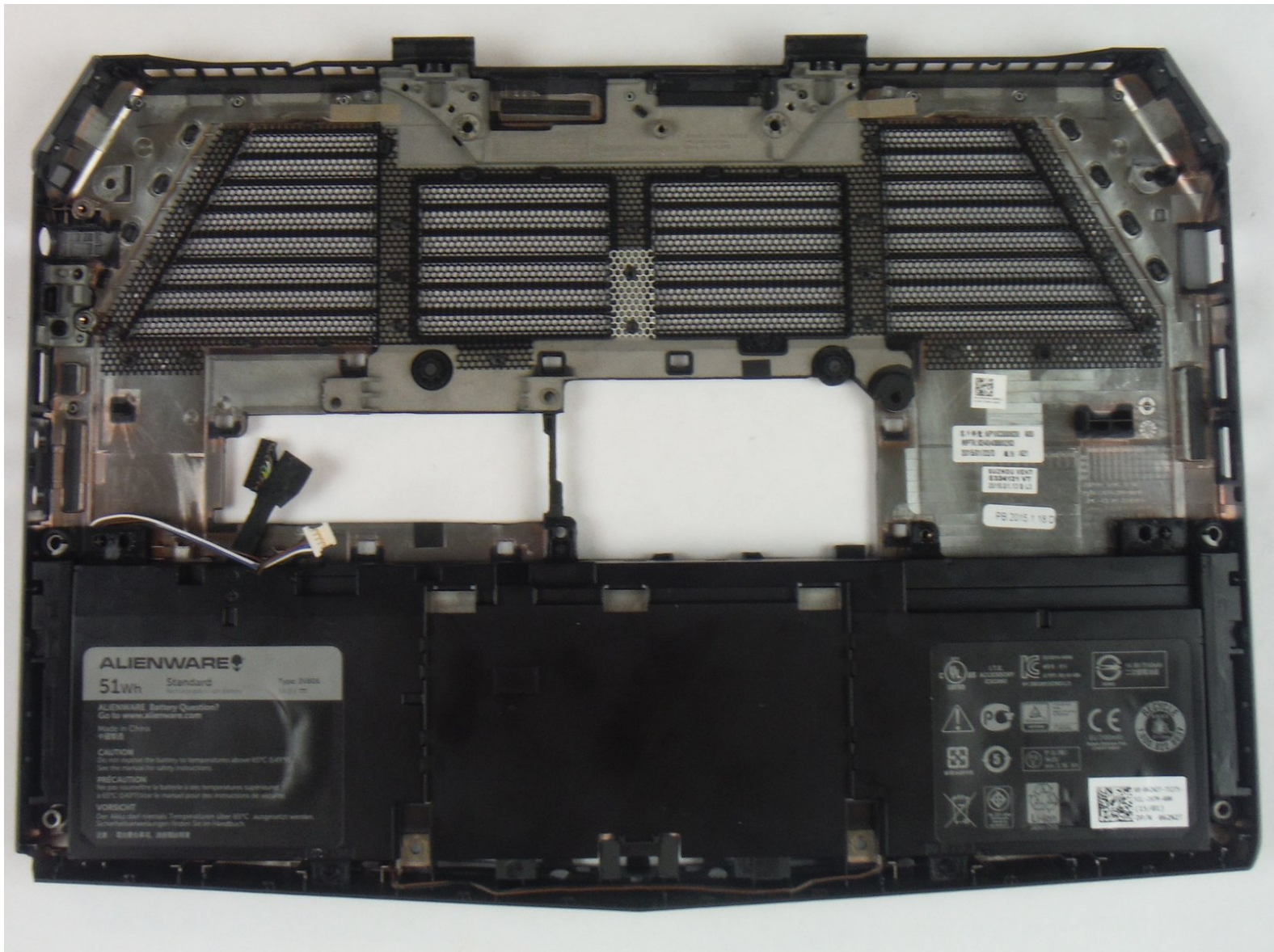# Dell Alienware 13 Computer Base Replacement

Use this guide to replace the Computer Base on a Dell Alienware 13 laptop.

Written By: Adam Russell

INTRODUCTION

This guide will show the user how to replace a cracked, broken, or damaged computer base on a Dell Alienware 13 laptop.

🔧 TOOLS:

- Heavy-Duty Spudger (1)
- Phillips #1 Screwdriver (1)
- Phillips #0 Screwdriver (1)

