



# Dell XPS 14 L401X Palm Rest Replacement

How to replace the Dell XPS 14 L401X palm rest.

Written By: Phelan Mascitelli



---

## INTRODUCTION

The large plastic palm rest may need replacement if damaged or discolored. Removal of the palm rest is also required to reach further into the laptop's internal components.

---

### TOOLS:

- [JIS #1](#) (1)
  - [Spudger](#) (1)
-

## Step 1 — Battery

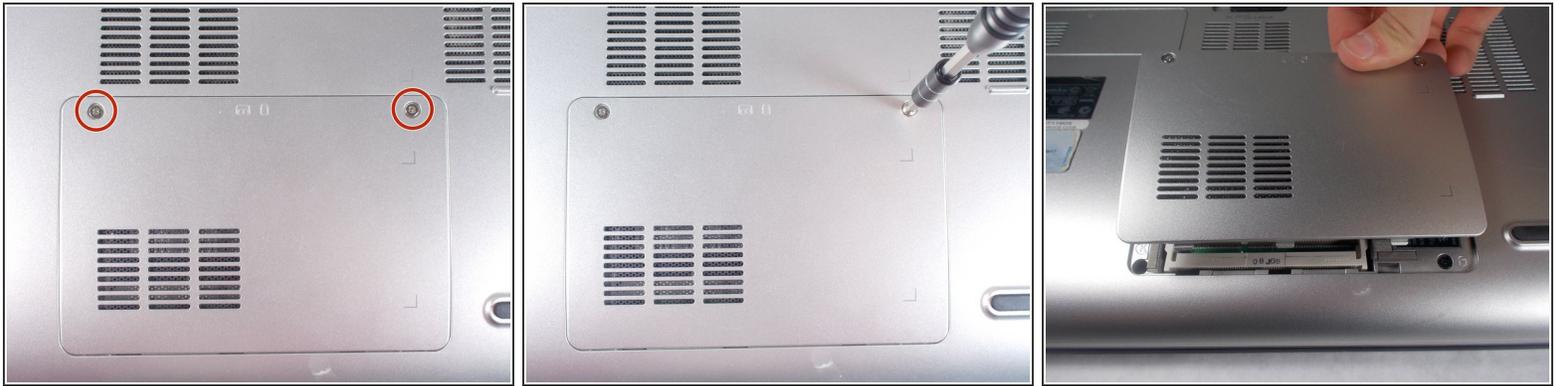


**!** Make sure that the laptop is shut off before attempting to remove any components from the device.

**i** The laptop in this example did not have a battery equipped.

- Locate the spring latch on the bottom of the device that will unlatch the battery.
- Hold the spring latch in the open position and pull the battery out of its recess.

## Step 2 — RAM



- Use a JIS 1 screwdriver to loosen the (2) captive screws from the panel.
- ⓘ The captive screws will not come off of the panel.
- Pull the panel upwards and towards the battery to remove.
- Put the panel to the side, exposing the RAM.

## Step 3



- The RAM is held by two spring clips. Pull at the two spring clips and the RAM will move upwards.
- ⓘ Keep your fingers on the edge of the chip.
- ⚠ Only handle the RAM by the sides! Do not touch the circuits or the terminals to avoid contamination!

