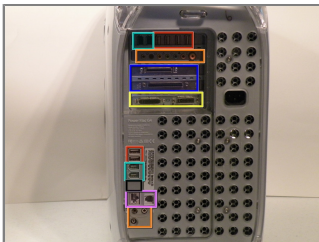# Installing Power Mac G4 MDD System Fans

Tools used in this guide
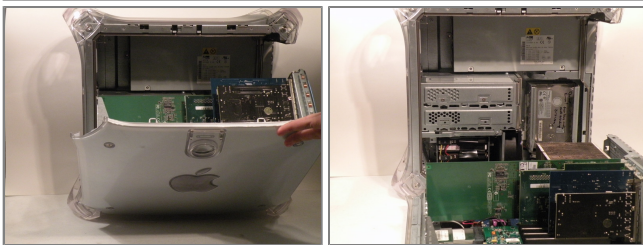
- [Phillips #0 Screwdriver](#)

Step 1 - Case

- The Power Mac G4 MDD: the last, and the fastest G4-based Mac. This computer boasted up to a Dual 1.42GHz PowerPC G4 CPU (though I have a single 1.25GHz).
- Six USB ports.
- Four FireWire ports.
- Assorted SCSI (SCSI50/SCSI68)
- Assorted Audio
- Video (ADC & DVI)
- ☒ Networking (RJ-45 Ethernet/56k Modem)
- Some later model MDD's (such as the dual 1.42GHz) Have a FireWire 800 Port Here:
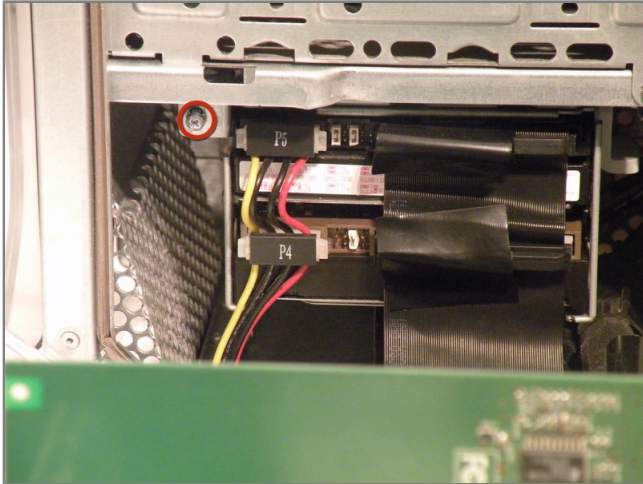
Step 2

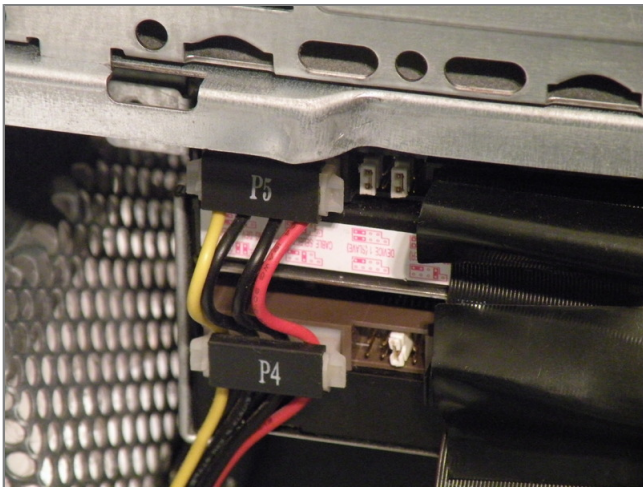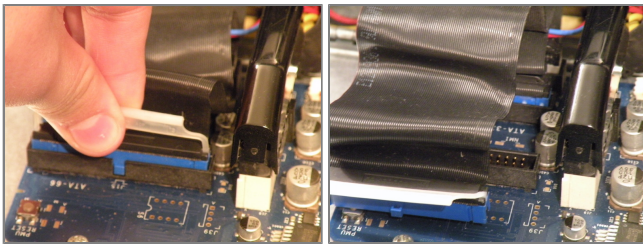- Pull on the side lever and lower the side of the case.

