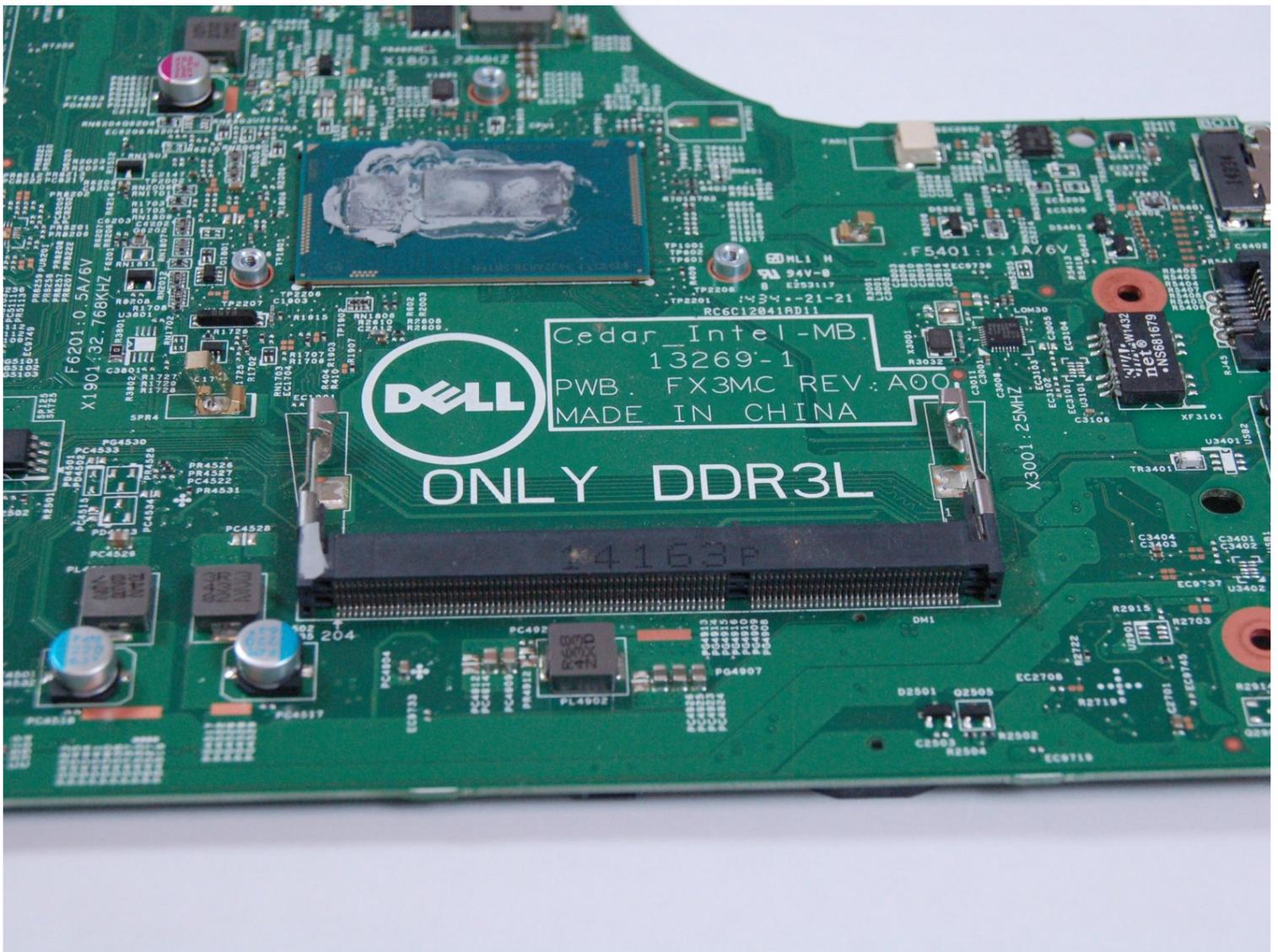




Dell Inspiron 3542 Motherboard Replacement

If your Dell Inspiron 3542 laptop has stopped...

