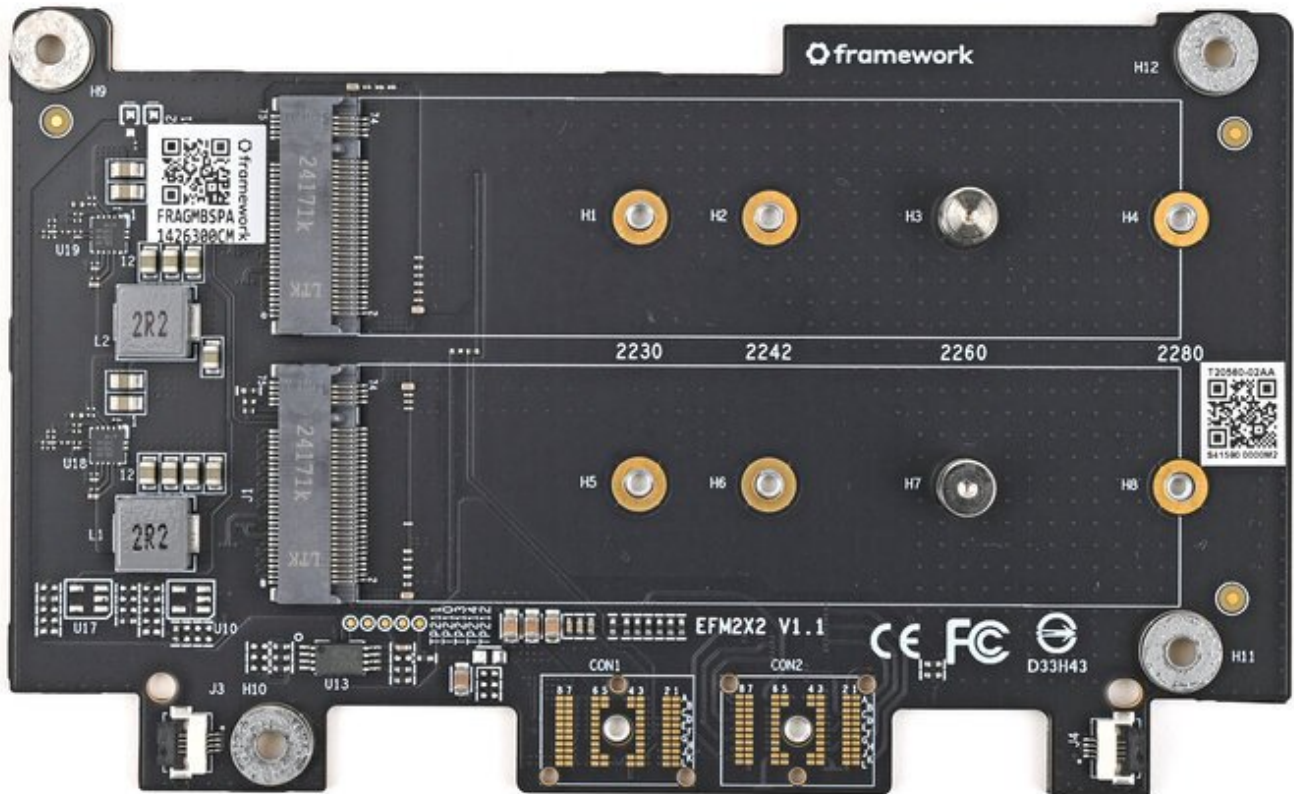




Install Dual M.2 Adapter

Written By: Iroh



INTRODUCTION

Use this guide to install the Dual M.2 Adapter in your Framework Laptop 16. This guide also shows how to install SSDs into the Adapter.

Note: installing the Dual M.2 Adapter requires the [Graphics Module Interposer](#), which is optionally bundled with the adapter.

Make sure your BIOS is up to date with the [latest version](#) before installing the adapter.



TOOLS:

- [Framework Screwdriver](#) (1)



PARTS:

- [Dual M.2 Adapter](#) (1)
- [Expansion Bay Shell](#) (1)
- [Graphics Module Interposer](#) (1)

Step 1 — Before you begin



- Unplug all cables and fully shut down your laptop.

Step 2 — Unlock the Input Modules



- Use your fingernail to pull out the two Input Module latches and unlock them.
 - ⓘ The latch will show red if it's unlocked.

Step 3 — Remove the Touchpad Spacers



- 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 4



- Repeat the same procedure for the other touchpad spacer.

Step 5 — Remove the Touchpad Module



- Use your fingers to slide the Touchpad Module toward the bottom edge of the laptop and disconnect it.
 - ❗ If you're having trouble, check if the Input Module latches are properly unlocked.
- Lift the Touchpad Module and remove it.