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Step 1 — Base Panel

⚠️ Working on an electrical device while plugged in can cause injury due to electrical shock. Ensure that all external power is disconnected from the device.
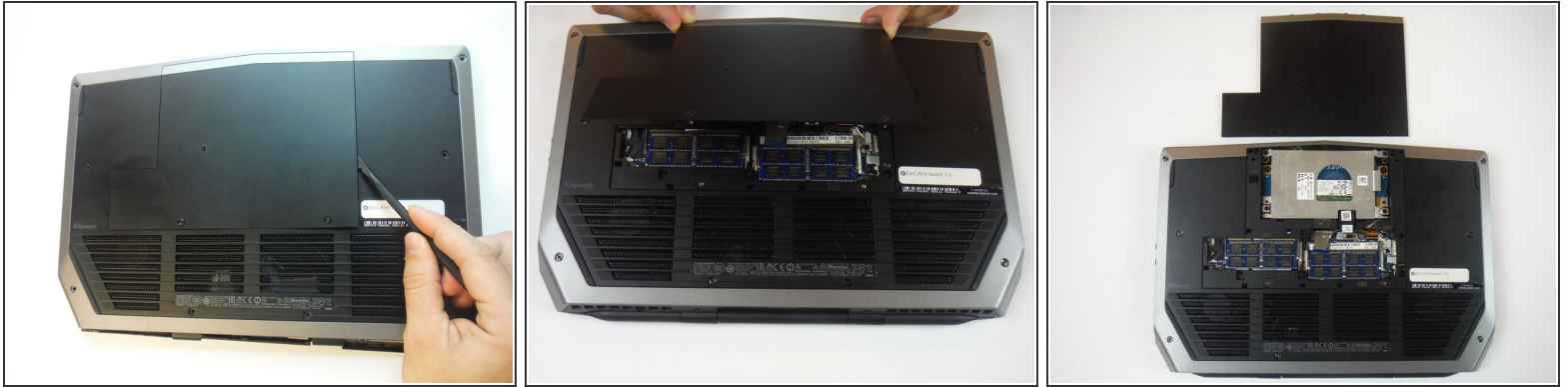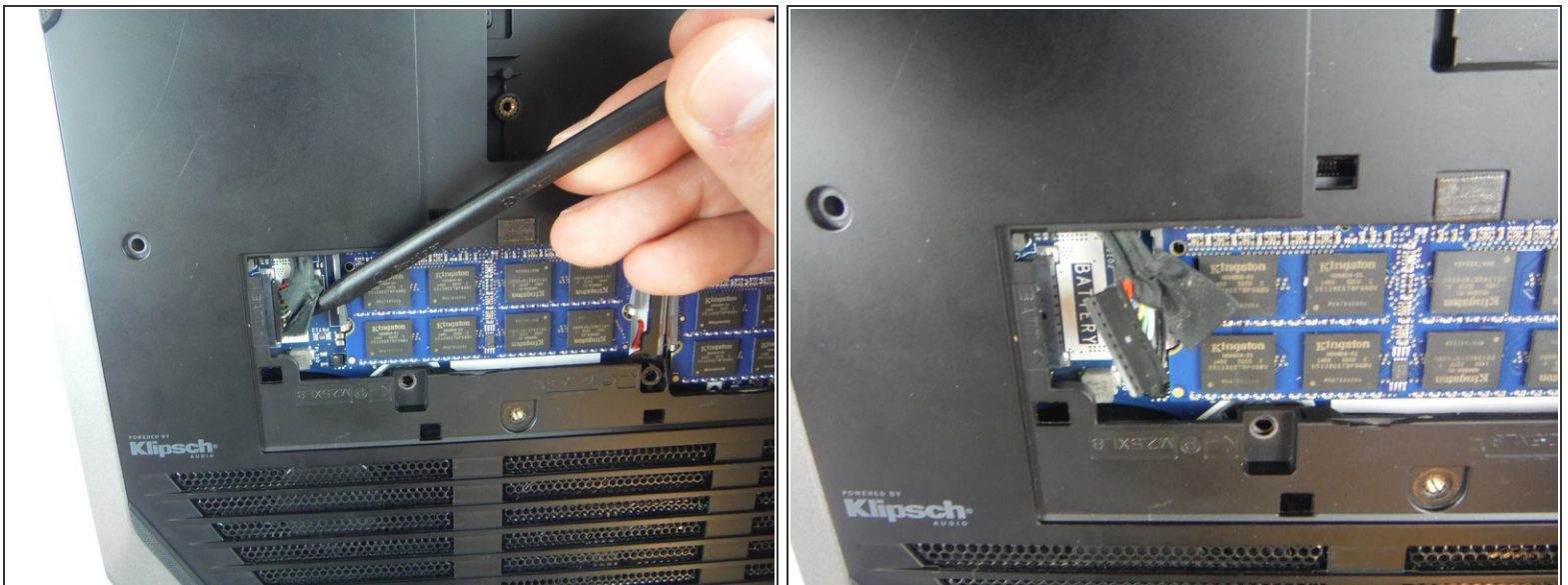
● Close the device and turn the device over.

Step 2

● Remove (2) 5 mm Phillips head screws attaching the small access panel to the base using a Phillips # 1 screwdriver.

ⓘ The (2) screws are attached to the base panel with retaining clips and won't completely detach from the panel.

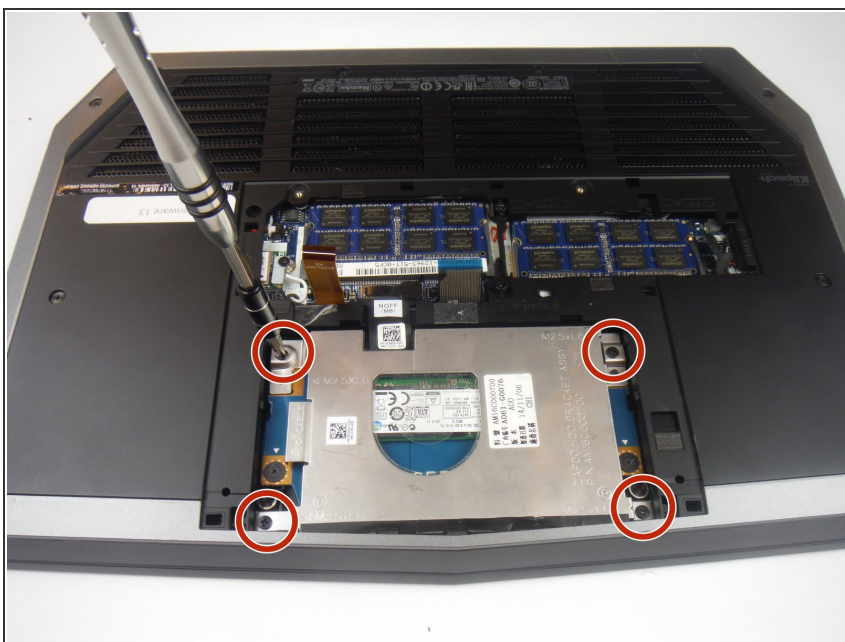This document was generated on 2020-11-17 08:17:44 PM (MST).

