



MacBook Unibody Model A1278 Battery Teardown

Disassembly of the A1280 replaceable battery found in the Late 2008 Unibody MacBook

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TOOLS:

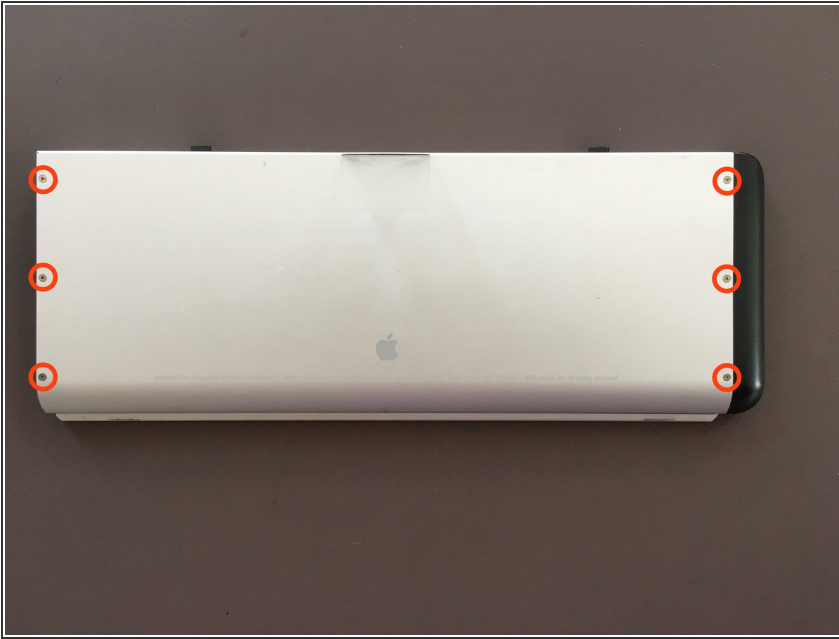
- [Tri-point Y00 Screwdriver \(for MacBook\)](#) (1)
 - [iFixit Opening Tools](#) (1)
 - [iFixit Opening Picks set of 6](#) (1)
 - [Metal Spudger](#) (1)
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Step 1 — MacBook Unibody Model A1278 Battery Teardown



- i** The Unibody MacBook released in Late 2008 is one of the last Mac Notebooks to feature a "user replaceable battery".
- i** Apple removed this feature in mid 2009 when they discontinued the Late 2008 Aluminium MacBook and introduced the 13" MacBook Pro with it's larger 58 Wh battery and its higher 1000 cycle rating for the battery.

Step 2



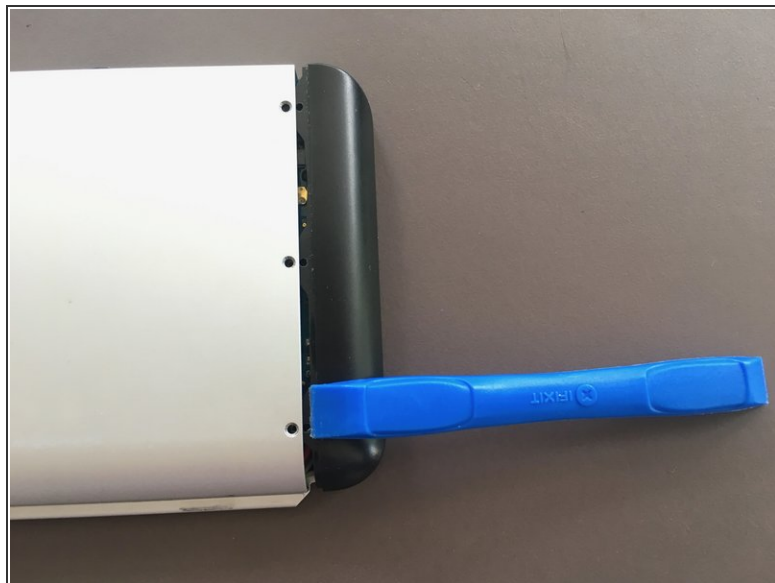
- Start by removing the 6 3 mm Y00 screws from the top side of the battery

Step 3



- Flip the battery over and continue by removing the screws from the bottom side of the battery:
 - Remove the 5 3 mm Y00 Screws.
 - Remove the 1 2 mm Y00 Screw

