Framework Laptop 16 DIY Edition Quick Start Guide

Written By: Levi



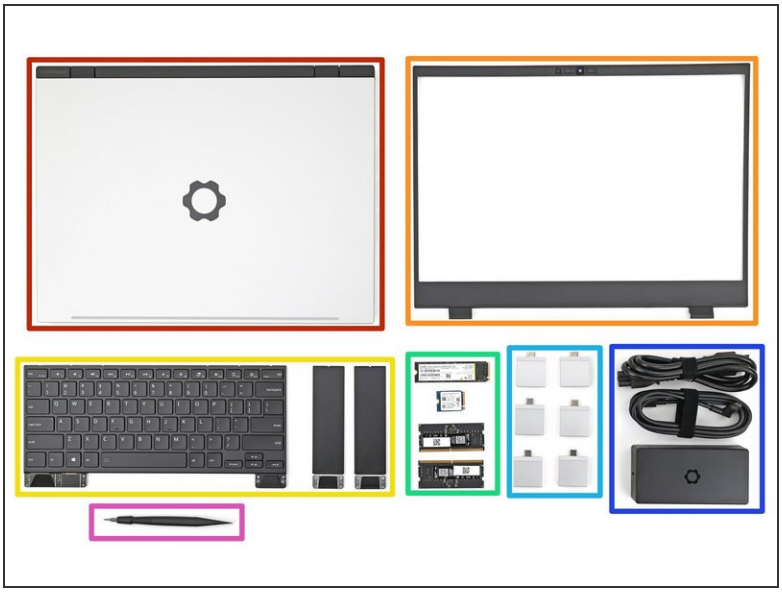
INTRODUCTION

Congratulations on getting the Framework Laptop 16 DIY Edition! Follow this quick start guide to assemble your laptop and get it running.

TOOLS:

- Framework Screwdriver (1)

Step 1 — Unbox your laptop





Unbox your Framework Laptop and make sure you've received the following items:

- Framework Laptop chassis with pre-installed Mid Plate, Touchpad Module, and Touch Spacers.
- Bezel
- Keyboard and Input Modules
- Memory and Storage
- Expansion Cards
- Power Adapter
- Framework Screwdriver

Step 2 — Open the laptop





- Open the laptop

Step 3 — Remove the plastic cover





- Remove the plastic cover.
  - ⓘ The protective cover is made of post-consumer recycled PET and is highly recyclable. Please recycle this with your household recycling.

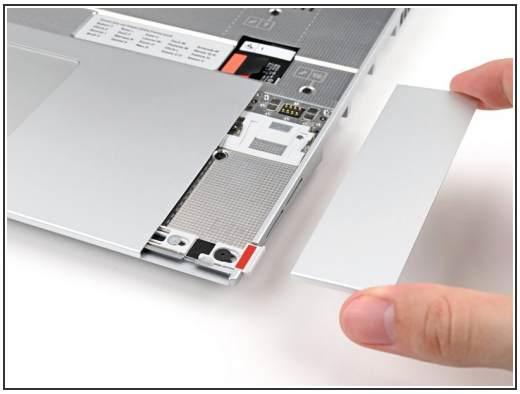
Step 4 — Unlock the Input Modules




- Use your fingernail to pull out the Input Module latch and unlock the Touchpad Spacer next to it.

Step 5 — Remove the Touchpad Spacer





- Use your fingers to slide the Touchpad Spacer toward the bottom edge of the laptop and unclip it.
  - ⓘ If you're having trouble, check if the corresponding Input Module latch is properly unlocked.
- Lift the Touchpad Spacer off the laptop and remove it.

Step 6

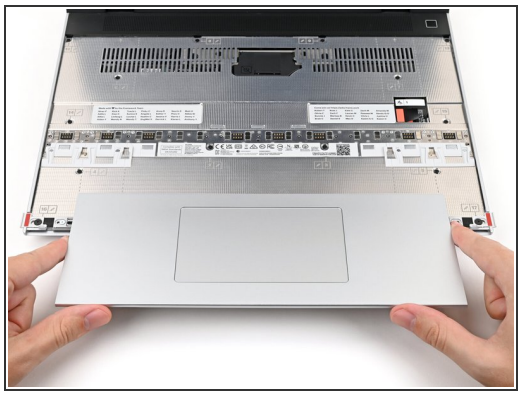




- Repeat the previous two steps to remove the other Touchpad Spacer.

