Inspiron 5300

Service Manual

Regulatory Model: P121G
Regulatory Type: P121G001

Notes, cautions, and warnings

NOTE: A NOTE indicates important information that helps you make better use of your product.

CAUTION: A CAUTION indicates either potential damage to hardware or loss of data and tells you how to avoid the problem.

WARNING: A WARNING indicates a potential for property damage, personal injury, or death.

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1

Working inside your computer

Before working inside your computer

NOTE: The images in this document may differ from your computer depending on the configuration you ordered.

Before you begin

Steps

1. Save and close all open files and exit all open applications.
2. Shut down your computer. Click **Start** > **Power** > **Shut down**.

   NOTE: If you are using a different operating system, see the documentation of your operating system for shut-down instructions.
3. Disconnect your computer and all attached devices from their electrical outlets.
4. Disconnect all attached network devices and peripherals, such as keyboard, mouse, and monitor from your computer.
5. Remove any media card and optical disc from your computer, if applicable.

Safety instructions

Use the following safety guidelines to protect your computer from potential damage and to ensure your personal safety. Unless otherwise noted, each procedure included in this document assumes that you have read the safety information that shipped with your computer.

NOTE: Before working inside your computer, read the safety information that is shipped with your computer. For more safety best practices, see the Regulatory Compliance home page at www.dell.com/regulatory_compliance.

NOTE: Disconnect your computer from all power sources before opening the computer cover or panels. After you finish working inside the computer, replace all covers, panels, and screws before connecting your computer to an electrical outlet.

CAUTION: To avoid damaging the computer, ensure that the work surface is flat, dry and clean.

CAUTION: To avoid damaging the components and cards, handle them by their edges, and avoid touching the pins and the contacts.

CAUTION: You should only perform troubleshooting and repairs as authorized or directed by the Dell technical assistance team. Damage due to servicing that is not authorized by Dell is not covered by your warranty. See the safety instructions that is shipped with the product or at www.dell.com/regulatory_compliance.

CAUTION: Before touching anything inside your computer, ground yourself by touching an unpainted metal surface, such as the metal at the back of the computer. While you work, periodically touch an unpainted metal surface to dissipate static electricity which could harm internal components.

CAUTION: When you disconnect a cable, pull it by its connector or its pull tab, not the cable itself. Some cables have connectors with locking tabs or thumb-screws that you must disengage before disconnecting the cable. When disconnecting cables, keep them evenly-aligned to avoid bending the connector pins. When connecting cables, ensure that the ports and the connectors are correctly oriented and aligned.

CAUTION: Press and eject any installed card from the media-card reader.

NOTE: The color of your computer and certain components may appear differently than shown in this document.

Electrostatic discharge—ESD protection

ESD is a major concern when you handle electronic components, especially sensitive components such as expansion cards, processors, memory DIMMs, and system boards. Very slight charges can damage circuits in ways that may not be obvious, such as intermittent problems or a shortened product life span. As the industry pushes for lower power requirements and increased density, ESD protection is an increasing concern.

Due to the increased density of semiconductors used in recent Dell products, the sensitivity to static damage is now higher than in previous Dell products. For this reason, some previously approved methods of handling parts are no longer applicable.

Two recognized types of ESD damage are catastrophic and intermittent failures.

- **Catastrophic** – Catastrophic failures represent approximately 20 percent of ESD-related failures. The damage causes an immediate and complete loss of device functionality. An example of catastrophic failure is a memory DIMM that has received a static shock and immediately generates a "No POST/No Video" symptom with a beep code emitted for missing or nonfunctional memory.
- **Intermittent** – Intermittent failures represent approximately 80 percent of ESD-related failures. The high rate of intermittent failures means that most of the time when damage occurs, it is not immediately recognizable. The DIMM receives a static shock, but the tracing is merely weakened and does not immediately produce outward symptoms related to the damage. The weakened trace may take weeks or months to melt, and in the meantime may cause degradation of memory integrity, intermittent memory errors, etc.

The more difficult type of damage to recognize and troubleshoot is the intermittent (also called latent or "walking wounded") failure.

Perform the following steps to prevent ESD damage:

- Use a wired ESD wrist strap that is properly grounded. The use of wireless anti-static straps is no longer allowed; they do not provide adequate protection. Touching the chassis before handling parts does not ensure adequate ESD protection on parts with increased sensitivity to ESD damage.
- Handle all static-sensitive components in a static-safe area. If possible, use anti-static floor pads and workbench pads.
- When unpacking a static-sensitive component from its shipping carton, do not remove the component from the anti-static packing material until you are ready to install the component. Before unwrapping the anti-static packaging, ensure that you discharge static electricity from your body.
- Before transporting a static-sensitive component, place it in an anti-static container or packaging.

ESD field service kit

The unmonitored Field Service kit is the most commonly used service kit. Each Field Service kit includes three main components: anti-static mat, wrist strap, and bonding wire.

Components of an ESD field service kit

The components of an ESD field service kit are:

- **Anti-Static Mat** – The anti-static mat is dissipative and parts can be placed on it during service procedures. When using an anti-static mat, your wrist strap should be snug and the bonding wire should be connected to the mat and to any bare metal on the system being worked on. Once deployed properly, service parts can be removed from the ESD bag and placed directly on the mat. ESD-sensitive items are safe in your hand, on the ESD mat, in the system, or inside a bag.
- **Wrist Strap and Bonding Wire** – The wrist strap and bonding wire can be either directly connected between your wrist and bare metal on the hardware if the ESD mat is not required, or connected to the anti-static mat to protect hardware that is temporarily placed on the mat. The physical connection of the wrist strap and bonding wire between your skin, the ESD mat, and the hardware is known as bonding. Use only Field Service kits with a wrist strap, mat, and bonding wire. Never use wireless wrist straps. Always be aware that the internal wires of a wrist strap are prone to damage from normal wear and tear, and must be checked regularly with a wrist strap tester in order to avoid accidental ESD hardware damage. It is recommended to test the wrist strap and bonding wire at least once per week.
- **ESD Wrist Strap Tester** – The wires inside of an ESD strap are prone to damage over time. When using an unmonitored kit, it is a best practice to regularly test the strap prior to each service call, and at a minimum, test once per week. A wrist strap tester is the best method for doing this test. If you do not have your own wrist strap tester, check with your regional office to find out if they have one. To perform the test, plug the wrist-strap's bonding-wire into the tester while it is strapped to your wrist and push the button to test. A green LED is lit if the test is successful; a red LED is lit and an alarm sounds if the test fails.
- **Insulator Elements** – It is critical to keep ESD sensitive devices, such as plastic heat sink casings, away from internal parts that are insulators and often highly charged.
- **Working Environment** – Before deploying the ESD Field Service kit, assess the situation at the customer location. For example, deploying the kit for a server environment is different than for a desktop or portable environment. Servers are typically installed in a rack within a data center; desktops or portables are typically placed on office desks or cubicles. Always look for a large open flat work area that is free of clutter and large enough to deploy the ESD kit with additional space to accommodate the type of system that is

being repaired. The workspace should also be free of insulators that can cause an ESD event. On the work area, insulators such as Styrofoam and other plastics should always be moved at least 12 inches or 30 centimeters away from sensitive parts before physically handling any hardware components

- **ESD Packaging** – All ESD-sensitive devices must be shipped and received in static-safe packaging. Metal, static-shielded bags are preferred. However, you should always return the damaged part using the same ESD bag and packaging that the new part arrived in. The ESD bag should be folded over and taped shut and all the same foam packing material should be used in the original box that the new part arrived in. ESD-sensitive devices should be removed from packaging only at an ESD-protected work surface, and parts should never be placed on top of the ESD bag because only the inside of the bag is shielded. Always place parts in your hand, on the ESD mat, in the system, or inside an anti-static bag.
- **Transporting Sensitive Components** – When transporting ESD sensitive components such as replacement parts or parts to be returned to Dell, it is critical to place these parts in anti-static bags for safe transport.

ESD protection summary

It is recommended that all field service technicians use the traditional wired ESD grounding wrist strap and protective anti-static mat at all times when servicing Dell products. In addition, it is critical that technicians keep sensitive parts separate from all insulator parts while performing service and that they use anti-static bags for transporting sensitive components.

Transporting sensitive components

When transporting ESD sensitive components such as replacement parts or parts to be returned to Dell, it is critical to place these parts in anti-static bags for safe transport.

Lifting equipment

Adhere to the following guidelines when lifting heavy weight equipment:

CAUTION: Do not lift greater than 50 pounds. Always obtain additional resources or use a mechanical lifting device.

1. Get a firm balanced footing. Keep your feet apart for a stable base, and point your toes out.
2. Tighten stomach muscles. Abdominal muscles support your spine when you lift, offsetting the force of the load.
3. Lift with your legs, not your back.
4. Keep the load close. The closer it is to your spine, the less force it exerts on your back.
5. Keep your back upright, whether lifting or setting down the load. Do not add the weight of your body to the load. Avoid twisting your body and back.
6. Follow the same techniques in reverse to set the load down.

After working inside your computer

About this task

CAUTION: Leaving stray or loose screws inside your computer may severely damage your computer.

Steps

1. Replace all screws and ensure that no stray screws remain inside your computer.
2. Connect any external devices, peripherals, or cables you removed before working on your computer.
3. Replace any media cards, discs, or any other parts that you removed before working on your computer.
4. Connect your computer and all attached devices to their electrical outlets.
5. Turn on your computer.

2

Removing and installing components

Recommended tools

The procedures in this document may require the following tools:

- Phillips screwdriver #0
- Phillips screwdriver #1
- Plastic scribe

Screw list

NOTE: When removing screws from a component, it is recommended to note the screw type, the quantity of screws, and then place them in a screw storage box. This is to ensure that the correct number of screws and correct screw type is restored when the component is replaced.

NOTE: Some computers have magnetic surfaces. Ensure that the screws are not left attached to such surface when replacing a component.

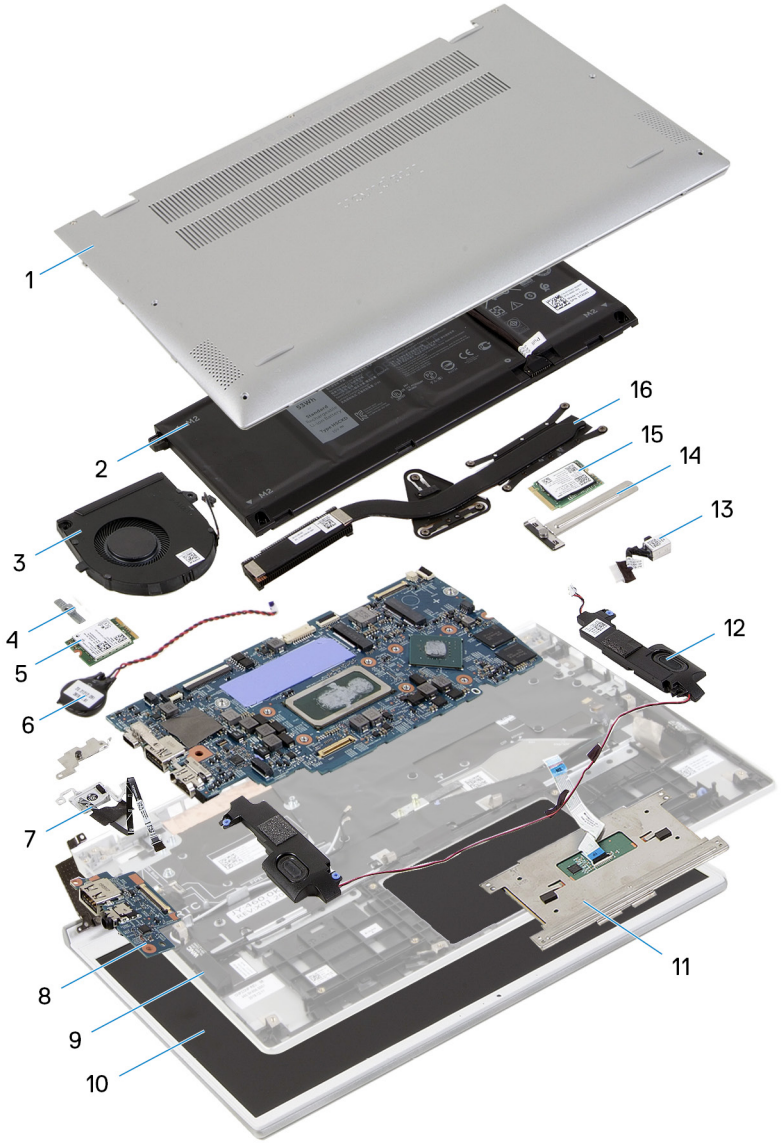
NOTE: Screw color may vary with the configuration ordered.

Table 1. Screw list

Component	Secured to	Screw type	Quantity	Screw image
Base cover	Palm-rest and keyboard assembly	M2x4	4	
3-cell Battery	Palm-rest and keyboard assembly	M2x5	4	
4-cell Battery	Palm-rest and keyboard assembly	M2x5	5	
Solid-state drive bracket	System board	M2x3	1	
Fan	System board	M2x3	2	
Display-assembly hinges	Palm-rest and keyboard assembly	M2x2	3	
Power-adapter port	Palm-rest and keyboard assembly	M2x3	1	
I/O board	Palm-rest and keyboard assembly	M2x3	2	
Wireless-card bracket	Palm-rest and keyboard assembly	M2x2.5	1	
Touchpad	Palm-rest and keyboard assembly	M2x2	4	

Major components of Inspiron 5300

The following image shows the major components of Inspiron 5300.



1. Base cover
2. Battery
3. Fan
4. Wireless-card bracket
5. Wireless card
6. Coin-cell battery
7. Power button with fingerprint reader
8. I/O board
9. Palm-rest and keyboard assembly
10. Display assembly
11. Touchpad
12. Speakers
13. Power-adapter port
14. Solid-state drive shield
15. Solid-state drive
16. Heat sink

NOTE: Dell provides a list of components and their part numbers for the original system configuration purchased. These parts are available according to warranty coverages purchased by the customer. Contact your Dell sales representative for purchase options.

Base cover

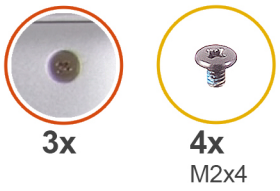
Removing the base cover

Prerequisites

1. Follow the procedure in Before working inside your computer.

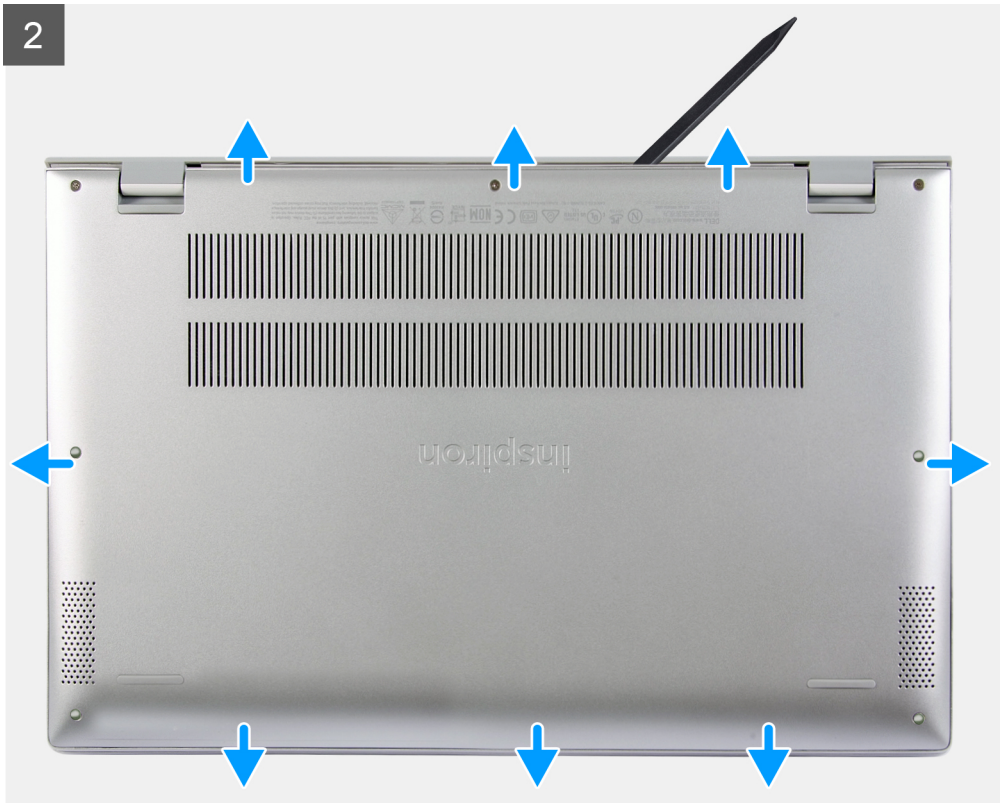
About this task

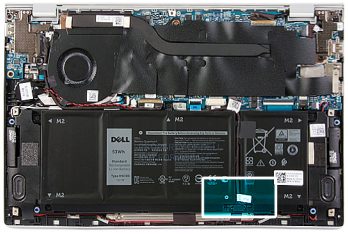
The following images indicate the location of the base cover and provide a visual representation of the removal procedure.





2


inspiron



3


M2
M2
Disconnect The Battery Before Accessing Any Parts or Devices
DELL
53Wh
Standard
Rechargeable
Li-ion Battery
Type H5CKD
M2
Pull

4



Steps

1. Loosen the three captive screws that secure the base cover to the palm-rest and keyboard assembly.
2. Remove the four screws (M2x4) that secure the base cover to the palm-rest and keyboard assembly.
3. Starting from the top-left corner, use a plastic scribe to pry the base cover in the direction of the arrows to release the base cover from the palm-rest and keyboard assembly.

   CAUTION: Do not pull on or pry the base cover from the side where the hinges are; doing so may damage the base cover.
4. Pry the base cover and remove it from the palm-rest and keyboard assembly.

   NOTE: The following steps are applicable only if you want to further remove any other component from your computer.
5. Using the pull tab, disconnect the battery cable from the system board.
6. Turn your computer over and press the power button for 15 seconds to drain the flea power.

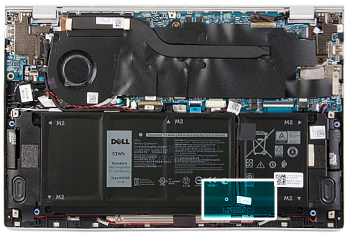
Installing the base cover

Prerequisites

If you are replacing a component, remove the existing component before performing the installation procedure.

About this task

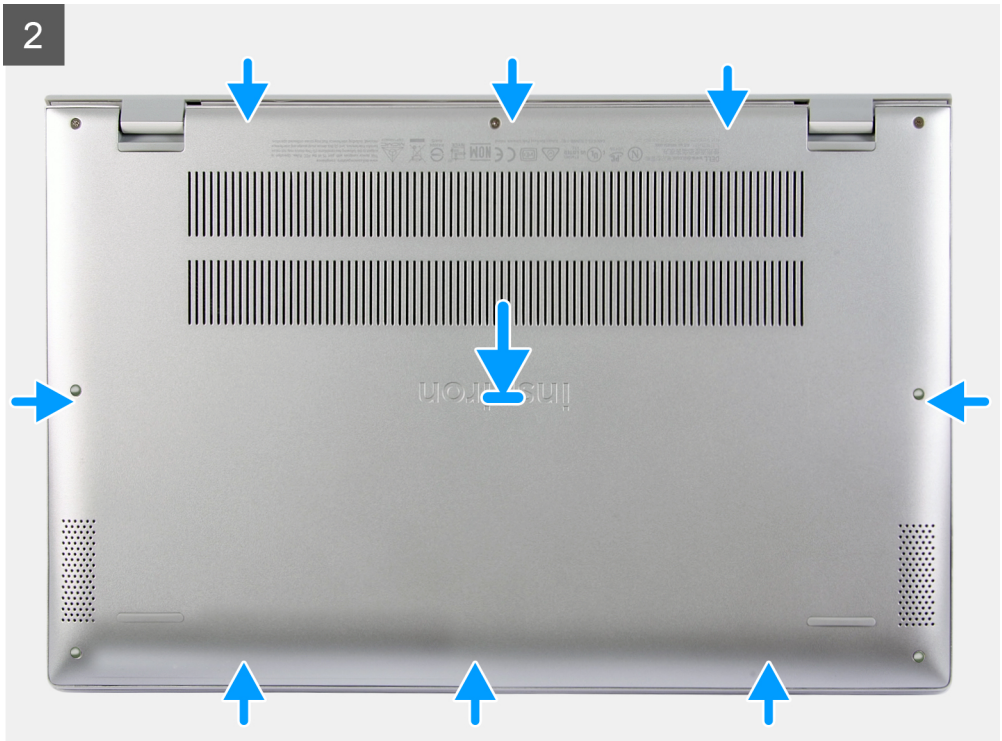
The following images indicate the location of the base cover and provide a visual representation of the installation procedure.