Step 3 - Hard Drives

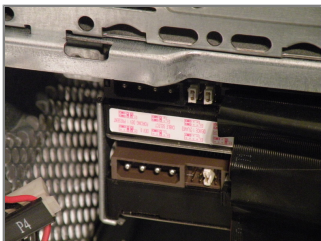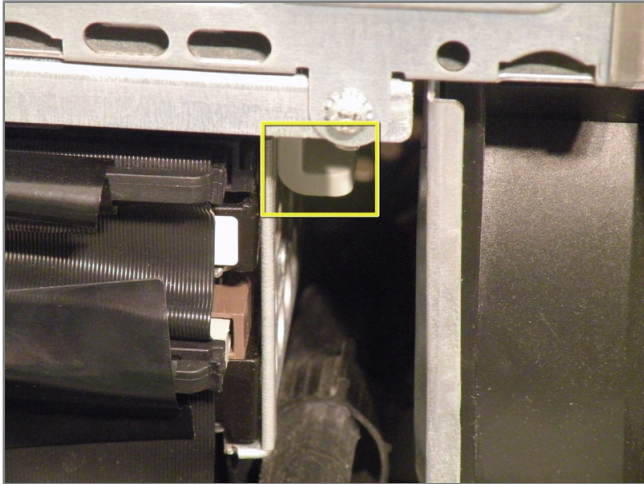- The hard drive cages are located here.

Step 4

- Cage 1
- Start by removing this screw.
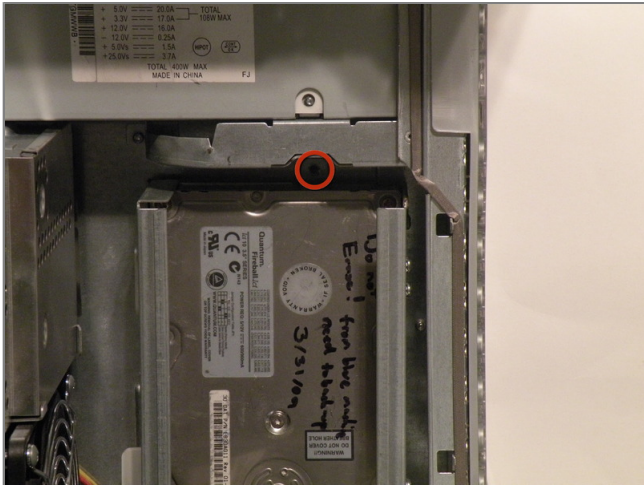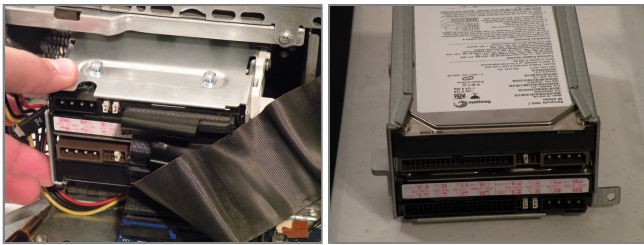- Remove the IDE ribbon cable from the motherboard.

Step 5

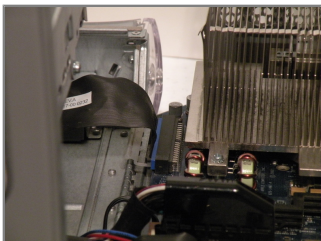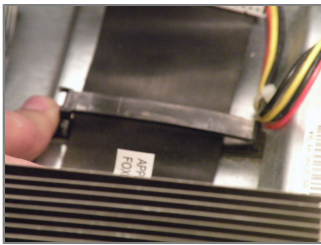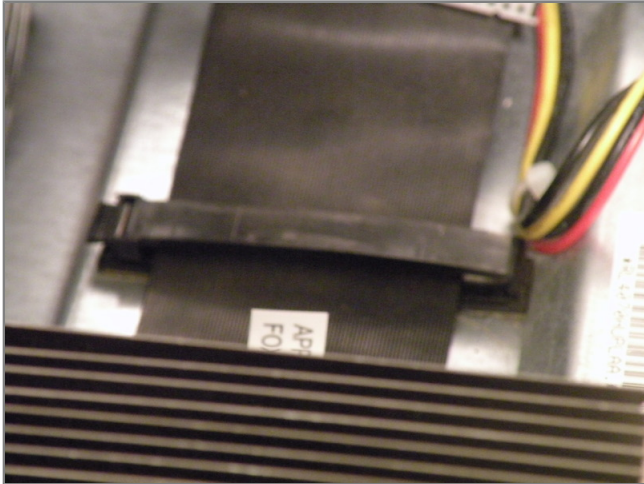- Now, remove the power connecton from the drives.