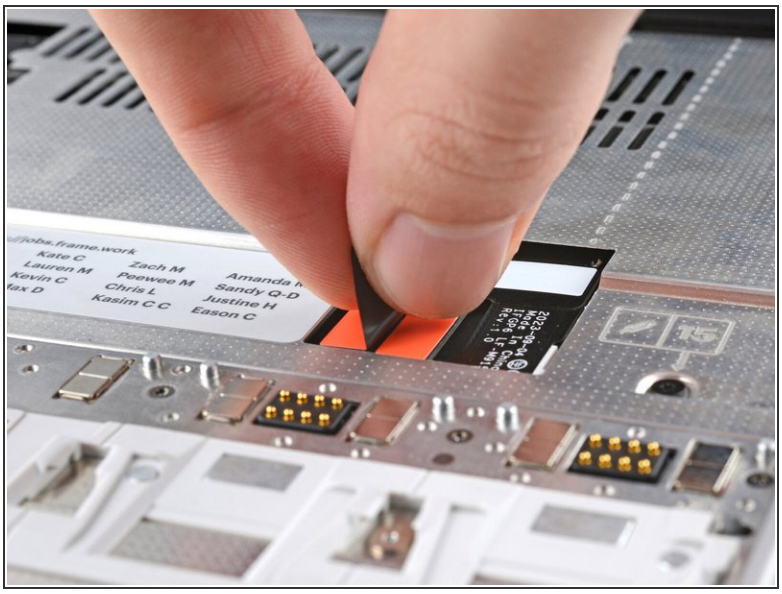
Step 7 — Remove the Touchpad Module

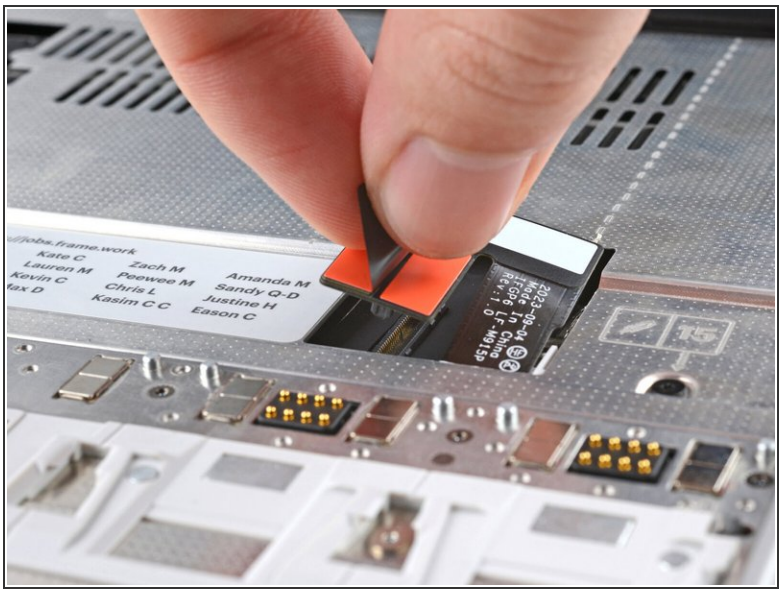




- Use your fingers to slide the Touchpad Module toward the bottom edge of the laptop and disconnect it.
- Lift the Touchpad Module and remove it.

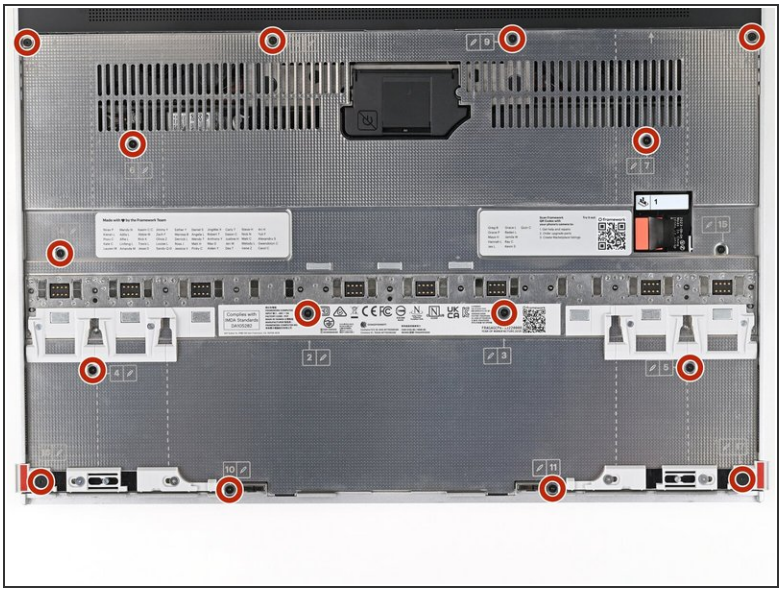
Step 8 — Disconnect the Mid Plate cable

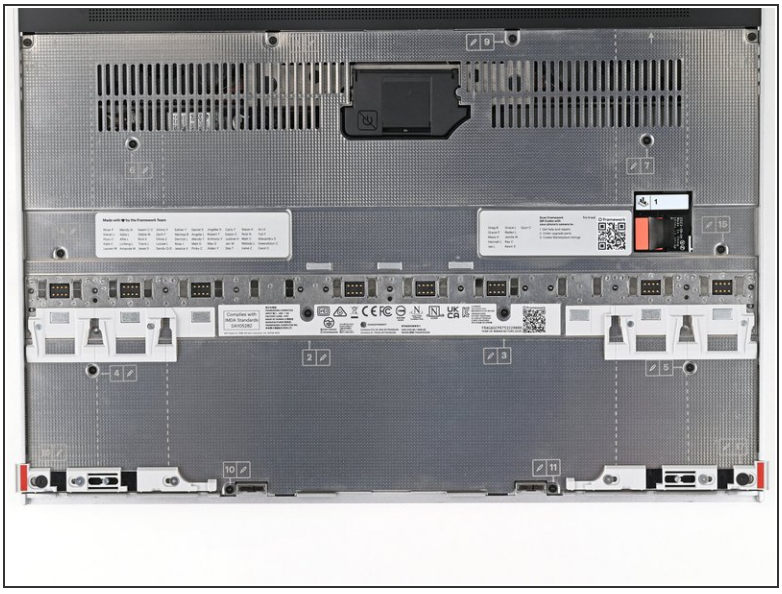




- Grip the black pull tab on the Mid Plate cable press connector and lift up to disconnect it.

