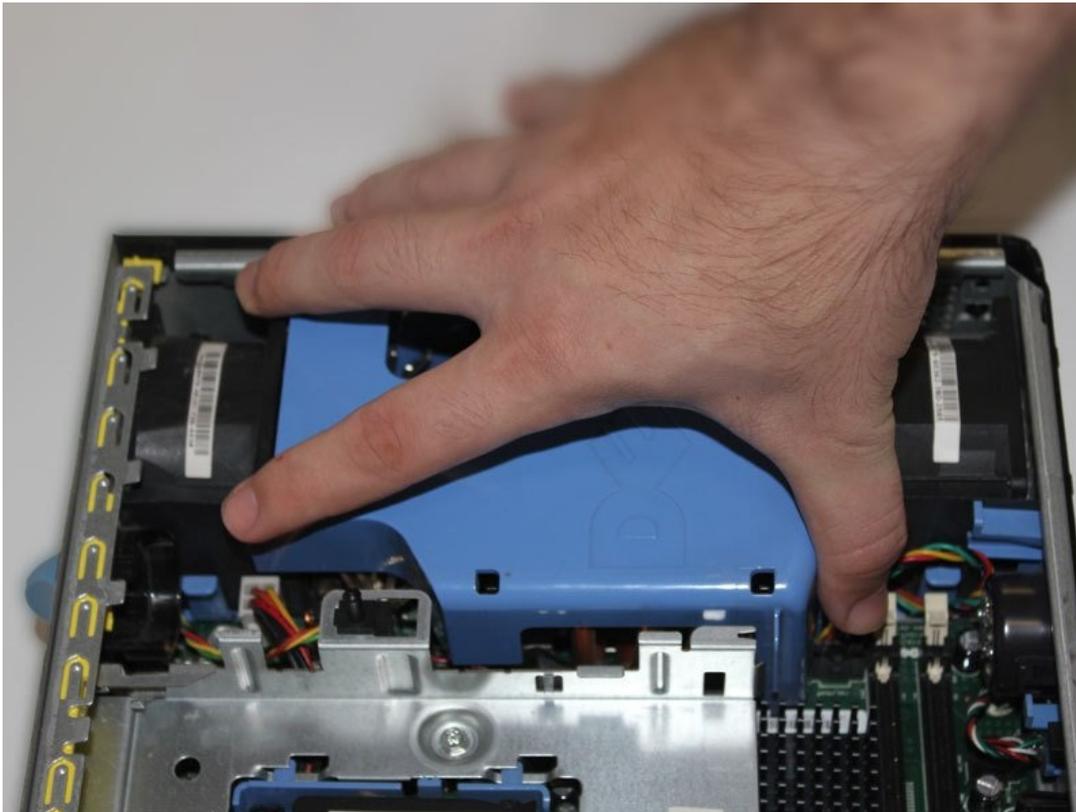




# Dell Optiplex 745 Ultra Small Form Factor CPU Heat Sink Replacement

In computers, heat sinks are used to cool CPUs,...

Written By: donnaron



## INTRODUCTION

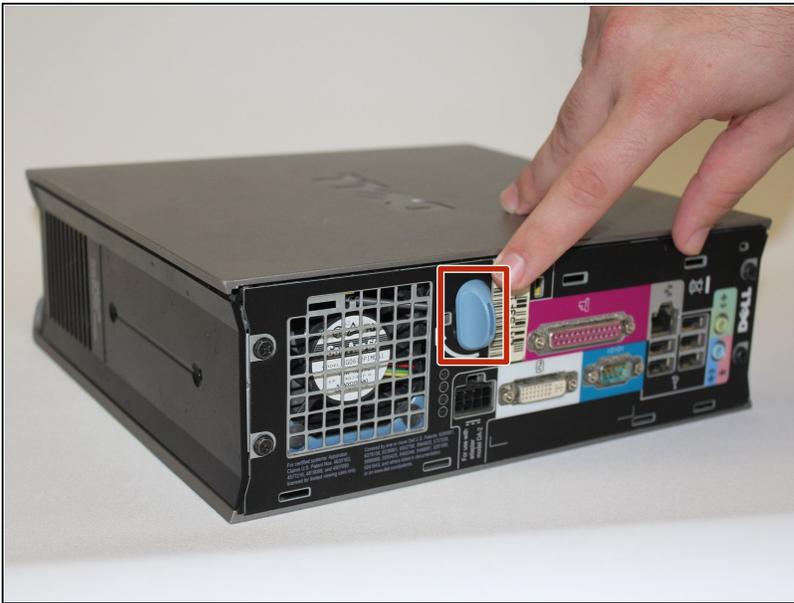
In computers, heat sinks are used to cool CPUs, GPUs, and some chipsets and RAM modules. If your Dell OptiPlex 745's CPU is overheating this is the guide for you. A computer's heat sink needs to be replaced every couple years to prevent it from affecting performance which will slow down your computer or prevent it from functioning. This guide will show you how to remove the CPU heat sink of the Dell OptiPlex 745 Ultra Small Form Factor for it to be replaced. Before starting this guide please ensure all accessories are disconnected and the computer is completely shut down.

### Step 1 — Side Panel



- Make sure to shut down the computer! Go to the start menu and click shutdown from the power options first
- Ensure all cables, speakers and other devices are unplugged and turned off before opening the computer case.