Step 3

- Remove the small access panel using a heavy duty spudger.
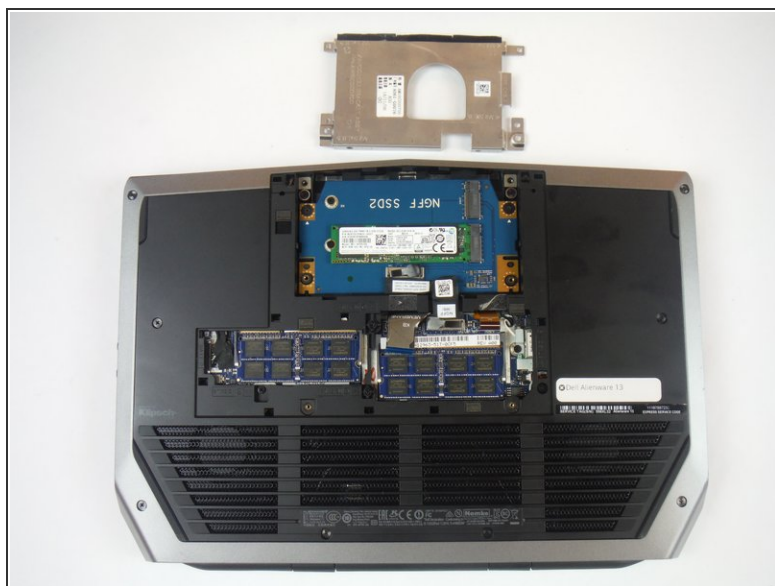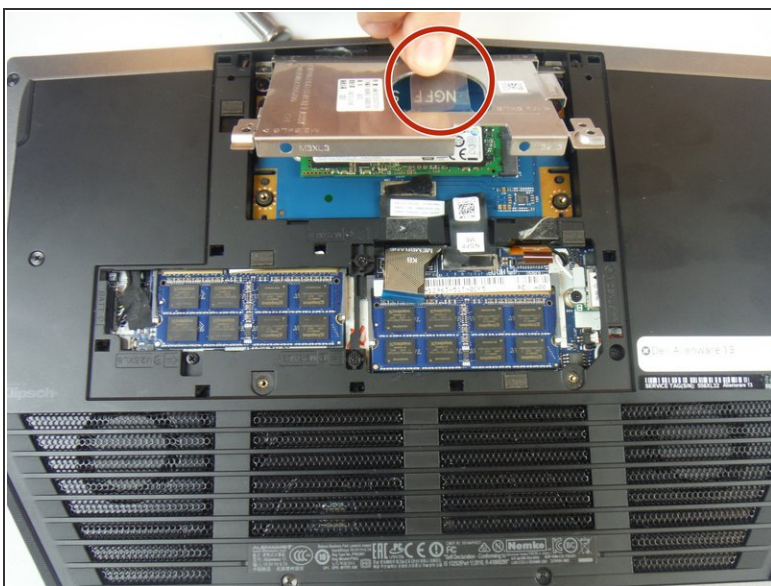
Step 4 — Computer Base

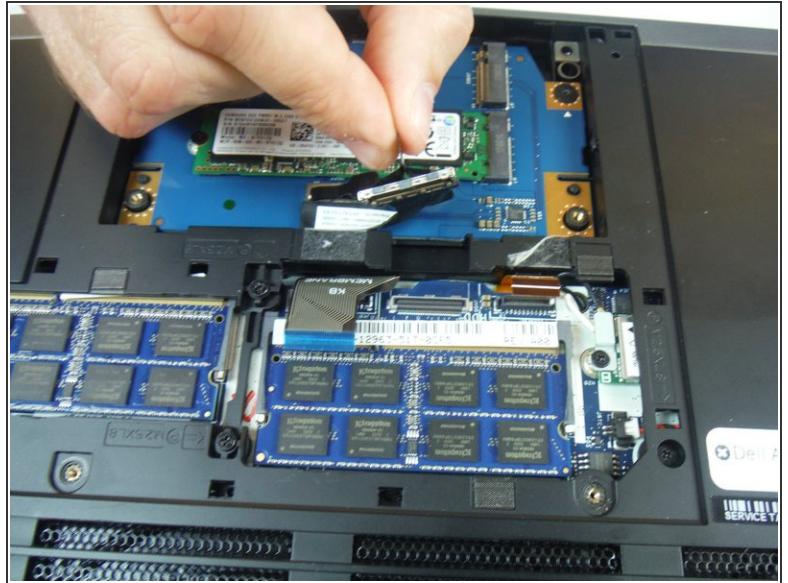- Disconnect the battery cable from the battery cable terminal.
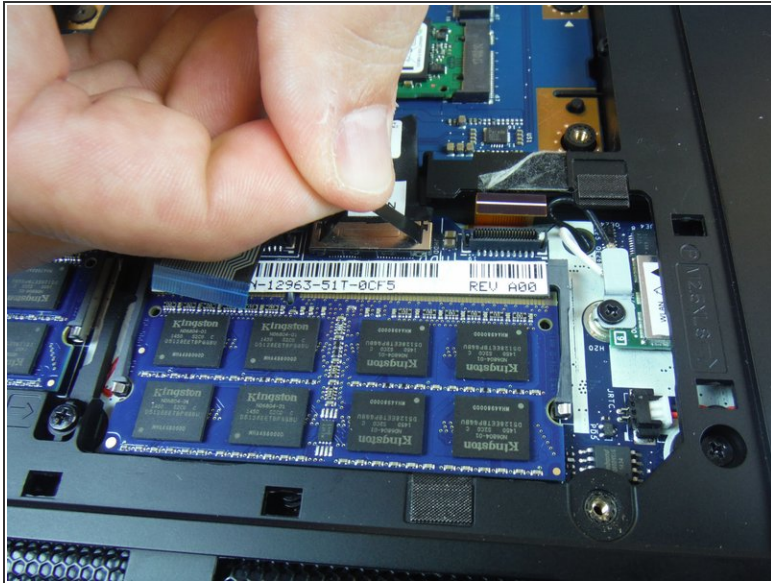
Step 5