Step 6

- Now, push this tab down, and pull the cage toward you.
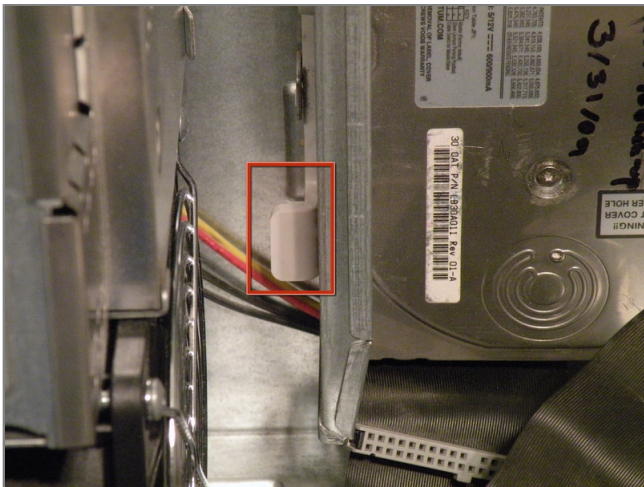- Now, you can set cage 1 aside.

Step 7

- Cage 2:
- Remove this Phillips screw:
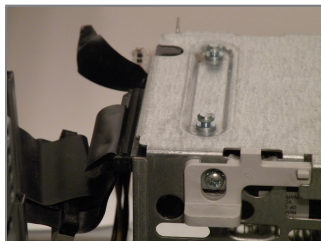- Disconnect this IDE ribbon cable from the logic board.

Step 8

- It's likely that there is a cable clip holding the ribbon cable to the case.
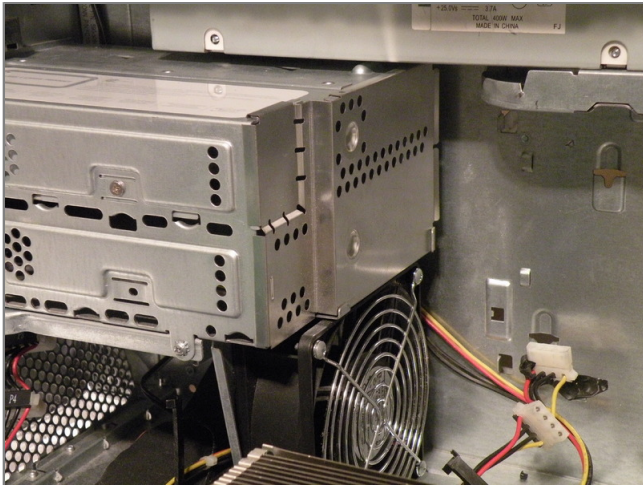- To remove it, push the end, and it should pop up.