Step 9 — Loosen the Mid Plate screws



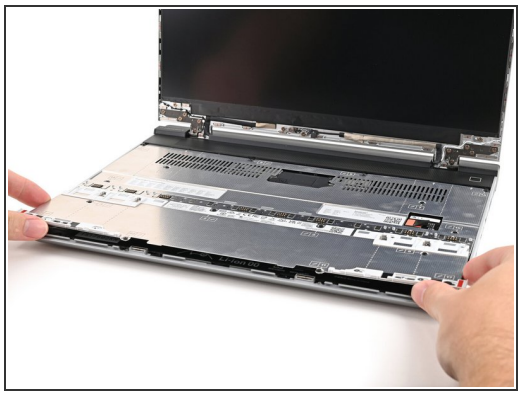


ⓘ The Mid Plate screws are ordered from 2–17 (number 1 is the press connector). You don't have to follow the order, but you can use it to help keep track of the screws you've loosened.

- Use your Framework Screwdriver to loosen the 16 captive T5 Torx screws securing the Mid Plate.

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Step 10 — Remove the Mid Plate





- Use your fingers to lift the Mid Plate off the laptop and remove it.

Step 11 — Install the memory





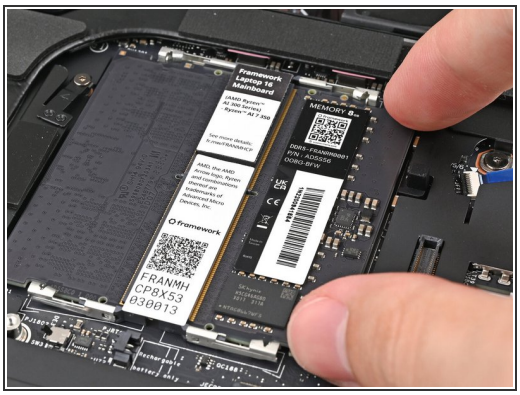


⚠ **Hold the memory module by its edges. Don't touch the gold contacts with your fingers.** If you do, wipe the contacts with a clean, lint-free cloth to remove any finger oils.

- Orient the module with its label facing down and align the gold contacts with the left socket labeled **DDR5 Channel 0**.
- Insert the contact edge into the socket at a shallow angle. The gold contacts should mostly be covered by the socket.
- Press the edges of the memory module down until the side clips lock it in place.

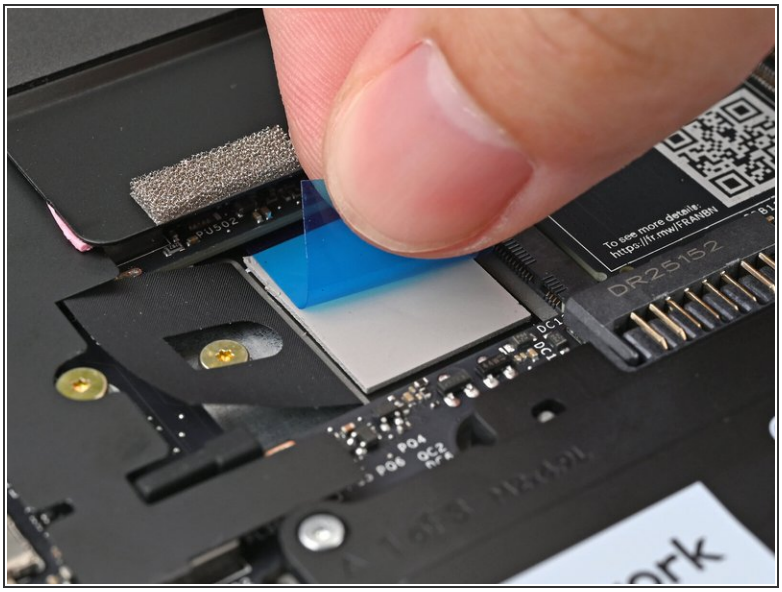
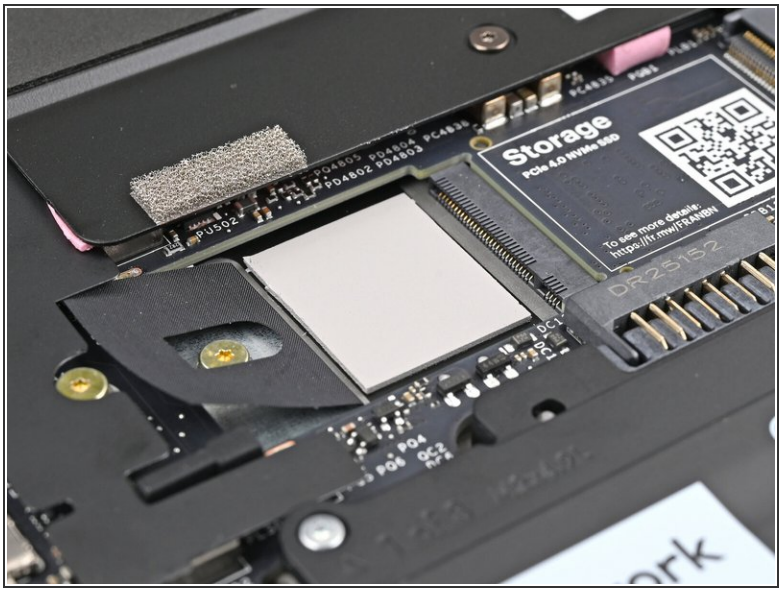
Step 12