- Remove (4) 6 mm Phillips head screws from the solid-state metal drive bracket, using a Phillips # 1 screwdriver.

Step 6

- Grab the pull tab to pivot the solid-state drive bracket upwards. Remove the bracket from the computer base.
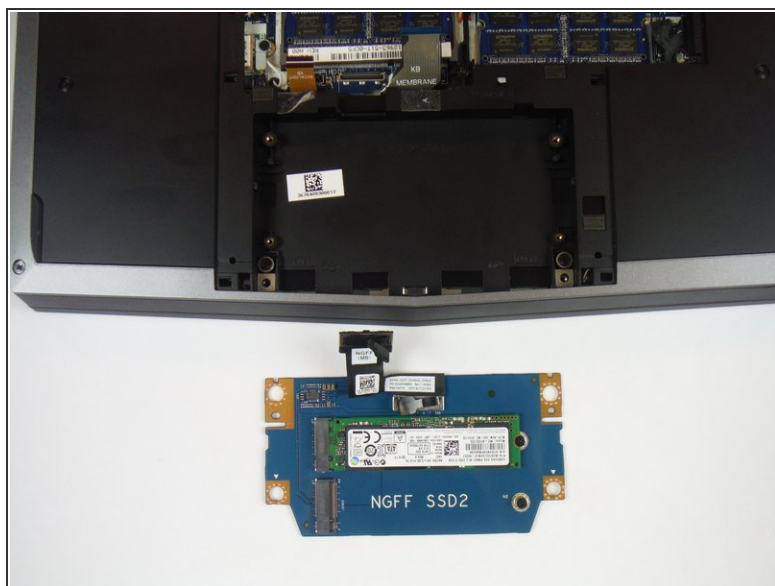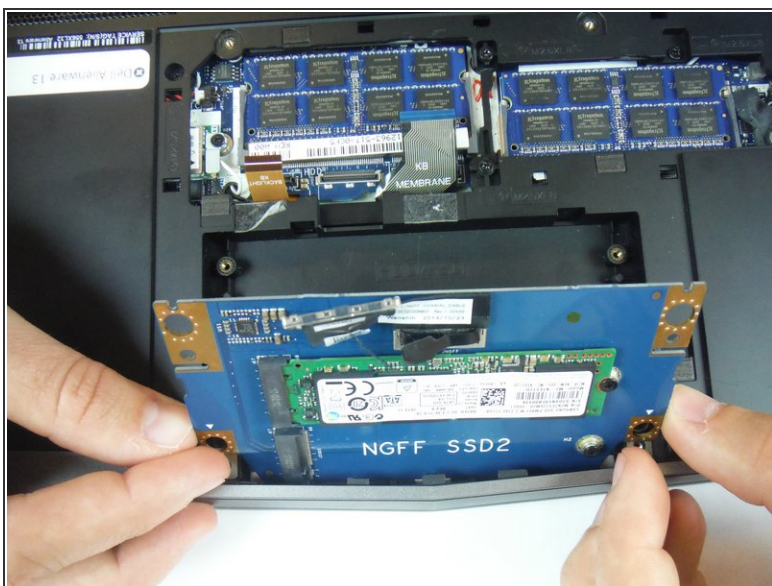
Step 7

- Using the pull tab, disconnect the black solid-state drive cable from the system board.
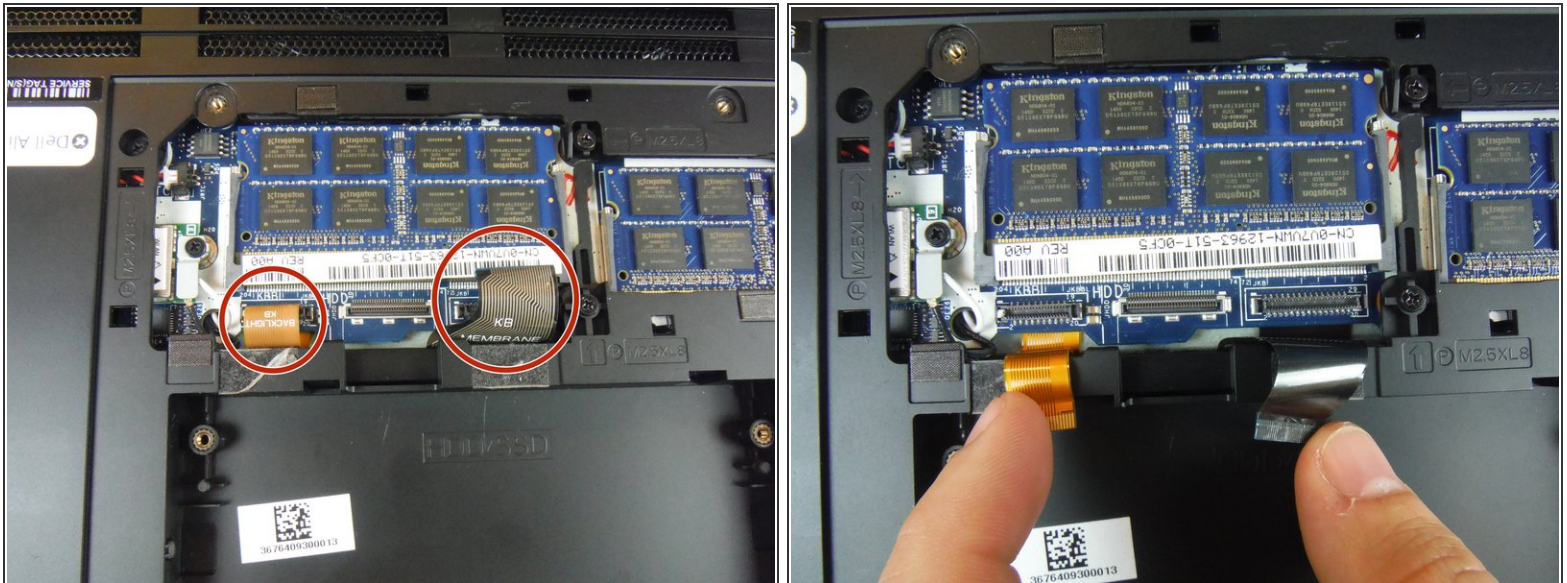
Step 8