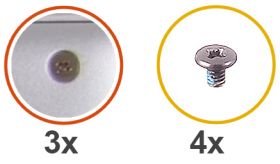


1


M2
M2
M2
Disconnect The Battery Before Accessing Any Parts or Devices
DELL
53Wh
Standard
Rechargeable
Li-ion Battery
Type H5CKD
Pull

2







Steps

1. Connect the battery cable to the system board, if applicable.
2. Align the screw holes on the base cover with the screw holes on the palm-rest and keyboard assembly, and then snap the base cover into place.
3. Replace the four screws (M2x4) that secure the base cover to the palm-rest and keyboard assembly.
4. TIghten the three captive screws that secure the base cover to the palm-rest and keyboard assembly.

Next steps

1. Follow the procedure in After working inside your computer.

Battery

Lithium-ion battery precautions

CAUTION:

- **Exercise caution when handling Lithium-ion batteries.**
- **Discharge the battery as much as possible before removing it from the system. This can be done by disconnecting the AC adapter from the system to allow the battery to drain.**
- **Do not crush, drop, mutilate, or penetrate the battery with foreign objects.**
- **Do not expose the battery to high temperatures, or disassemble battery packs and cells.**
- **Do not apply pressure to the surface of the battery.**
- **Do not bend the battery.**

- **Do not use tools of any kind to pry on or against the battery.**
- **Ensure any screws during the servicing of this product are not lost or misplaced, to prevent accidental puncture or damage to the battery and other system components.**
- **If the battery gets stuck inside your computer as a result of swelling, do not try to release it as puncturing, bending, or crushing a lithium-ion battery can be dangerous. In such an instance, contact Dell technical support for assistance. See www.dell.com/contactdell.**
- **Always purchase genuine batteries from www.dell.com or authorized Dell partners and resellers.**

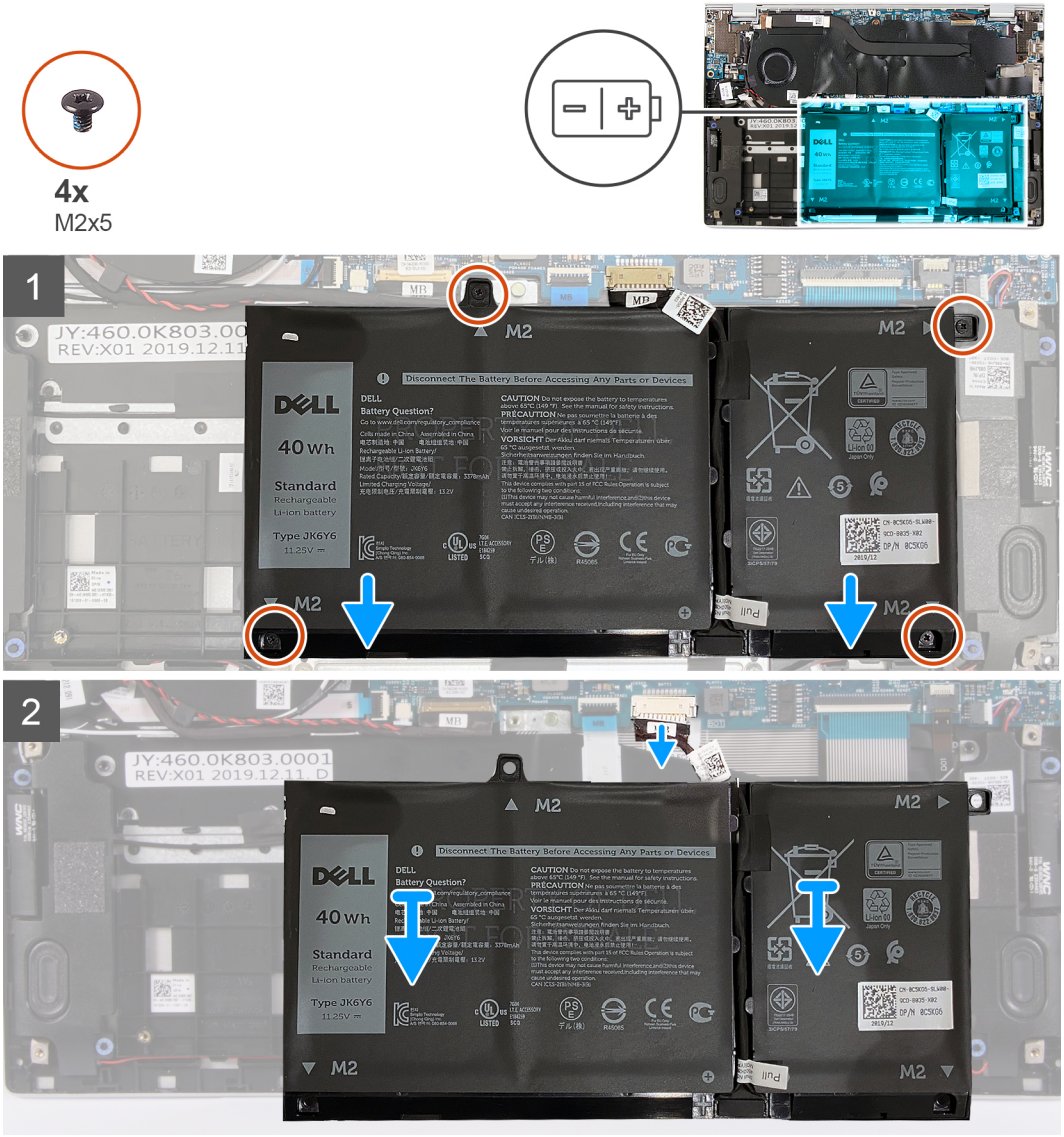
Removing the 3-cell battery

Prerequisites

1. Follow the procedure in Before working inside your computer.
2. Remove the base cover.

About this task

The following image indicates the location of the battery and provides a visual representation of the removal procedure.



Steps

1. Remove the four screws (M2x5) that secure the battery to the palm-rest and keyboard assembly.
2. Disconnect the battery cable from the system board, if applicable.
3. Lift the battery off the palm-rest and keyboard assembly.

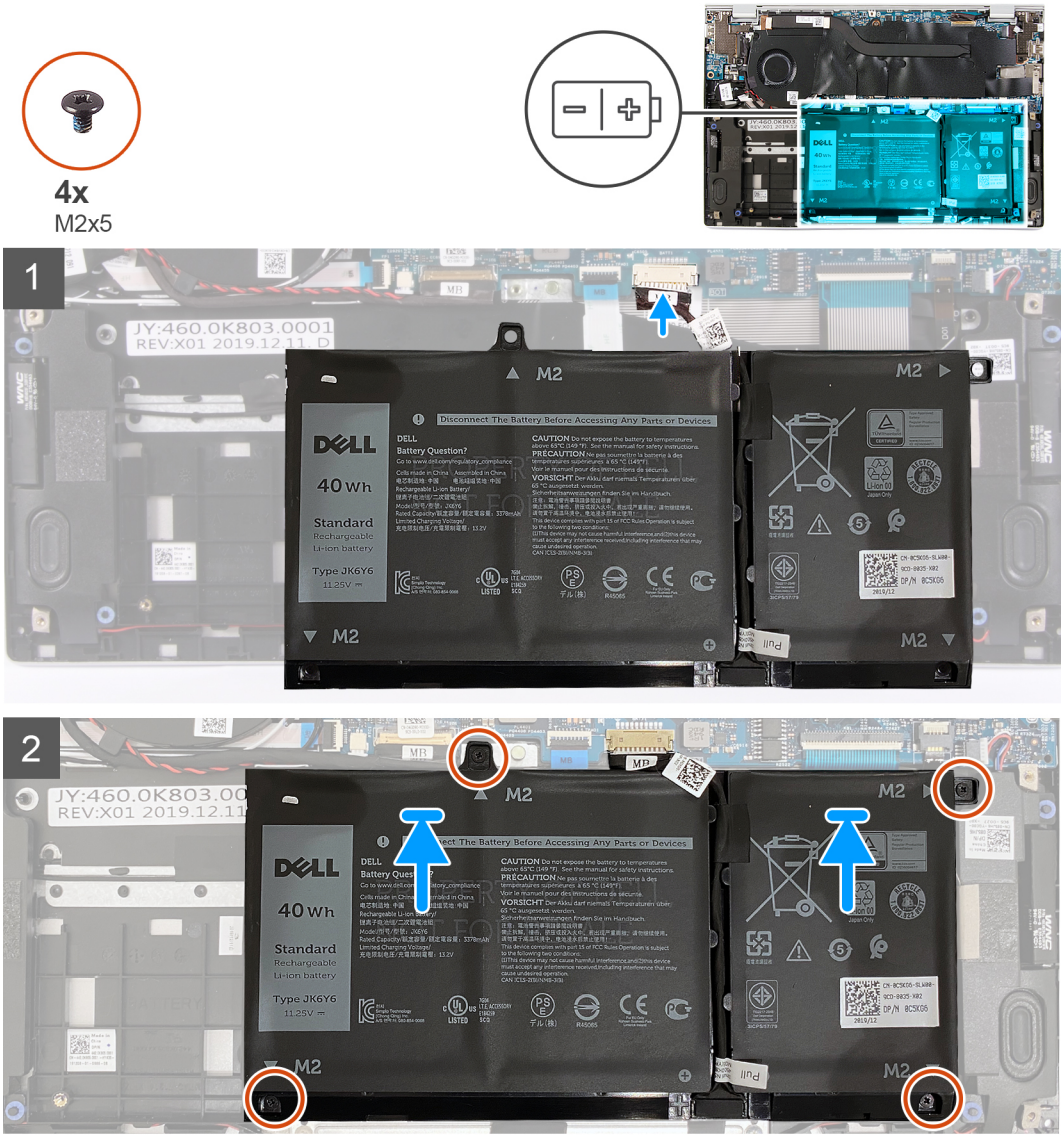
Installing the 3-cell battery

Prerequisites

If you are replacing a component, remove the existing component before performing the installation procedure.

About this task

The following image indicates the location of the battery and provides a visual representation of the installation procedure.



Steps

1. Align the screw holes on the battery with the screw holes on the palm-rest and keyboard assembly.
2. Replace the four screws (M2x5) that secure the battery to the palm-rest and keyboard assembly.
3. Connect the battery cable to the system board.

Next steps

1. Install the base cover.
2. Follow the procedure in After working inside your computer.

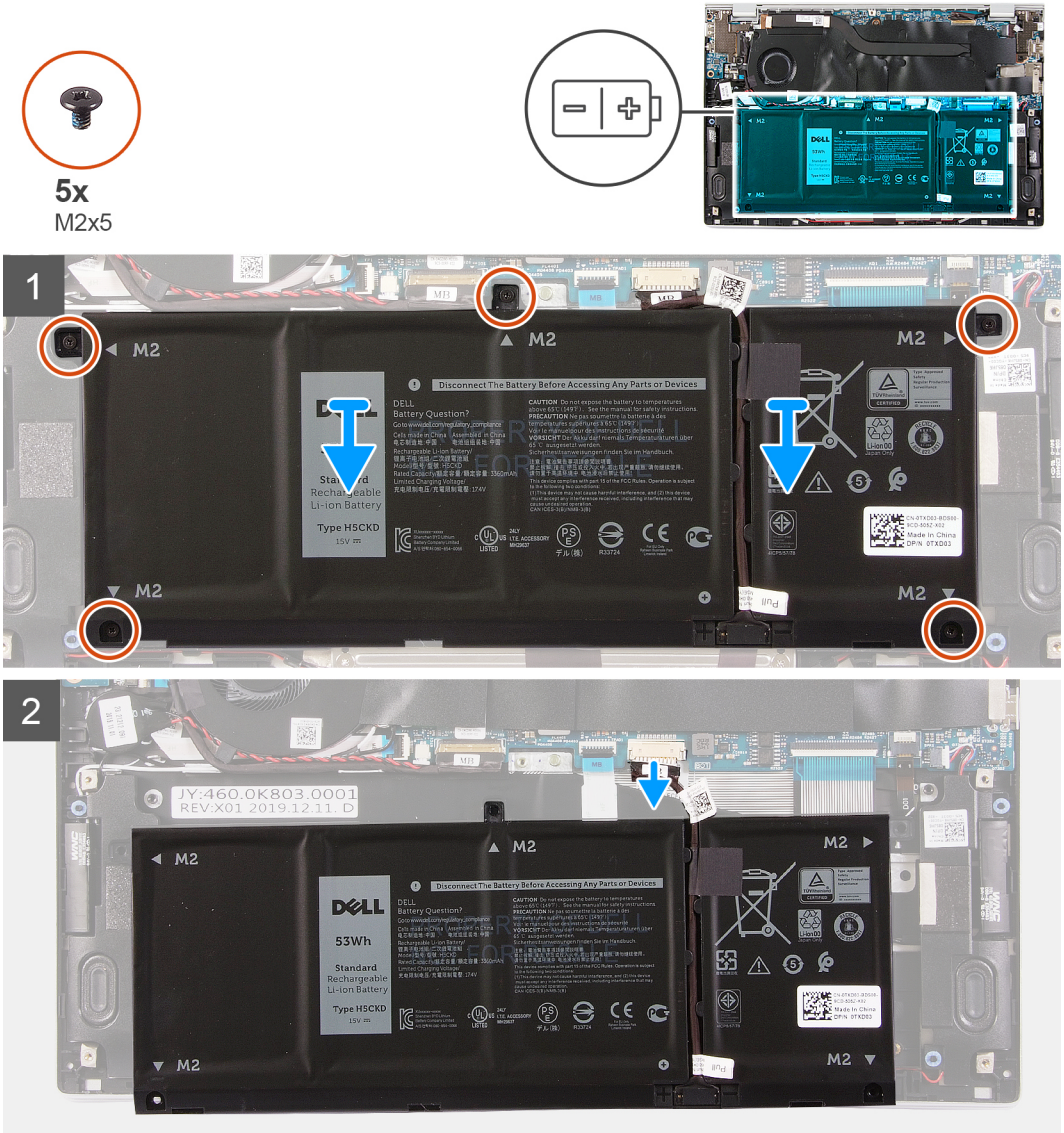
Removing the 4-cell battery

Prerequisites

1. Follow the procedure in Before working inside your computer.
2. Remove the base cover.

About this task

The following image indicates the location of the battery and provides a visual representation of the removal procedure.



Steps

1. Remove the five screws (M2x5) that secure the battery to the palm-rest and keyboard assembly.
2. Disconnect the battery cable from the system board, if applicable.
3. Lift the battery off the palm-rest and keyboard assembly.

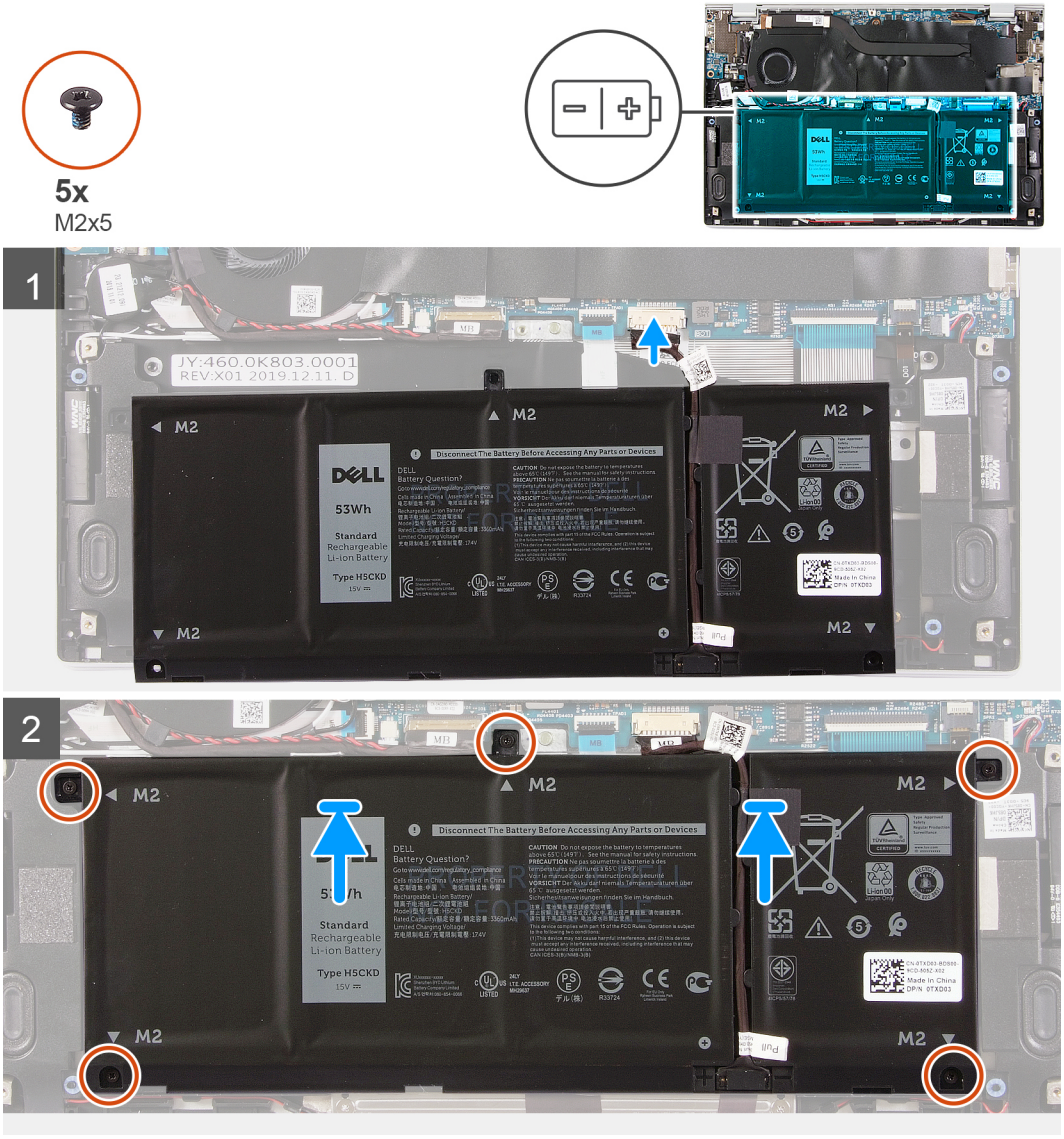
Installing the 4-cell battery

Prerequisites

If you are replacing a component, remove the existing component before performing the installation procedure.

About this task

The following image indicates the location of the battery and provides a visual representation of the installation procedure.



Steps

1. Align the screw holes on the battery with the screw holes on the palm-rest and keyboard assembly.
2. Replace the five screws (M2x5) that secure the battery to the palm-rest and keyboard assembly.
3. Connect the battery cable to the system board.

Next steps

1. Install the base cover.
2. Follow the procedure in After working inside your computer.

Solid-state drive

Removing the solid-state drive

Prerequisites

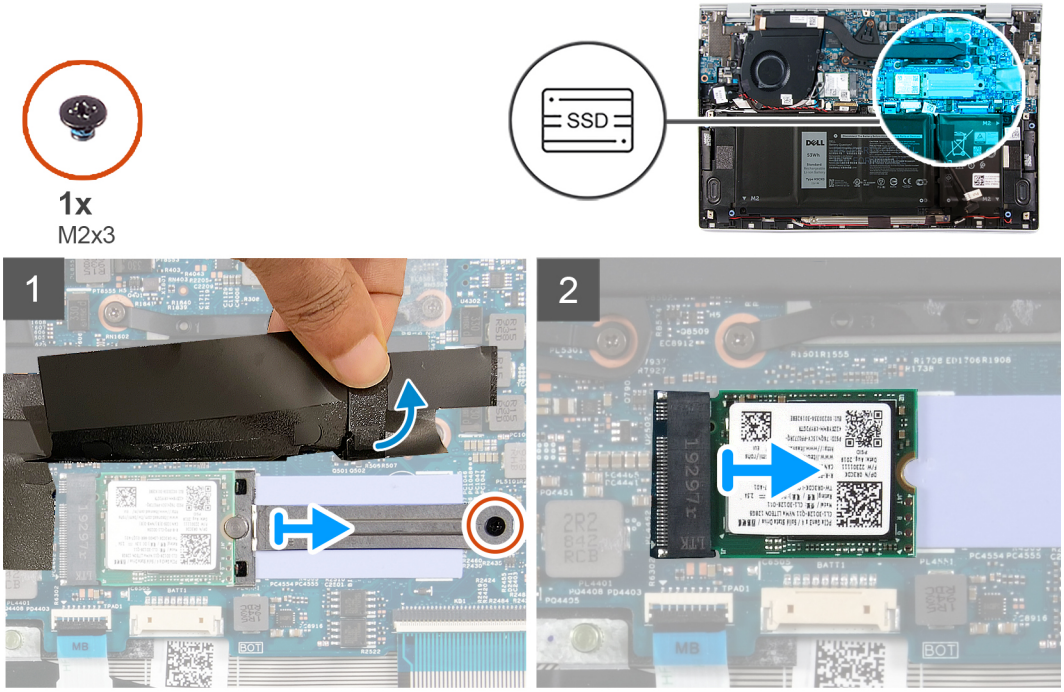
1. Follow the procedure in Before working inside your computer.