Step 9

- With the clip free, pull on this tab, lift the cage up, until it clicks, and pull it away.
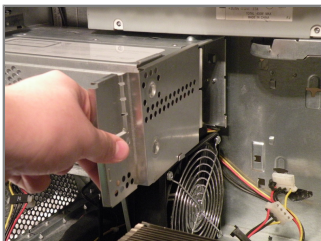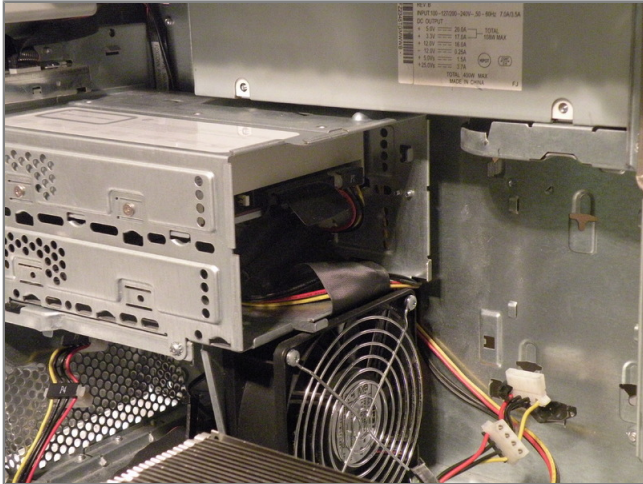- Now, set the cage on top of the CPU, and remove the power connectors.

Step 10

- Once the cables are free, set the drive cage aside.
- To remove the hard drives from the cages, remove the four screws on the sides of the cage that are connected to the drives, than slide the drives out.
- The two cages are cross compatible and can be put in either rack.
- The MDD does not have a 128GB drive limit like older macs, My MDD has 3 Drives (A 400GB Hitatchi Deskstar, 40GB Seagate Baracuda 7200.7, and a 30GB Quantum Fireball LCT).
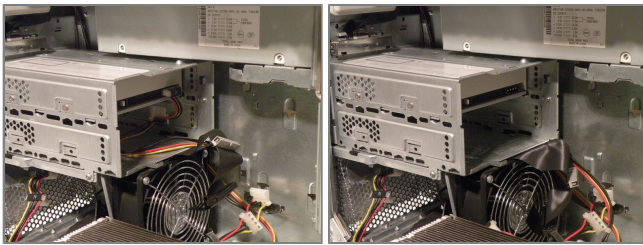
Step 11 - Optical Drive Cage

- Start removing the optical drive cage by removing the back cover.

Step 12

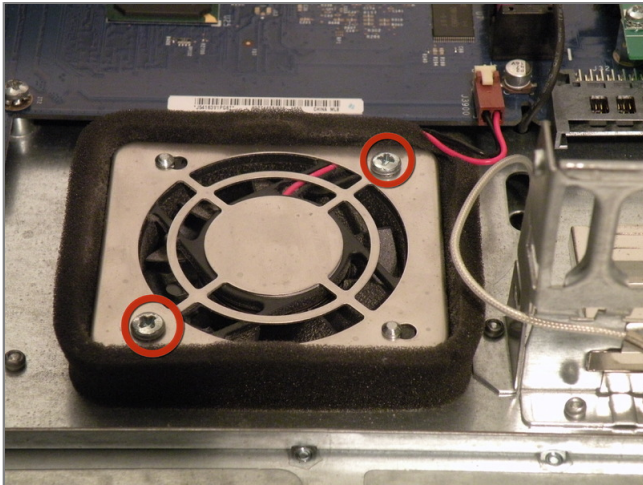- Now, remove the IDE and power cables.

Step 13

- Remove these two Phillips screws:
- Now, pull the cage away from the front until it is free.
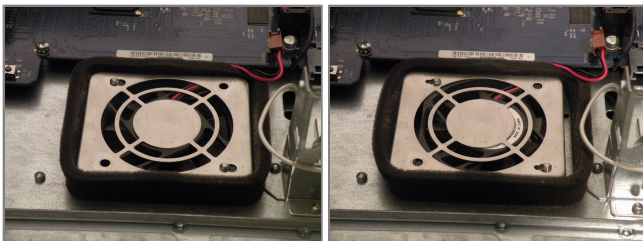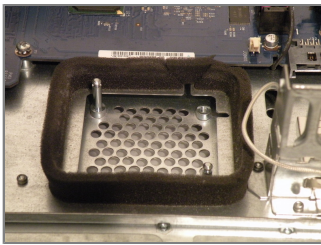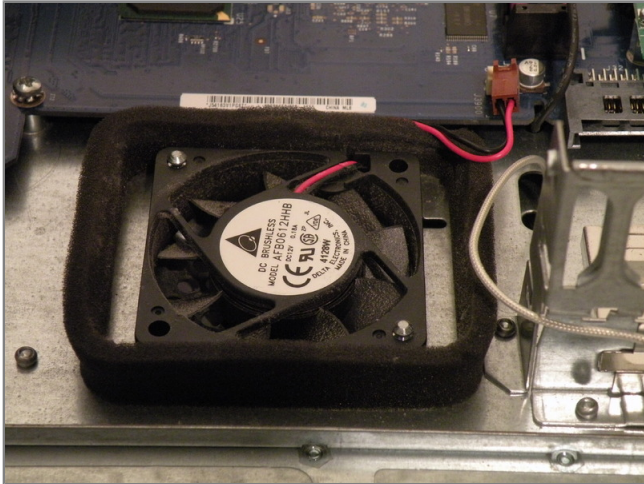- Now, lift the cage out.