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INTRODUCTION

If your Dell Inspiron 3542 laptop has stopped or if you just need to upgrade your system with new components, use this guide to replace the motherboard. The motherboard is responsible for overall performance, and your laptop will load a lot faster. If the motherboard stops working, then the entire system will begin to fail, including fans, lights, and more.

Before beginning, make sure to power off your laptop completely and disconnect from any external power source.

TOOLS:

[Mako Driver Kit - 64 Precision Bits](#) (1)

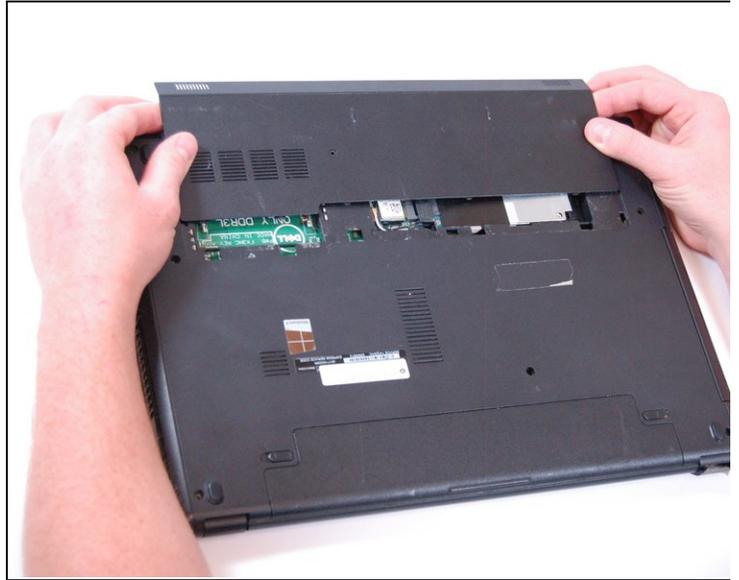
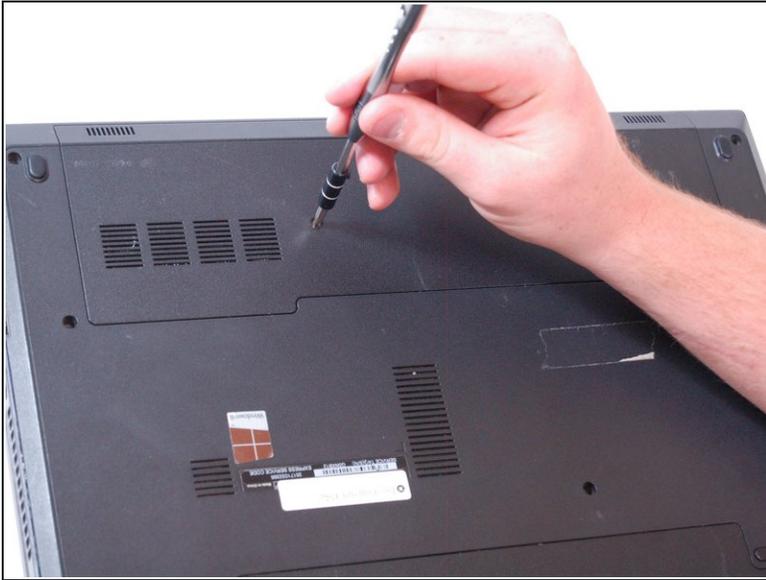
[iFixit Opening Tool](#) (1)