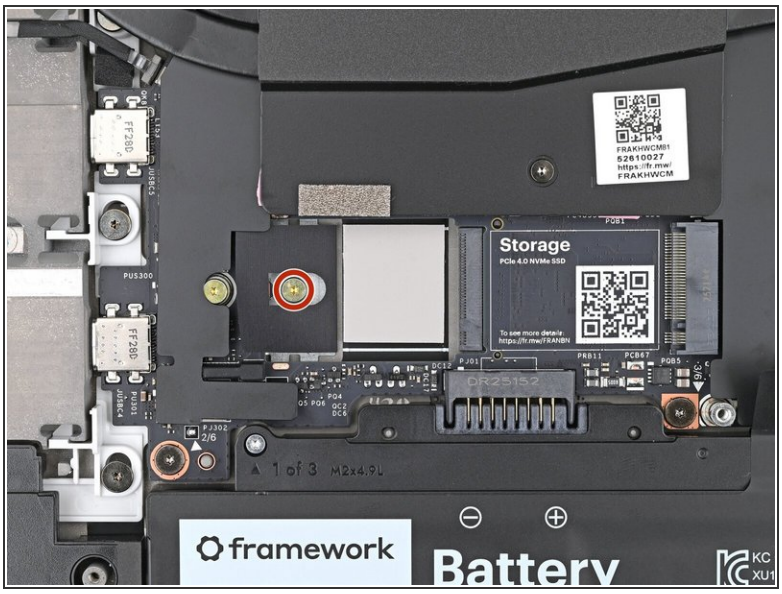
- If you're using two memory modules, orient the other module so its label is facing upward and repeat the previous step for the other socket labeled **DDR5 Channel 1**.

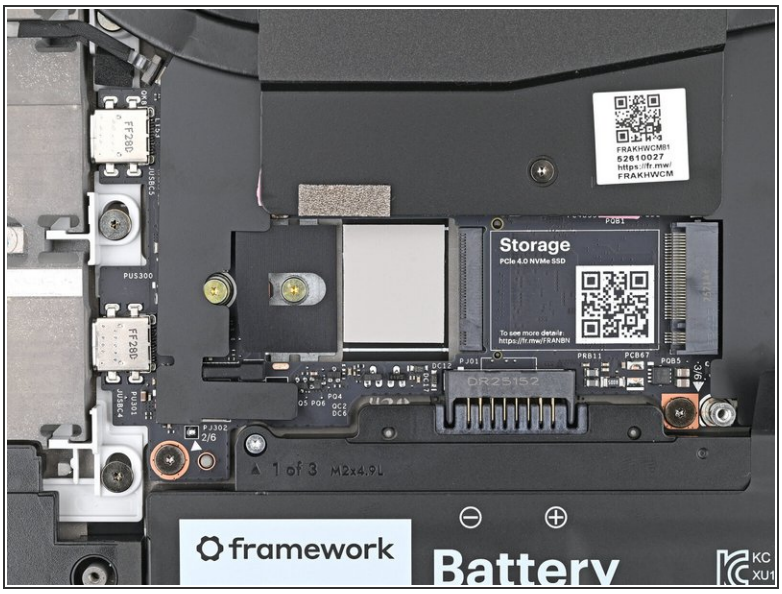
Step 13 — Remove the blue liner

- If you're installing a secondary SSD, follow the next five steps. Otherwise, skip to step titled "Remove the primary SSD screw".
- Remove the blue liner from the secondary SSD thermal pad.

Step 14 — Remove the secondary SSD screw





- Use your Framework Screwdriver to remove the 2 mm-long T5 Torx screw securing the secondary SSD.

Step 15 — Install the secondary SSD







⚠ **Hold the SSD by its edges. Don't touch the gold contacts with your fingers.** If you do, wipe the contacts with a clean, lint-free cloth to remove any finger oils.

- Align the SSD's gold contacts with its socket.
- Insert the SSD **partially** into the socket at a shallow angle. You should still be able to see most of the gold contacts.
- Press the SSD flat to the Mainboard.

Step 16





- While keeping the SSD flat to the Mainboard, use your finger to slide the SSD into its socket until its golden contacts are completely covered.

Step 17 — Install the secondary SSD screw





- Use a Framework Screwdriver to install the 2 mm-long T5 Torx screw securing the secondary SSD.

