

Packard Bell *iPower GX* Disassembly Manual



Packard Bell®

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About This Guide

This guide contains systematic disassembly instructions for the Packard Bell iPower GX. The instructions are illustrated where necessary with images of the part that is being disassembled. Packard Bell B.V. reserves the right to make changes to the iPower GX without notice.

For More Information

For more information about the Packard Bell iPower GX, visit Packard Bell's support web site at www.packardbell.com. The support web site also has links to additional Packard Bell documentation and detailed product specifications.

Technician Notes

Only technicians authorized by Packard Bell B.V. should attempt to repair this equipment. All troubleshooting and repair procedures are detailed to allow only subassembly/module level repair. Because of the complexity of the individual boards and subassemblies, no one should attempt to make repairs at the component level or to make modifications to any printed wiring board. Improper repairs can create a safety hazard. Any indication of component replacement or printed wiring board modifications may void any warranty or exchange allowances.

Disassembly

When disassembling the system unit, follow these general rules:

- Turn OFF the power to the system and all peripherals using the power button.
- Unplug the AC adapter and all power and signal cables from the system.
- Remove any SD/MMC card, ExpressCard or dummy card from the computer.
- Do not disassemble the system into parts that are smaller than those specified in the instructions.
- Label all removed connectors; note where the connector goes and in what position it was installed.
- The screws for the different components vary in size. Group the screws with the corresponding components during the disassembly process to avoid mismatch when putting back the components.
- Observe the order of the disassembly steps to prevent damaging any of the hardware components.
- Some of the procedures in this guide involve removing tape that holds cables or components. If the existing tape cannot be reused, replace it with the same type (conductivity) of tape. Do not use cellophane tape!

Reassembly

Reassembly is the reverse of the disassembly process. Use care to ensure that all cables and screws are returned to their proper positions. Check that no tools or any loose parts have been left inside the casing. Check that everything is properly installed and tightened.

Required Tools

To disassemble the computer, you need the following tools:

- Wrist grounding strap and conductive mat for preventing electrostatic discharge.
- Small Phillips screwdriver.
- Small flat screwdriver.
- Scribe or non-marring tool.

Hazardous Voltage

There is hazardous voltage present inside the notebook when it is connected to an AC supply, even when the notebook's power switch is off. Exposure to hazardous voltage could cause personal injury. To avoid risk of injury, contact an Authorized Service Provider for proper (un)installation of optional hardware devices.

Avoid Electrostatic Discharge

Electrostatic electricity can easily damage circuit cards and integrated circuits (ICs). To reduce risk of damage, store them in protective packaging whenever they are not installed in the system.

Add-in cards can be extremely sensitive to electrostatic discharges (ESD) and always require careful handling. After removing the card from the notebook, place the card flat on a grounded, static-free surface, component-side up. Use a conductive foam pad if available, but not the card wrapper. Do not slide the card over any surface.

Before you install or remove memory modules, video memory, disk drives, circuit cards or other devices, protect them from static electricity. To do so, make sure the notebook's power switch is OFF. Then, unplug the notebook's AC power cord. Before picking up the device you (un)install, you should wear an anti-static wrist wrap (available at electronic supply stores). Be sure to connect the wrist wrap to an unpainted metal portion of the notebook casing. As an alternative, you can dissipate electrostatic build-up by touching an unpainted metal portion of the notebook casing with one hand. Then touch the device you are (un)installing with the other hand, and maintain continuous contact with it until it is (un)installed in the notebook.

Power Supply Unit

Under no circumstances should you attempt to disassemble the power supply. The power supply contains no user-serviceable parts. Inside the power supply are hazardous voltages that can cause serious personal injury. Always return a defective power supply to the dealer.

WARNING

Ensure that the notebook is disconnected from its power source and from all telecommunications links, networks, or modem lines whenever the casing cover is removed. Do not operate the notebook with the cover removed.

AVERTISSEMENT

Assurez-vous que le système est débranché de son alimentation ainsi que de toutes les liaisons de télécommunication, des réseaux, et des lignes de modem avant d'enlever le capot. Ne pas utiliser le système quand le capot est enlevé.

WARNUNG

Das System darf weder an eine Stromquelle angeschlossen sein noch eine Verbindung mit einer Telekommunikationseinrichtung, einem Netzwerk oder einer Modem-Leitung haben, wenn die Gehäuseabdeckung entfernt wird. Nehmen Sie das System nicht ohne die Abdeckung in Betrieb.

ADVERTENCIA

Asegúrese de que cada vez que se quite la cubierta del portátil, el sistema haya sido desconectado de la red de alimentación y de todos los enlaces de telecomunicaciones, de red y de líneas de módem. No ponga en funcionamiento el sistema mientras la cubierta esté quitada.

WAARSCHUWING

Zorg er voor dat alle verbindingen van en naar de notebook (stroom, modem, netwerk, etc) verbroken worden voordat de behuizing geopend wordt. Zet de notebook nooit aan als de behuizing geopend is.

AVVERTENZA

Prima di rimuovere il coperchio del telaio, assicurarsi che il sistema sia scollegato dall'alimentazione, da tutti i collegamenti di comunicazione, reti o linee di modem. Non avviare il sistema senza aver prima messo a posto il coperchio.

Battery

Perform the following steps to remove the battery:

1. Make sure the power to the system is off.
2. Unplug the AC adapter and all power and signal cables from the system.
3. Turn the notebook upside down.

Note: Use an anti-static mat or something soft like a piece of cloth underneath the notebook to prevent damage to the exterior of the notebook.

4. Slide the battery lock/unlock latch into the unlock position.



Fig. 1 Releasing the battery.

5. Slide the battery release latch into the release position and slide the battery out of the unit.

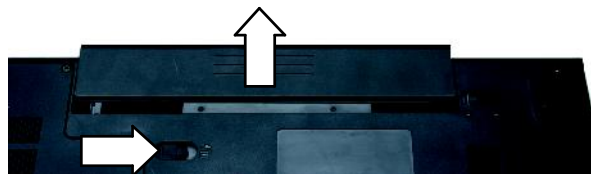


Fig. 2 Removing the battery.

Memory

To remove the memory installed, first remove the battery (see Battery on page 4) and then perform the following steps:

1. Loosen the screws securing the CPU bay cover (the screws cannot be removed).



Fig. 3 Location of the CPU bay cover screws.

2. Use the thumb notch to lift the CPU bay cover and remove it. Be careful not to break off the tabs located on the end of the cover opposite the thumb notch.

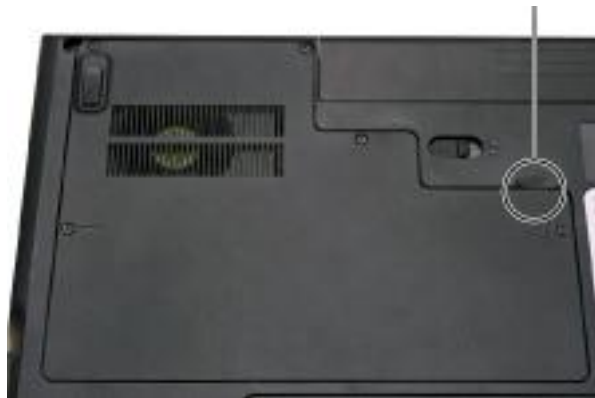


Fig. 4 Opening the CPU bay cover.