Step 1 — Motherboard



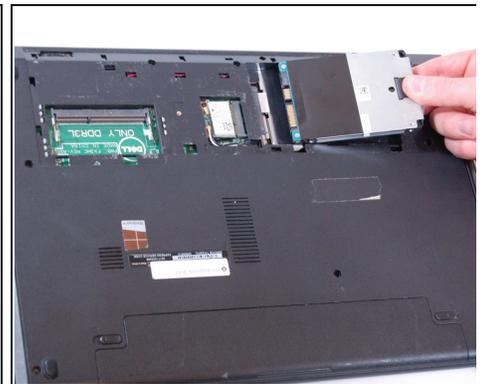
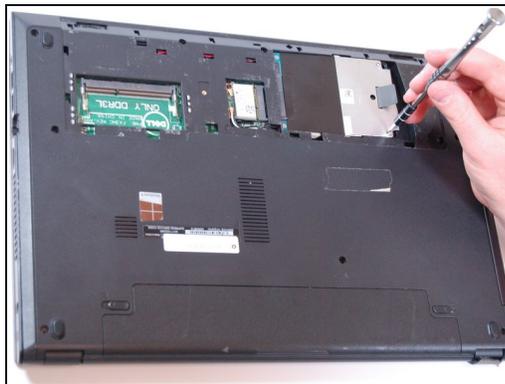
- Slide the latches on both sides of the laptop outward to unlock the battery.
- Remove the battery from the computer.

Step 2



- Remove the screw. (1 x M2 x 3mm)
- Slide down the access door and remove it.

Step 3



- Remove the screw. (1 x M2 x 3mm)
- Move the hard drive to the open area and remove it.

Step 4



- Unplug the black and white antenna cables from the wireless card.
- Remove the screw. (1 x M2 x 3mm)
- Remove the wireless card from the laptop.

Step 5



- Remove all screws from the bottom of the laptop. (10 x M2.5 x 5mm)
- Turn over the laptop and open it.

Step 6



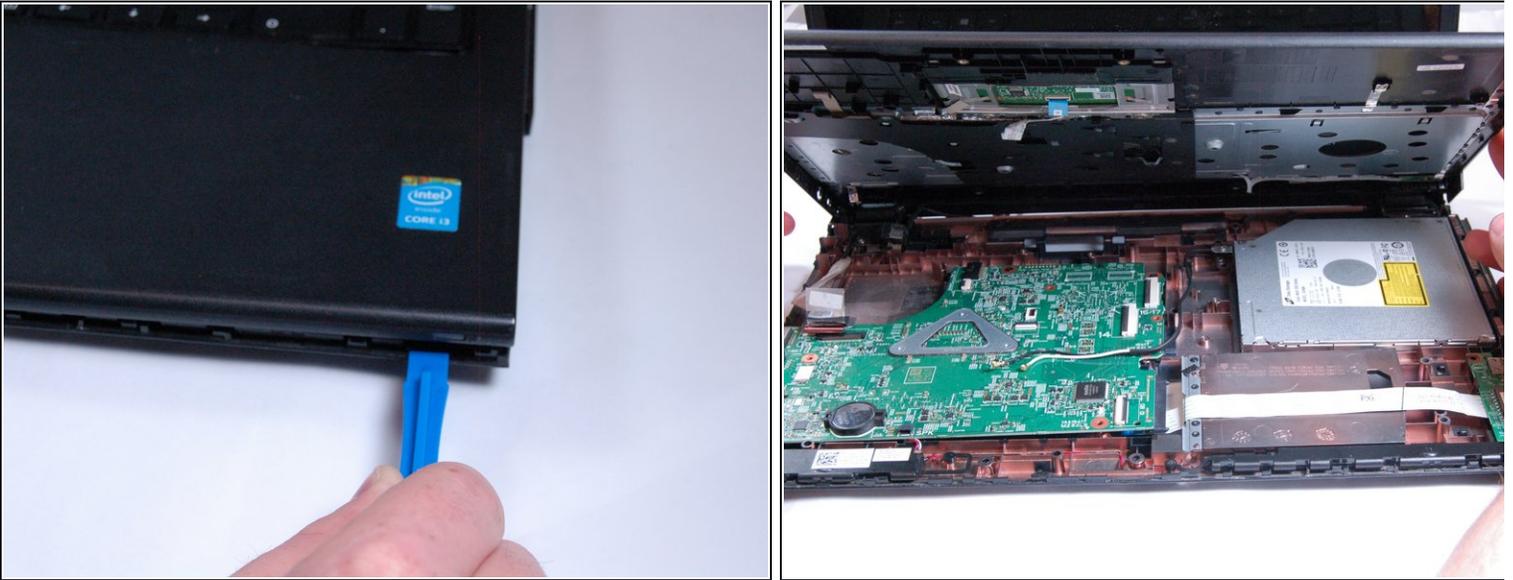
- Use the plastic prying device to release the keyboard.
- Lift the keyboard.
- Unplug the cable connecting the keyboard to the laptop.
- Remove the keyboard.