Step 18 — Remove the primary SSD screw





- Use your Framework Screwdriver to remove the 2 mm-long T5 Torx screw securing the primary SSD.

Step 19 — Install the primary SSD

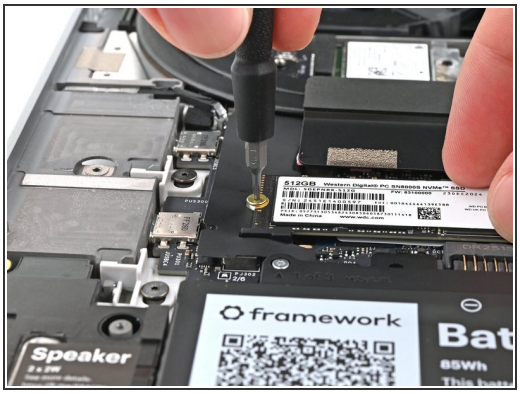




⚠ Hold the SSD by its edges. Don't touch the gold contacts with your fingers. If you do, wipe the contacts with a clean, lint-free cloth to remove any finger oils.

- Insert the SSD into the socket at a shallow angle. The gold contacts should mostly be covered by the socket.
  - ⓘ The SSD fits into the socket in one orientation. If it doesn't feel like it fits, try flipping the module.

Step 20 — Install the primary SSD screw

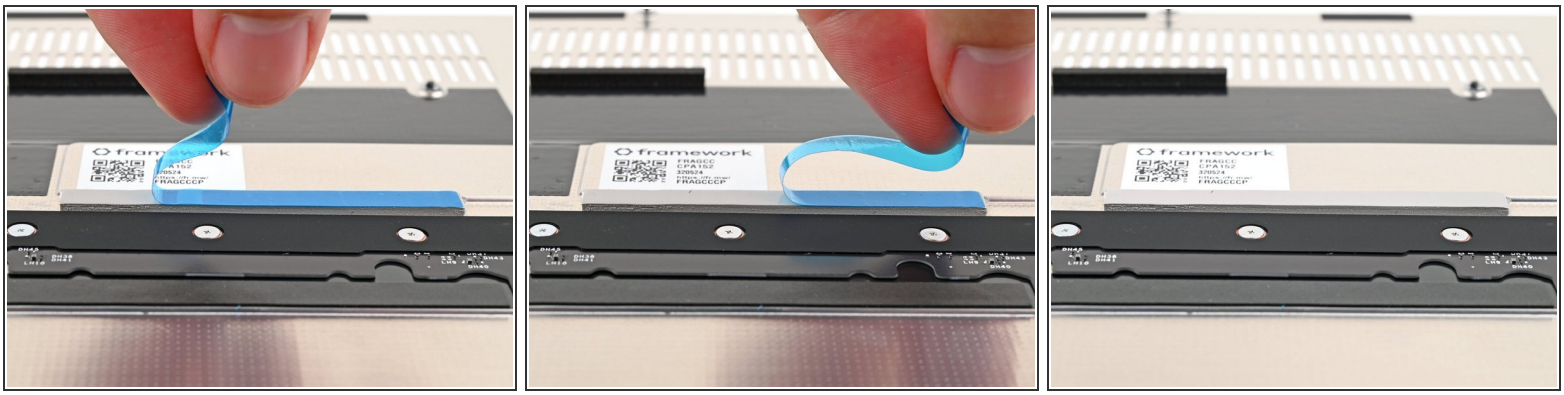






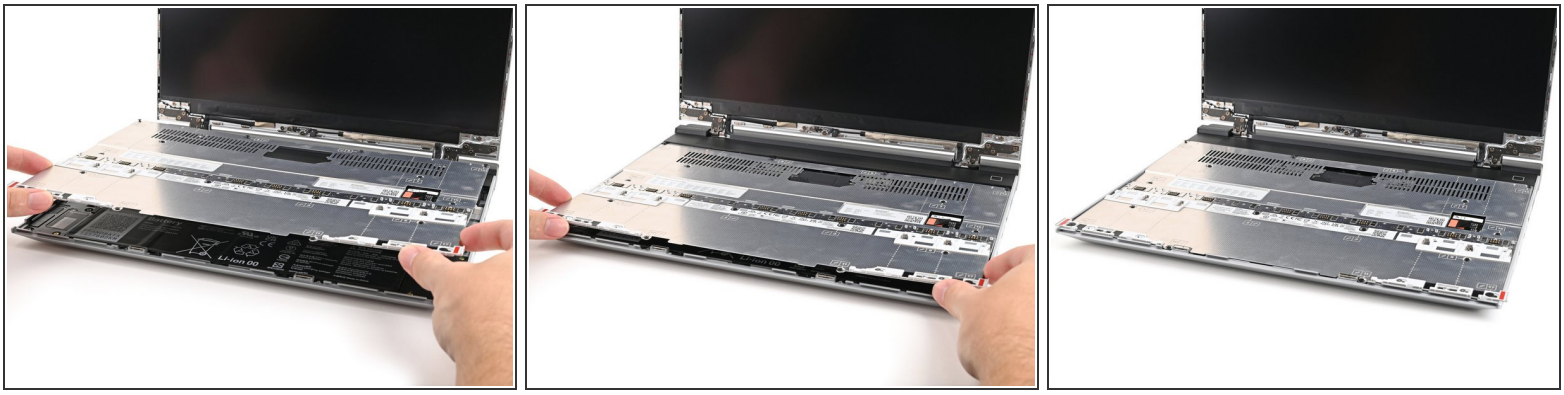
- While holding the SSD flat to the Mainboard, use your Framework Screwdriver to install the 2 mm-long T5 Torx screw securing the primary SSD.