3. Gently press outward the clip on each side of the memory module; the module will eject upward.

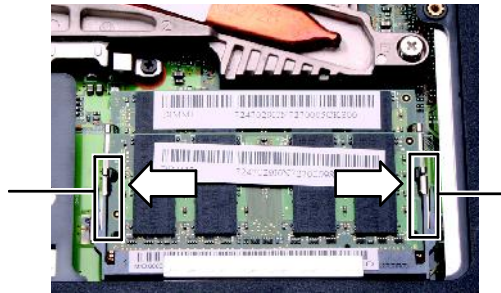


Fig. 5 Releasing the installed memory module.

4. Carefully remove the memory module out of the slot.

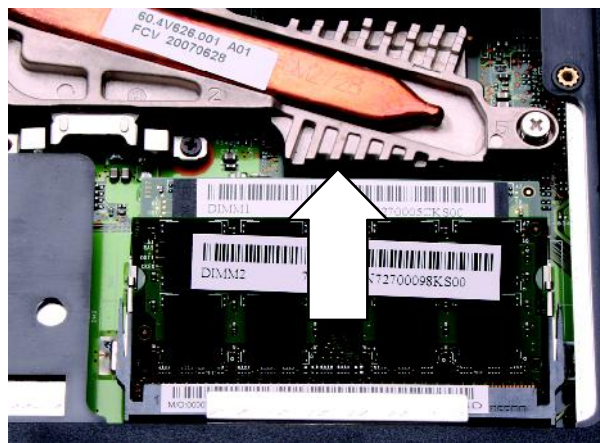


Fig. 6 Removing the memory module.

CPU Heat Sink

To remove the CPU heat sink, first remove the battery (see Battery on page 4) and then perform the following steps:

1. Loosen the screws securing the CPU bay cover; the screws cannot be removed (see *Fig. 3*).

2. Use the thumb notch to lift the bay cover and remove it. Be careful not to break off the tabs located on the end of the cover opposite the thumb notch (see **Fig. 4**).
3. Loosen the screws that secure the heat sink to the system board. Use the numbers stamped in the metal next to each screw and loosen the screws in reverse numerical order (start with 5, then 4, then 3, then 2, and finally 1).

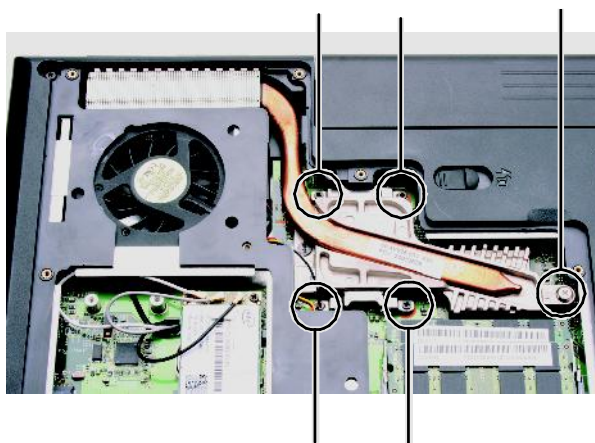


Fig. 7 Location of the CPU heat sink screws.

Note: Screws 1 to 4 are captive and you cannot remove them. When tightening the heat sink screws into the numbered holes during re-assembly, tighten them in numerical order.

4. At the same time as you lift, move the heat sink away from the side of the notebook, and remove the heat sink.

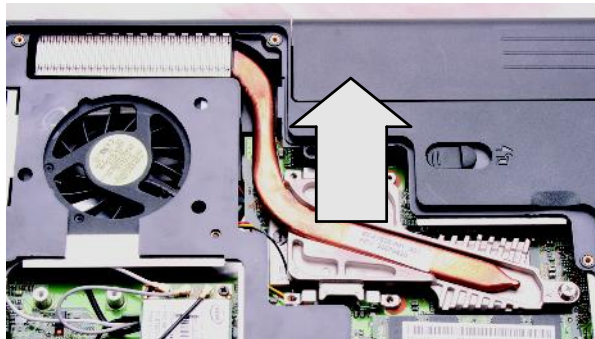


Fig. 8 Removing the CPU heat sink.

Note: Before re-assembling the heat sink, remove any thermal grease residue from the CPU using a soft cloth and isopropyl alcohol. Apply new thermal grease on the CPU; use only enough to cover the CPU die.

CPU

To remove the CPU, first remove the heat sink (see CPU Heat Sink on page 5) and then perform the following steps:

1. Use a flat-blade screwdriver to turn the CPU lock screw 1/4-turn counter-clockwise.



Fig. 9 Releasing the CPU screw.

2. Take out the CPU from the socket.



Fig. 10 Removing the CPU.

Wireless LAN Adapter

To remove the wireless LAN adapter, first remove the battery (see Battery on page 4) and then perform the following steps:

1. Loosen the screws securing the CPU bay cover; the screws cannot be removed (see *Fig. 3*).
2. Use the thumb notch to lift the bay cover and remove it. Be careful not to break off the tabs located on the end of the cover opposite the thumb notch (see *Fig. 4*).

3. Carefully disconnect the two WiFi antenna cables.

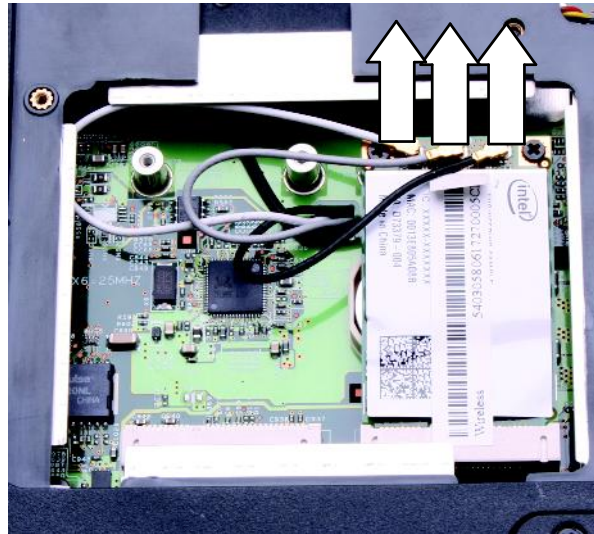


Fig. 11 Disconnecting the wireless LAN antenna cables.

Note: There are two WiFi antenna cables connected to the wireless LAN adapter. Take note of which coloured wire is connected to which connector on the adapter.

4. Remove the screws securing the wireless LAN adapter; it will eject upwards.



Fig. 12 Location of the wireless LAN adapter screw.

5. Take out the wireless LAN adapter from the socket.

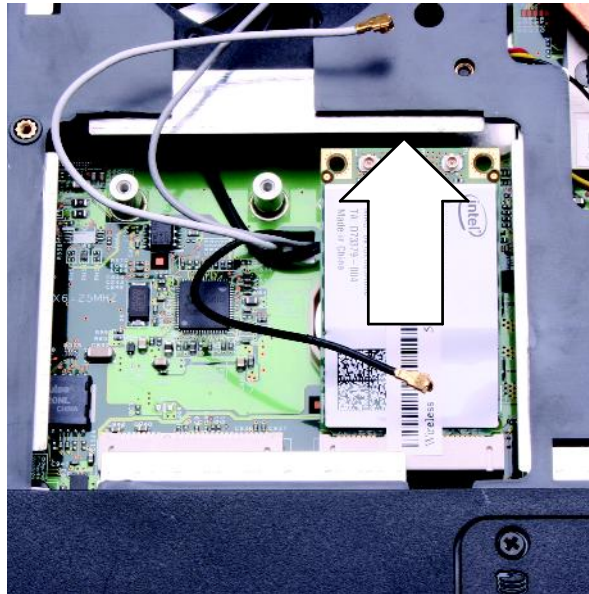


Fig. 13 Removing the wireless LAN adapter.

