



# MacBook Air 11" Late 2010 Solid-State Drive Replacement

Replace the SSD on your MacBook Air 11" Late 2010.

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## INTRODUCTION

Use this guide to upgrade or replace the solid-state drive in a MacBook Air 11" Late 2010. This MacBook Air uses a [proprietary storage drive connector](#), and is therefore **not compatible** with common M.2 drives without the use of an adapter.

**Before you perform this repair**, if at all possible, [back up your existing SSD](#). Then, either familiarize yourself with [internet recovery](#) or [create a bootable external drive](#) so you'll be ready to install macOS onto your new drive and migrate your data to the new SSD.

Finally, we strongly recommend installing macOS 10.13 High Sierra (or a later macOS) before replacing the original SSD from your MacBook Air. Most new SSDs require updated storage drivers not found in versions of macOS prior to High Sierra.



### TOOLS:

- [P5 Pentalobe Screwdriver Retina MacBook Pro and Air](#) (1)
- [Spudger](#) (1)
- [T5 Torx Screwdriver](#) (1)



### PARTS:

- [Macbook Air 11" and 13" \(Late 2010/Mid 2011\) SSD](#) (1)
- [OWC Aura Pro SSD for Macbook Air 11" and 13" \(Late 2010-Mid 2011\)](#) (1)

## Step 1 — Lower Case



- ✦ Before proceeding, close your computer and lay it on a soft surface top-side down.
- Remove the following ten screws:
  - Two 8 mm 5-point Pentalobe screws
  - Eight 2.5 mm 5-point Pentalobe screws
- i The special screwdriver needed to remove the eight 5-point Pentalobe screws can be found [here](#).

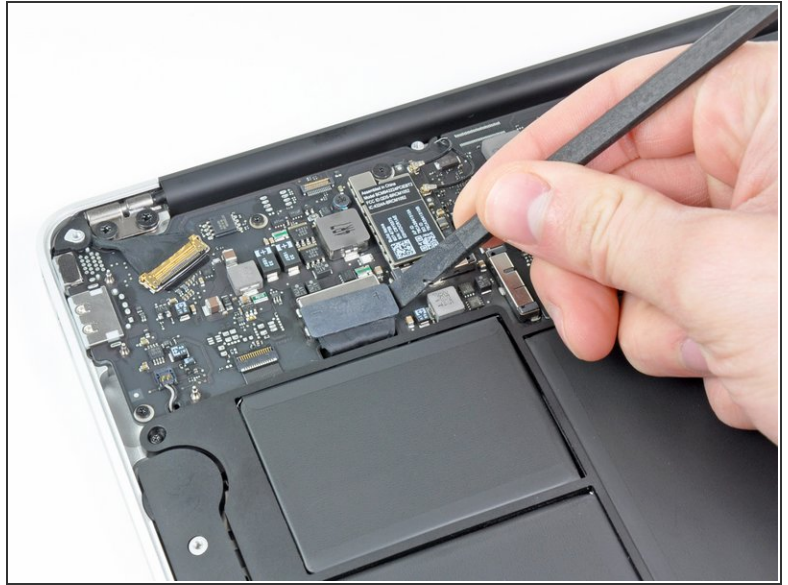
## Step 2




- Wedge your fingers between the display and the lower case and pull upward to pop the lower case off the Air.
- Remove the lower case and set it aside.



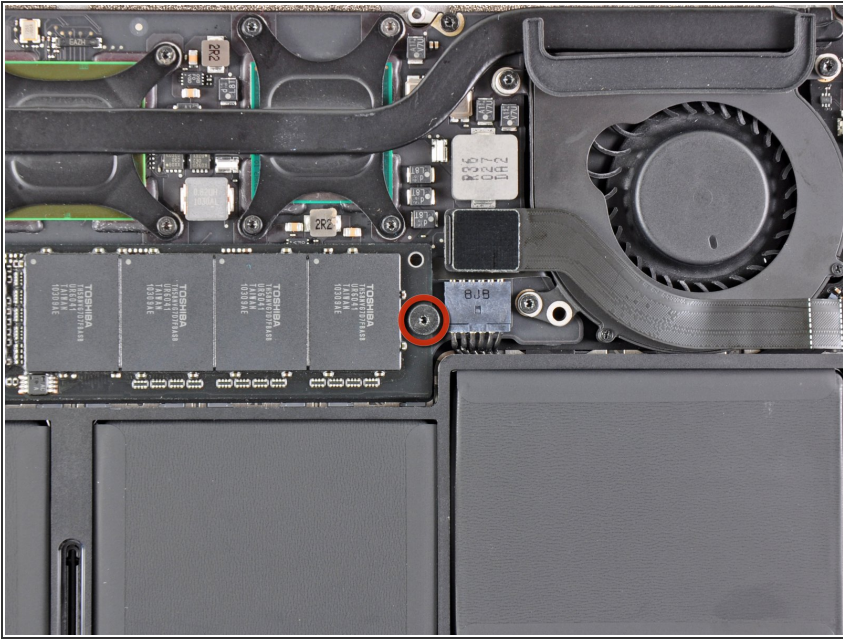
## Step 3 — Battery



 In this step you will disconnect the battery to help avoid shorting out any components during service.

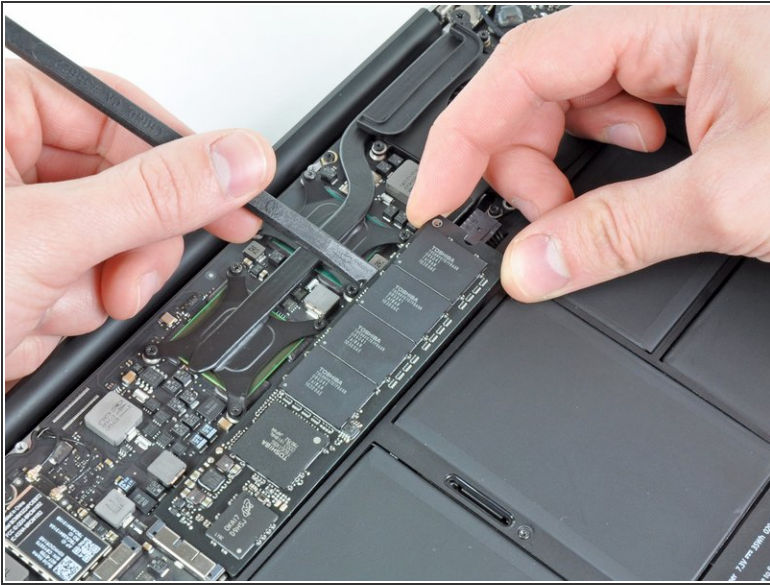
- Use the flat end of a spudger to pry both short sides of the battery connector upward to disconnect it from its socket on the logic board.
- Bend the battery cable slightly away from the logic board so the connector will not accidentally contact its socket.

## Step 4 — Solid-State Drive



- Remove the single 2.9 mm T5 Torx screw securing the SSD to the logic board.

## Step 5



- Use a spudger to help lift the free end of the SSD just enough to grab it with your other hand.

⚠ Do not lift the end of the SSD excessively.

- Pull the drive straight out of its socket and remove it from the logic board.

🔧 When reinstalling the SSD, be sure it is properly seated before reinstalling its retaining screw.

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