Step 7



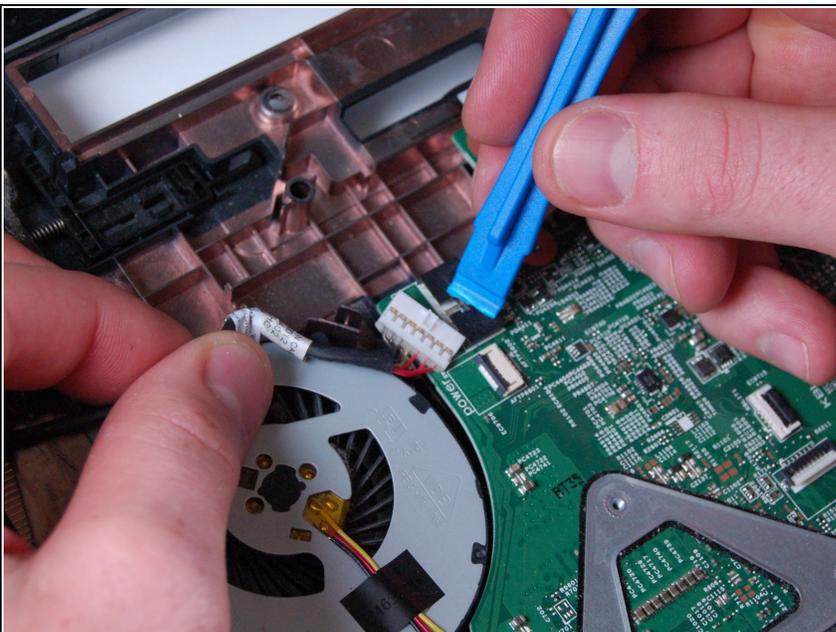
- Unplug the touch pad cables located on the palm rest.
- Remove the screws. (3 x M2.5 x 5mm)

Step 8



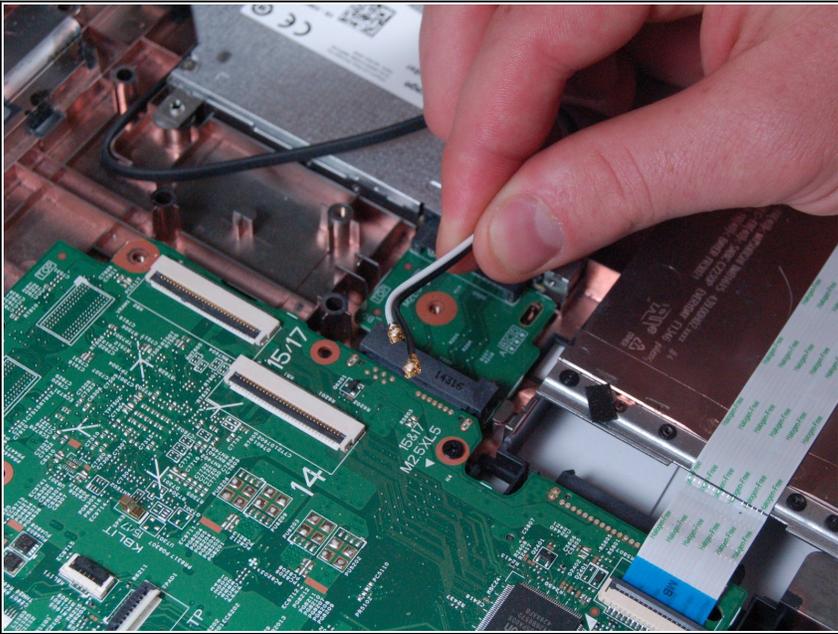
- Carefully unsnap the palm rest from the rest of the laptop.
- Remove the palm rest.