RTC Battery

The RTC battery is encased within a special black sleeve and has a wire connector that connects to the main board. To remove the RTC battery, first remove the wireless LAN adapter (see Wireless LAN Adapter on page 7) and then perform the following steps:

1. Disconnect the RTC battery cable from the header on the main board.



Fig. 14 Disconnecting the RTC battery.

2. Detach the RTC battery from the main board.

Note: The RTC battery is held in place by double-sided tape.

Hard Disk Drive

To remove the hard disk drive(s), first remove the battery (see Battery on page 4) and then perform the following steps:

1. Loosen the screws securing the hard disk drive bay cover (the screws cannot be removed).

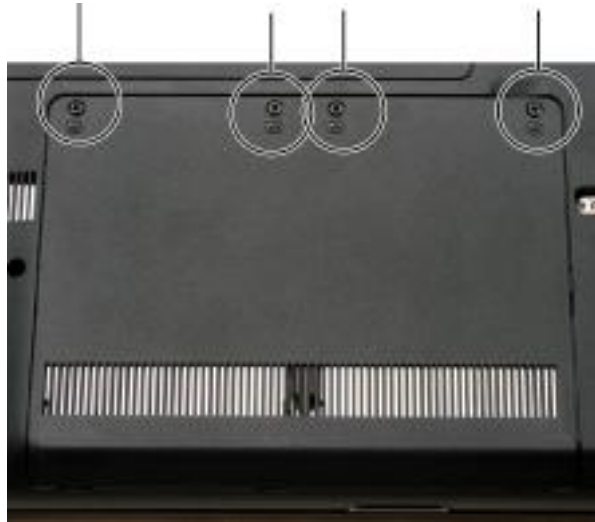


Fig. 15 Location of the hard disk drive bay cover screws.

2. Use the thumb notch to lift the bay cover and remove it. Be careful not to break off the tabs located on the end of the cover opposite the thumb notch.



Fig. 16 Removing the hard disk drive bay cover.

3. Pull the plastic tab on the hard disk drives towards you to disconnect the drives.

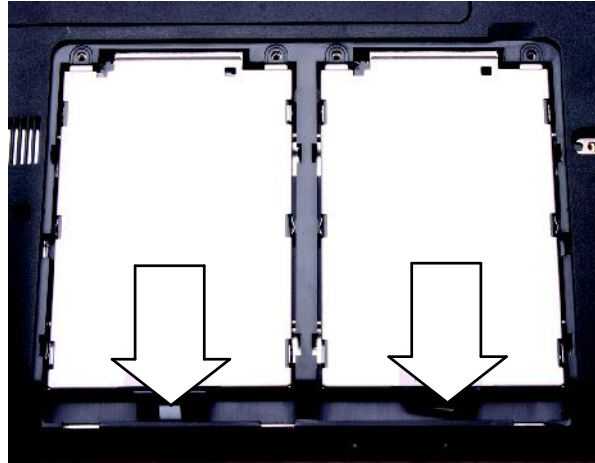


Fig. 17 Disconnecting the hard disk drives.

4. Take the drives out of the bay.
5. Remove the four screws (Phillips-head) on the metal bracket holding the hard disk drive.



Fig. 18 Location of the hard disk drive bracket screws.

6. Separate the metal bracket and the hard disk drive.



Fig. 19 Separating the hard disk drive from the bracket.

DVD Drive

To remove the DVD drive, first remove the battery (see Battery on page 4) and then perform the following steps:

1. Remove the rubber insert from the bottom of the notebook.



Fig. 20 Removing the DVD drive screw cover.

2. Remove the screw that secures the DVD drive to your notebook.



Fig. 21 Location of the DVD drive screw.

3. Carefully slide the drive out of the drive bay.



Fig. 22 Removing the DVD drive.

Note: Use a small screwdriver or a scribe to push on the DVD bracket and slide the drive out of the bay.

Keyboard Cover

The keyboard cover also houses the power button board, the volume control button, and the multimedia board. To remove the keyboard cover (complete), first remove the battery (see Battery on page 4) and then perform the following steps:

1. Remove the two keyboard cover screws from the inside of the battery compartment.



Fig. 23 Location of the keyboard cover screws.

2. Turn the notebook over so the top is facing up and open the LCD completely.
3. Insert the flat-blade screwdriver under each of the hinge covers and gently pry them up.



Fig. 24 Opening the hinge covers.

4. Pull the cover off the notebook by lifting the back corners of the cover and let it rest on the LCD panel. Be careful not to damage the LCD panel.



Fig. 25 Releasing the keyboard cover.

Note: The cover is connected to the notebook by one cable. Do not pull the cable!

5. Carefully release the black clip securing the flat cable and disconnect the cable from the header on the main board.

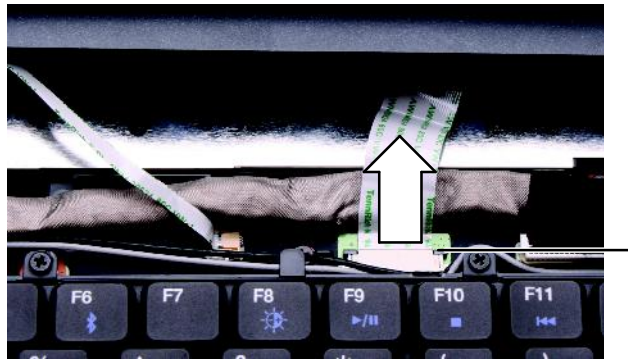


Fig. 26 Releasing the keyboard cover flat cable.

6. Remove the keyboard cover.

Power Button Board

The power button board is located on the inside of the keyboard cover. To remove the power button board, first remove the keyboard cover (see Keyboard Cover on page 13) and then perform the following steps:

1. Release the white clip securing the flat cable and disconnect the cable from the header on the power button board.

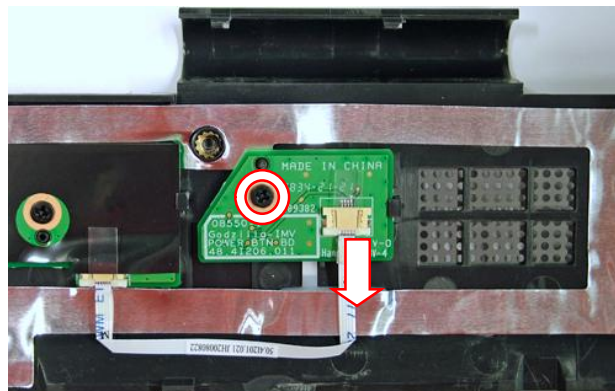


Fig. 27 Location of the power button board.

2. Remove the screw securing the power button board to the keyboard cover (see *Fig. 27*).
3. Remove the power button board.

Volume Control Board

The volume control board is located on the inside of the keyboard cover. To remove the volume control board, first remove the keyboard cover (see Keyboard Cover on page 13) and then perform the following steps:

1. Carefully release the black clip securing the flat cable and disconnect the cable from the header on the volume control board.



Fig. 28 Location of the volume control board.

