



Disassembling IBM ThinkPad A30 CPU Fan

Prerequisite: Battery, uppercase, LCD screen



Step 1 - Battery

- Place the ThinkPad on its back.
- Slide the highlighted tab to the left.
- With your finger on the tab, remove the battery by lifting it outwards.



Step 2 - Upper Case

- Make sure the laptop is upside down and oriented in the direction shown.
- Remove the six 16.7mm screws inside the circled holes.





Step 3

- Rotate the ThinkPad so that the hard drive bay is facing you.
- Remove the black cover to reveal a 14.8mm screw.
- Remove the uncovered screw with a Phillips #0 screwdriver.



Step 4

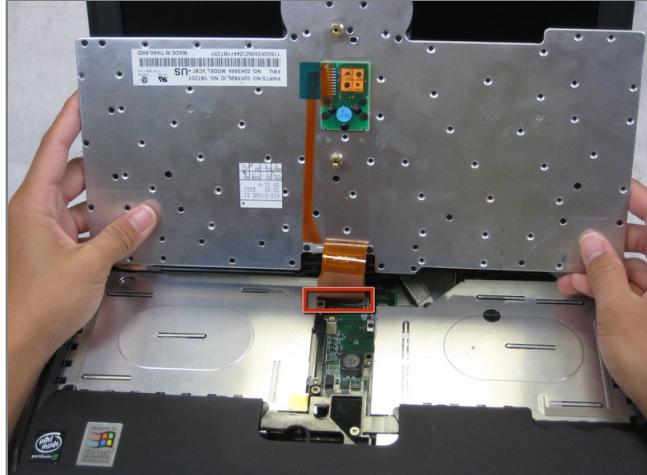
- Flip the ThinkPad over and open the LCD panel.
- Pry apart the keyboard with a plastic opening tool or with your fingers.





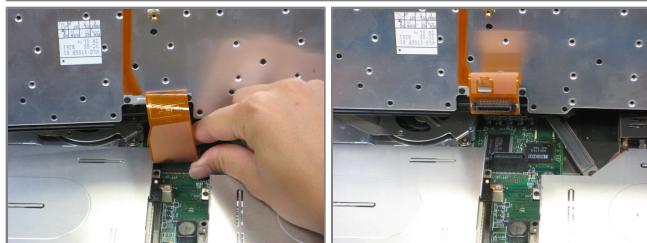
Step 5

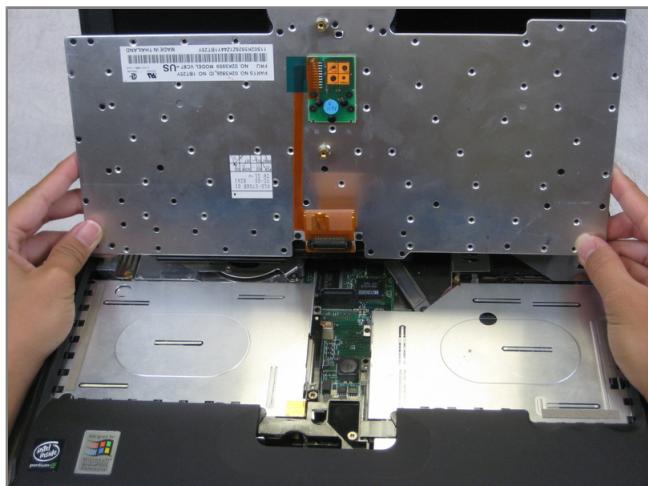
- Be careful not to pull out the keyboard carelessly; there is a connector underneath it!
- Lift the front end of the keyboard as shown.
- Using your fingers, remove the black film cover.



Step 6

- Locate the connector attached to the motherboard.
- Disconnect the ribbon cable by removing the connector.





Step 7

- Lift and remove the keyboard.
- Remove the two 5.6mm screws.
- Remove the 16.7mm screw.