   CAUTION: Solid-state drives are fragile. Exercise care when handling the solid-state drive.

   CAUTION: To avoid data loss, do not remove the solid-state drive while the computer is in sleep or on state.
2. Remove the base cover.

About this task

The following image indicates the location of the solid-state drive and provides a visual representation of the removal procedure.



Steps

1. Lift the mylar that covers the solid-state drive slot.
2. Remove the screw (M2x3) that secures the solid-state drive bracket to the system board.
3. Slide and remove the solid-state drive bracket off the system board.
4. Slide and remove the solid-state drive from the solid-state drive slot.

Installing the solid-state drive

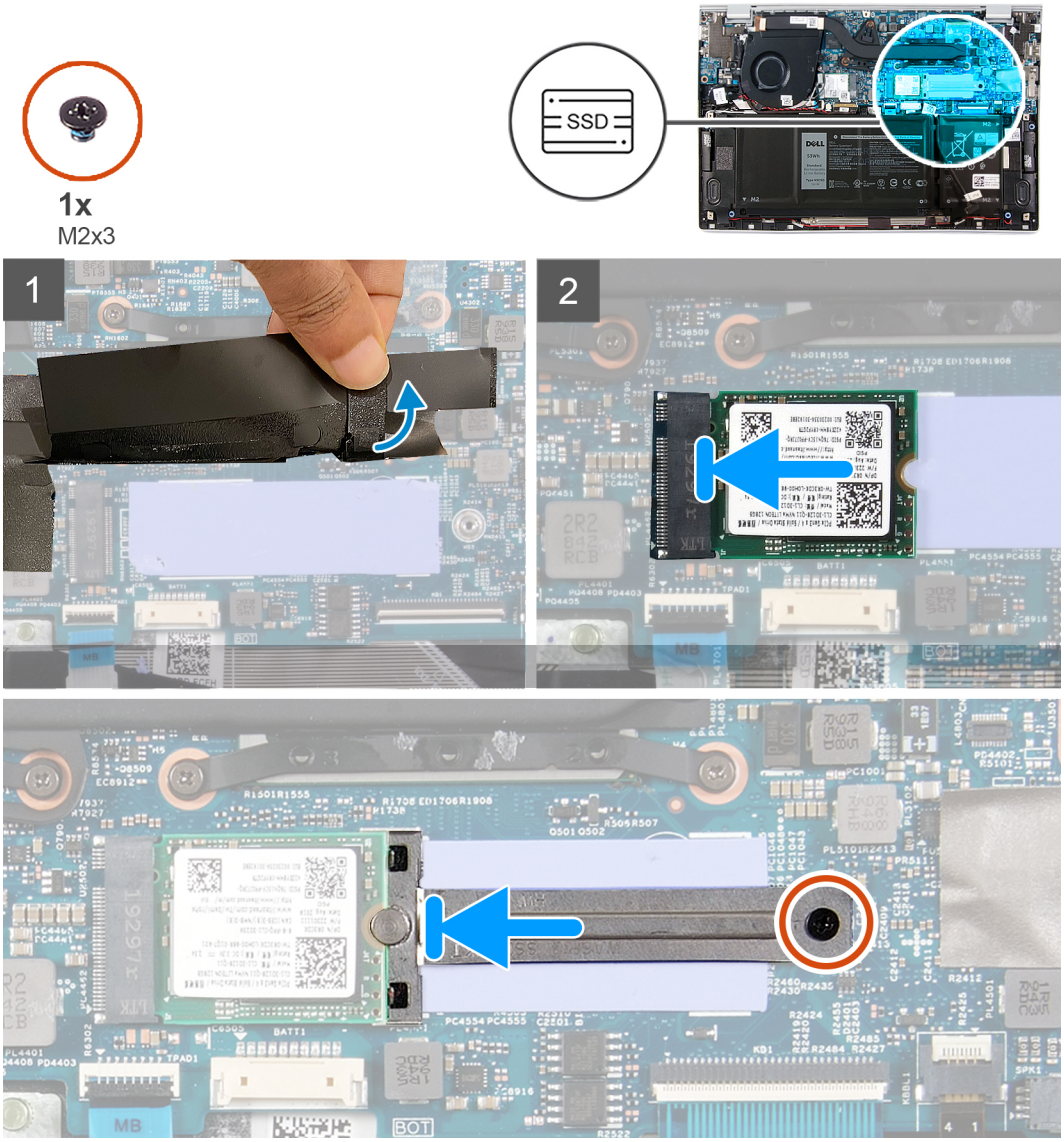
Prerequisites

If you are replacing a component, remove the existing component before performing the installation procedure.

CAUTION: Solid-state drives are fragile. Exercise care when handling the solid-state drive.

About this task

The following image indicates the location of the solid-state drive and provides a visual representation of the installation procedure.



Steps

1. Lift the mylar that covers the solid-state drive slot.
2. Slide the solid-state drive into the solid-state drive slot.
3. Slide the solid-state drive bracket and align the screw hole on the solid-state drive bracket with the screw hole on the system board.
4. Replace the screw (M2x3) that secures the solid-state drive bracket to the system board.

Next steps

1. Install the base cover.
2. Follow the procedure in After working inside your computer.

Coin-cell battery

Removing the coin-cell battery

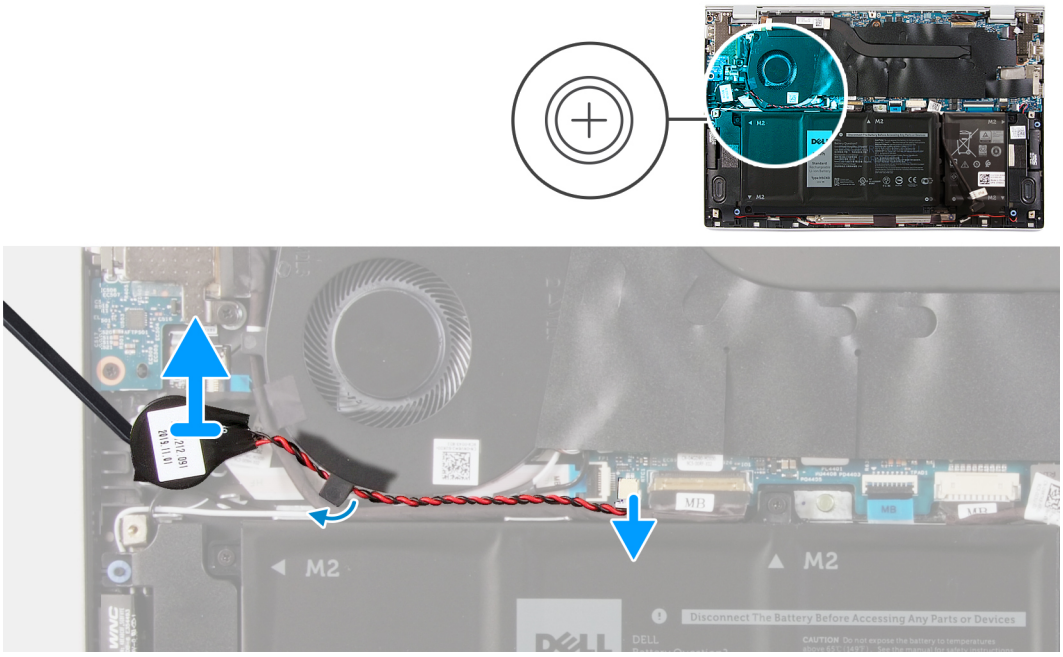
Prerequisites

1. Follow the procedure in Before working inside your computer.

   CAUTION: Removing the coin-cenn battery resets the BIOS setup program's settings to default. It is recommended that you note the BIOS setup program's settings before removing the coin-cell battery.
2. Remove the base cover.

About this task

The following image indicates the location of the coin-cell battery and provides a visual representation of the removal procedure.



Steps

1. Disconnect the coin-cell battery cable from the system board.
2. Remove the coin-cell battery cable from the routing guide.
3. Peel the coin-cell battery off the palm-rest and keyboard assembly.

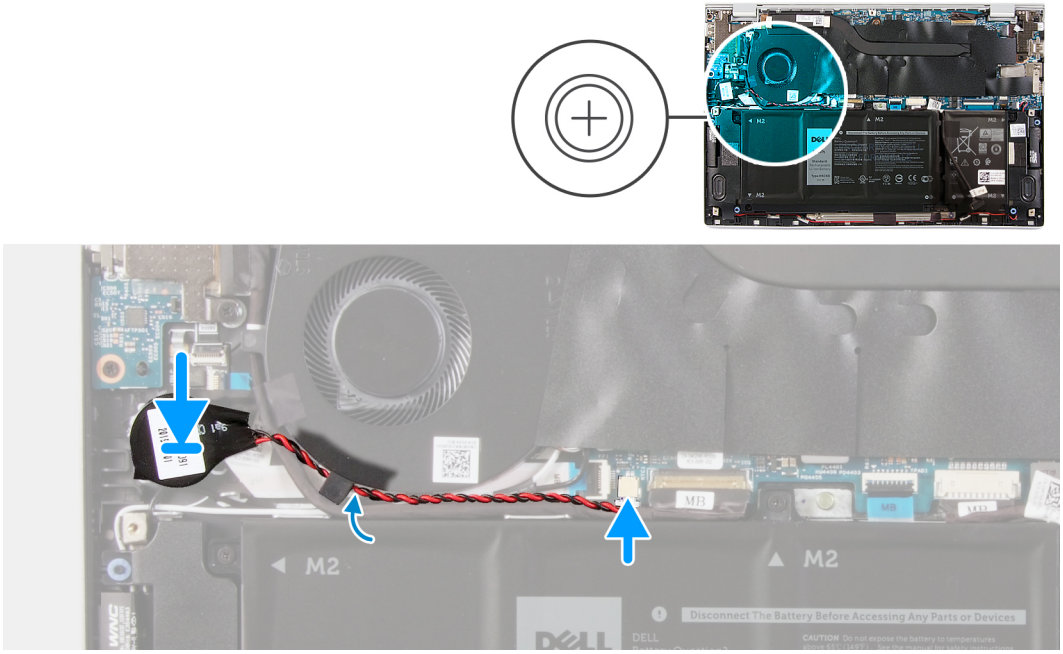
Installing the coin-cell battery

Prerequisites

If you are replacing a component, remove the existing component before performing the installation procedure.

About this task

The following image indicates the location of the coin-cell battery and provides a visual representation of the installation procedure.



Steps

1. Adhere the coin-cell battery to the slot on the palm-rest and keyboard assembly.
2. Route the coin-cell battery cable through the routing guide.
3. Connect the coin-cell battery cable to the system board.

Next steps

1. Install the 4-cell battery.
2. Install the 3-cell battery.
3. Install the base cover.
4. Follow the procedure in After working inside your computer.

Wireless card

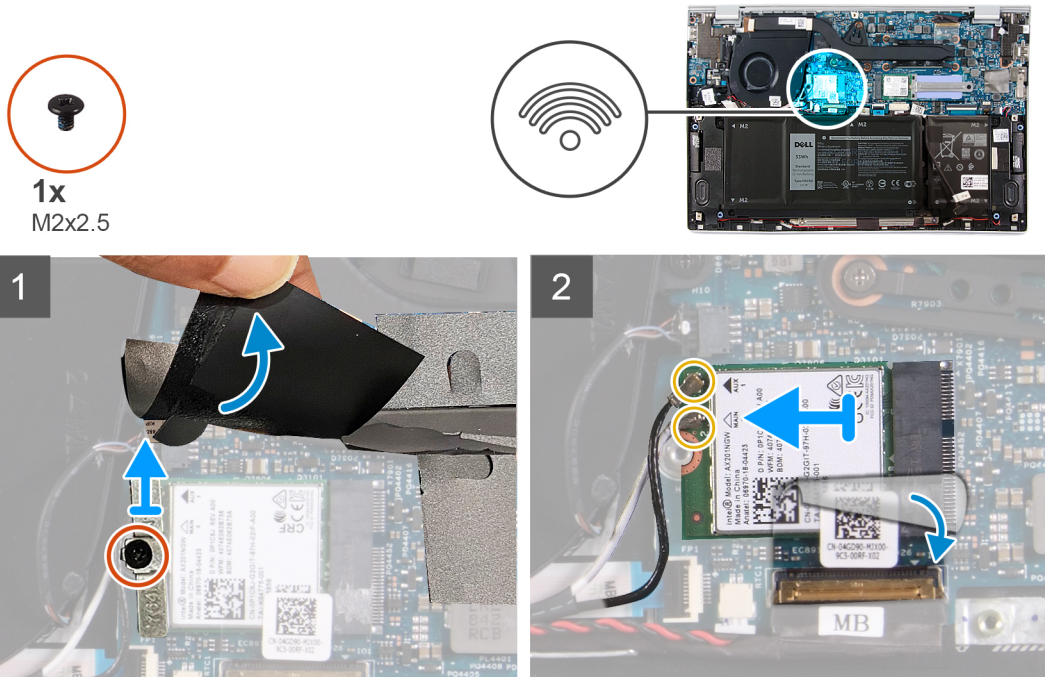
Removing the wireless card

Prerequisites

1. Follow the procedure in Before working inside your computer.
2. Remove the base cover.

About this task

The following image indicates the location of WLAN card and provides a visual representation of the removal procedure.



Steps

1. Lift the mylar that covers the wireless-card slot.
2. Remove the screw (M2x2.5) that secures the wireless-card bracket to the wireless card and lift the wireless-card bracket off the wireless card.
3. Disconnect the antenna cables from the wireless card.
4. Peel off the tape that secures the wireless card to the system board.
5. Slide and remove the wireless card from the wireless-card slot.

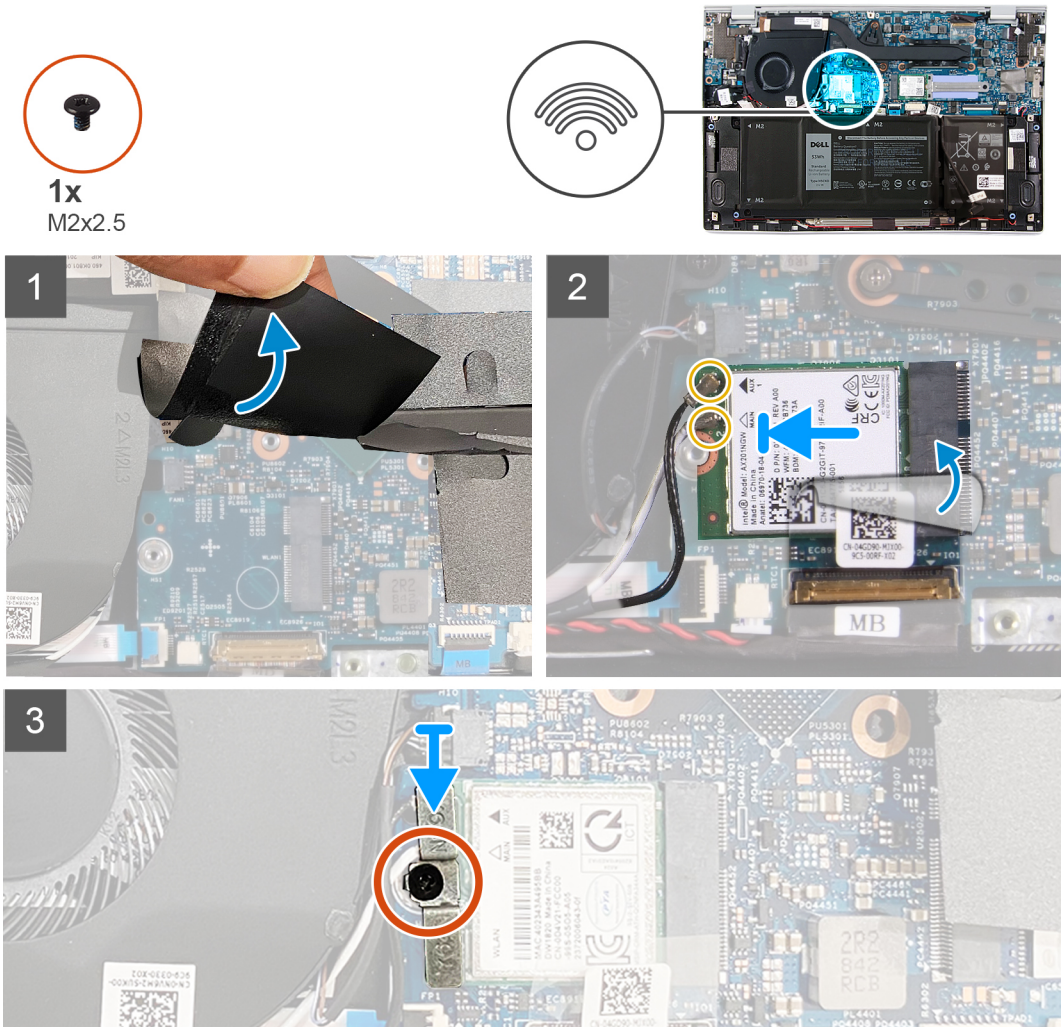
Installing the wireless card

Prerequisites

If you are replacing a component, remove the existing component before performing the installation procedure.

About this task

The following image indicates the location of WLAN card and provides a visual representation of the installation procedure.



Steps

1. Lift the mylar that covers the wireless-card slot.
2. Align the notch on the wireless card with the tab on the wireless-card slot and insert the wireless card at an angle into the wireless-card slot.
3. Connect the antenna cables to the wireless card.

   The following table provides the antenna-cable color scheme for the wireless card supported by your computer.

Table 2. Antenna-cable color scheme

Connectors on the wireless card	Antenna-cable color
Main (white triangle)	White
Auxiliary (black triangle)	Black

4. Adhere the tape that secures the wireless card to the system board.
5. Align and place the wireless-card bracket on the wireless card.
6. Replace the screw (M2x2.5) to secure the wireless-card bracket to the wireless card.

Next steps

1. Install the base cover.
2. Follow the procedure in After working inside your computer.

Fans

Removing the fan

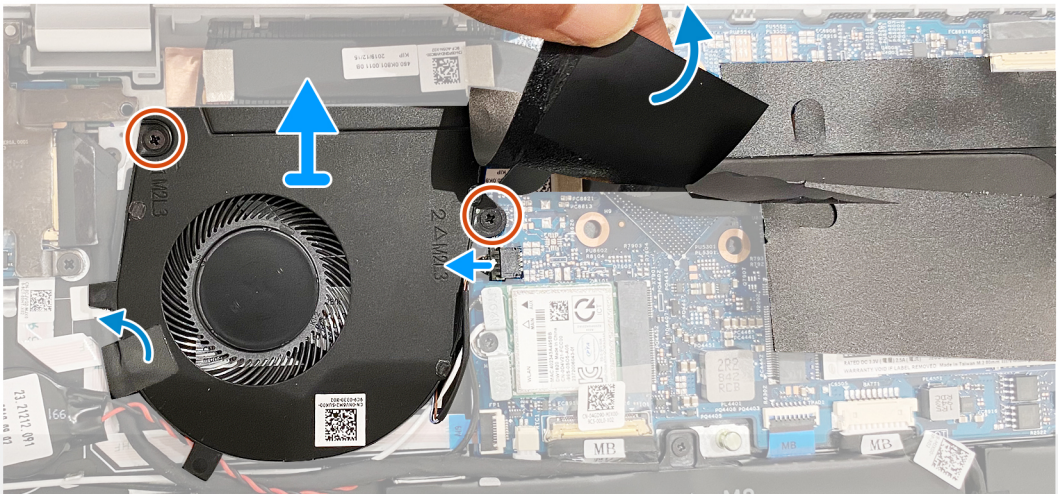
Prerequisites

1. Follow the procedure in Before working inside your computer.
2. Remove the base cover.

About this task

The following images indicate the location of the fans and provide a visual representation of the removal procedure.