Step 4



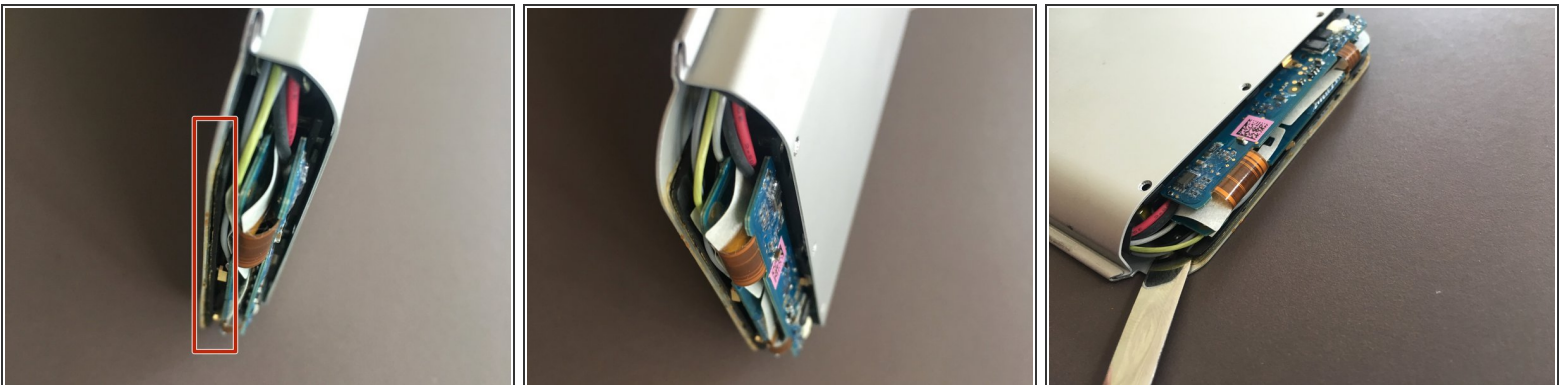
- With the help of a plastic opening tool remove the plastic cover on the right side of the battery.
- Insert the plastic opening tool in-between the aluminium casing and the plastic cover and pry it straight away from the casing.

Step 5



- Continue by removing the plastic cover on the other side of the battery.
- Insert a plastic opening pick in-between the aluminium casing and the plastic cover and pry the plastic cover out of the battery by bending the opening pick upwards.

Step 6

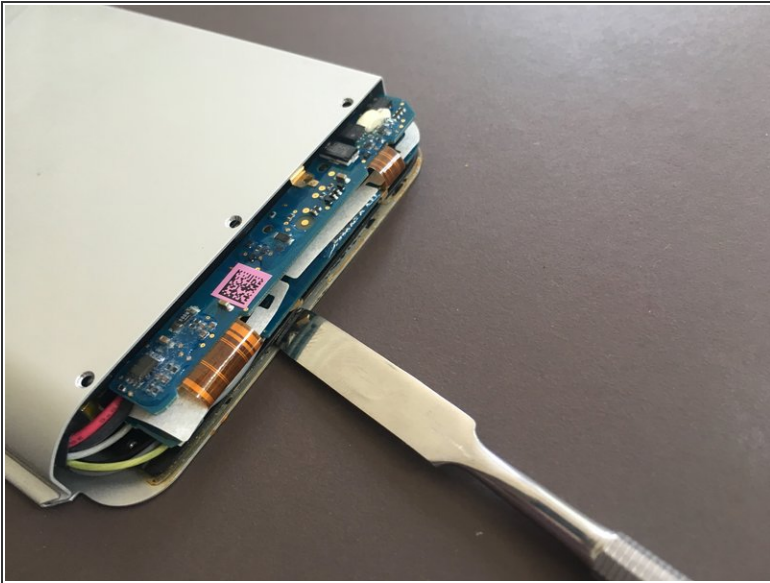


- With the plastic covers removed it's now time to get the battery pack out of its casing. However there is still one plastic piece glued to the aluminum casing which we have to remove first.
- Insert a metal spudger in-between the plastic piece and the aluminium casing on the left side.



Be careful when working with metal objects near a battery pack. Shorting out the battery terminals can lead to a fire.

Step 7



- Work your way across the entire edge of the battery to free the plastic bracket from the aluminium casing.

Step 8



- With the plastic bracket free from the aluminium casing we can now remove the battery pack from the aluminium casing.
- Push the plastic inside of the battery from the non-circuitboard side into the direction of the circuitboard side.

Step 9



- The plastic bracket may drop out of the battery pack when removing the pack from the casing.
- ⓘ When reassembling the pack make sure the metal pins on the plastic bracket are oriented in the direction shown as the plastic cover will hook onto these pins.

Step 10



- ⓘ When reassembling it's easier to attach the plastic cover onto the plastic bracket before inserting the pack back into the aluminium casing.

Step 11 — Conclusion



- The pack is now fully disassembled.

⚠ Be careful not to puncture or damage the cells as this could lead to a fire.