Step 21 — Remove the Mid Plate liner



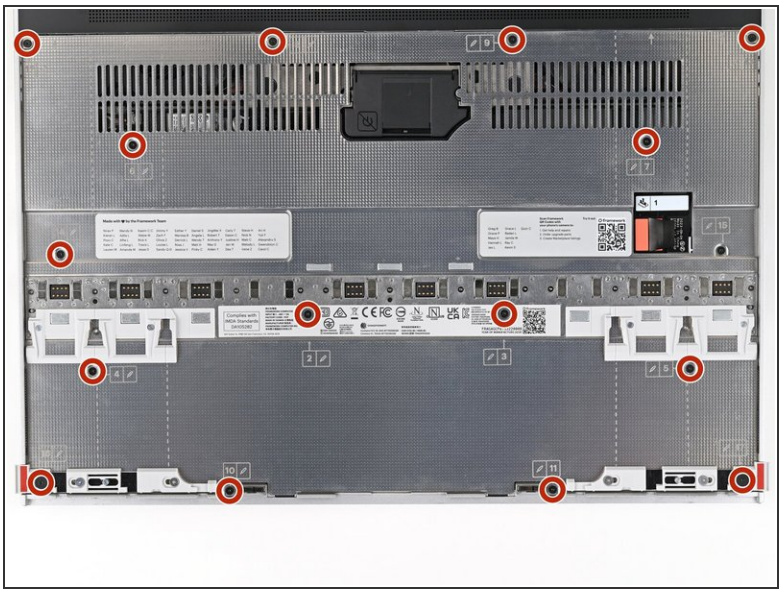
- If there's a blue liner on the thermal pad located on the bottom of the Mid Plate, use your fingers to peel it off.

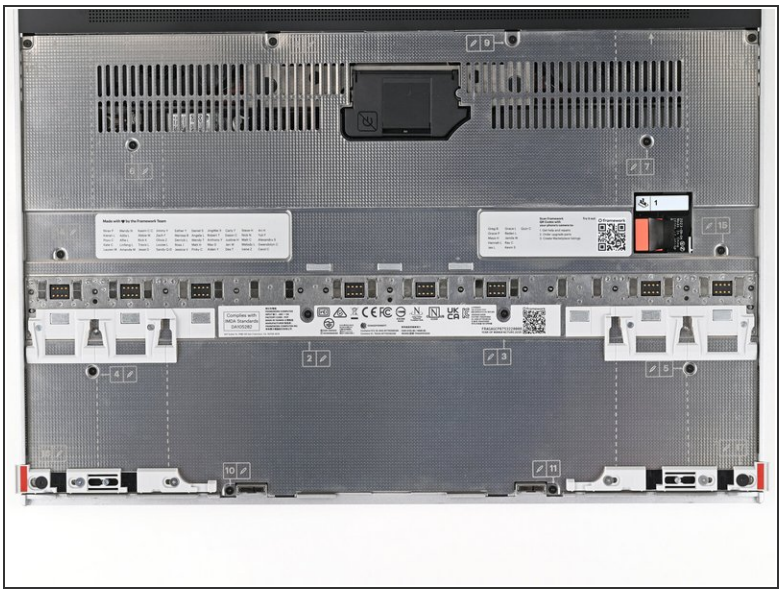
Step 22 — Place the Mid Plate



- Place the Mid Plate on the laptop, making sure it sits evenly on its alignment pegs.