- ● Remove (2) 3 mm Phillips head screws, using a Phillips # 0 screwdriver, that connect the solid-state drive assembly to the computer base.
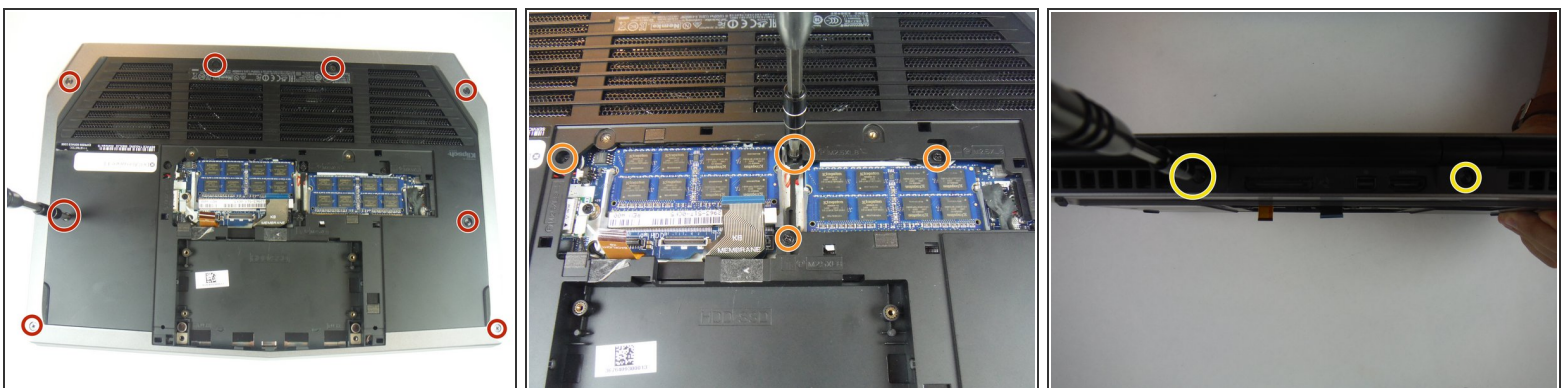
Step 9

- ● Lift up on the solid-state drive assembly to remove it from the computer base.

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Step 10

- Locate two cables labeled, "KB Backlight" (orange) and "KB Membrane" (black). Lift up on the latches to disconnect the cables from the system board.

- (i) The latches that connect the cables to the system board are very delicate. Handle with care to avoid damaging them.

Step 11

- Remove (8) 9 mm Phillips head screws using a Phillips # 1 screwdriver, that secures the palm-rest assembly to the computer base.

- Remove (4) 8 mm Phillips head screws using a Phillips # 1 screwdriver.

- Remove (2) 7 mm Phillips head screws using a Phillips # 1 screwdriver.

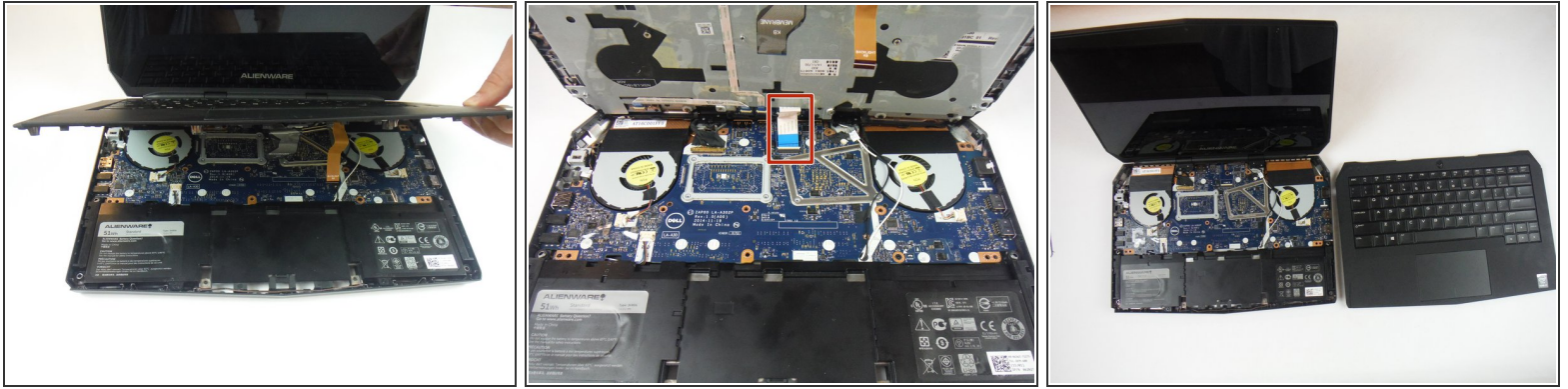This document was generated on 2020-11-17 08:17:44 PM (MST).