Steps

1. Peel off the tape that secures the I/O-board cable to the fan.
2. Lift the mylar that covers the fan screw on the system board.
3. Remove the two screws (M2x3) that secure the fan to the system board.
4. Disconnect the fan cable from the system board.
5. Lift the fan off the system board.

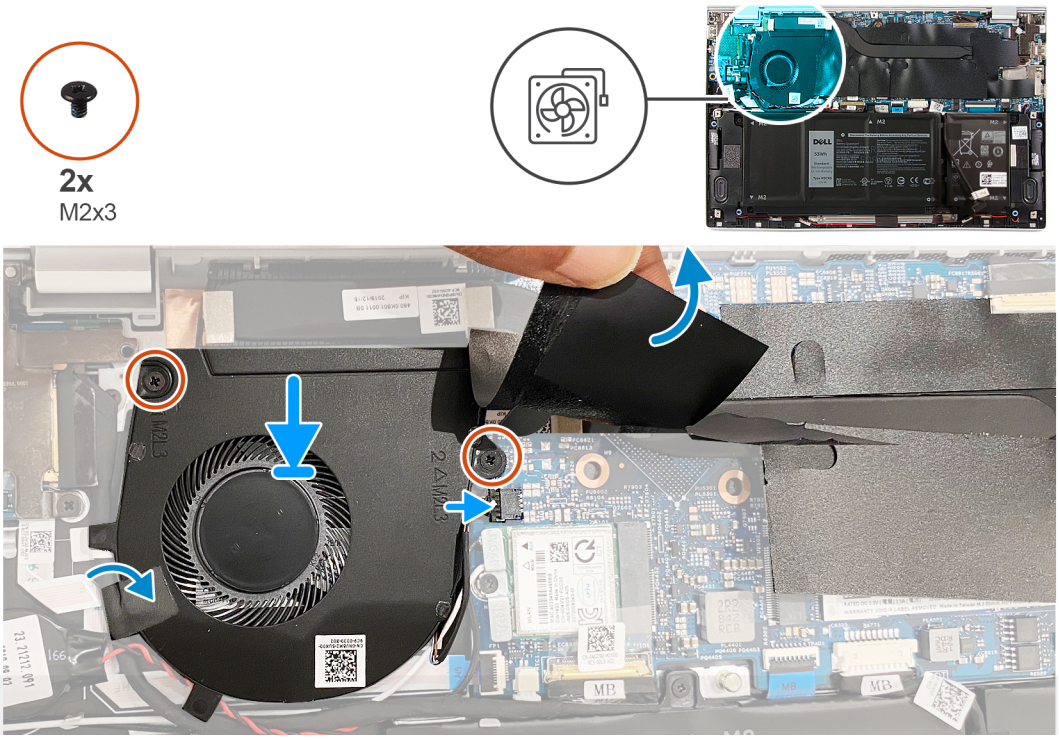
Installing the fan

Prerequisites

If you are replacing a component, remove the existing component before performing the installation procedure.

About this task

The following images indicate the location of the fans and provide a visual representation of the installation procedure.



Steps

1. Lift the mylar that covers the screw hole on the fan.
2. Align the screw holes on the fan with the screw holes on the system board.
3. Replace the two screws (M2x3) that secure the fan to the system board.
4. Connect the fan cable from the system board.
5. Adhere the tape that secures the I/O-board cable to the fan.

Next steps

1. Install the base cover.
2. Follow the procedure in After working inside your computer.

Speakers

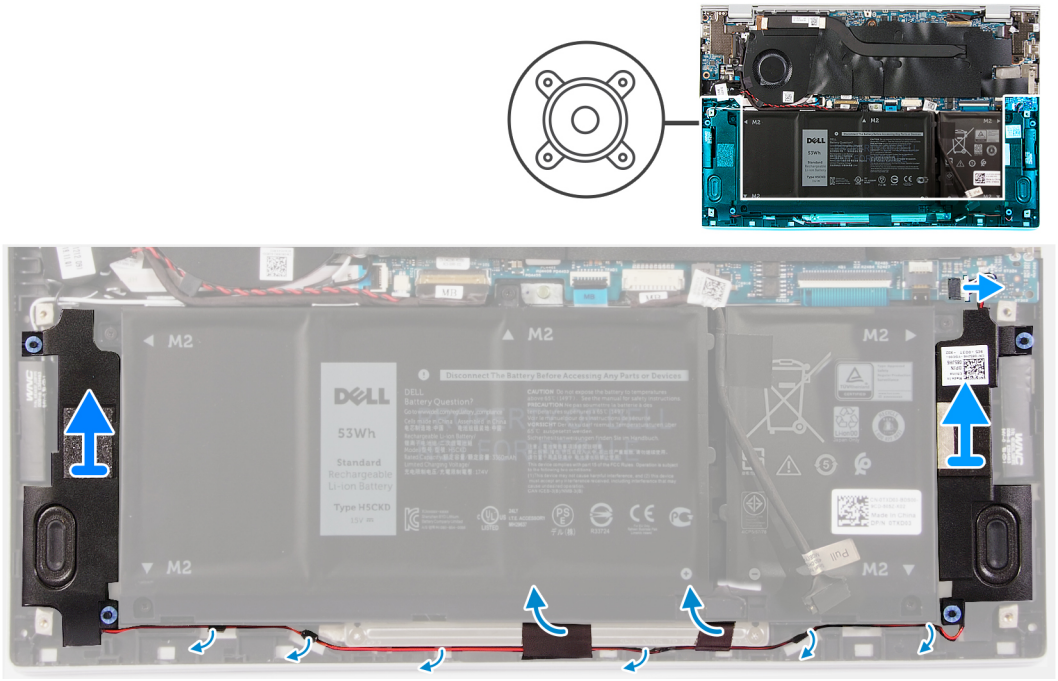
Removing the speakers

Prerequisites

1. Follow the procedure in Before working inside your computer.
2. Remove the base cover.

About this task

The following image indicates the location of the speakers and provides a visual representation of the removal procedure.



Steps

1. Disconnect the speaker cable from the system board.
2. Peel the tapes that secure the speaker cable to the battery.
3. Note the routing of the speaker cables, and remove the speaker cables from the respective routing guides on the palm-rest and keyboard assembly.
4. Pry the speakers off the palm-rest and keyboard assembly.

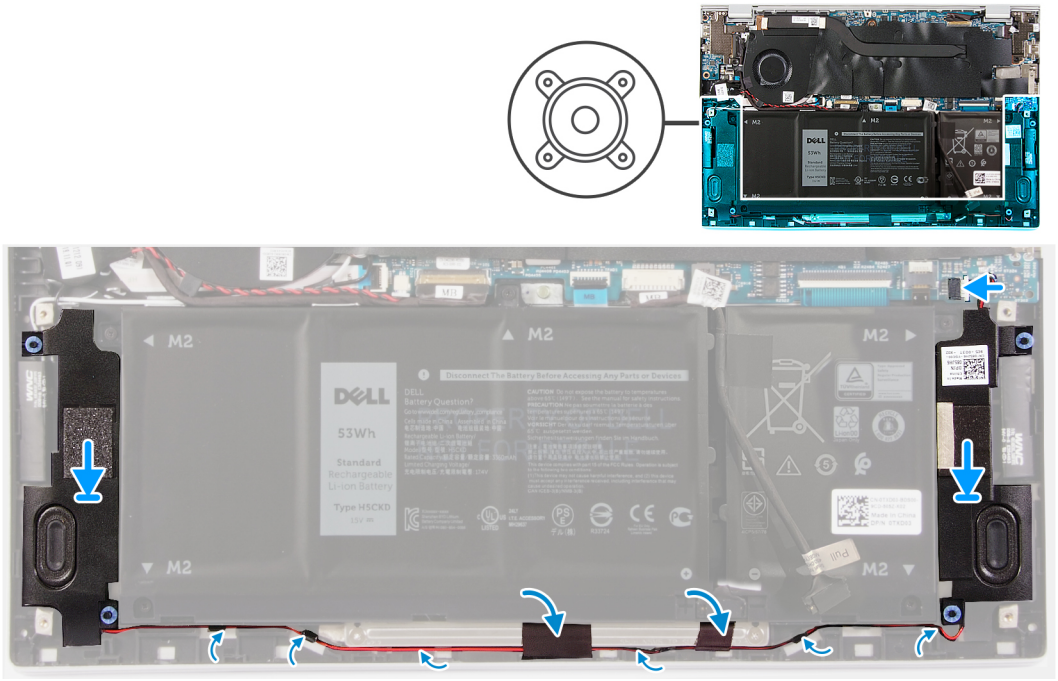
Installing the speakers

Prerequisites

If you are replacing a component, remove the existing component before performing the installation procedure.

About this task

The following image indicates the location of the speakers and provides a visual representation of the installation procedure.



Steps

1. Slide the left and the right speakers into the respective slots on the palm-rest and keyboard assembly.
2. Route the speaker cables through the respective routing guides on the palm-rest and keyboard assembly.
3. Adhere the tapes that secure the speaker cable to the battery.
4. Connect the left and the right speaker cables to the respective connectors on the system board.

Next steps

1. Install the base cover.
2. Follow the procedure in After working inside your computer.

Display assembly

Removing the display assembly

Prerequisites

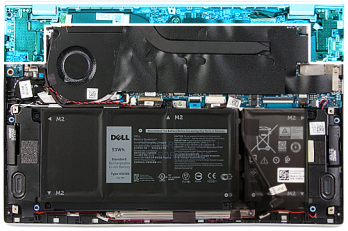
1. Follow the procedure in Before working inside your computer.
2. Remove the base cover.

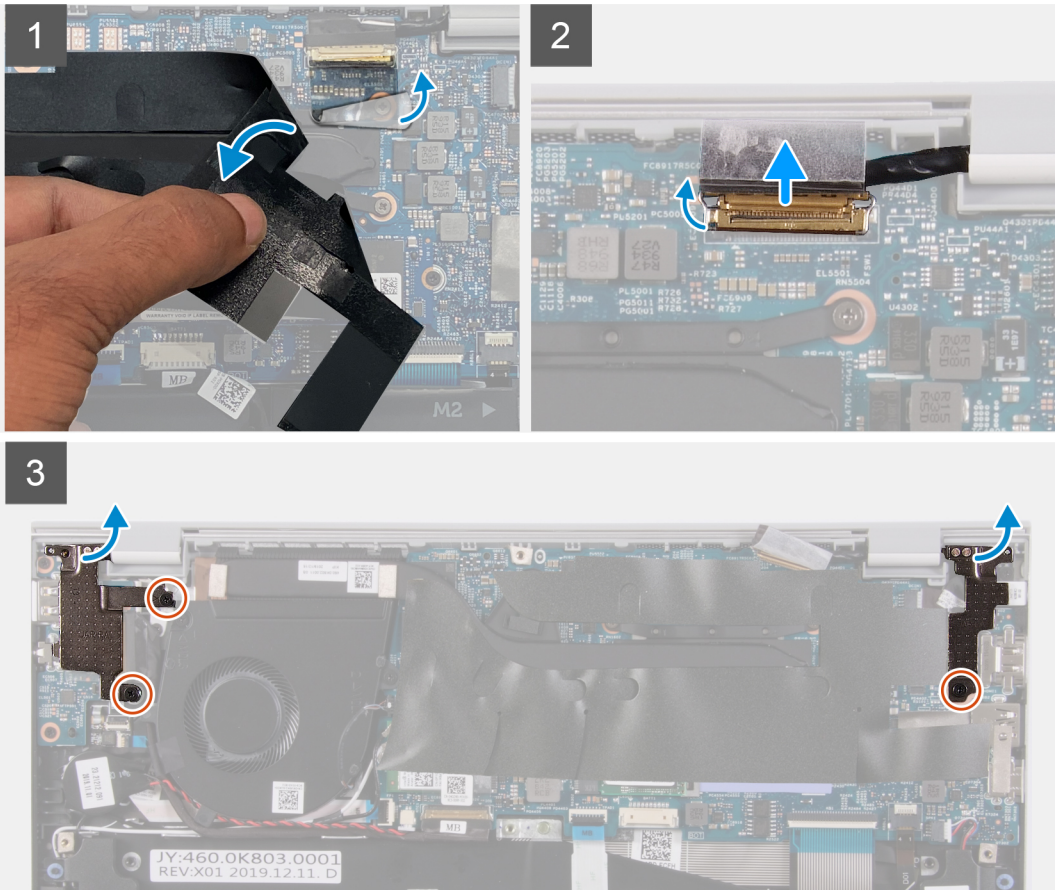
About this task

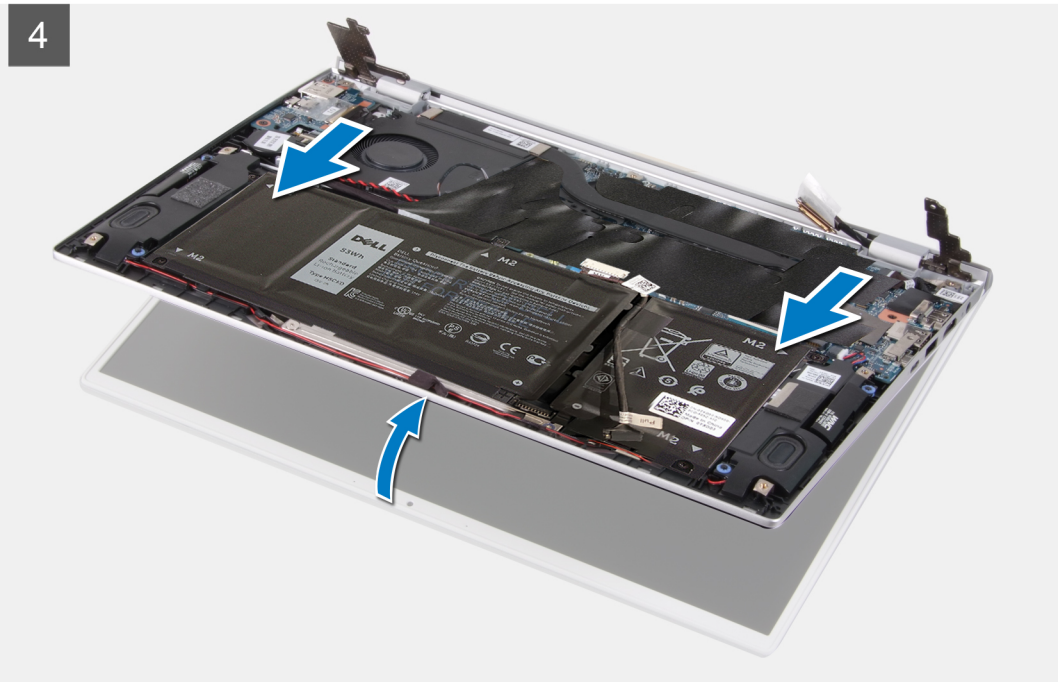
The following images indicate the location of the display assembly and provide a visual representation of the removal procedure.



3x
M2x2







Steps

1. Lift the mylar that covers the display cable on the system board.
2. Open the latch and disconnect the display cable from the system board.
3. Remove the two screws (M2x2) that secure the left hinge to the palm-rest and keyboard assembly.
4. Remove the screw (M2x2) that secures the right hinge to the system board and the palm-rest and keyboard assembly.
5. Open the display assembly at an angle and slide the palm-rest and keyboard assembly from the display assembly.
6. After performing all the above steps, you are left with the display assembly.



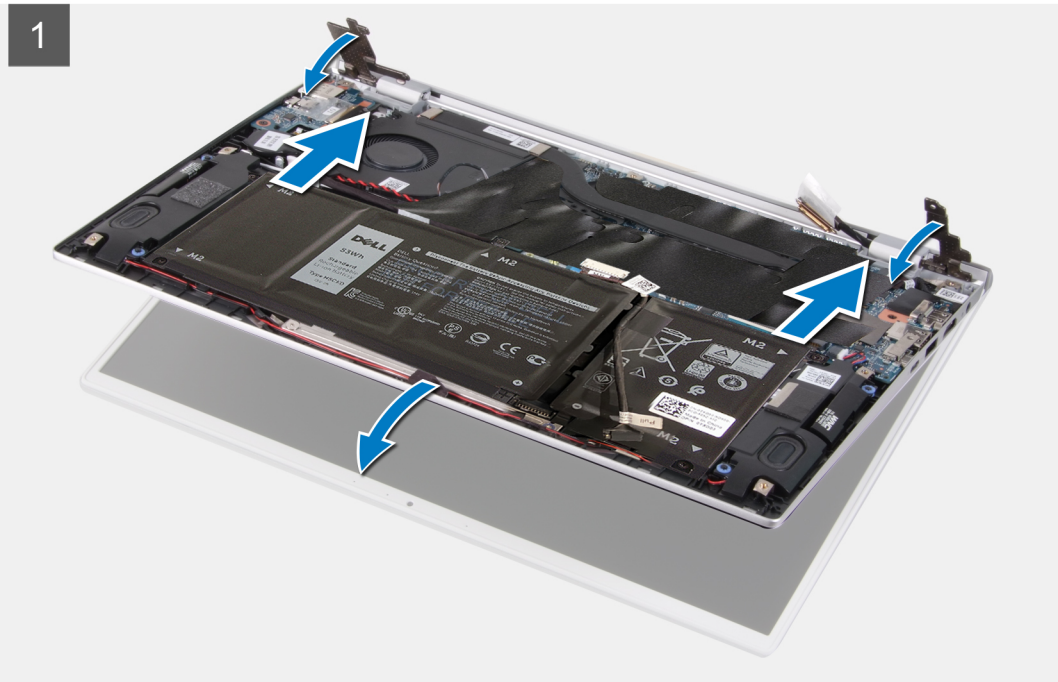
Installing the display assembly

Prerequisites

If you are replacing a component, remove the existing component before performing the installation procedure.

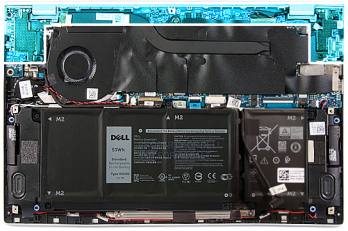
About this task

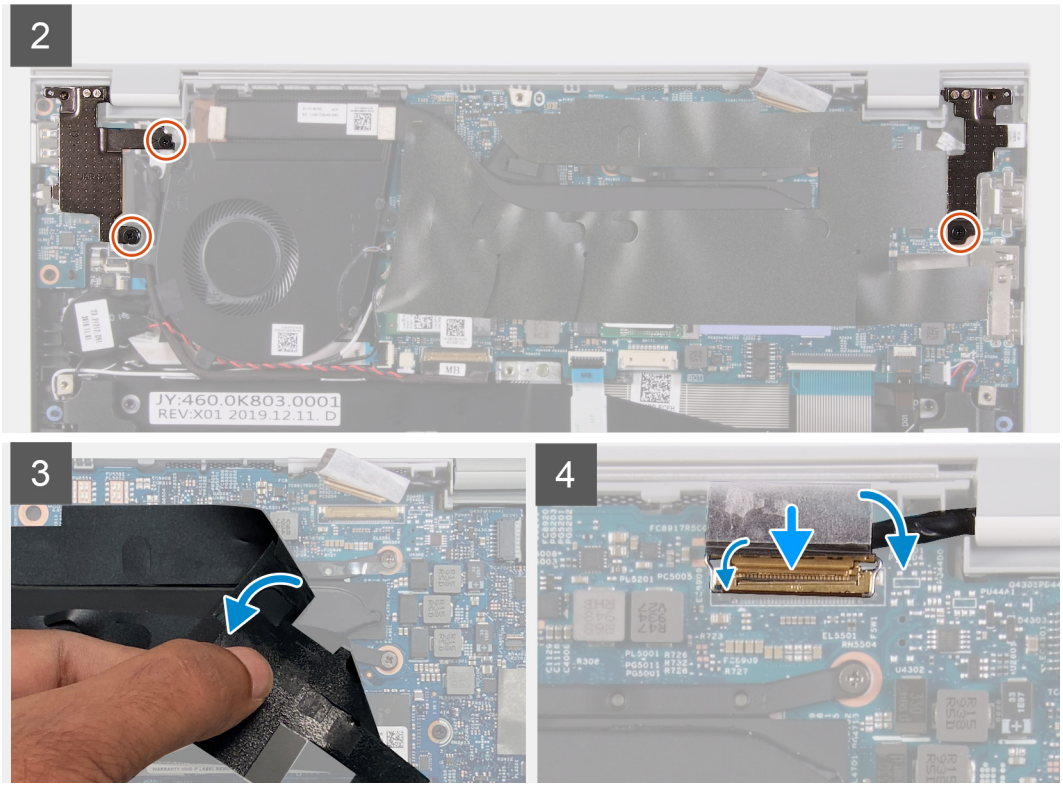
The following images indicate the location of the display assembly and provide a visual representation of the installation procedure.