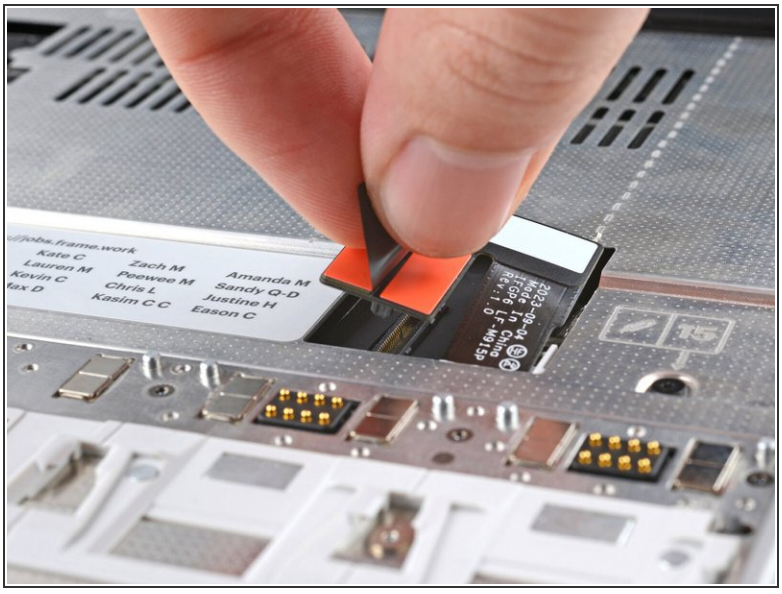
Step 23 — Tighten the Mid Plate screws

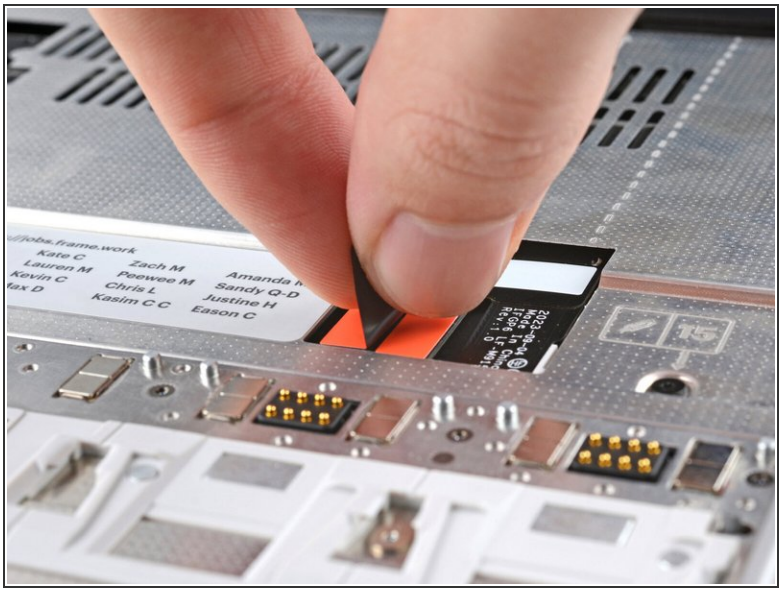




- Use your Framework Screwdriver to tighten the 16 T5 Torx captive screws **in order** (starting with 2) to secure the Mid Plate evenly.

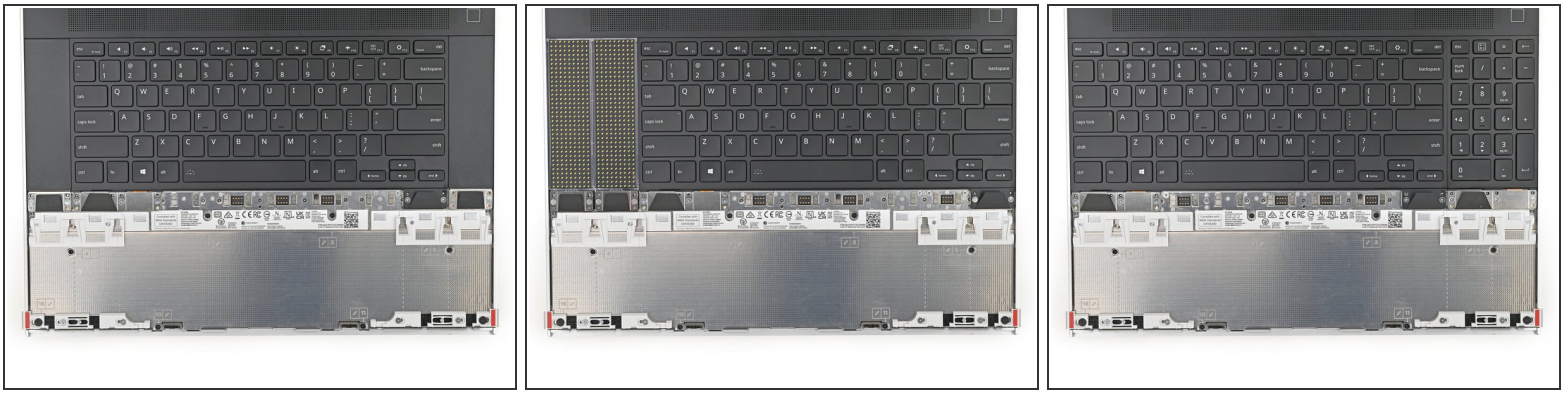
Step 24 — Connect the Mid Plate cable





- Align the Mid Plate cable press connector over its socket and press down to connect it.

Step 25 — Install the Input Modules



The top row of the laptop is fully customizable, but each Input Module follows the same installation procedure. The next three steps show installing the combination used in the first photo.

Check out this page for all of the possible Input Module combinations.