2. Gently push the volume control board from the inside out of the keyboard cover.

Multimedia Board

The multimedia board is located on the inside of the keyboard cover. To remove the multimedia board, first remove the keyboard cover (see Keyboard Cover on page 13) and then perform the following steps:

1. Carefully release the white clip securing the power button board flat cable and disconnect the cable from the header on the multimedia board.

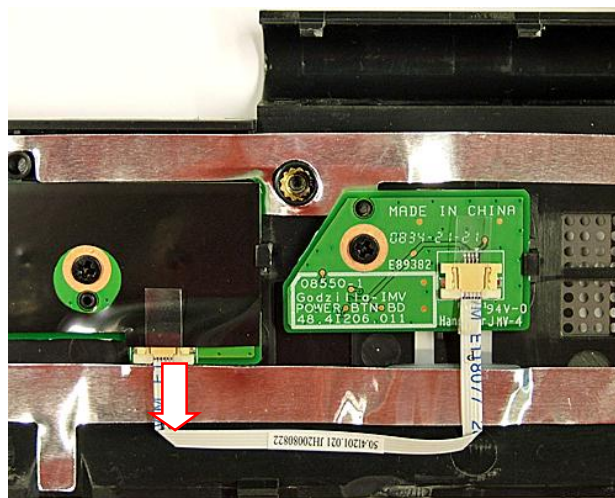


Fig. 29 Releasing the power button board flat cable.

2. Remove the five screws securing the multimedia board to the keyboard cover.

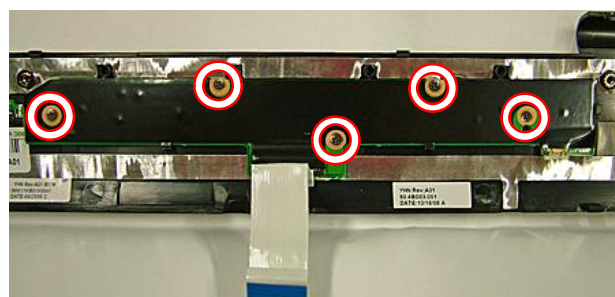


Fig. 30 Location of the multimedia board screws.

3. Release the multimedia board and lift the board from the right; the multimedia board is still connected to the volume control board by means of a flat cable.

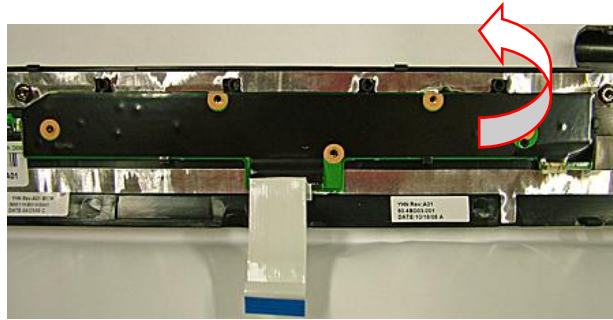


Fig. 31 Releasing the multimedia board.

4. Lift the black clip securing the volume control board flat cable and disconnect the cable from the header on the multimedia board.

Note: If needed, release the black clip securing the flat cable (with the blue end) and disconnect the cable from the header on the multimedia board.

Keyboard

To remove the keyboard, first remove the keyboard cover (see Keyboard Cover on page 13) and then perform the following steps:

1. Remove the five keyboard screws.



Fig. 32 Location of the keyboard screws.

Note: The keyboard is secured with two long and three short screws. Note the location of the long screws.

2. Lift the back edge of the keyboard slightly and then slowly slide it toward the LCD panel to release the keyboard retaining tabs located on the front edge of the keyboard.



Fig. 33 Releasing the keyboard.

3. Before removing the keyboard entirely, carefully release the black clip securing the flat cable and disconnect the cable from the header on the main board.

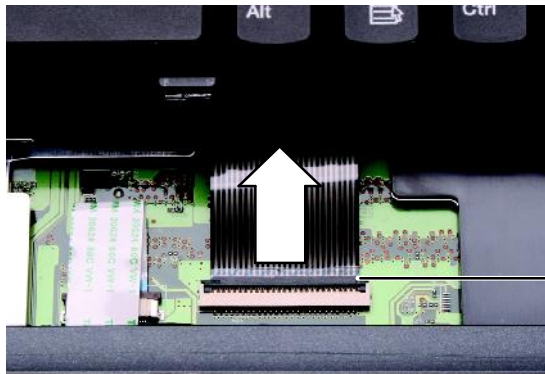


Fig. 34 Releasing the keyboard flat cable.

4. Remove the keyboard.

LCD Bezel

You can complete this procedure with the LCD assembly connected to the notebook. The LCD assembly shown in the following pictures has been removed from the notebook for clarity. To remove the LCD bezel, first remove the keyboard cover (see Keyboard Cover on page 13), and then do the following:

1. Remove the six rubber inserts from the front of the LCD bezel.

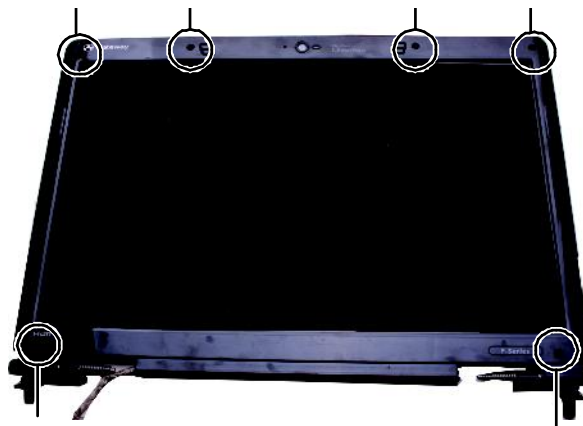


Fig. 35 Location of the LCD bezel screw covers.

2. Remove the screws that became accessible after removing the inserts.
3. Carefully pry open the LCD bezel; it has been clicked into place.

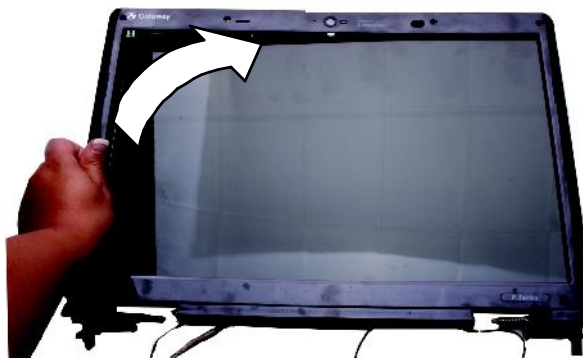


Fig. 36 Removing the LCD bezel.

Inverter

You can complete this procedure with the LCD assembly connected to the notebook. To remove the inverter, first remove the LCD bezel (see LCD Bezel on page 17), and then do the following:

1. Remove the screws securing the inverter board.



Fig. 37 Location of the inverter screws.

2. Lift the inverter from the LCD panel and turn it over.

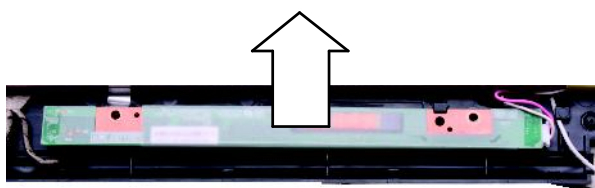


Fig. 38 Removing the inverter.

3. Disconnect the cables from the headers on the inverter board.



Fig. 39 Disconnecting the inverter cables.