Step 8

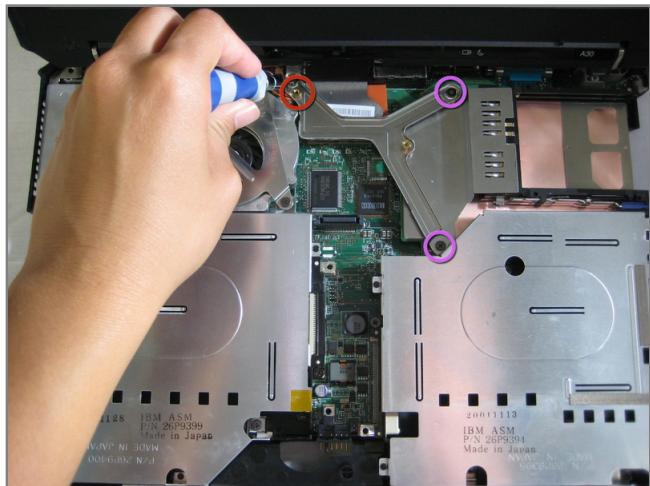
- You will need to use a little force. Be wary of the tabs.
- Pry off the upper case with your hands.





Step 9 - Display Assembly

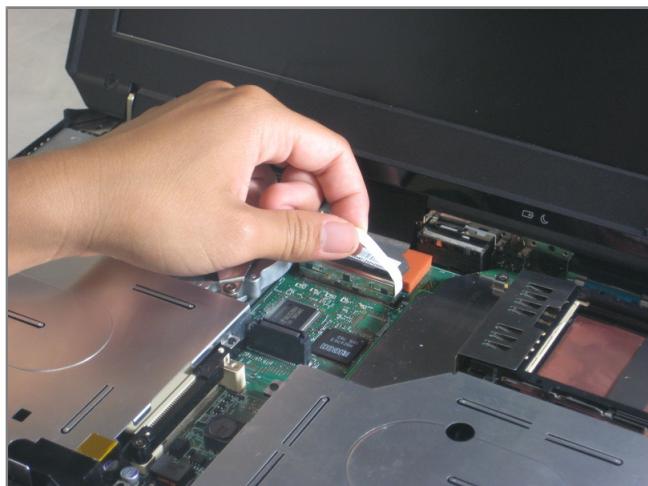
- Remove the 5.6mm screw that holds the LCD to the upper case.



Step 10

- Remove the 5.6mm screw on the left side of the three-pronged connector.
- Remove the other two 16.7mm screws.
- Lift and remove connector.





Step 11

- Pull out the white tab connecting the LCD to the motherboard.



Step 12

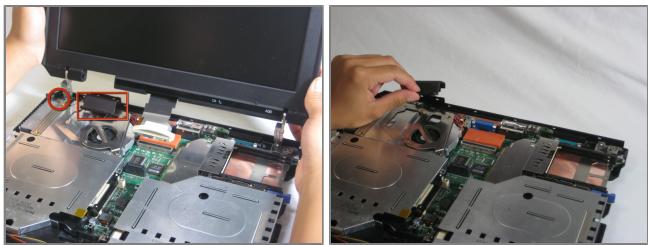
- Turn the laptop so that the back is facing you.
- Remove the four 5.6mm long screws.





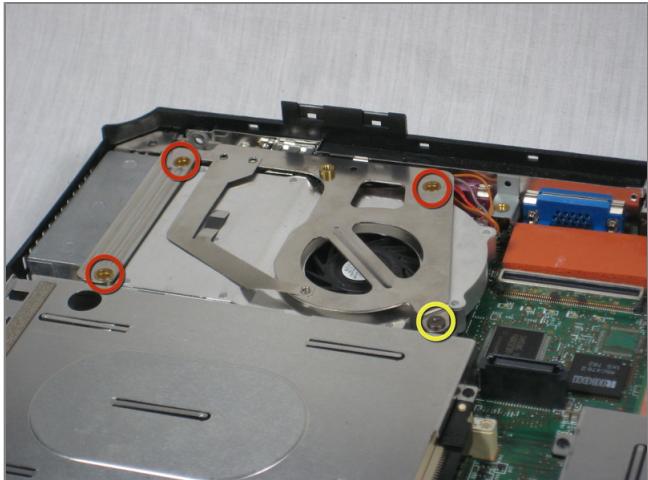
Step 13

- Place the laptop so that the LCD is facing you again.
- Gently lift the LCD monitor up and out.
- Remove the black plastic tab.



Step 14 - CPU Fan

- Locate the 4 screws that will need to be removed.
- One screw (yellow) is observable. The three other screws (red) are below the heatsink bracket.
- Remove the 5.6mm (yellow) and three 16.1mm (red) screws.





Step 15

- Lift the heatsink bracket up.



Step 16

- Be careful not to pull too hard! There is a cable attached to the fan!
- Lift the fan/heatsink assembly up.
- Locate the fan power cable and pull upwards near the connector.
- Remove the fan/heatsink assembly.



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

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