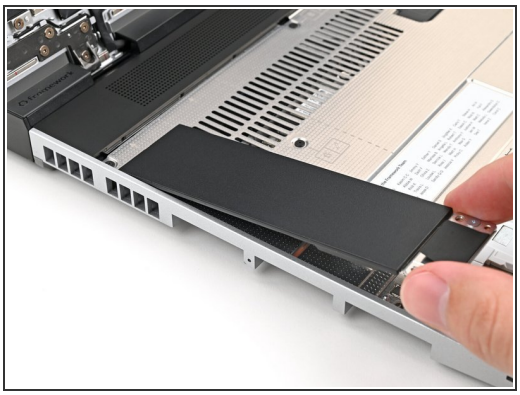
Step 26

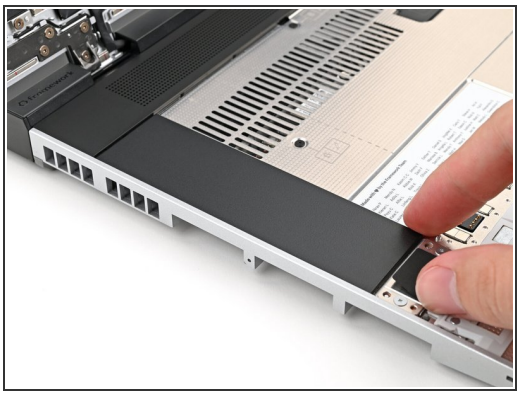


- Hold the Input Module at a slight downward angle and align it with one of the dotted lines on the Mid Plate.
- Slide the top lip of the Input Module underneath the ventilation plate and lay the module down flat to let the magnets pull it into place.

Make sure the alignment pegs are slotted into the Input Module and that it sits flat. Otherwise, pull the module off the laptop and readjust it.

Step 27





- Repeat the previous step for the other Input Module.
  - ⓘ If you've already installed a numpad, you'll only have space for the keyboard and not another module.

Step 28 — Install the keyboard





- Hold the keyboard at a slight downward angle and align it with two of the dotted lines on the Mid Plate.
  - ⓘ The keyboard can be placed on the left, center, or right edges of the laptop depending on which Input Modules you've installed.
- Slide the top lip of the keyboard underneath the ventilation plate and lay the keyboard down flat to let the magnets pull it into place.
  - ⓘ Make sure the alignment pegs are slotted into the keyboard and that it sits flat. Otherwise, pull the keyboard off the laptop and readjust it.

Step 29 — Bottom row information





The bottom row of the laptop is fully customizable. The next four steps show installing the combination used in the first photo.

Note: for the Touchpad Module to be on the left, the keyboard can't be installed in the center.

Step 30 — Install the Touchpad Spacers





- Place the Touchpad Spacer over its spot on the laptop with the bottom edge overhanging slightly.
- Slide the Touchpad Spacer towards the top of the laptop to secure it.

Step 31





- Repeat the previous step for the other Touchpad Spacer.

Step 32 — Install the Touchpad Module





- Place the Touchpad Module flat on its cutout so its clips are properly aligned.
- Press the Touchpad Module down and slide it into place so it lines up evenly with the bottom edge of the laptop.

Step 33 — Lock the Input Modules



- Push the Input Module latches back into place to lock them.

Step 34 — Install the bezel



- Align the bezel over the perimeter of the display and let the magnets pull the bezel into place.
  - ⓘ The bezel should "snap" into place. If it doesn't, realign it and make sure it sits flush with the display.

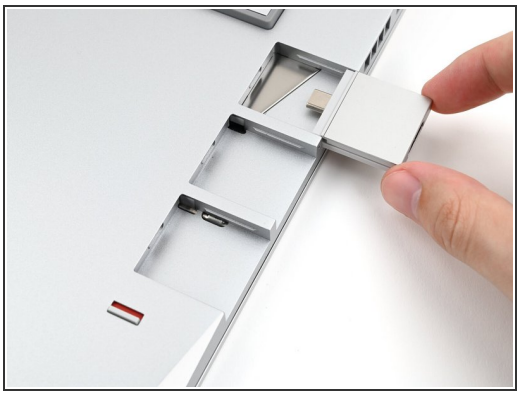
Step 35 — Reposition the laptop





- Close the laptop and flip it over.

Step 36 — Install the Expansion Cards





ⓘ If you have the AMD Ryzen™ 7040 Series, click here for information on Expansion Card compatibility.

ⓘ If you have the AMD Ryzen™ AI 300 Series, click here for information on Expansion Card compatibility.

- Slide an Expansion Card into an Expansion Card slot.
  - ⓘ You don't need to unlock the latch to install the Expansion Cards—only when you want to remove them.
  - ⓘ The Expansion Cards should click into place, and the front edge should be flush with the laptop.
- Repeat for the remaining Expansion Cards along that edge.

Step 37 — Expansion Card latch




- If there's a red bar showing under the Expansion Card latch, use your finger to flip the latch and lock the row of Expansion Cards above it.

Step 38





- Repeat the previous two steps for the other row of Expansion Cards.

Step 39 — Assemble the Framework Power Adapter





- Plug the AC Cable into the Power Adapter.
- Plug the USB-C Cable into the Power Adapter.
  - ⓘ You can plug either end of the USB-C cable into the adapter.
- Plug the AC Cable into a power outlet.

Step 40 — Plug in the laptop



- Your Framework Laptop ships in shipping mode, where the battery is disabled until you plug the laptop in for the first time.
- Plug the USB-C Cable into any USB-C port on your laptop.

Step 41 — Install an OS



- You're done assembling your Framework Laptop! Now, you'll need to install an OS.
  - If you're installing Microsoft Windows, check out this guide.
  - If you're installing Linux, check this page for more details.
- For drivers, firmware, and software updates, check out this page.

For drivers, firmware, and software updates, check out this page.

If you need help, contact Framework support.