Step 12

- Lift the computer base slightly towards you and push the release tabs on the palm-rest assembly until it pops out using a spudger.
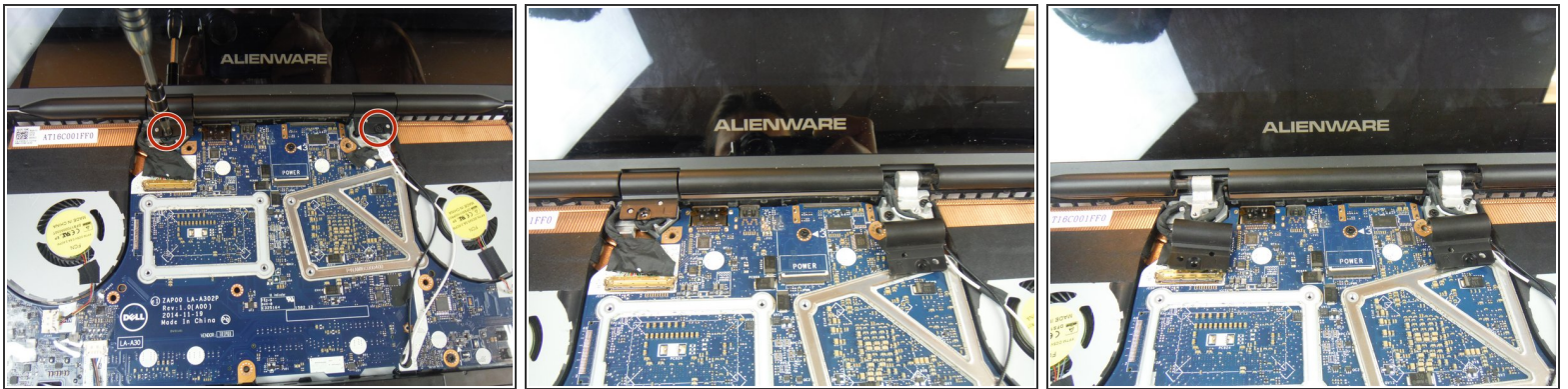
Step 13

- Turn the computer over and open the display as far as possible.

- Using a plastic spudger, pry up along the edges of the palm-rest assembly.

- Gently lift the palm-rest assembly.

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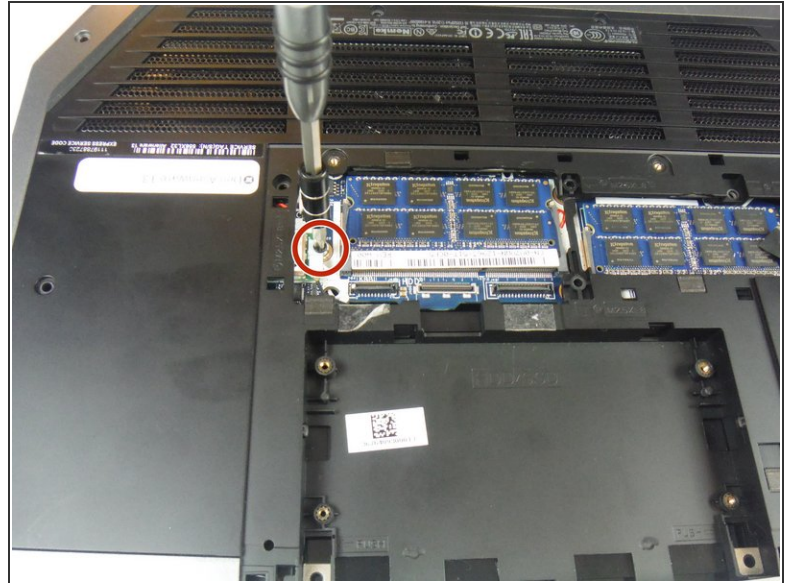
Step 14

- Lift the connector latch and disconnect the power-button board cable from the system board. Identified as a cable with a blue tab.

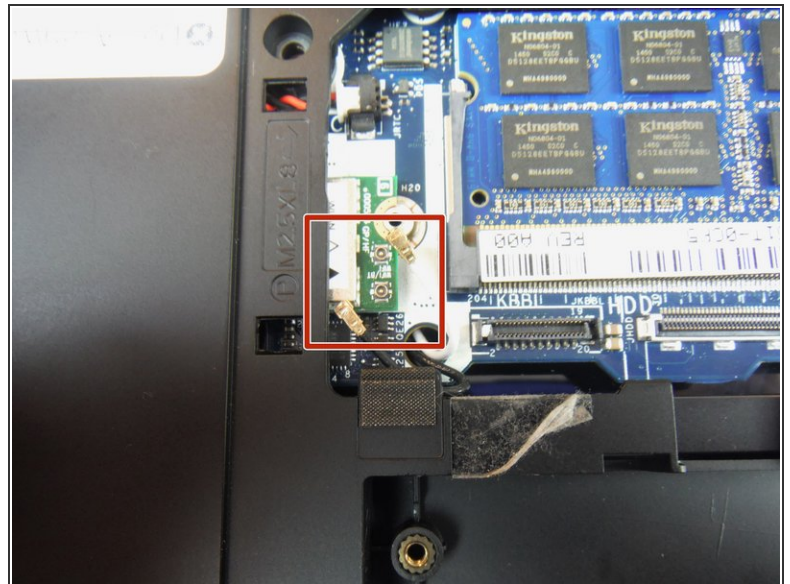- Lift the palm-rest assembly off the computer base.