Step 14

- To remove the drive from the cage, remove the four screws on the side of the drive, and pull the drive out of the cage.
- My MDD has a 3rd Party 22X SuperDrive, for burning DVD's in Leopard (Thank You Generic Drive Support!)
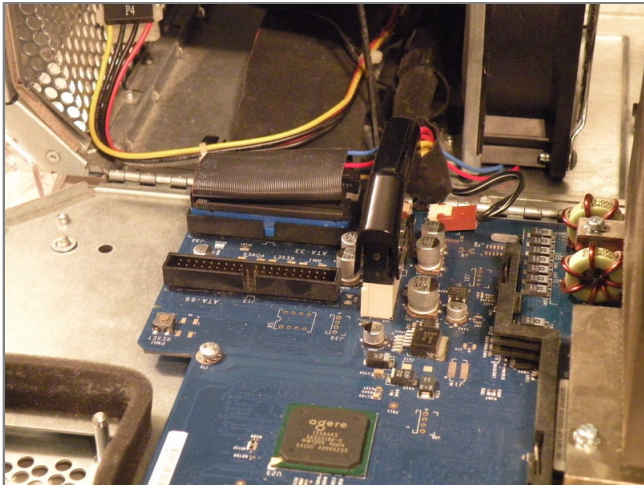
Step 15 - System Fans

- Optical Fan:
- Remove these two Phillips screws:
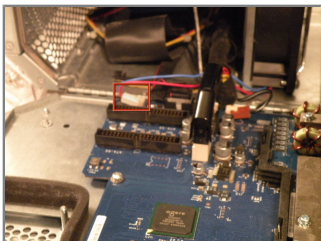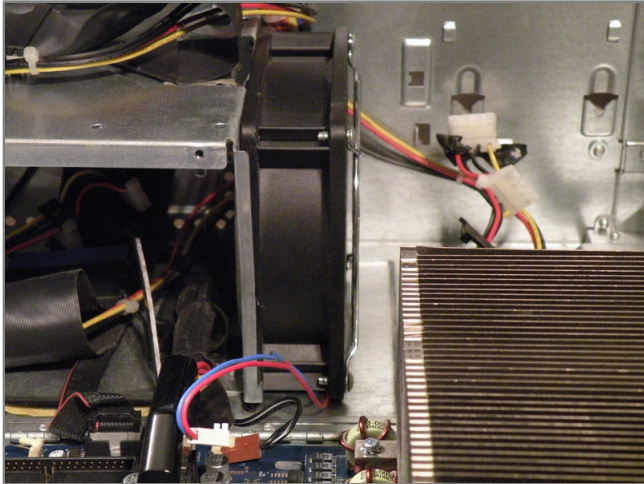- Now, slide the plate towards the case, and lift it up, and off.

Step 16

- Once the cover is removed, disconnect the power cable and thread it under the dust shield.
- Now, lift the fan straight up and out.

Step 17

- System Fan:
- Disconnect the optical drive IDE cable from the logic board.
- Now, remove the system fan cable.

Step 18

- Now, grab the system fan by the sides and pull it up, it should come free, the system fan is very large and loud, compared to standard sized fans.