## Step 2



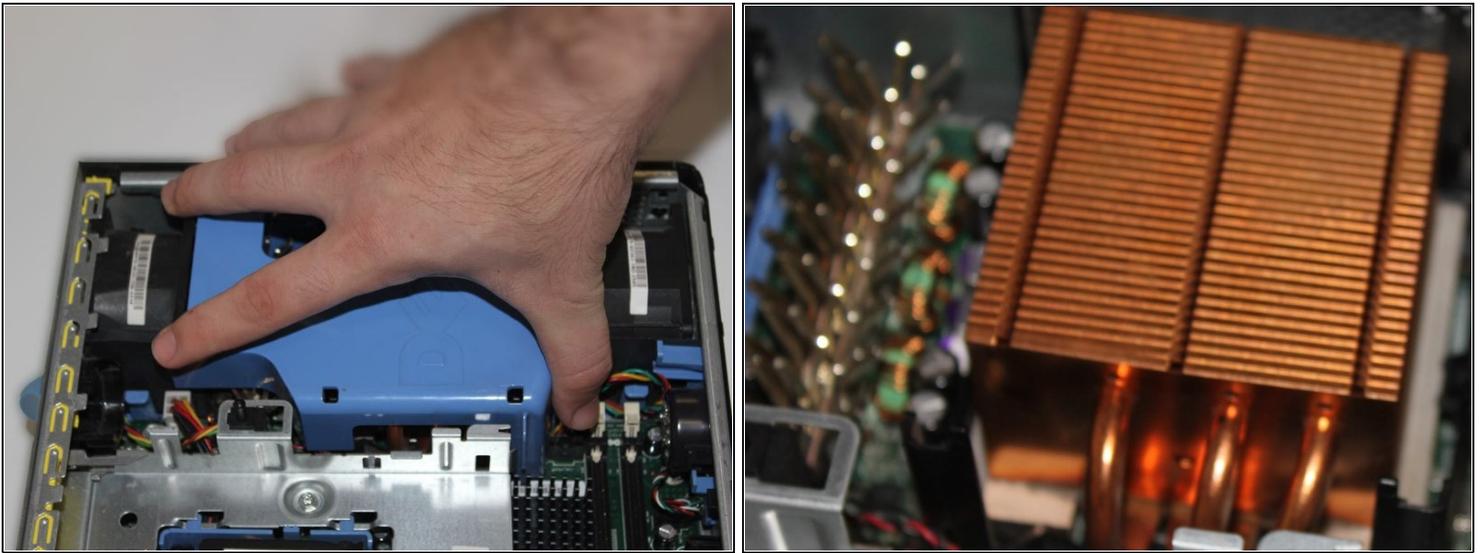
- Lay the computer on its side; you will see a blue knob.
- Turn said knob 90 degrees counter clockwise.

## Step 3



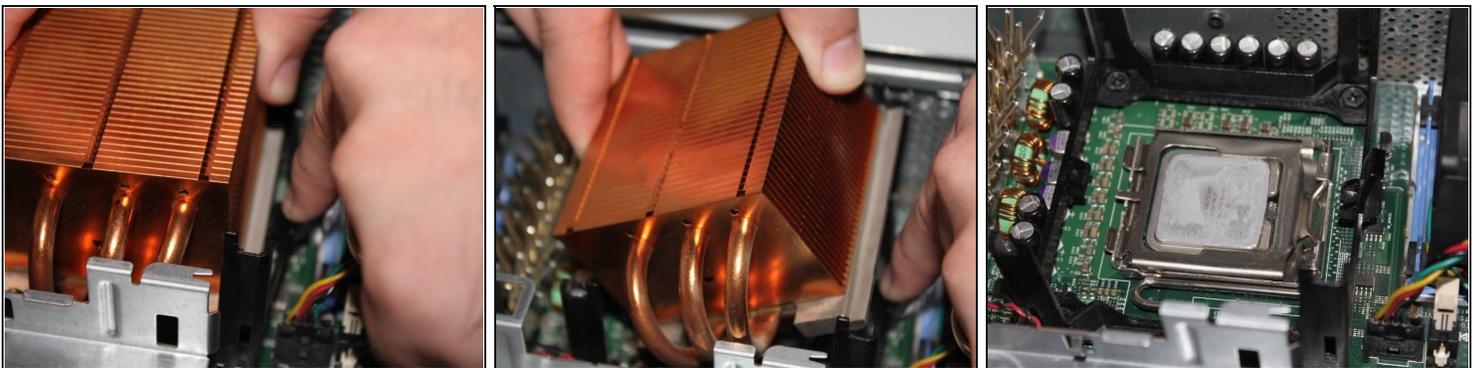
- While the knob is still turned, slide the panel case forward about 1/2 inch, and then lift the panel off the computer.

## Step 4 — CPU Heat Sink



- Remove the blue shield by sliding it straight upwards.

## Step 5



- Pull back on the tab nearest to the front case fan.
  - Slide the CPU heat sink from under the clip and pull upward.
- i** You may need to twist the CPU heat sink side to side to free it from the thermal paste.

To reassemble your device, follow these instructions in reverse order. Don't forget to reapply the thermal compound when reinstalling the heat sink.