## Step 4 — Optical Drive



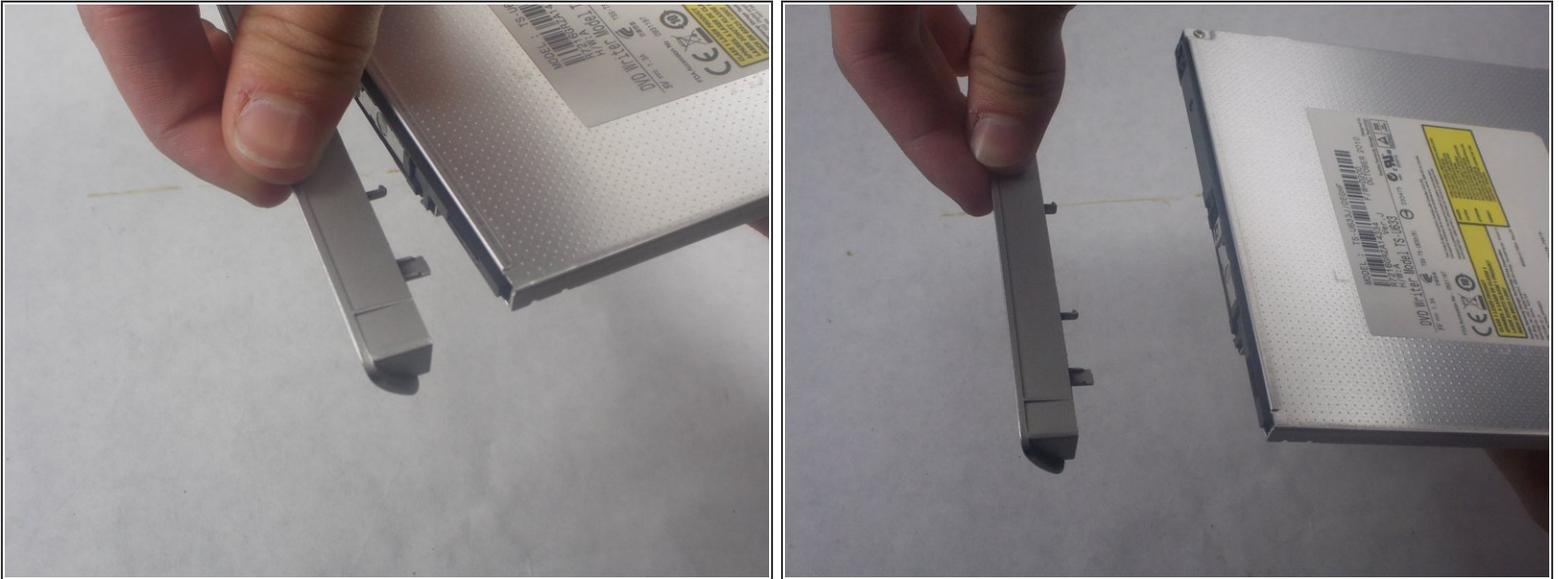
- Locate and remove (1) 8.5mm JIS 1 screw at the top left corner of the RAM bay.

## Step 5



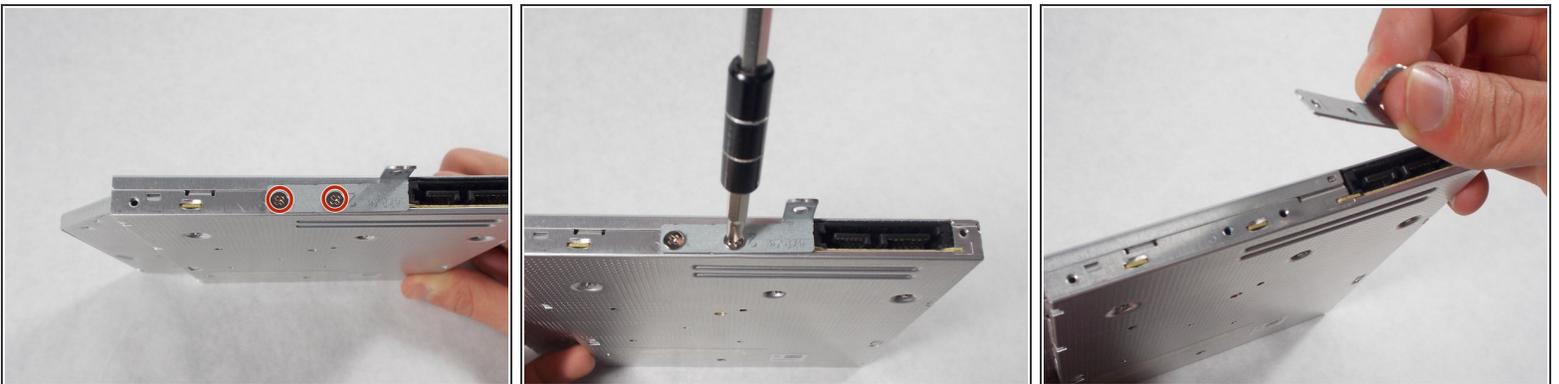
- Carefully pull out the optical drive from its bay.