3x
M2x2





Steps

1. Place the display assembly on a clean surface.
2. Align and place the palm-rest and keyboard assembly at an angle with the display assembly.
3. Align the screw holes on the display hinges with the screw holes on the palm-rest and keyboard assembly.
4. Replace the screw (M2x2) that secures the right hinge to the system board and the palm-rest and keyboard assembly.
5. Replace the two screws (M2x2) that secure the left hinge to the palm-rest and keyboard assembly.
6. Lift the mylar that covers the display-cable connector on the system board.
7. Connect the display cable to the connector on the system board.

Next steps

1. Install the base cover.
2. Follow the procedure in After working inside your computer.

Touchpad

Removing the touchpad

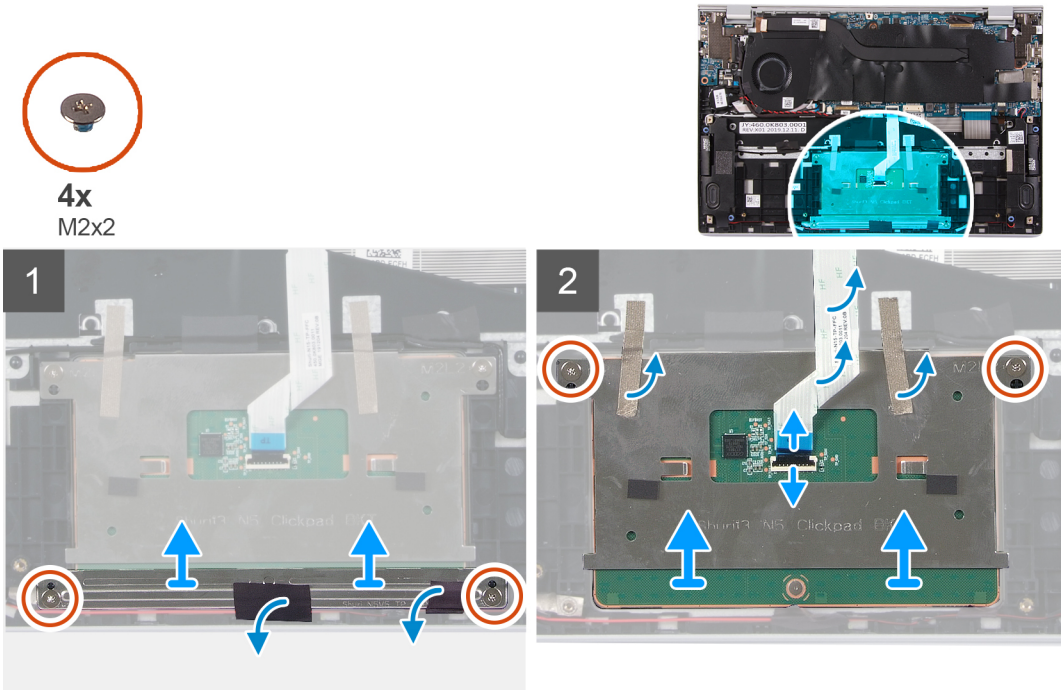
Prerequisites

1. Follow the procedure in Before working inside your computer.

2. Remove the base cover.
3. Remove the 4-cell battery.
4. Remove the 3-cell battery.

About this task

The following image indicates the location of touchpad and provides a visual representation of the removal procedure.



Steps

1. Peel the tape that secures the speaker cables to the touchpad bracket.
2. Remove the two (M2x2) screws that secure the touchpad bracket to the palm-rest and keyboard assembly.
3. Remove the two (M2x2) screws that secure the touchpad to the palm-rest and keyboard assembly.
4. Open the latch and disconnect the touchpad cable from the system board.
5. Peel the tapes that secure the touchpad to the palm-rest and keyboard assembly.
6. Lift the touchpad, along with the cable, off the palm-rest and keyboard assembly.

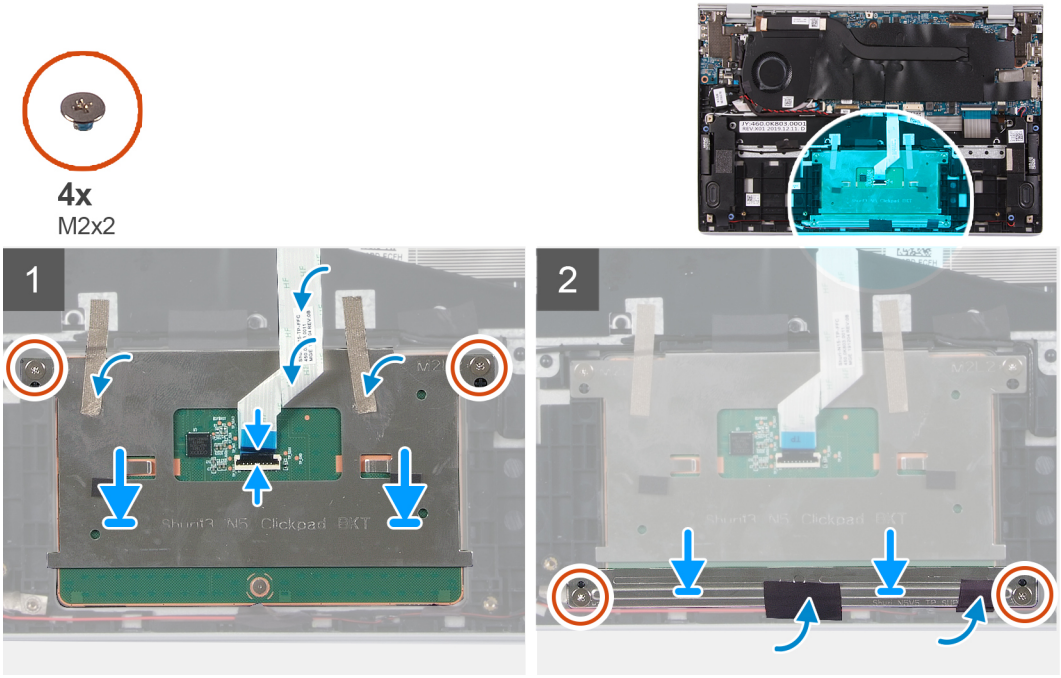
Installing the touchpad

Prerequisites

If you are replacing a component, remove the existing component before performing the installation procedure.

About this task

The following image indicates the location of touchpad and provides a visual representation of the installation procedure.



Steps

1. Align and place the touchpad into the slot on the palm-rest and keyboard assembly.
2. Replace the two (M2x2) screws that secure the touchpad to the palm-rest and keyboard assembly.
3. Adhere the tapes that secure the touchpad to the palm-rest and keyboard assembly.
4. Connect the touchpad cable and close the latch to secure the cable to the system board.
5. Align and place the touchpad bracket into the slot on the palm-rest and keyboard assembly.
6. Replace the two (M2x2) screws that secure the touchpad bracket to the palm-rest and keyboard assembly.
7. Adhere the tape that secures the speaker cables to the touchpad bracket.

Next steps

1. Install the base cover.
2. Install the 4-cell battery.
3. Install the 3-cell battery.
4. Follow the procedure in After working inside your computer.

Heat sink

Removing the heat sink

Prerequisites

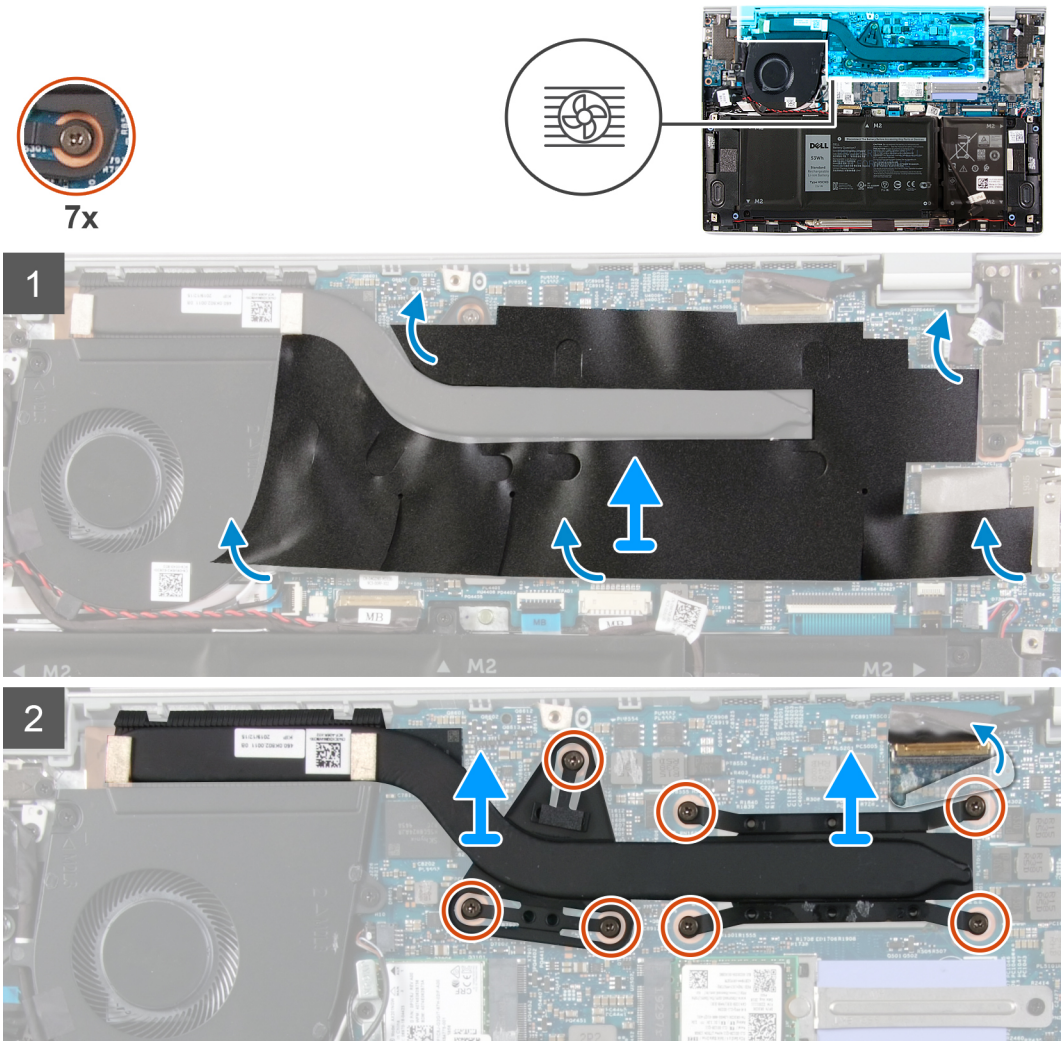
1. Follow the procedure in Before working inside your computer.

   CAUTION: For maximum cooling of the processor, do not touch the heat transfer areas on the heat sink. The oils in your skin can reduce the heat transfer capability of the thermal grease.

   NOTE: The heat sink may become hot during normal operation. Allow sufficient time for the heat sink to cool before you touch it.
2. Remove the base cover.

About this task

The following image indicates the location of the heat sink and provides a visual representation of the removal procedure.



Steps

1. Peel off the mylar that covers the heat sink on the system board.
2. In reverse sequential order (as indicated on the heat sink), loosen the seven captive screws that secure the heat sink to the system board.
3. Lift the heat sink off the system board.

Installing the heat sink

Prerequisites

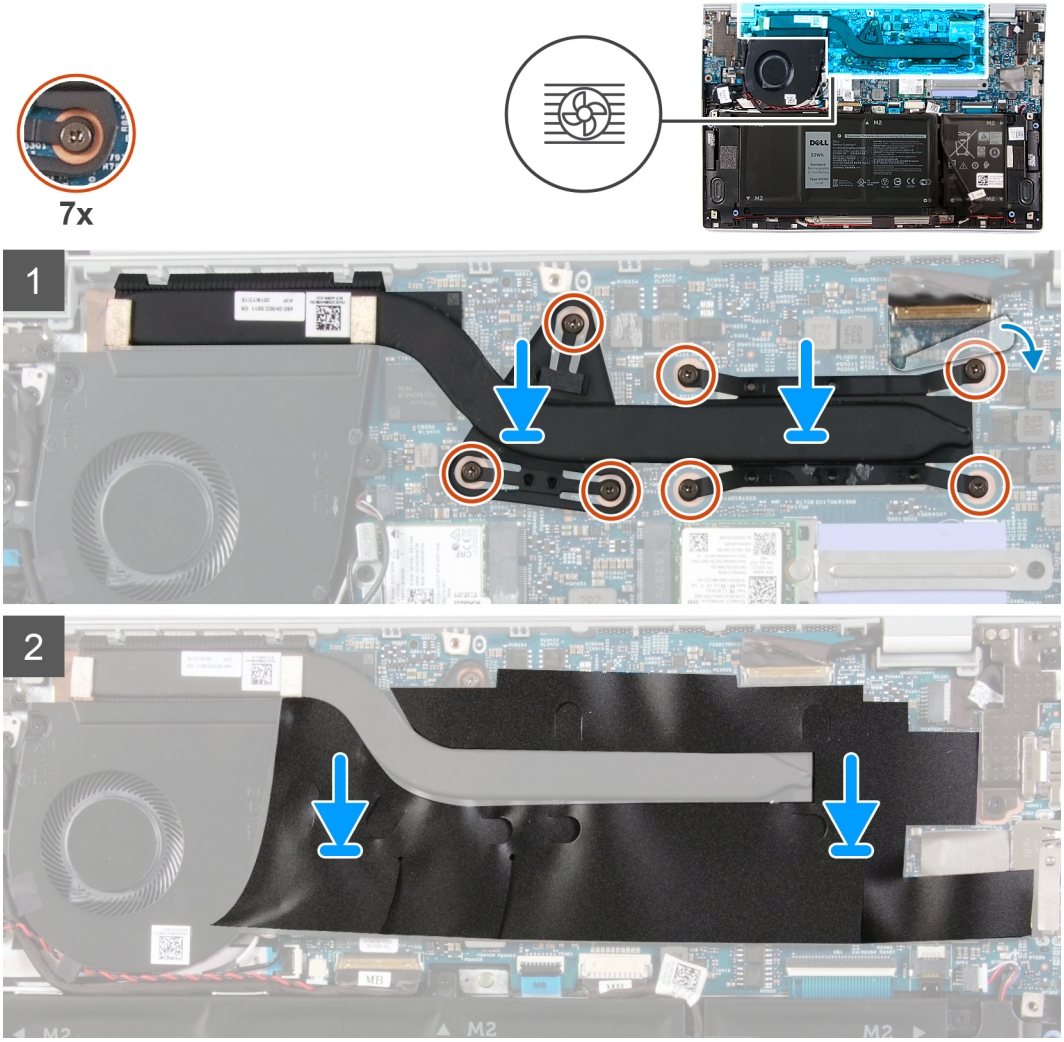
If you are replacing a component, remove the existing component before performing the installation procedure.

CAUTION: Incorrect alignment of the heat sink can damage the system board and processor.

NOTE: If either the system board or the heat sink is replaced, use the thermal pad/paste provided in the kit to ensure that thermal conductivity is achieved.

About this task

The following image indicates the location of the heat sink and provides a visual representation of the installation procedure.



Steps

1. Align the screw holes on the heat sink with the screw holes on the system board.
2. In sequential order (as indicated on the heat sink), tighten the seven captive screws that secure the heat sink to the system board.
3. Adhere the mylar that covers the heat sink on the system board.

Next steps

1. Install the base cover.
2. Follow the procedure in After working inside your computer.

Power-adapter port

Removing the power-adapter port

Prerequisites

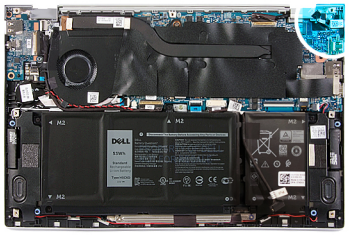
1. Follow the procedure in Before working inside your computer.
2. Remove the base cover.
3. Remove the display assembly.

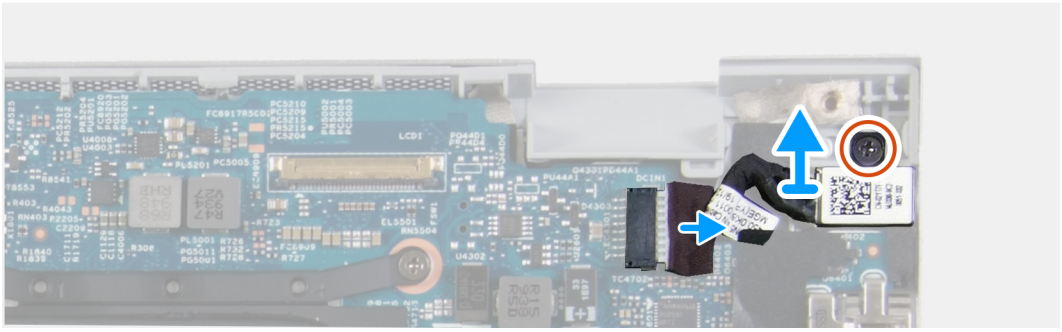
About this task

The following image indicates the location of power-adapter port and provides a visual representation of the removal procedure.



1x
M2x3





Steps

1. Remove the screw (M2x3) that secures the power-adapter port to the system board.
2. Disconnect the power-adapter port cable from the system board.
3. Lift the power-adapter port, along with its cable, off the palm-rest and keyboard assembly.

Installing the power-adapter port

Prerequisites

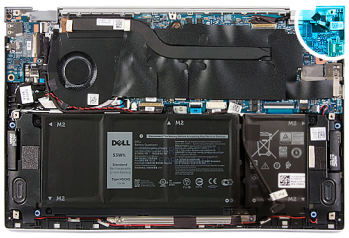
If you are replacing a component, remove the existing component before performing the installation procedure.

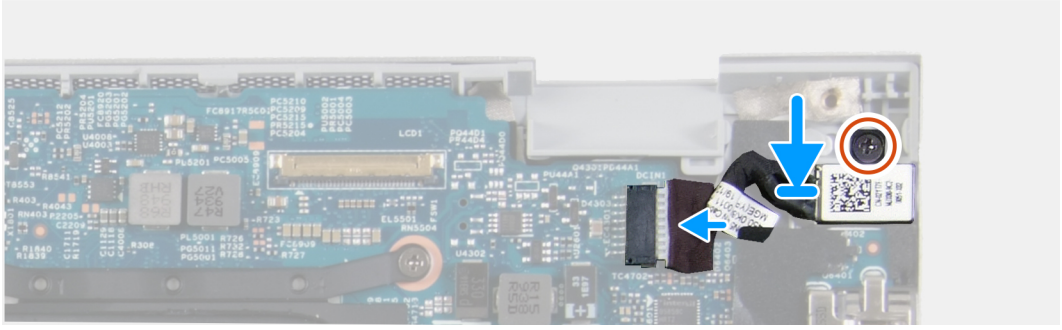
About this task

The following image indicates the location of power-adapter port and provides a visual representation of the installation procedure.



1x
M2x3





Steps

1. Connect the power-adapter port cable to the system board.
2. Replace the screw (M2x3) that secures the power-adapter port to the palm-rest and keyboard assembly.