Step 9



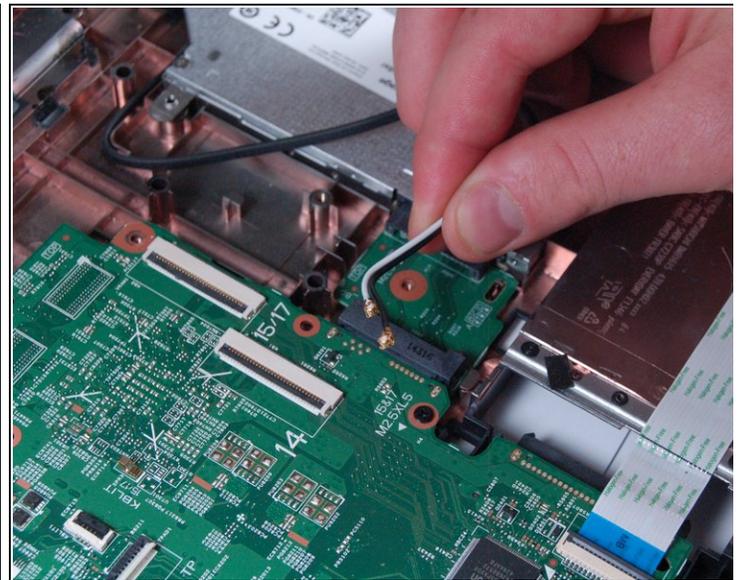
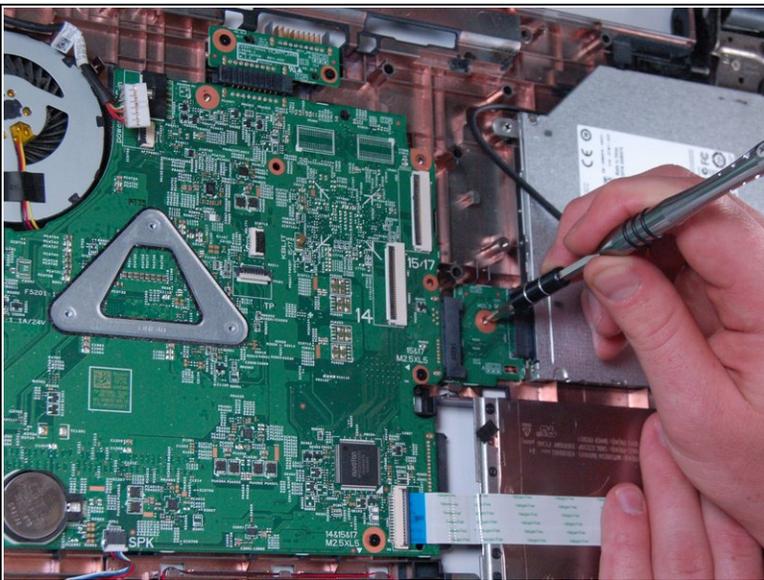
- Unplug the cable that connects to the motherboard.
- Remove the DC jack from the laptop.

Step 10



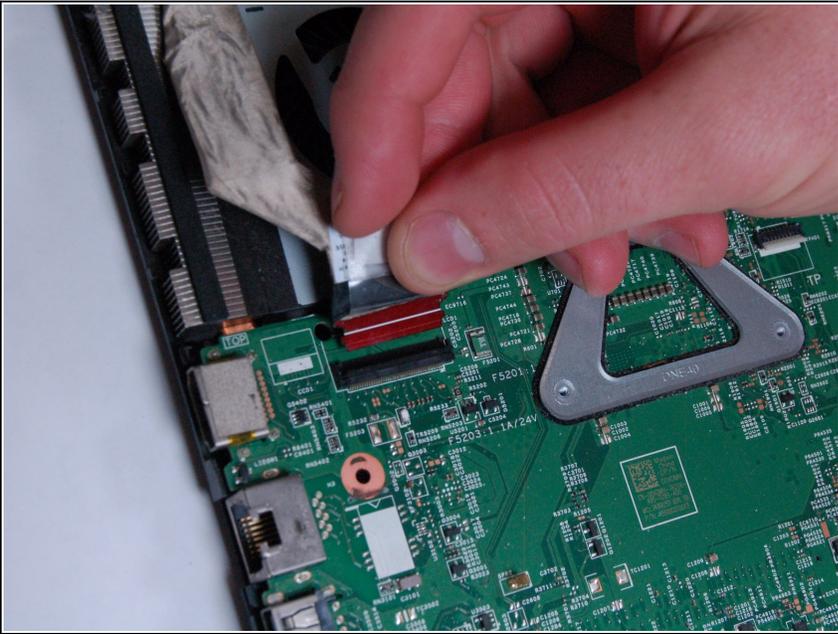
- Loosen the cables on the antenna.