## Step 6



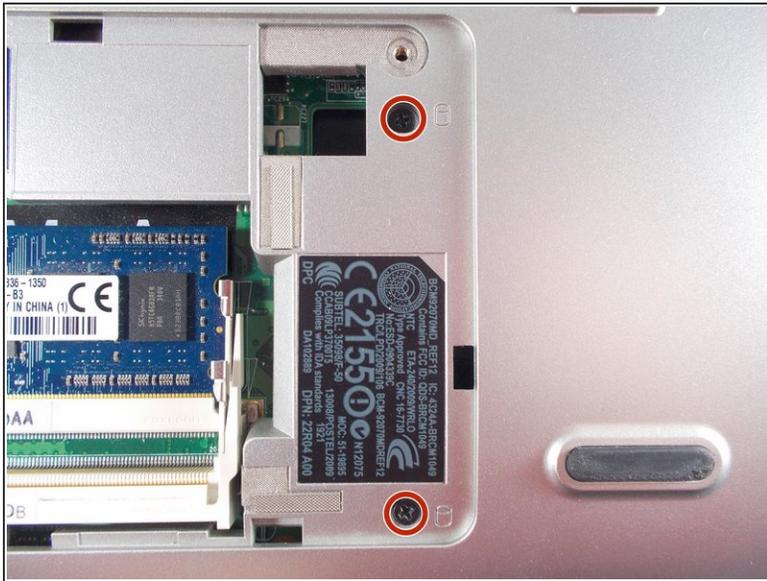
- Carefully pull off the decorative cover from the front of the optical drive.
- ⓘ This decorative cover will be transferred to the new optical drive.

## Step 7



- Use a JIS 1 screwdriver to remove (2) 2mm screws on the drive's anchoring bracket.
- ⓘ This bracket will be transferred to the new optical drive.

## Step 8 — Hard Drive



- Use a JIS 1 screwdriver to remove (2) 2.5mm screws located on the right side of the RAM bay.

## Step 9



- Push the hard drive to the right with a spudger to unseat it from its socket while pulling out the hard drive with your other hand.

## Step 10



- Use a JIS 1 screwdriver to remove (1) 2.5mm screw attaching the plastic cosmetic cover to the hard drive.
- Detach the plastic cosmetic cover from the hard drive.
- ⓘ This cosmetic cover will be transferred to the new hard drive.

## Step 11 — Mini Card



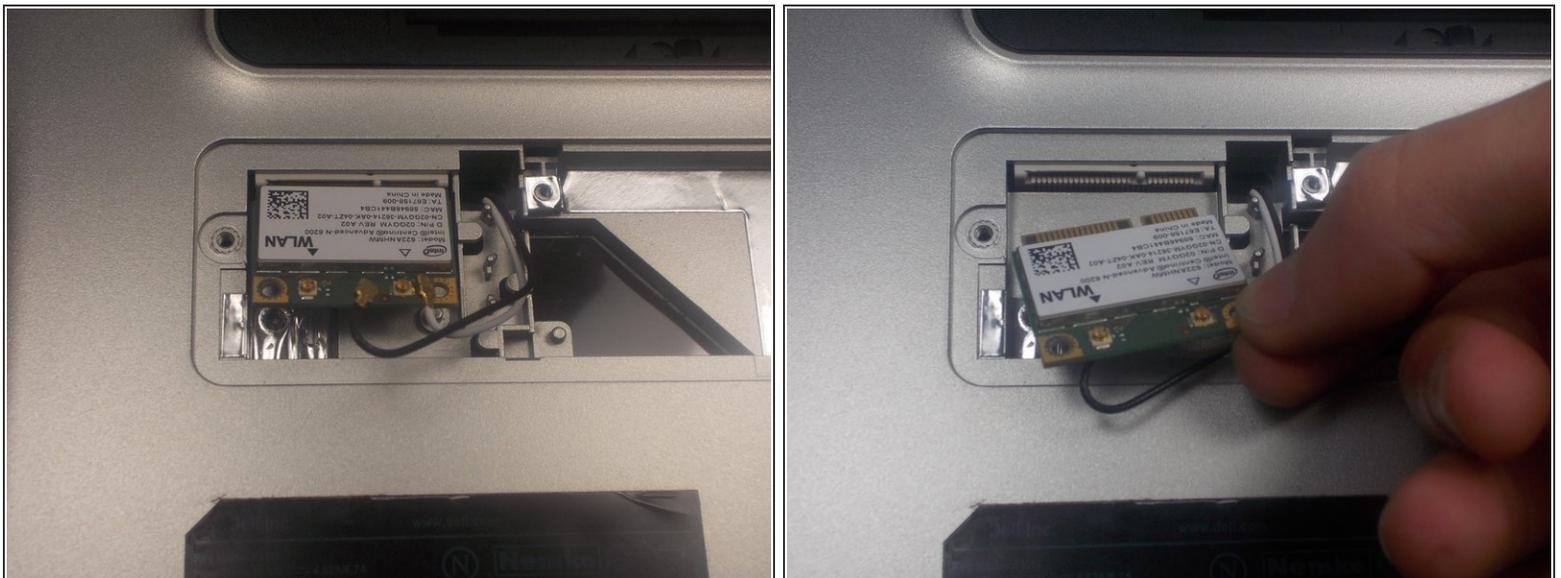
- Locate the mini card access panel marked with a radio tower emblem on the bottom of the laptop near the battery bay.
- Use a JIS 1 screwdriver to loosen the captive screw securing the panel to the device.
- ⓘ The captive screw will not come off of the panel.
- Carefully remove the panel by prying it upwards, unlocking it from the tabs that are securing it in place.