Webcam

You can complete this procedure with the LCD assembly connected to the notebook. To remove the webcam, first remove the LCD bezel (see LCD Bezel on page 17), and then do the following:

1. Disconnect the cable from the header on the webcam module.



Fig. 40 Location of the webcam connector.

2. Remove the screws that secure the webcam.



Fig. 41 Location of the webcam module screws.

3. Extract the webcam module.

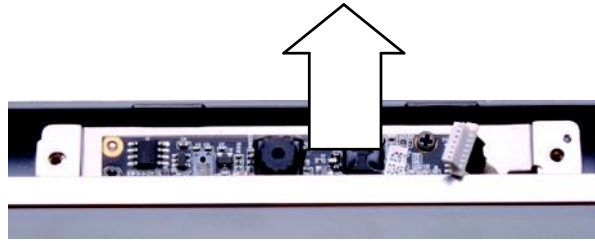


Fig. 42 Removing the webcam module.

LCD Assembly

To remove the LCD assembly, first disconnect the two antenna cables from the wireless LAN adapter (see Wireless LAN Adapter on page 7), remove the keyboard (see Keyboard on page 16) and then perform the following steps:

1. Turn the notebook upside down.
2. Remove the two screws securing the LCD assembly hinges on the bottom of the chassis.



Fig. 43 Location of the LCD assembly hinge screws (bottom).

3. Turn the notebook over so the top is facing up.
4. Carefully open the LCD assembly entirely.
5. Make sure that you grasp the plastic connector carefully and pull to disconnect the LCD video cable from the header on the main board.

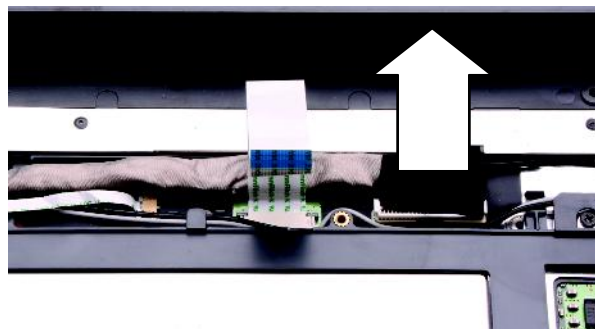


Fig. 44 Disconnecting the LCD video cable.

Note: The LCD video cable connector is fragile.

6. Pull the wireless LAN antenna cables out from under the main board and slide the antenna cables and LCD cables out from under the retaining clips. Remove any tape that may be securing the cables.



Fig. 45 Disconnecting the WLAN antenna cables.

Note: Take care to note the cables' routing and positions as they have been installed by Packard Bell.

7. Remove the two screws securing the LCD assembly hinges on the top of the chassis.



Fig. 46 Location of the LCD assembly hinge screws (top).

8. Lift the LCD assembly upward and remove it from the unit.



Fig. 47 Removing the LCD assembly.

Note: Ensure that all cables are clear of the base before lifting the LCD assembly upward.

LCD Panel

To remove the LCD panel, first remove the LCD assembly (see LCD Assembly on page 19), remove the inverter (see Inverter on page 18), remove the webcam (see Webcam on page 18), and then perform the following steps:

1. Remove the screws securing the LCD panel.



Fig. 48 Location of the LCD panel screws.

2. Hold the LCD panel by the sides, lift out the panel and remove it from the housing.

Note: During LCD panel re-assembly, make sure that the magnet has remained in the magnet bracket.



Fig. 49 Location of the LCD panel magnet bracket.

LCD Panel Hinges

To remove the LCD panel hinges, first remove the LCD panel (see LCD Panel on page 20) and then perform the following steps:

1. Remove the LCD panel hinges.

Top Cover

To remove the top cover, first remove the LCD assembly (see LCD Assembly on page 19) and then perform the following steps:

1. Slide the brown touchpad connector clip to the back of the notebook and remove the flat cable from the header.

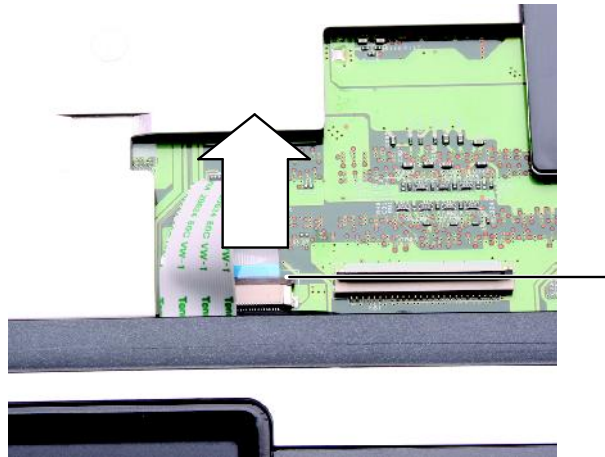


Fig. 50 Releasing the touchpad flat cable.

2. Turn the notebook over so the bottom is facing up.
3. Remove the screws from the bottom of the notebook.

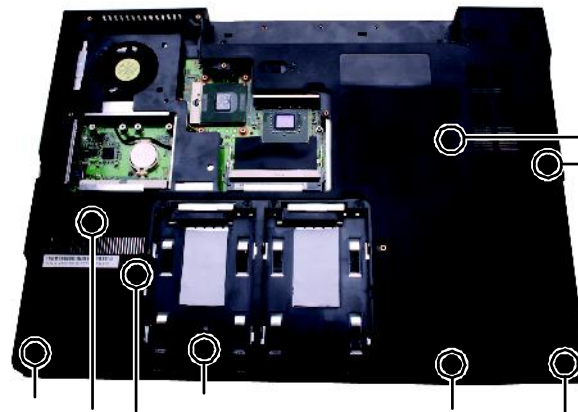


Fig. 51 Location of the top cover screws (bottom).

4. Turn the notebook over so the top is facing up.
5. Remove the screws from the top of the top cover.

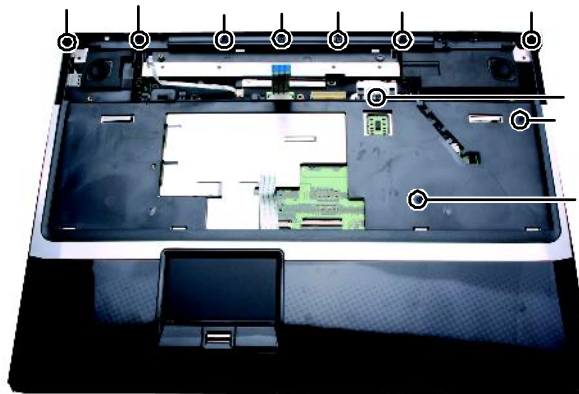


Fig. 52 Location of the top cover screws (top).

Note: Note the location of the screw types and sizes.

6. Lift the top cover assembly up from the notebook.

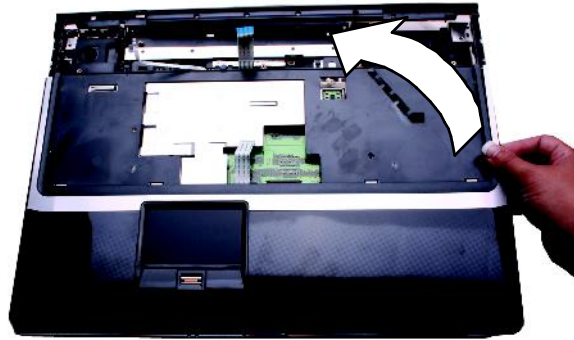


Fig. 53 Removing the top cover.