Step 11



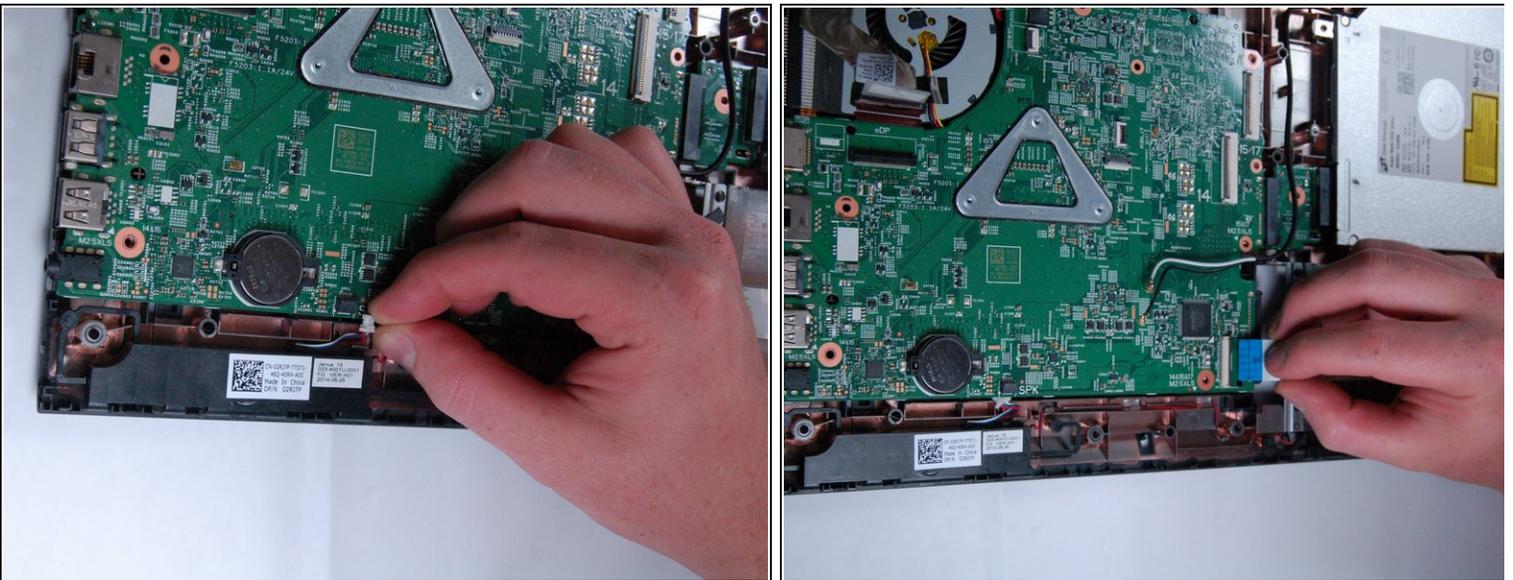
- Remove the screws. (1 x M2 x 3mm)
- Unplug the circuit board from the rest of the computer.

Step 12



- Loosen the tape on the left side of the laptop.
- Unplug the display cable.

Step 13



- Unplug the cable on the bottom part of the mother board.
- Remove the screws.
- Remove the cable on the right side of the motherboard. (3x M2.5 x 5mm)
- Remove the motherboard from the laptop.

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