## Step 12



- Disconnect the two wires on the mini card by carefully plucking them upwards by the metal contact points at the terminals.
- ⚠ Do not pluck the contacts off of the terminals by pulling on the wires, this can damage the cables.
- Remove (1) 2mm screw from the bottom left corner of the mini card with a JIS 1 screwdriver.

## Step 13



- Remove the mini card as it flips upward.

## Step 14 — Palm Rest



- Remove two 4.5mm screws with JIS 1 screwdriver marked by the letter "K" in the optical drive bay.

## Step 15



- Remove (2) 4.5mm screws with JIS 1 screwdriver marked by the letter "K" in the hard drive bay.

## Step 16



- Remove (2) 4.5mm screws with JIS 1 screwdriver marked by the letter "K" near Battery

## Step 17



- Remove (1) 7.5mm screw with JIS 1 screwdriver marked by the letter "K" in the RAM bay.

## Step 18



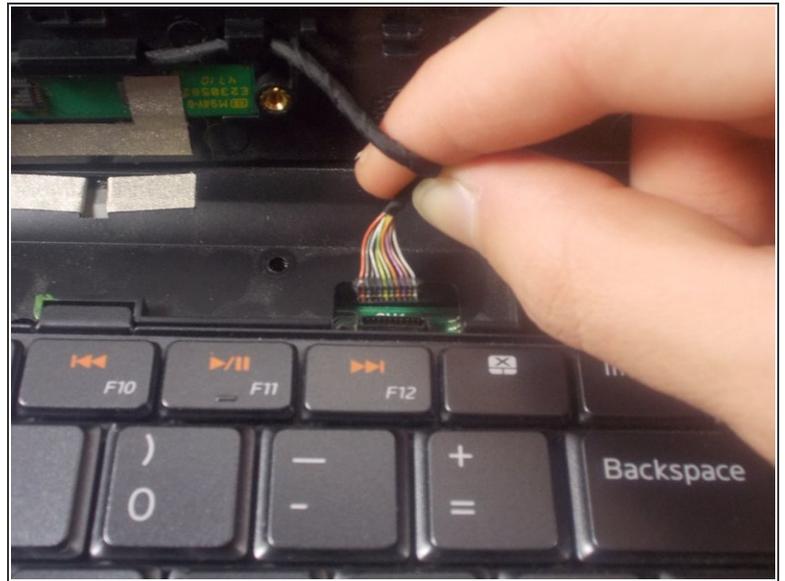
- Open the display to provide room for the palm rest to come out.
- In the hard drive bay, push the "push" pad to lift up the palm rest.

## Step 19



- Disconnect the track pad cable by flipping up the gray clamp and lifting the cable up.

## Step 20



- Disconnect the status bar cable by pulling the pin connector upward.
- Finish lifting up the palm rest.

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