Touchpad Board

To remove the touchpad board, first remove the top cover (see Top Cover on page 21) and then perform the following steps:

1. Turn the top cover over so the backside is facing up.
2. Remove the screws from the touchpad board bracket.

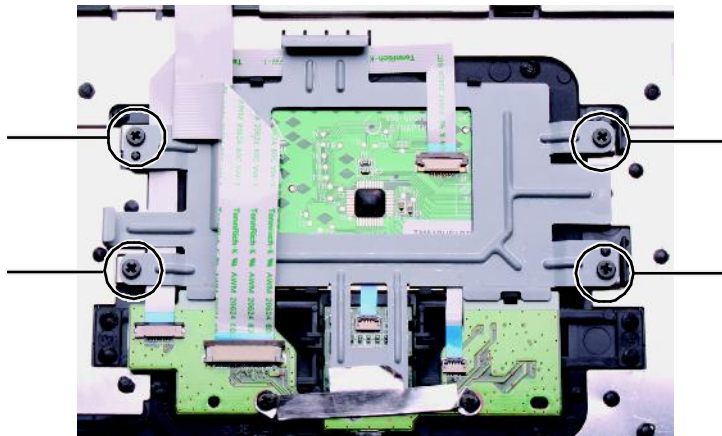


Fig. 54 Location of the touchpad board bracket screws.

3. Remove the screws from the touchpad button board bracket.

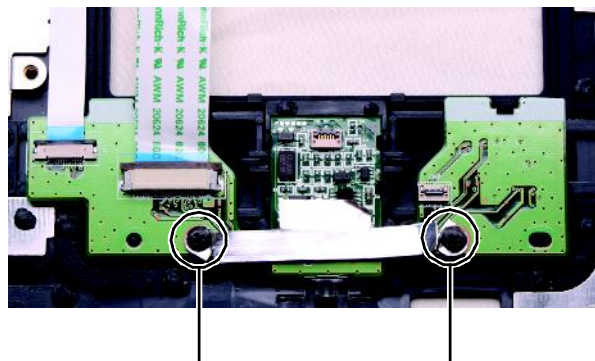


Fig. 55 Location of the touchpad button board bracket screws.

4. Swing the brown touchpad connector clip upward and lift the cable out of the connector. Be careful not to touch or damage any other components.

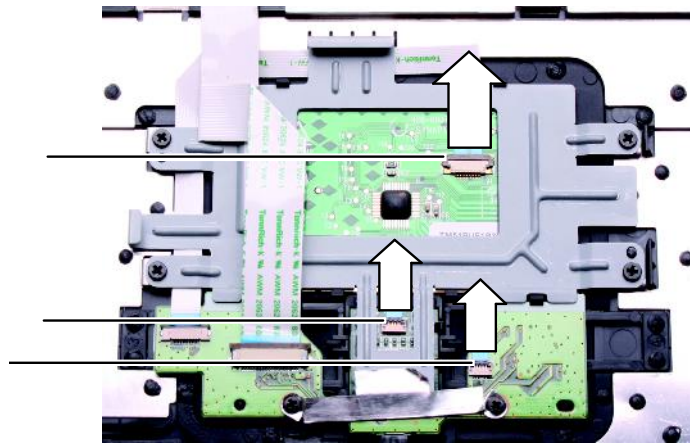


Fig. 56 Disconnecting the touchpad flat cable.

5. Remove the touchpad board bracket from the notebook.

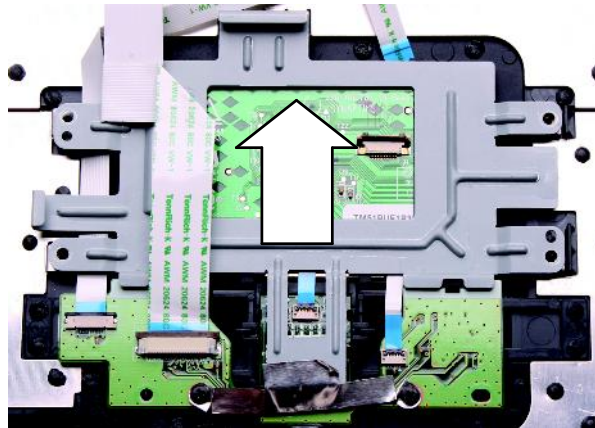


Fig. 57 Removing the touchpad board bracket.

6. Remove the touchpad board from the notebook.

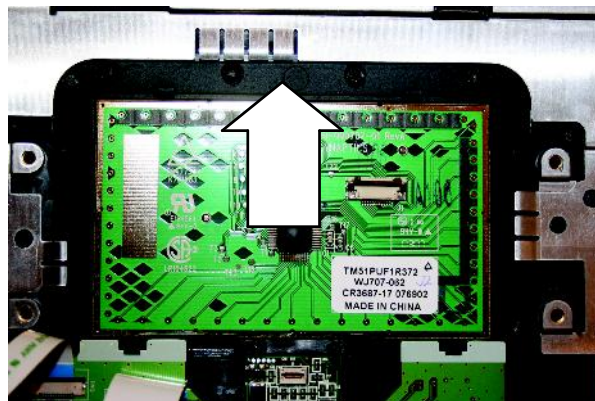


Fig. 58 Removing the touchpad board.

Touchpad Button Board

To remove the touchpad button board, first remove the touchpad board (see Touchpad Board on page 23), and then do the following:

1. Swing the black fingerprint reader connector clip upward, then lift the cable out of the connector (see *Fig. 56*).
2. Remove the touchpad button board from the notebook.

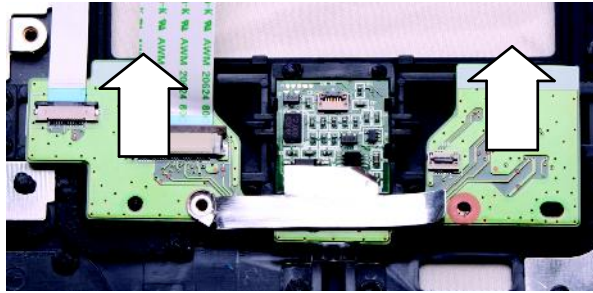


Fig. 59 Removing the touchpad button board.

Fingerprint Reader

To remove the fingerprint reader, first remove the touchpad button board (see Touchpad Button Board on page 24) and then perform the following steps:

1. Remove the fingerprint reader from the notebook.

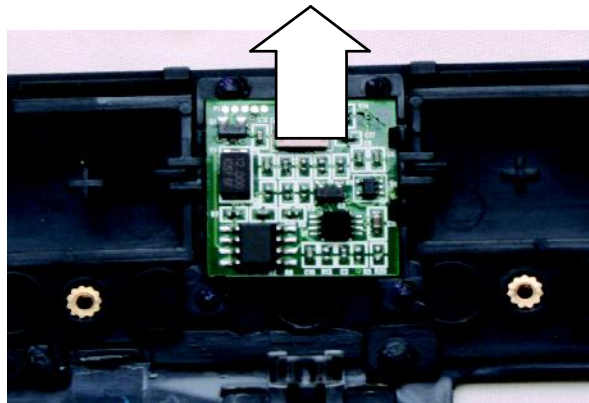


Fig. 60 Removing the fingerprint reader.