Next steps

1. Install the base cover.
2. Follow the procedure in After working inside your computer.

I/O board

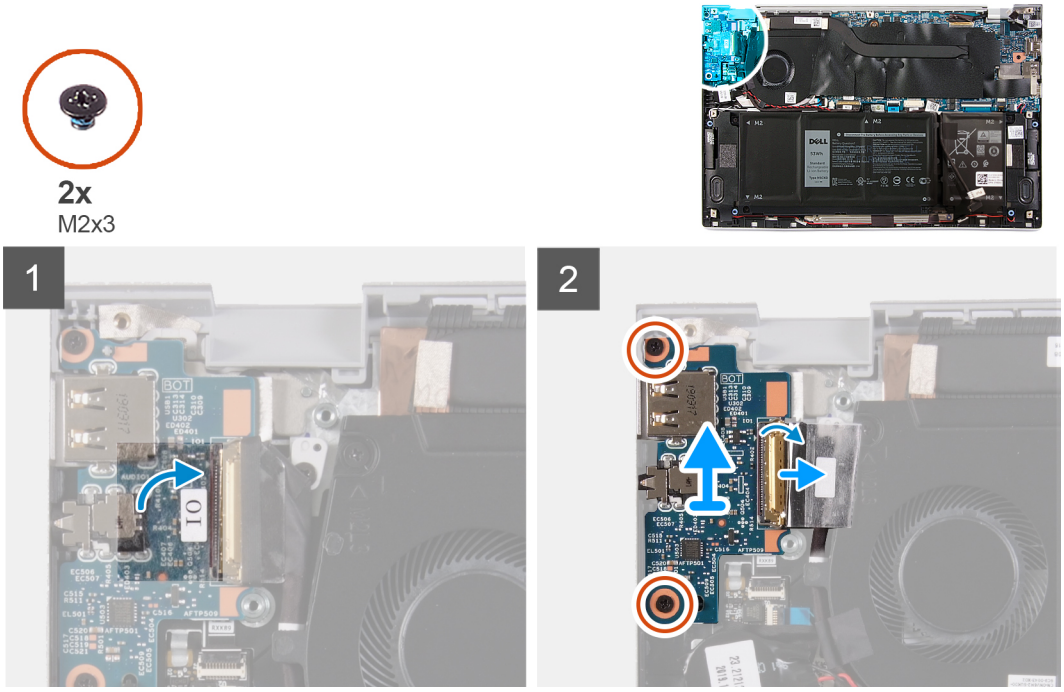
Removing the I/O board

Prerequisites

1. Follow the procedure in Before working inside your computer.
2. Remove the base cover.
3. Remove the display assembly.

About this task

The following image indicates the location of I/O board and provides a visual representation of the removal procedure.



Steps

1. Peel the tape that secures the I/O-board cable to the I/O board.
2. Open the latch and disconnect the I/O-board cable from the I/O board.
3. Peel the tape that secures the I/O-board cable to the fan.
4. Remove the two screws (M2x3) that secure the I/O board to the palm-rest and keyboard assembly.
5. Lift the I/O board off the palm-rest and keyboard assembly.

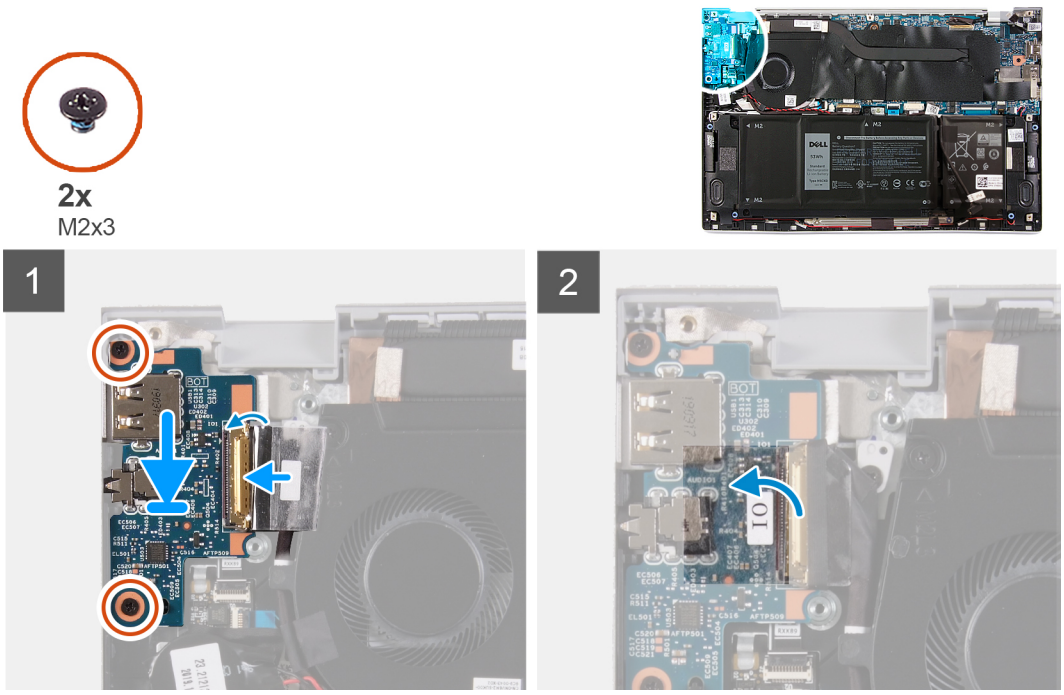
Installing the I/O board

Prerequisites

If you are replacing a component, remove the existing component before performing the installation procedure.

About this task

The following image indicates the location of I/O board and provides a visual representation of the installation procedure.



Steps

1. Align and place the I/O board on the palm-rest and keyboard assembly.
2. Replace the two screws (M2x3) that secure the I/O board to the palm-rest and keyboard assembly.
3. Connect the I/O-board cable and close the latch to secure the cable to the I/O board.
4. Adhere the tape that secures the I/O-board cable to the fan.
5. Adhere the tape that secures the I/O-board cable to the I/O board.

Next steps

1. Install the fan.
2. Install the 3-cell battery.
3. Install the 4-cell battery.
4. Install the base cover.
5. Follow the procedure in After working inside your computer.

System board

Removing the system board

Prerequisites

1. Follow the procedure in Before working inside your computer.

NOTE: Your computer's Service Tag is stored in the system board. You must enter the Service Tag in the BIOS setup program after you replace the system board.

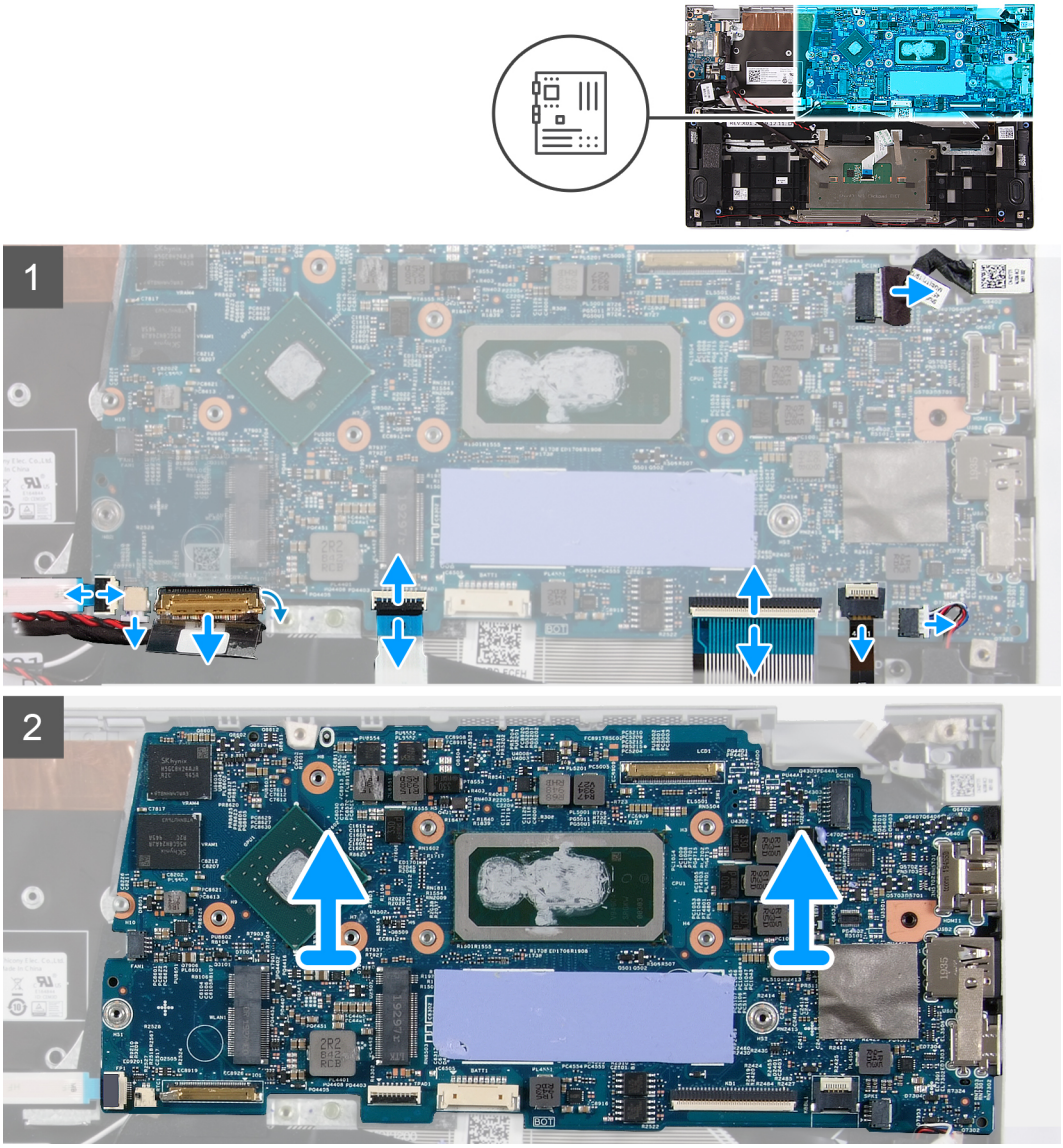
NOTE: Replacing the system board removes any changes you have made to the BIOS using the BIOS setup program. You must make the appropriate changes again after you replace the system board.

NOTE: Before disconnecting the cables from the system board, note the location of the connectors so that you can reconnect the cables correctly after you replace the system board.

2. Remove the base cover.
3. Remove the fan.
4. Remove the heat sink.
5. Remove the solid state drive.
6. Remove the display assembly.

About this task

The following images indicate the location of the system board and provide a visual representation of the removal procedure.



Steps

1. Open the latch, and disconnect the fingerprint-reader cable, I/O-board cable, touchpad cable, keyboard cable and keyboard-backlit cable from the system board.
2. Disconnect the speaker cable from the system board.

3. Disconnect the coin-cell battery cable from the system board.
4. Lift the system board off the palm-rest and keyboard assembly.

Installing the system board

Prerequisites

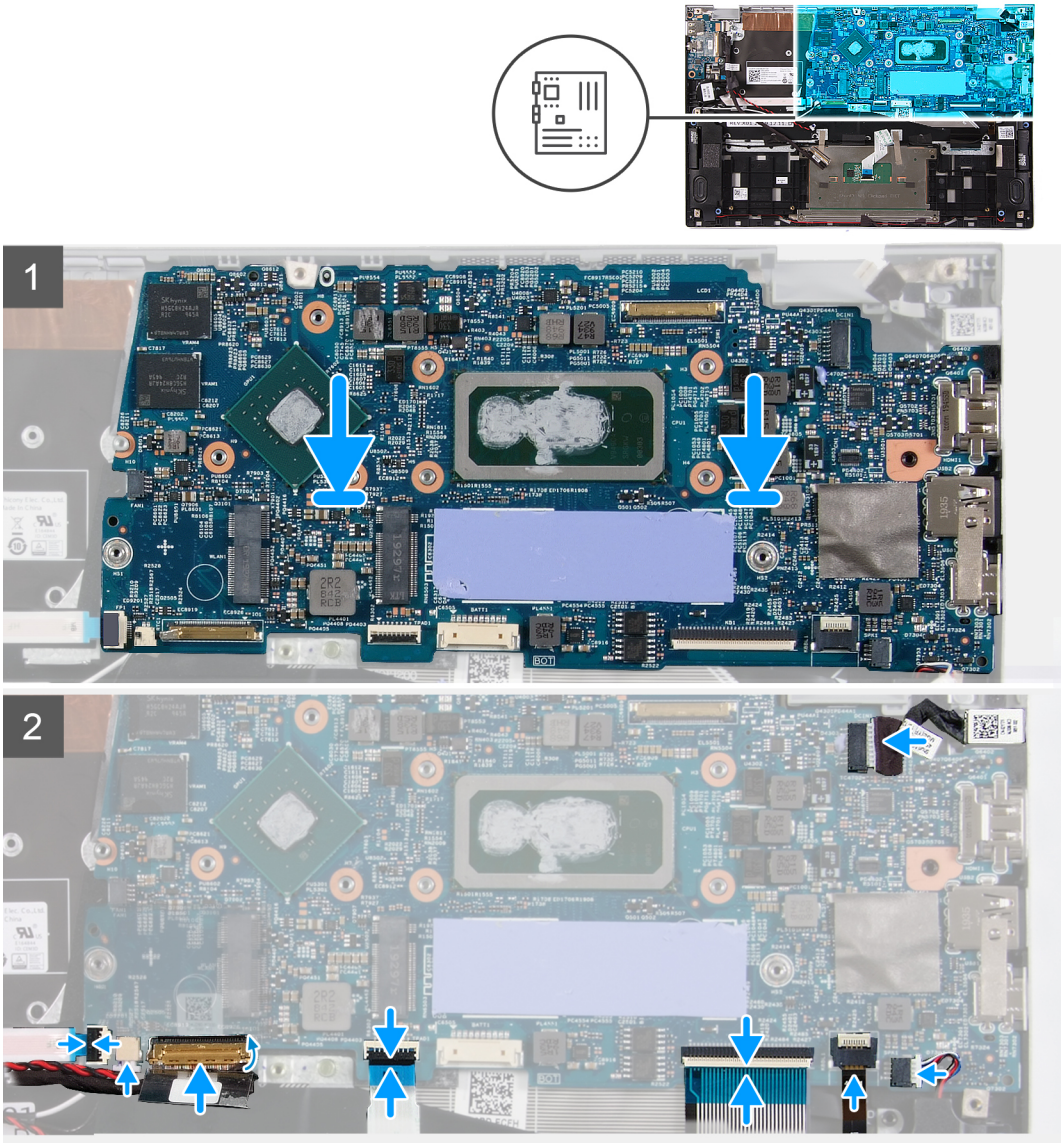
If you are replacing a component, remove the existing component before performing the installation procedure.

NOTE: Your computer's Service Tag is stored in the system board. You must enter the Service Tag in the BIOS setup program after you replace the system board.

NOTE: Replacing the system board removes any changes you have made to the BIOS using the BIOS setup program. You must make the appropriate changes again after you replace the system board.

About this task

The following images indicate the location of the system board and provide a visual representation of the installation procedure.



Steps

1. Align the system board on the palm-rest and keyboard assembly.

2. Connect the right speaker cable and left speaker cable to the respective connectors on the system board.
3. Connect the coin-cell battery cable to the connector on the system board.
4. Connect the fingerprint-reader cable, I/O-board cable, touchpad cable, keyboard cable and keyboard-backlit cable to the respective connectors and close the latch to secure the cables to the connectors on the system board.

Next steps

1. Install the display assembly.
2. Install the solid state drive.
3. Install the heat sink.
4. Install the fan.
5. Install the base cover.
6. Follow the procedure in After working inside your computer.

Palm-rest and keyboard assembly

Removing the palm-rest and keyboard assembly

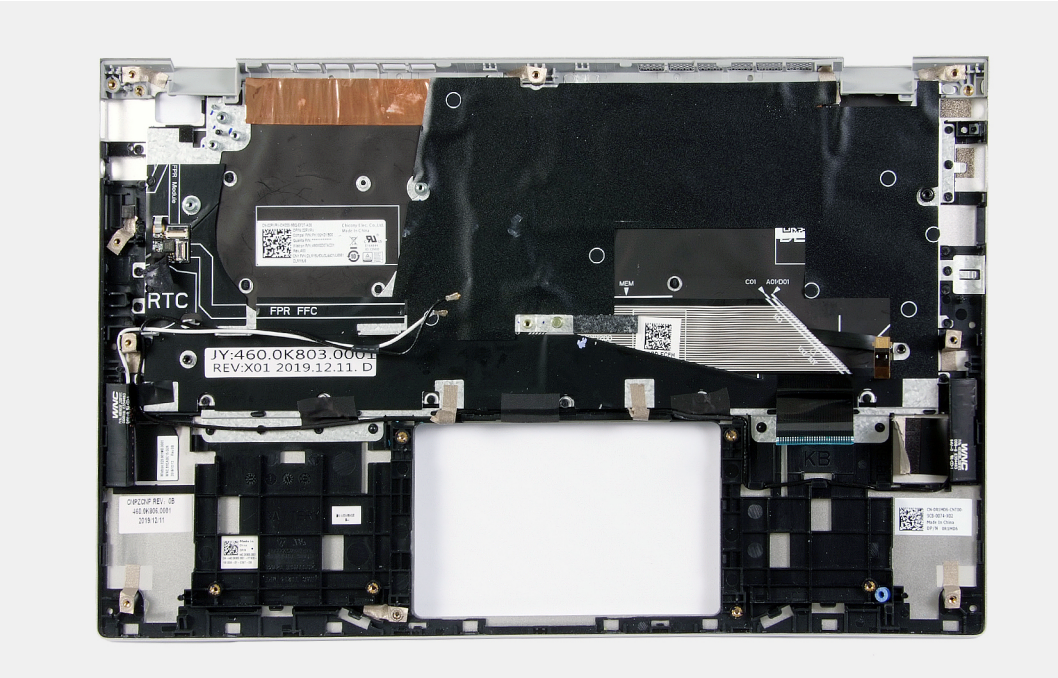
Prerequisites

1. Follow the procedure in Before working inside your computer.
2. Remove the base cover.
3. Remove the 4-cell battery.
4. Remove the 3-cell battery.
5. Remove the wireless card.
6. Remove the speakers.
7. Remove the system board.

   NOTE: The system board can be removed with the heat sink attached.
8. Remove the display assembly.
9. Remove the power-adapter port.
10. Remove the touchpad.

About this task

The following image indicates the palm-rest and keyboard assembly and provides a visual representation of the removal procedure.



Steps

After performing the steps in the pre-requisites, we are left with the palm-rest and keyboard assembly.

NOTE: System board can be removed with heatsink attached.

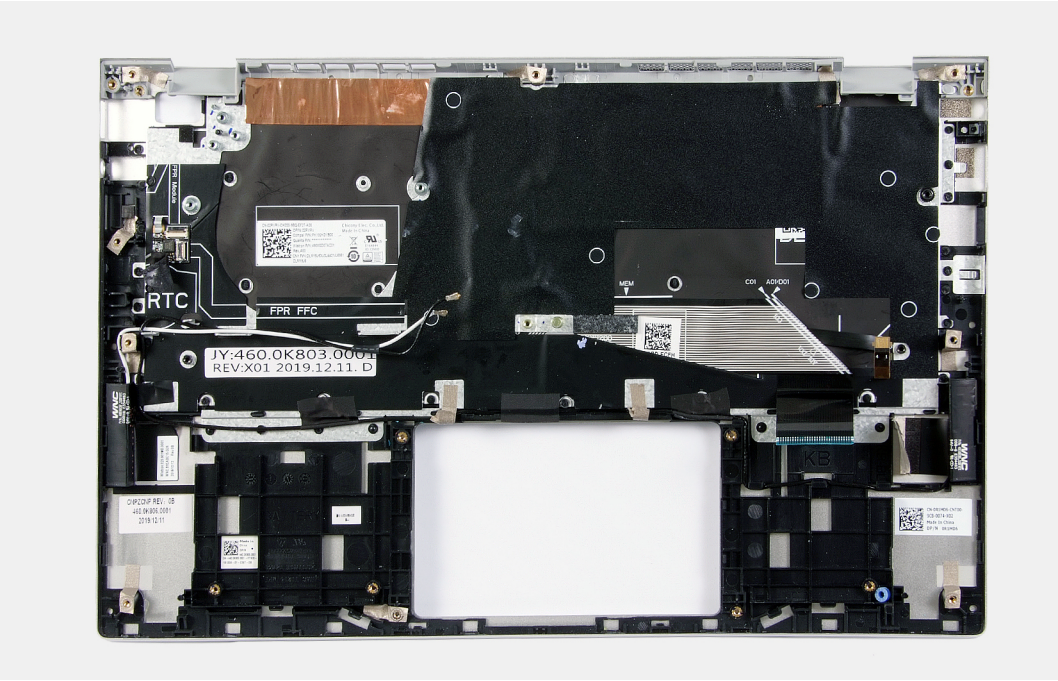
Installing the palm-rest and keyboard assembly

Prerequisites

If you are replacing a component, remove the existing component before performing the installation procedure.

About this task

The following image indicates the palm-rest and keyboard assembly and provides a visual representation of the installation procedure.



Steps

Place the palm-rest and keyboard assembly on a flat surface.

Next steps

1. Install the touchpad.
2. Install the power-adapter port.
3. Install the display assembly.
4. Install the system board.
5. Install the speakers.
6. Install the wireless card.
7. Install the 4-cell battery.
8. Install the 3-cell battery.
9. Install the base cover.
10. Follow the procedure in After working inside your computer.