Step 15

- Open the display as far as possible.

- Remove (2) 3 mm Phillips head screws, using a Phillips head #0 screwdriver, that secure the hinge caps to the display hinges.

- Slide and lift the hinge caps off the display hinges.
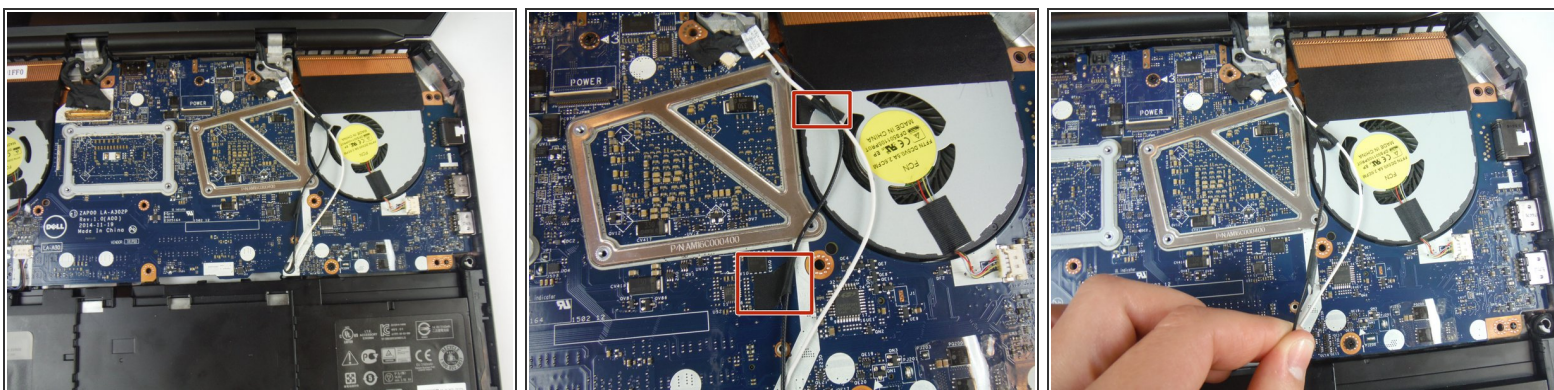
     www.iFixit.com

Step 16

- Close the display and turn the computer over.

- Remove (1) 2 mm Phillips head screw, using a Phillips head # 0 screwdriver, that secures the wireless-card bracket to the wireless card.
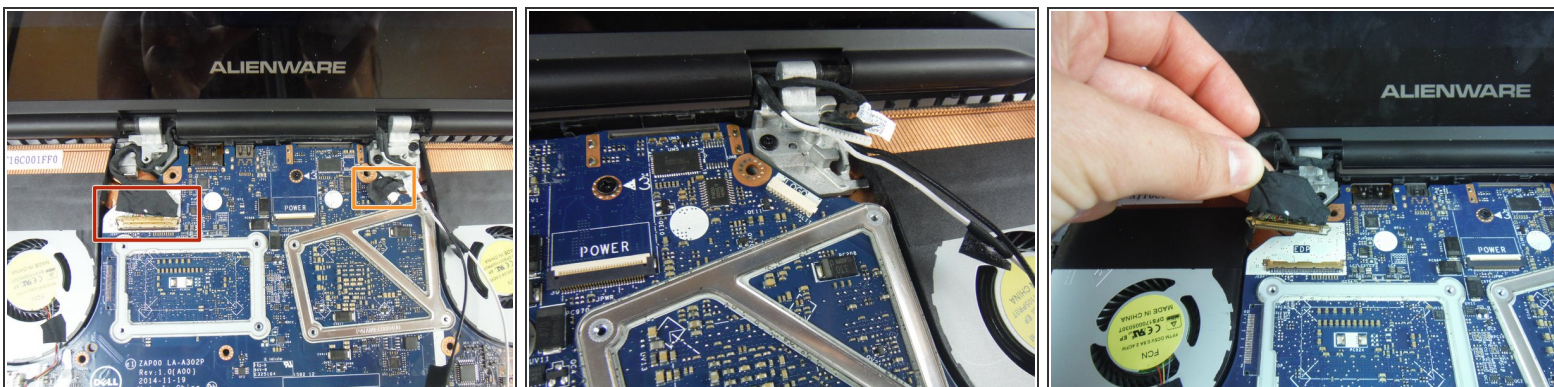
Step 17

- Disconnect the antenna cables from the wireless card using a heavy duty spudger. The wires can be removed by applying a force directed upward, away from the device.