Bluetooth

To remove the Bluetooth module, first remove the top cover (see Top Cover on page 21) and then perform the following steps:

1. Lift the Bluetooth module out of the notebook.

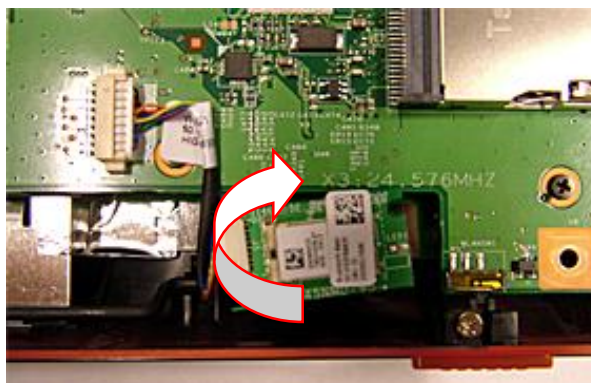


Fig. 61 Detaching the Bluetooth module.

Note: The Bluetooth module is held in place by double-sided tape.

2. Disconnect the cable from the header on the Bluetooth module.



Fig. 62 Disconnecting the Bluetooth cable.

Modem

To remove the modem, first remove the top cover (see Top Cover on page 21) and then perform the following steps:

1. Remove the screws securing the modem to the main board.

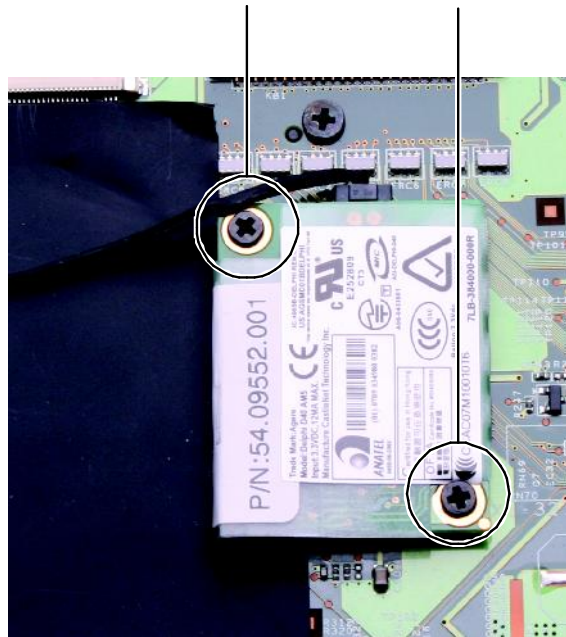


Fig. 63 Location of the modem screws.

2. Remove the modem from the main board.

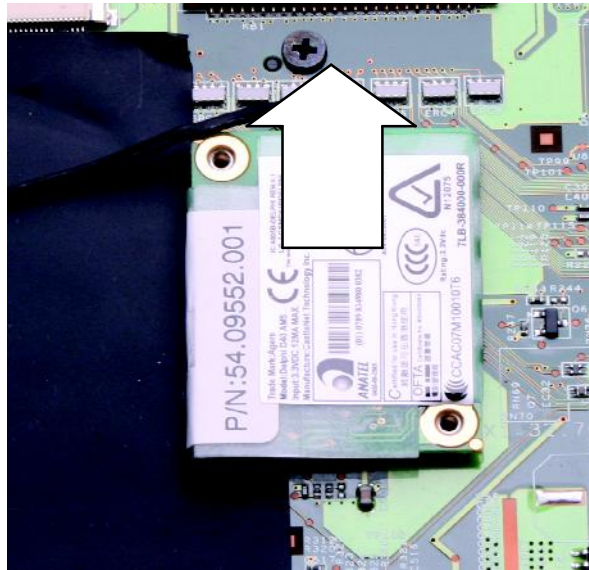


Fig. 64 Removing the modem.

3. Turn the modem over and unplug the cable from the header on the modem.



Fig. 65 Releasing the modem cable.

Speaker Assembly

To remove the speaker assembly, first remove the top cover (see Top Cover on page 21) and then perform the following steps:

1. Disconnect the speaker cable connector from the header on the main board.

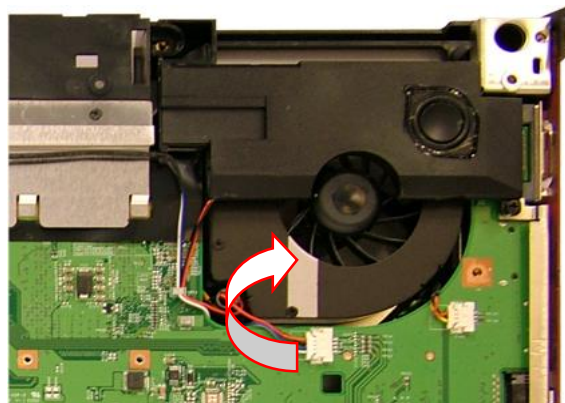


Fig. 66 Disconnecting the speaker cable.

2. Remove the three screws securing the speakers to the notebook.



Fig. 67 Location of the speaker assembly screws.

3. Clear the speaker cables and remove the speakers from the notebook.



Fig. 68 Removing the speaker assembly.

Main Board

To remove the main board, remove the memory modules (see Memory on page 4), remove the CPU (see CPU on page 6), remove the wireless LAN adapter (see Wireless LAN Adapter on page 7), remove the hard disk drives (see Hard Disk Drive on page 10), remove the DVD drive (see DVD Drive on page 12), remove the right speaker (see Speaker Assembly on page 27), remove the top cover (see Top Cover on page 21), and then perform the following steps:

1. Disconnect the Bluetooth cable connector from the header on the main board.

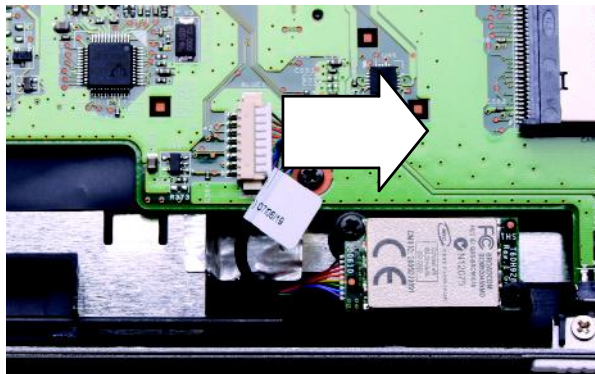


Fig. 69 Location of the Bluetooth cable header on the main board.

2. Remove the modem cable from the main board retaining clips.



Fig. 70 Clearing the modem cables.

3. Remove the screw(s) securing the EMI shield.

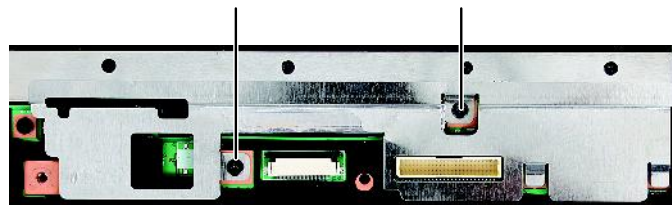


Fig. 71 Location of the EMI shield screw(s).