Power button with fingerprint reader

Removing the power button with fingerprint reader

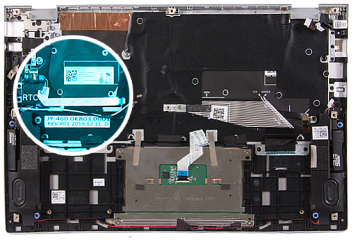
Prerequisites

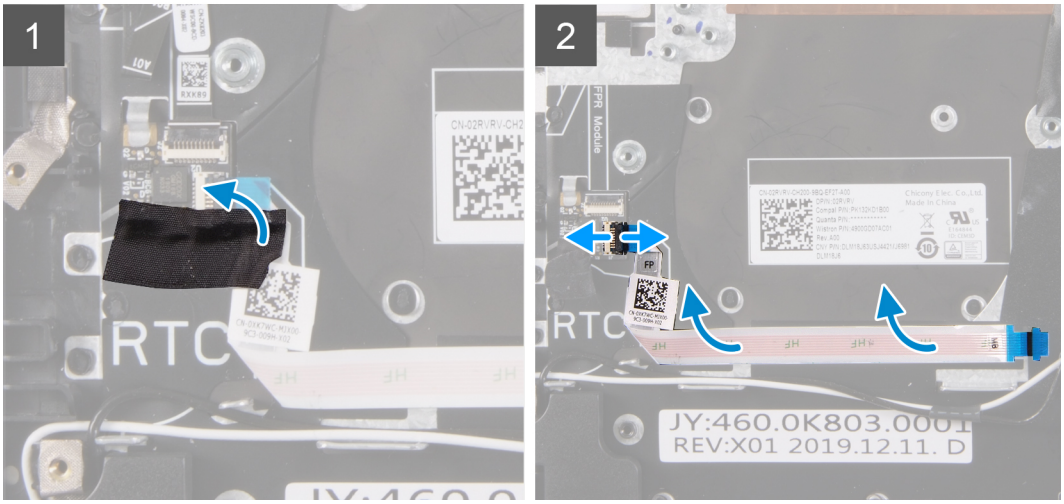
1. Follow the procedure in Before working inside your computer.
2. Remove the base cover.
3. Remove the 4-cell battery.
4. Remove the 3-cell battery.
5. Remove the wireless card.
6. Remove the speakers.
7. Remove the system board.

   NOTE: The system board can be removed with the heat sink attached.
8. Remove the display assembly.
9. Remove the power-adapter port.
10. Remove the power button with fingerprint reader.

About this task

The following image indicates the location of power-adapter port and provides a visual representation of the removal procedure.





Steps

1. Peel off the mylar tape that secures the power button with fingerprint reader cable connection.
2. Disconnect the power button with fingerprint reader cable from the connector on the palm-rest and keyboard assembly.
3. Lift the power button with fingerprint reader off the palm-rest and keyboard assembly.

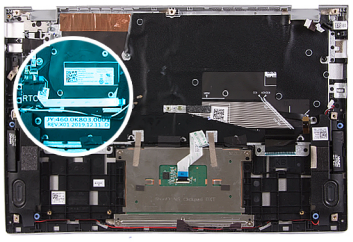
Installing the power button with fingerprint reader

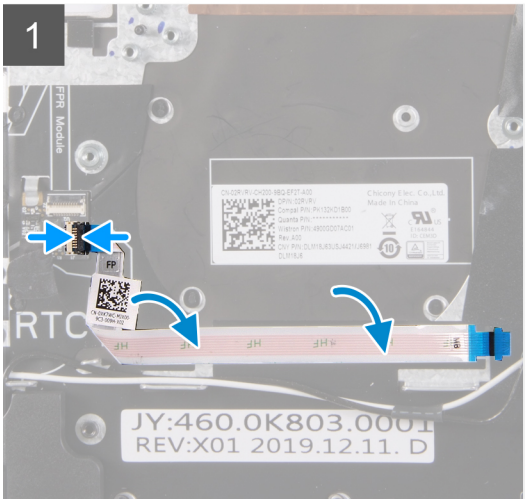
Prerequisites

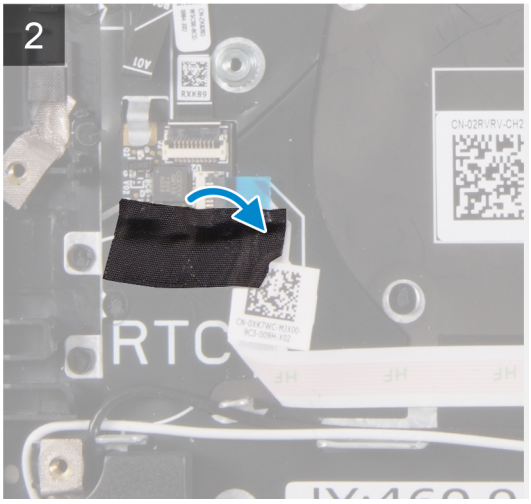
If you are replacing a component, remove the existing component before performing the installation procedure.

About this task

The following image indicates the location of power-adapter port and provides a visual representation of the installation procedure.







Steps

1. Align the power button with fingerprint reader on the palm-rest and keyboard assembly.
2. Connect the power button with fingerprint reader cable to the connector on the palm-rest and keyboard assembly.
3. Adhere the mylar tape that secures the power button with fingerprint reader cable connection.

Next steps

1. Install the power button with fingerprint reader.
2. Install the power-adapter port.
3. Install the display assembly.
4. Install the system board.
5. Install the speakers.
6. Install the wireless card.
7. Install the 4-cell battery.
8. Install the 3-cell battery.
9. Install the base cover.
10. Follow the procedure in After working inside your computer.

3

Drivers and downloads

When troubleshooting, downloading or installing drivers it is recommended that you read the Dell Knowledge Based article, Drivers and Downloads FAQ SLN128938.

4

System setup

CAUTION: Unless you are an expert computer user, do not change the settings in the BIOS Setup program. Certain changes can make your computer work incorrectly.

NOTE: Depending on the computer and its installed devices, the items listed in this section may or may not be displayed.

NOTE: Before you change BIOS Setup program, it is recommended that you write down the BIOS Setup program screen information for future reference.

Use the BIOS Setup program for the following purposes:

- Get information about the hardware installed in your computer, such as the amount of RAM and the size of the hard drive.
- Change the system configuration information.
- Set or change a user-selectable option, such as the user password, type of hard drive installed, and enabling or disabling base devices.

Entering BIOS setup program

Steps

1. Turn on your computer.
2. Press F2 immediately to enter the BIOS setup program.

   NOTE: If you wait too long and the operating system logo appears, continue to wait until you see the desktop. Then, turn off your computer and try again.

Navigation keys

NOTE: For most of the System Setup options, changes that you make are recorded but do not take effect until you restart the system.

Table 3. Navigation keys

Keys	Navigation
Up arrow	Moves to the previous field.
Down arrow	Moves to the next field.
Enter	Selects a value in the selected field (if applicable) or follow the link in the field.
Spacebar	Expands or collapses a drop-down list, if applicable.
Tab	Moves to the next focus area. **NOTE: For the standard graphics browser only.**
Esc	Moves to the previous page until you view the main screen. Pressing Esc in the main screen displays a message that prompts you to save any unsaved changes and restarts the system.

One time boot menu

To enter **one time boot menu**, turn on your computer, and then press F2 immediately.

NOTE: It is recommended to shutdown the computer if it is on.

The one-time boot menu displays the devices that you can boot from including the diagnostic option. The boot menu options are:

- Removable Drive (if available)
- STXXXX Drive (if available)

  NOTE: XXX denotes the SATA drive number.
- Optical Drive (if available)
- SATA Hard Drive (if available)
- Diagnostics

  NOTE: Choosing Diagnostics, will display the SupportAssist diagnostics screen.

The boot sequence screen also displays the option to access the System Setup screen.

System setup options

NOTE: Depending on this computer and its installed devices, the items that are listed in this section may or may not be displayed.

Table 4. System setup options—System information menu

Overview	
BIOS Version	Displays the BIOS version number.
Service Tag	Displays the Service Tag of the computer.
Asset Tag	Displays the Asset Tag of the computer.
Ownership Tag	Displays the ownership tag of the computer.
Manufacture Date	Displays the manufacture date of the computer.
Ownership Date	Displays the ownership date of the computer.
Express Service Code	Displays the express service code of the computer.
Ownership Tag	Displays the ownership tag of the computer.
Signed Firmware Update	Displays whether the signed firmware update is enabled.
Battery	Displays the battery health information.
Primary	Displays the primary battery.
Battery Level	Displays the battery level.
Battery State	Displays the battery state.
Health	Displays the battery health.
AC Adapter	Displays whether an AC adapter is installed.
Processor Information	
Processor Type	Displays the processor type.
Maximum Clock Speed	Displays the maximum processor clock speed.
Core Count	Displays the number of cores on the processor.
Processor L2 Cache	Displays the processor L2 Cache size.
Processor ID	Displays the processor identification code.
Processor L3 Cache	Displays the processor L3 Cache size.
Current Clock Speed	Displays the current processor clock speed.
Minimum Clock Speed	Displays the minimum processor clock speed.
Microcode Version	Displays the microcode version.
Intel Hyper-Threading Capable	Displays whether the processor is Hyper-Threading (HT) capable.
64-Bit Technology	Displays whether 64-bit technology is used.

Overview	
Memory Information	
Memory Installed	Displays the total computer memory installed.
Memory Available	Displays the total computer memory available.
Memory Speed	Displays the memory speed.
Memory Channel Mode	Displays single or dual channel mode.
Memory Technology	Displays the technology that is used for the memory.
Device Information	
Video Controller	Displays the integrate graphics information of the computer.
dGPU Video Controller	Displays the discrete graphics information of the computer.
Video BIOS Version	Displays the video BIOS version of the computer.
Video Memory	Displays the video memory information of the computer.
Panel Type	Displays the Panel Type of the computer.
Native Resolution	Displays the native resolution of the computer.
Audio Controller	Displays the audio controller information of the computer.
Wi-Fi Device	Displays the wireless device information of the computer.
Bluetooth Device	Displays the Bluetooth device information of the computer.

Table 5. System setup options—Boot options menu

Boot options	
Advanced Boot Options	
Enable UEFI Network Stack	Enables or disables UEFI Network Stack. Default: OFF.
Boot Mode	
Boot Mode: UEFI only	Displays the boot mode of this computer.
Enable Boot Devices	Enables or disables boot devices for this computer.
Boot Sequence	Displays the boot sequence.
BIOS Setup Advanced Mode	Enables or disables advanced BIOS settings. Default: ON.
UEFI Boot Path Security	Enables or disables the system to prompt the user to enter the Admin password when booting a UEFI boot path from the F12 boot menu. Default: Always Except Internal HDD.

Table 6. System setup options—System Configuration menu

System Configuration	
Date/Time	
Date	Sets the computer date in MM/DD/YYYY format. Changes to the date take effect immediately.
Time	Sets the computer time in HH/MM/SS 24-hour format. You can switch between 12-hour and 24-hour clock. Changes to the time take effect immediately.
Enable SMART Reporting	Enables or disables SMART (Self-Monitoring, Analysis, and Reporting Technology) during computer startup to report hard drive errors. Default: OFF.
Enable Audio	Enables or disables all integrated audio controller.

System Configuration	
	Default: ON.
Enable Microphone	Enables or disables microphone. Default: ON.
Enable Internal Speaker	Enables or disables internal speaker. Default: ON.
USB Configuration	
Enable Boot Support	Enables or disables booting from USB mass storage devices such as external hard drive, optical drive, and USB drive.
Enable External USB Ports	Enables or disables USB ports to be functional in an operating system environment.
SATA Operation	Configures operating mode of the integrated SATA hard drive controller. Default: RAID. SATA is configured to support RAID (Intel Rapid Restore Technology).
Drives	Enables or disables various onboard drives.
M.2 PCIe SSD-0/SATA-2	Default: ON.
SATA-0	Default: ON.
Drive Information	Displays the information of various onboard drives.
Miscellaneous Devices	Enables or disables various onboard devices.
Enable Camera	Enables or disables the camera. Default: ON.
Keyboard Illumination	Configures the operating mode of the keyboard illumination feature. Default: Disabled. The keyboard illumination will always be off.
Keyboard Backlight Timeout on AC	Configures the timeout value for the keyboard when an AC adapter is connected to the computer. The keyboard backlight timeout value is only effect when the backlight is enabled. Default: 10 seconds.
Keyboard Backlight Timeout on Battery	Configures the timeout value for the keyboard when the computer is running on battery. The keyboard backlight timeout value is only effect when the backlight is enabled. Default: 10 seconds.
Touchscreen	Enables or disables the touchscreen for the operating system. **NOTE: Touchscreen will always work in the BIOS setup irrespective of this setting.** Default: ON.

Table 7. System setup options—Video menu

Video	
LCD Brightness	
Brightness on battery power	Sets the screen brightness when the computer is running on battery power.
Brightness on AC power	Sets the screen brightness when the computer is running on AC power.
EcoPower	Enables or disables EcoPower which increases the battery life by reducing the screen brightness when appropriate. Default: ON.

Table 8. System setup options—Security menu

Security	
Enable Admin Setup Lockout	Enables or disables the user from entering BIOS Setup when an Admin Password is set. Default: OFF.
Password Bypass	Bypass the System (Boot) Password and the internal hard drive password prompts during a system restart. Default: Disabled.
Enable Non-Admin Password Changes	Enables or disables the user to change the system and hard drive password without the need for admin password. Default: ON.
Non-Admin Setup Changes	
Allow Wireless Switch Changes	Enables or disables changes to the setup option when an Administrator password is set. Default: OFF.
Enable UEFI Capsule Firmware Updates	Enables or disables BIOS updates through UEFI capsule update packages.
Computrace	Enable or disable the BIOS module interface of the optional Computrace(R) Service from Absolute Software.
Intel Platform Trust Technology On	Enables or disables Platform Trust Technology (PTT) visibility to the operating system. Default: ON.
PPI Bypass for Clear Commands	Enables or disables the operating system to skip BIOS Physical Presence Interface (PPI) user prompts when issuing the Clear command. Default: OFF.
Clear	Enables or disables the computer to clear the PTT owner information, and returns the PTT to the default state. Default: OFF.
Intel SGX	Enables or disables the Intel Software Guard Extensions (SGX) to provide a secured environment for running code/storing sensitive information. Default: Software Control
SMM Security Mitigation	Enables or disables additional UEFI SMM Security Mitigation protections. Default: OFF. **NOTE: This feature may cause compatibility issues or loss of functionality with some legacy tools and applications.**
Enable Strong Passwords	Enables or disables strong passwords. Default: OFF.
Password Configuration	Control the minimum and maximum number of characters that are allowed for Admin and System passwords.
Admin Password	Sets, Changes, or deletes the administrator (admin) password (sometimes called the "setup" password).
System Password	Sets, Changes, or deletes the system password.
Enable Master Password Lockout	Enables or disables the master password support. Default: OFF.

Table 9. System setup options—Secure Boot menu

Secure Boot	
Enable Secure Boot	Enables or disables the computer to boos using only validated boot software. Default: OFF. **NOTE: For Secure Boot to be enabled, the computer needs to be in UEFI boot mode and the Enable Legacy Option ROMs option needs to be turned off.**
Secure Boot Mode	Selects the Secure Boot operation mode. Default: Deployed Mode. **NOTE: Deployed Mode should be selected for normal operation of Secure Boot.**

Table 10. System setup options—Expert Key Management menu

Expert Key Management	
Enable Custom Mode	Enables or disables the keys in the PK, KEK, db, and dbx security key databases to be modified. Default: OFF.
Custom Mode Key Management	Selects the custom values for expert key management. Default: PK.

Table 11. System setup options—Performance menu

Performance	
Intel Hyper-Threading Technology	Enables or disables the Intel Hyper-Threading Technology to use processor resources more efficiently. Default: ON.
Intel SpeedStep	Enables or disables the Intel SpeedStep Technology to dynamically adjust processor voltage and core frequency, decreasing average power consumption and heat production. Default: ON.
Intel TurboBoost Technology	Enabled or disabled the Intel TurboBoost mode of the processor. If enabled, the Intel TurboBoost driver increases the performance of the CPU or graphics processor. Default: ON.
Multi-Core Support	Changes the number of CPU cores available to the operating system. The default value is set to the maximum number of cores. Default: All Cores.
Enable C-State Control	Enables or disables the CPU's ability to enter and exit low-power states. Default: ON.

Table 12. System setup options—Power Management menu

Power Management	
Wake on AC	Enables the computer to turn on and go to boot when AC power is supplied to the computer. Default: OFF.
Auto on Time	Enables the computer to automatically power on for defined days and times. Default: Disabled. The system will not automatically power up.

Power Management	
Battery Charge Configuration	Enables the computer to run on battery during power usage hours. Use the below options to prevent AC power usage between certain times of each day. Default: Adaptive. Battery settings are adaptively optimized based on your typical battery usage pattern.
Enable Advanced Battery Charge Configuration	Enables Advanced Battery Charge Configuration from the beginning of the day to a specified work period. Advanced Battery Charged maximizes battery health while still supporting heavy use during the work day. Default: OFF.
Block Sleep	Blocks the computer from entering Sleep (S3) mode in the operating system. Default: OFF. **NOTE: If enabled, the computer will not go to sleep, Intel Rapid Start will be disabled automatically, and the operating system power option will be blank if it was set to Sleep.**
Enable USB Wake Support	Enables the USB devices to wake the computer from Standby mode. Default: OFF.
Enable Intel Speed Shift Technology	Enables or disables Intel Speed Shift Technology support which enables the operating system to select the appropriate processor performance automatically. Default: ON.
Lid Switch	Enables the computer to power up from the off state whenever the lid is opened. Default: ON.

Table 13. System setup options—Wireless menu

Wireless	
Wireless Switch	Determines which wireless devices can be controlled by the Wireless Switch. For Windows 8 systems, this is controlled by an operating system drive directly. As a result, the setting does not affect the Wireless Switch behavior. **NOTE: When both WLAN and WiGig are present, enable/disable controls are tied together. Thus, they cannot be enabled or disabled independently.**
WLAN	Default: ON.
Bluetooth	Default: ON.
Wireless Device Enable	Enable or disable internal WLAN/Bluetooth devices.
WLAN	Default: ON.
Bluetooth	Default: ON.

Table 14. System setup options—POST Behavior menu

POST Behavior	
Numlock Enable	Enables or disables Numlock when the computer boots. Default: ON.
Enable Adapter Warnings	Enables the computer to display adapter warning messages during boot. Default: ON.
Extend BIOS POST Time	Configures the BIOS POST (Power-On Self-Test) load time. Default: 0 seconds.

POST Behavior	
Fastboot	Configures the speed of the UEFI boot process. Default: Thorough. Performs complete hardware and configuration initialization during boot.
Fn Lock Options	Enables or disables the Fn lock mode. Default: ON.
Lock Mode	Default: Lock Mode Secondary. Lock Mode Secondary = If this option is selected, the F1-F12 keys scan the code for their secondary functions.
Pull Screen Logo	Enabled or disabled the computer to display full screen logo if the image match screen resolution. Default: OFF.
Warnings and Errors	Selects an action on encountering a warning or error during boot. Default: Prompt on Warnings and Errors. Stop, prompt and wait for user input when warnings or errors are detected. **NOTE: Errors deemed critical to the operation of the computer hardware will always halt the computer.**

Table 15. System setup options—Virtualization menu

Virtualization	
Intel Virtualization Technology	Enables the computer to run a virtual machine monitor (VMM). Default: ON.
VT for Direct I/O	Enables the computer to perform Virtualization Technology for Direct I/O (VT-d). VT-d is an Intel method that provides virtualization for memory map I/O. Default: ON.

Table 16. System setup options—Maintenance menu

Maintenance	
Asset Tag	Creates a system Asset Tag that can be used by an IT administrator to uniquely identify a particular system. Once set in BIOS, the Asset Tag cannot be changed.
Service Tag	Displays the Service Tag of the computer.
BIOS Recovery from Hard Drive	Enables the computer to recover from a bad BIOS image, as long as the Boot Block portion is intact and functioning. Default: ON. **NOTE: BIOS recovery is designed to fix the main BIOS block and cannot work if the Boot Block is damaged. In addition, this feature cannot work in the event of EC corruption, ME corruption, or a hardware issue. The recovery image must exist on an unencrypted partition on the drive.**
BIOS Auto-Recovery	Enables the computer to automatically recover the BIOS without user actions. This feature requires BIOS Recovery from Hard Drive to be set to Enabled. Default: OFF.
Start Data Wipe	**CAUTION: This Secure Wipe Operation will delete information in a way that it cannot be reconstructed.** If enabled, the BIOS will queue up a data wipe cycle for storage devices that are connected to the motherboard on the next reboot. Default: OFF.
Allow BIOS Downgrade	Controls flashing of the system firmware to previous revisions.