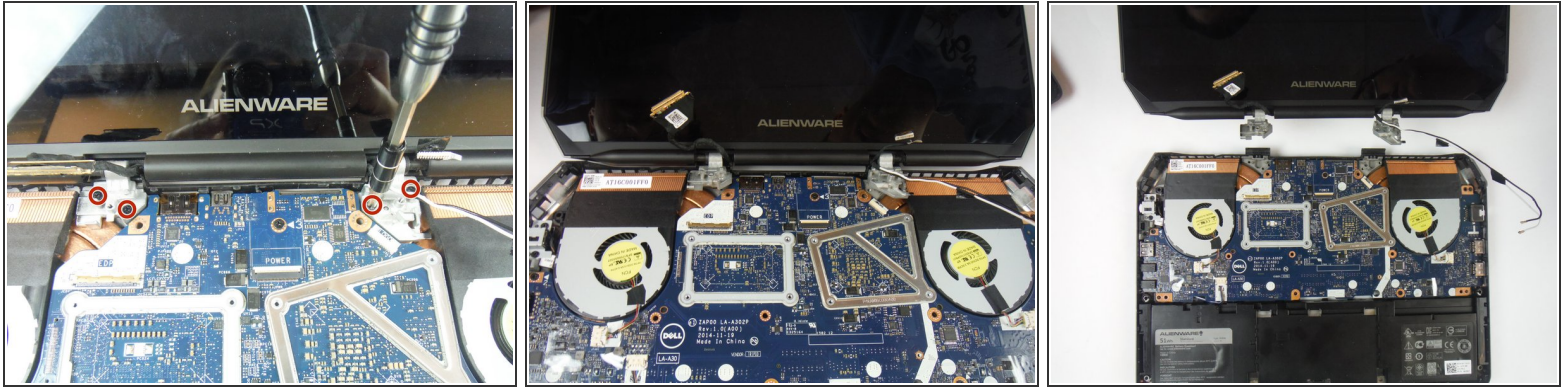This document was generated on 2020-11-17 08:17:44 PM (MST).

Step 18

- Turn the computer over and open the display.

- Peel off the adhesive tapes that secure the antenna cables to the system board.

- (i) Make note of how the cables are routed before removing any cables from their routing guide.

Step 19

- Lift the connector latch and disconnect the display cable from the system board.

- Disconnect the logo-board cable from the system board.

- Remove the antenna cables, display cable, and logo-board cable from the routing guides on the display hinges.
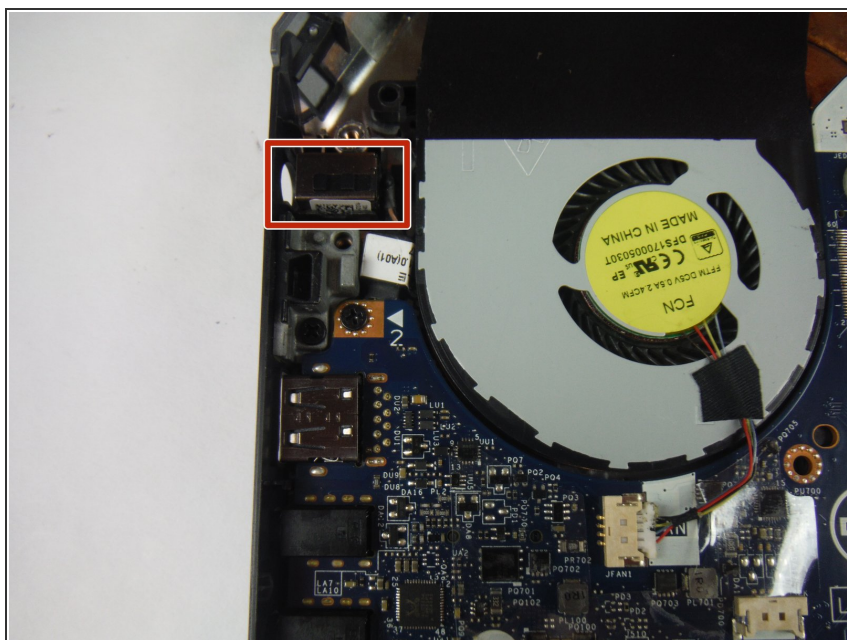
Step 20

- Remove (4) 8 mm Phillips head screws, using a Phillips # 1 screwdriver, that secure the display assembly to the computer base.

- Lift the display assembly off the computer base.
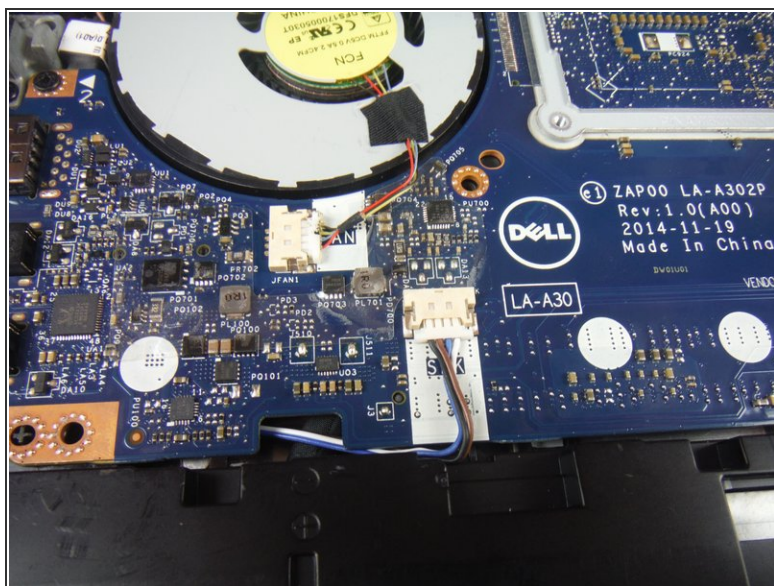
Step 21

- Remove the (2) 6 mm Phillips head screws securing the power adapter port bracket with a #1 Phillips screwdriver.

- Lift and remove the power adapter port bracket.

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Step 22

- Lift up and remove the power adapter port from the computer base.

Step 23

- Disconnect the speaker cable connector from the service board.

Step 24

- Remove (3) 6 mm Phillips head screws securing the service board with a #1 Phillips screwdriver.

- Lift up on the service board assembly using a heavy duty spudger and slide the board towards the battery to remove from the base.

To reassemble your device, follow these instructions in reverse order.