4. Disconnect the system fan cable connector from the header on the main board.

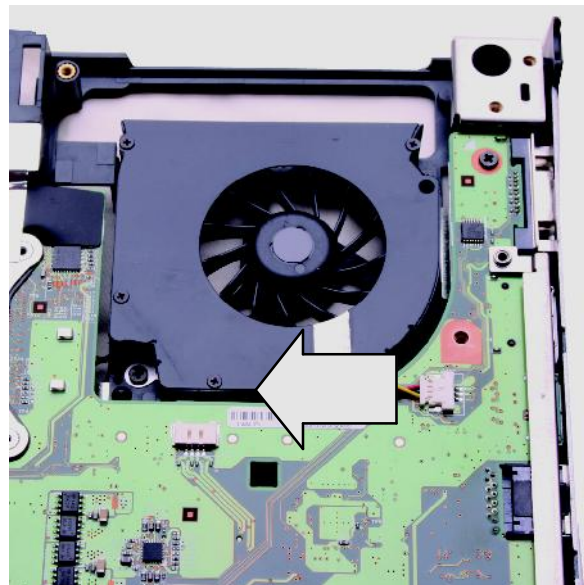


Fig. 72 Disconnecting the system fan cable.

-
5. Remove the screws securing the main board.



Fig. 73 Location of the main board screws.

6. Carefully lift out the main board.



Fig. 74 Extracting the main board.

Note: During re-assembly of the main board, make sure that the small black switch on the main board fits within the slot on the wireless network on/off switch.

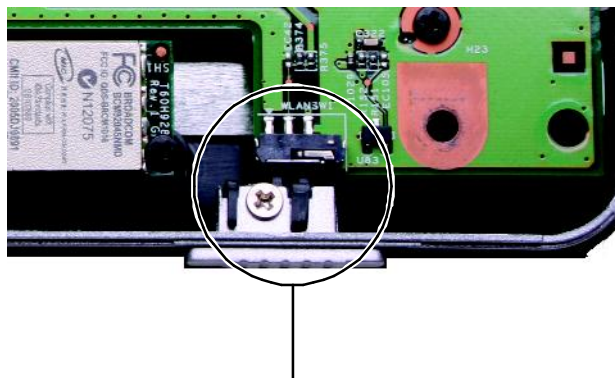


Fig. 75 Wireless LAN switch.

GPU Heat Sink

To remove the GPU heat sink, first remove the main board (see Main Board on page 28), and then perform the following steps:

1. Turn the main board over.
2. Remove the screws that secure the GPU heat sink to the main board.

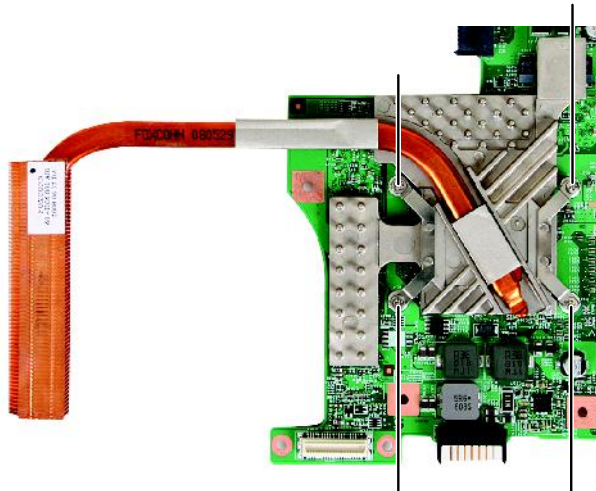


Fig. 76 Location of the GPU heat sink screws.

3. Separate the GPU heat sink from the main board.

Note: During re-assembly, first use a soft cloth and isopropyl alcohol to remove any thermal grease residue from the heat sink and apply new thermal grease on the main board's graphics processor. Use only enough to cover the processor die.

Modem Jack / USB Board

To remove the modem jack / USB board, first remove the main board (see Main Board on page 28), and then perform the following steps:

1. Remove the screw securing the modem jack / USB board.

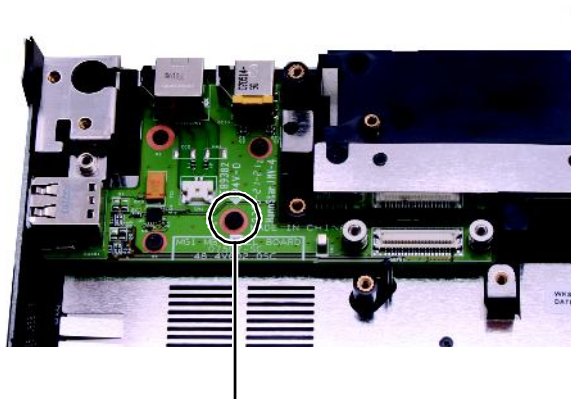


Fig. 77 Location of the modem jack / USB board screw.

2. Lift the modem jack / USB board from the notebook.

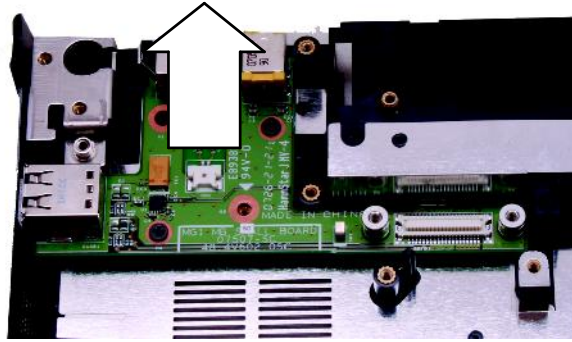


Fig. 78 Extracting the modem jack / USB board screw.

System Fan

To remove the system fan, first remove the main board (see Main Board on page 28), and then perform the following steps:

1. Remove the screws securing the system fan.

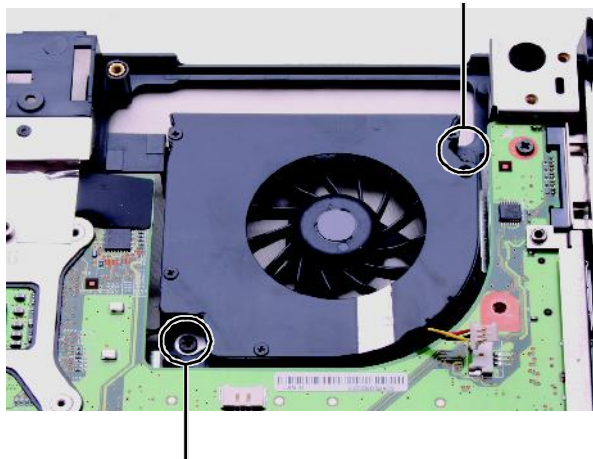


Fig. 79 Location of the system fan screws.

2. Remove the system fan from the notebook.

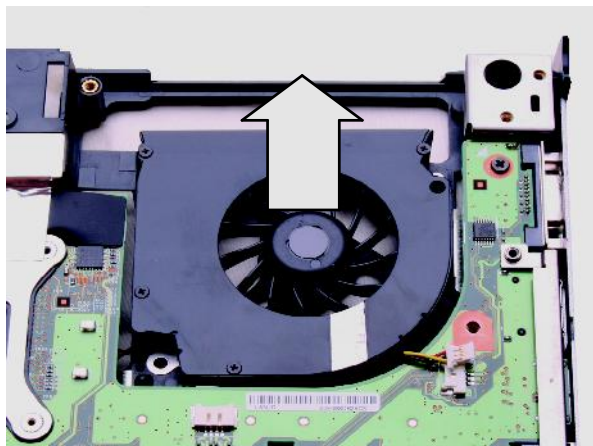


Fig. 80 Extracting the system fan.

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