Maintenance	
	Default: ON.

Table 17. System setup options—System Logs menu

System Logs	
Power Event Log	Displays Power events. Default: Keep.
BIOS Event Log	Displays BIOS events. Default: Keep.
Thermal Event Log	Displays Thermal events. Default: Keep.

Table 18. System setup options—SupportAssist menu

SupportAssist	
Dell Auto operating system Recovery Threshold	Controls the automatic boot flow for SupportAssist System Resolution Console and for Dell operating system Recovery tool. Default: 2.
SupportAssist operating system Recovery	Enables or disables the boot flow for SupportAssist operating system Recovery tool in the even of certain system errors. Default: ON.

Updating the BIOS in Windows

Prerequisites

It is recommended to update your BIOS (System Setup), when you replace the system board or if an update is available. For laptops, ensure that your computer battery is fully charged and connected to a power outlet.

About this task

NOTE: If BitLocker is enabled, it must be suspended prior to updating the system BIOS, and then re-enabled after the BIOS update is completed.

Steps

1. Restart the computer.
2. Go to **Dell.com/support**.
   - Enter the **Service Tag** or **Express Service Code** and click **Submit**.
   - Click **Detect Product** and follow the instructions on screen.
3. If you are unable to detect or find the Service Tag, click **Choose from all products**.
4. Choose the **Products** category from the list.

   NOTE: Choose the appropriate category to reach the product page
5. Select your computer model and the **Product Support** page of your computer appears.
6. Click **Get drivers** and click **Drivers and Downloads**.
   The Drivers and Downloads section opens.
7. Click **Find it myself**.
8. Click **BIOS** to view the BIOS versions.
9. Identify the latest BIOS file and click **Download**.
10. Select your preferred download method in the **Please select your download method below** window, click **Download File**.
    The **File Download** window appears.

11. Click **Save** to save the file on your computer.
12. Click **Run** to install the updated BIOS settings on your computer.
    Follow the instructions on the screen.

Updating BIOS on systems with BitLocker enabled

CAUTION: If BitLocker is not suspended before updating the BIOS, the next time you reboot the system it will not recognize the BitLocker key. You will then be prompted to enter the recovery key to progress and the system will ask for this on each reboot. If the recovery key is not known this can result in data loss or an unnecessary operating system re-install. For more information on this subject, see Knowledge Article: https://www.dell.com/support/article/sln153694

Updating your system BIOS using a USB flash drive

About this task

If the system cannot load into Windows but there is still a need to update the BIOS, download the BIOS file using another system and save it to a bootable USB Flash Drive.

NOTE: You will need to use a bootable USB Flash drive. Please refer to the following article for further details: https://www.dell.com/support/article/sln143196/

Steps

1. Download the BIOS update .EXE file to another system.
2. Copy the file e.g. O9010A12.EXE onto the bootable USB Flash drive.
3. Insert the USB Flash drive into the system that requires the BIOS update.
4. Restart the system and press F12 when the Dell Splash logo appears to display the One Time Boot Menu.
5. Using arrow keys, select **USB Storage Device** and click Return.
6. The system will boot to a Diag C:\> prompt.
7. Run the file by typing the full filename e.g. O9010A12.exe and press Return.
8. The BIOS Update Utility will load, follow the instructions on screen.

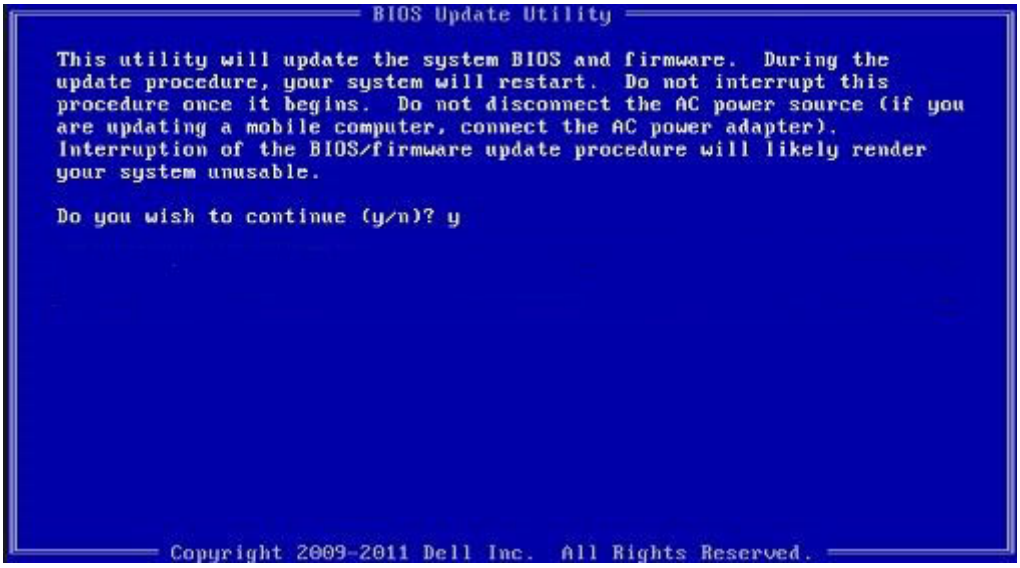


Figure 1. DOS BIOS Update Screen

Updating the Dell BIOS in Linux and Ubuntu environments

If you want to update the system BIOS in a Linux environment such as Ubuntu, see https://www.dell.com/support/article/sln171755/.

Flashing the BIOS from the F12 One-Time boot menu

Updating your system BIOS using a BIOS update.exe file copied to a FAT32 USB key and booting from the F12 one time boot menu.

About this task

BIOS Update

You can run the BIOS update file from Windows using a bootable USB key or you can also update the BIOS from the F12 One-Time boot menu on the system.

Most Dell systems built after 2012 have this capability and you can confirm by booting your system to the F12 One-Time Boot Menu to see if BIOS FLASH UPDATE is listed as a boot option for your system. If the option is listed, then the BIOS supports this BIOS update option.

NOTE: Only systems with BIOS Flash Update option in the F12 One-Time Boot Menu can use this function.

Updating from the One-Time Boot Menu

To update your BIOS from the F12 One-Time boot menu, you will need:

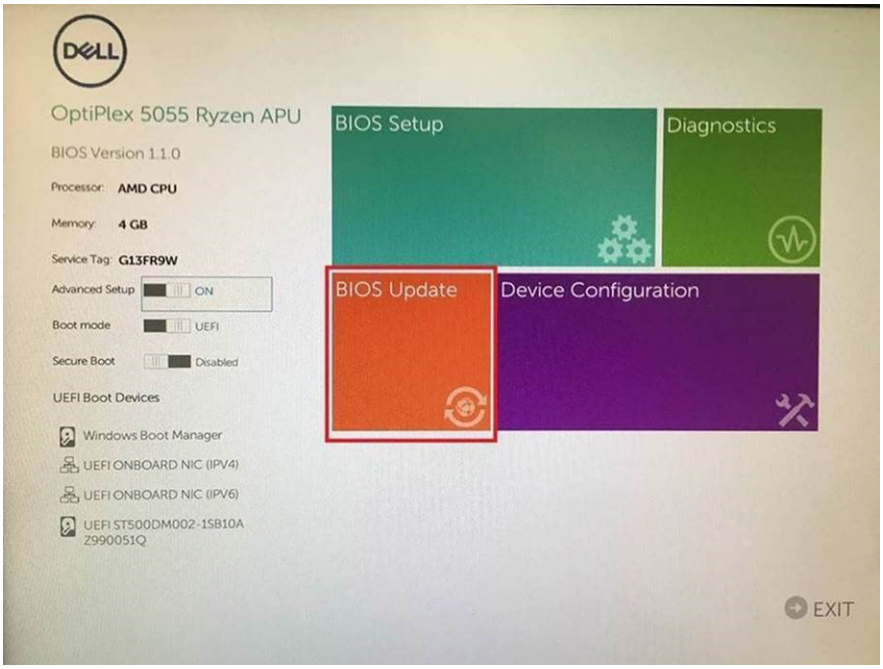
- USB key formatted to the FAT32 file system (key does not have to be bootable)
- BIOS executable file that you downloaded from the Dell Support website and copied to the root of the USB key
- AC power adapter connected to the system
- Functional system battery to flash the BIOS

Perform the following steps to execute the BIOS update flash process from the F12 menu:

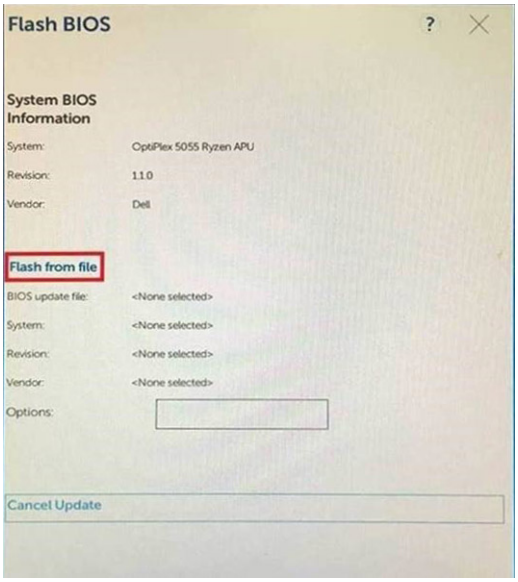
CAUTION: Do not power off the system during the BIOS update process. Powering off the system could make the system fail to boot.

Steps

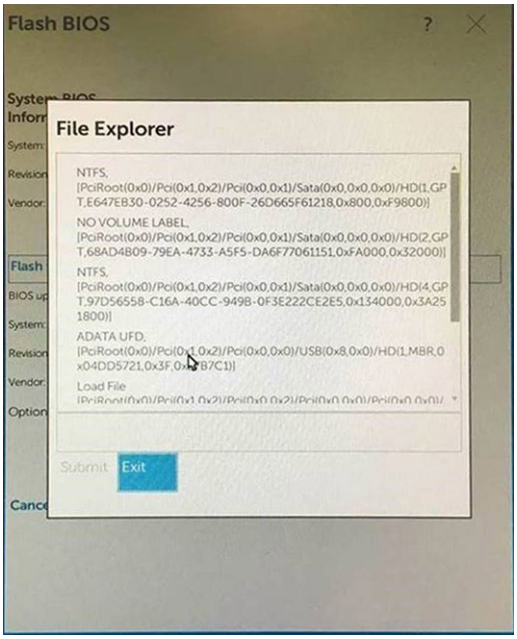
1. From a power off state, insert the USB key where you copied the flash into a USB port of the system .
2. Power on the system and press the F12 key to access the One-Time Boot Menu, Highlight BIOS Update using the mouse or arrow keys then press **Enter**.



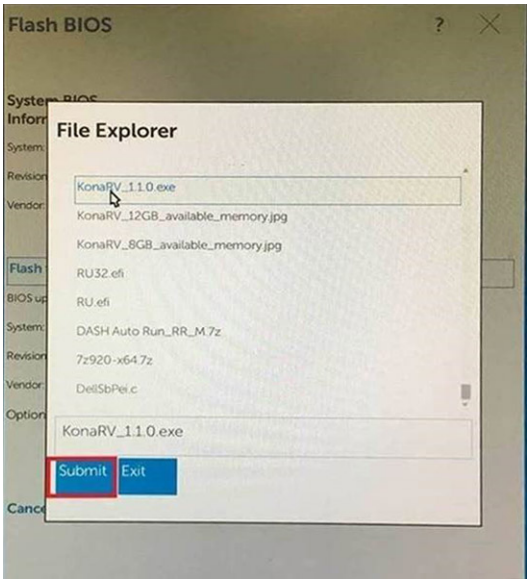
3. The flash BIOS menu will open, and then click the **Flash from file**.



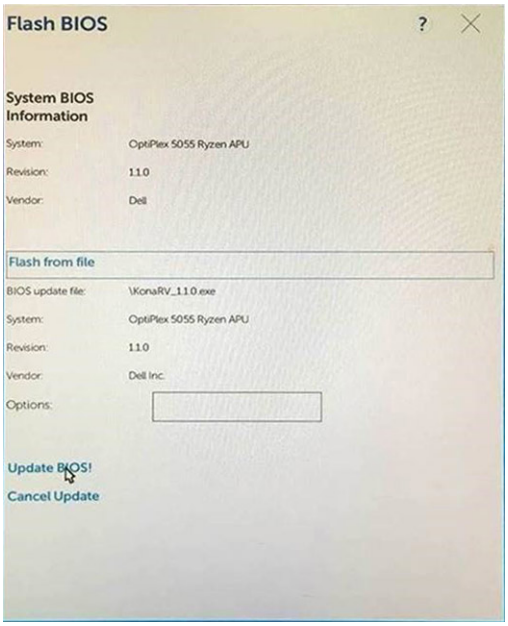
4. Select external USB device.



5. Once the file is selected, Double click the flash target file, then press submit.



6. Click the **Update BIOS** then system will reboot to flash the BIOS.



7. Once complete, the system will reboot and the BIOS update process is completed.

System and setup password

Table 19. System and setup password

Password type	Description
System password	Password that you must enter to log in to your system.
Setup password	Password that you must enter to access and make changes to the BIOS settings of your computer.

You can create a system password and a setup password to secure your computer.

CAUTION: The password features provide a basic level of security for the data on your computer.

CAUTION: Anyone can access the data that is stored on your computer if it is not locked and left unattended.

NOTE: System and setup password feature is disabled.

Assigning a system setup password

Prerequisites

You can assign a new **System or Admin Password** only when the status is in **Not Set**.

About this task

To enter the system setup, press F2F12 immediately after a power-on or reboot.

Steps

1. In the **System BIOS** or **System Setup** screen, select **Security** and press Enter.
   The **Security** screen is displayed.
2. Select **System/Admin Password** and create a password in the **Enter the new password** field.
   Use the following guidelines to assign the system password:
   - A password can have up to 32 characters.
   - The password can contain the numbers 0 through 9.

- Only lower case letters are valid, upper case letters are not valid.
- Only the following special characters are valid: Space, ("), (+), (,), (-), (.), (/), (;), ([), (\), (]), (`).

3. Type the system password that you entered earlier in the **Confirm new password** field and click **OK**.
4. Press Esc and a message prompt's you to save the changes.
5. Press Y to save the changes.
   The computer reboots.

Deleting or changing an existing system setup password

Prerequisites

Ensure that the **Password Status** is Unlocked (in the System Setup) before attempting to delete or change the existing System and/or Setup password. You cannot delete or change an existing System or Setup password, if the **Password Status** is Locked.

About this task

To enter the System Setup, press F2F12 immediately after a power-on or reboot.

Steps

1. In the **System BIOS** or **System Setup** screen, select **System Security** and press Enter.
   The **System Security** screen is displayed.
2. In the **System Security** screen, verify that **Password Status** is **Unlocked**.
3. Select **System Password**, alter, or delete the existing system password and press Enter or Tab.
4. Select **Setup Password**, alter, or delete the existing setup password and press Enter or Tab.

   NOTE: If you change the System and/or Setup password, reenter the new password when prompted. If you delete the System and/or Setup password, confirm the deletion when prompted.
5. Press Esc and a message prompt's you to save the changes.
6. Press Y to save the changes and exit from System Setup.
   The computer reboot.

Clearing CMOS settings

About this task

CAUTION: Clearing CMOS settings will reset the BIOS settings on your computer.

Steps

1. Remove the base cover.
2. Remove the battery.
3. Remove the coin-cell battery.
4. Wait for one minute.
5. Install the coin-cell battery.
6. Install the battery.
7. Install the base cover.

Clearing BIOS (System Setup) and System passwords

About this task

To clear the system or BIOS passwords, contact Dell technical support as described at www.dell.com/contactdell.

NOTE: For information on how to reset Windows or application passwords, refer to the documentation accompanying Windows or your application.

5

Troubleshooting

Recovering the operating system

When your computer is unable to boot to the operating system even after repeated attempts, it automatically starts Dell SupportAssist OS Recovery.

Dell SupportAssist OS Recovery is a standalone tool that is preinstalled in all Dell computers installed with Windows 10 operating system. It consists of tools to diagnose and troubleshoot issues that may occur before your computer boots to the operating system. It enables you to diagnose hardware issues, repair your computer, back up your files, or restore your computer to its factory state.

You can also download it from the Dell Support website to troubleshoot and fix your computer when it fails to boot into their primary operating system due to software or hardware failures.

For more information about the Dell SupportAssist OS Recovery, see *Dell SupportAssist OS Recovery User's Guide* at www.dell.com/support.

System diagnostic lights

Battery-status light

Indicates the power and battery-charge status.

Solid white — Power adapter is connected and the battery has more than 5 percent charge.

Amber — Computer is running on battery and the battery has less than 5 percent charge.

Off

- Power adapter is connected and the battery is fully charged.
- Computer is running on battery and the battery has more than 5 percent charge.
- Computer is in sleep state, hibernation, or turned off.

The power and battery-status light blinks amber along with beep codes indicating failures.

For example, the power and battery-status light blinks amber two times followed by a pause, and then blinks white three times followed by a pause. This 2,3 pattern continues until the computer is turned off indicating no memory or RAM is detected.

The following table shows different power and battery-status light patterns and associated problems.

Table 20. LED codes

Diagnostic light codes	Problem description
2,1	Processor failure
2,2	System board: BIOS or ROM (Read-Only Memory) failure
2,3	No memory or RAM (Random-Access Memory) detected
2,4	Memory or RAM (Random-Access Memory) failure
2,5	Invalid memory installed
2,6	System-board or chipset error
2,7	Display failure
3,1	Coin-cell battery failure
3,2	PCI, video card/chip failure
3,3	Recovery image not found
3,4	Recovery image found but invalid
3,5	Power-rail failure

Diagnostic light codes	Problem description
3,6	System BIOS Flash incomplete
3,7	Management Engine (ME) error

Camera status light: Indicates whether the camera is in use.

- Solid white — Camera is in use.
- Off — Camera is not in use.

Caps Lock status light: Indicates whether Caps Lock is enabled or disabled.

- Solid white — Caps Lock enabled.
- Off — Caps Lock disabled.

Flea power release

About this task

Flea power is the residual static electricity that remains on the computer even after it has been powered off and the battery has been disconnected from the system board. The following procedure provides the instructions on how to release the flea power:

Steps

1. Turn off your computer.
2. Remove the base cover.

   NOTE: The battery must be disconnected from the system board, see Step 2 in Removing the battery.
3. Press and hold the power button for 15 seconds to drain the flea power.
4. Install the base cover.
5. Turn on your computer.

WiFi power cycle

About this task

If your computer is unable to access the Internet due to WiFi connectivity issues, a WiFi power cycle procedure may be performed. The following procedure provides the instructions on how to conduct a WiFi power cycle:

NOTE: Some ISPs (Internet Service Providers) provide a modem/router combo device.

Steps

1. Turn off your computer.
2. Turn off the modem.
3. Turn off the wireless router.
4. Wait for 30 seconds.
5. Turn on the wireless router.
6. Turn on the modem.
7. Turn on your computer.

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Getting help and contacting Dell

Self-help resources

You can get information and help on Dell products and services using these self-help resources:

Table 21. Self-help resources

Self-help resources	Resource location
Information about Dell products and services	www.dell.com
My Dell	
Tips	
Contact Support	In Windows search, type `Contact Support`, and press Enter.
Online help for operating system	www.dell.com/support/windows www.dell.com/support/linux
Troubleshooting information, user manuals, set up instructions, product specifications, technical help blogs, drivers, software updates, and so on.	www.dell.com/support
Dell knowledge base articles for a variety of computer concerns	1. Go to www.dell.com/support. 2. On the menu bar at the top of the Support page, select **Support** > **Knowledge Base**. 3. In the Search field on the Knowledge Base page, type the keyword, topic, or model number , and then click or tap the search icon to view the related articles.
Learn and know the following information about your product: · Product specifications · Operating system · Setting up and using your product · Data backup · Troubleshooting and diagnostics · Factory and system restore · BIOS information	See *Me and My Dell* at www.dell.com/support/manuals. To locate the *Me and My Dell* relevant to your product, identify your product through one of the following: · Select **Detect Product**. · Locate your product through the drop-down menu under **View Products**. · Enter the **Service Tag number** or **Product ID** in the search bar.

Contacting Dell

To contact Dell for sales, technical support, or customer service issues, see www.dell.com/contactdell.

NOTE: Availability varies by country/region and product, and some services may not be available in your country/region.

NOTE: If you do not have an active Internet connection, you can find contact information about your purchase invoice, packing slip, bill, or Dell product catalog.