Step 6 — Remove the keyboard



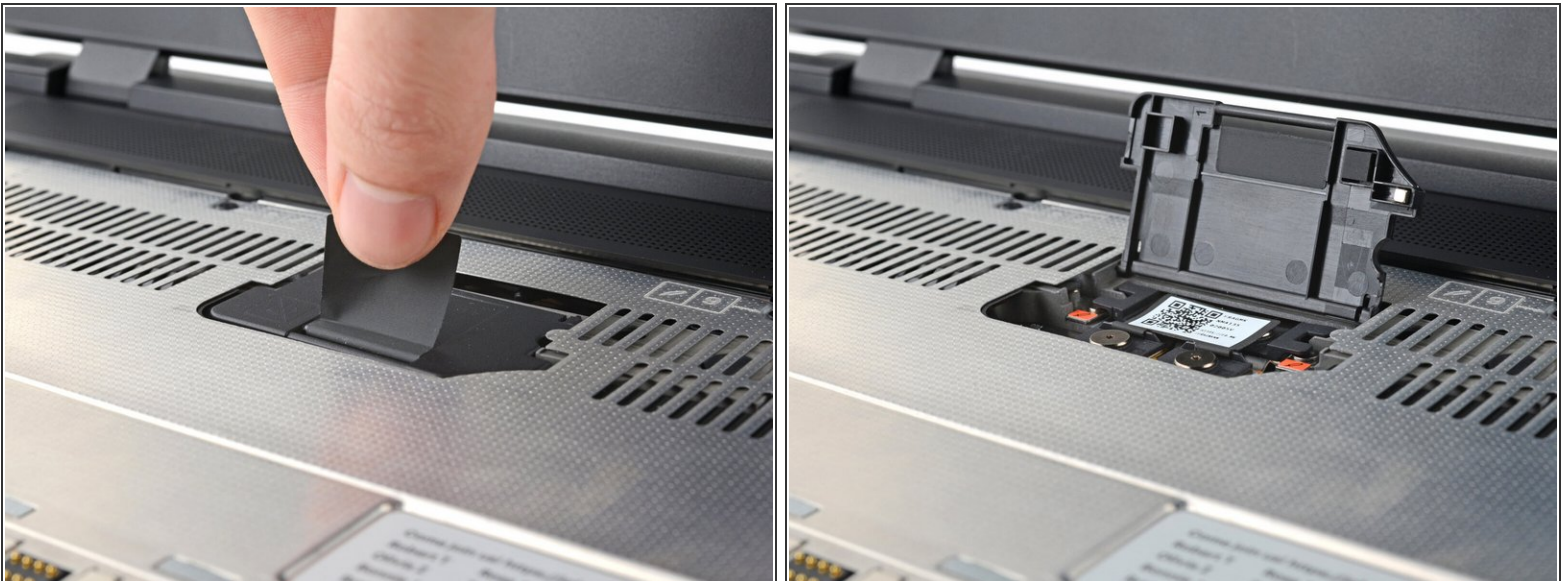
- ❗ The keyboard is held in place with strong magnets. Apply gradually increasing force to avoid having the keyboard violently eject.
- Grip the two pull tabs along the bottom of the keyboard and lift until its magnets release.
- Remove the keyboard.

Step 7 — Remove the Input Modules



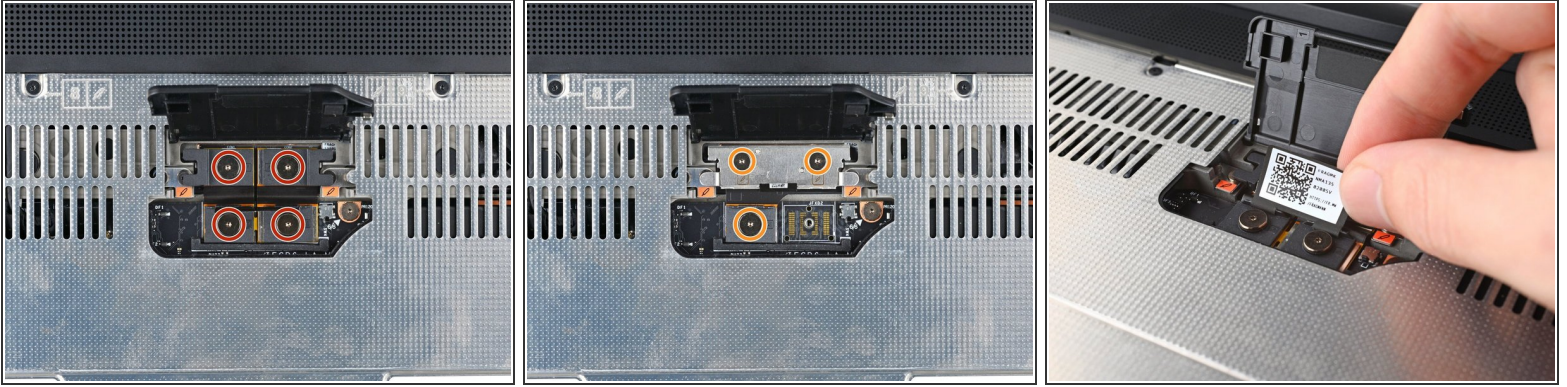
- ❗ Your Input Module(s) might be different, but the procedure to remove them is the same.
- Grip the pull tab at the bottom of the Input Module and lift until its magnets release.
 - Remove the Input Module.
 - Repeat for any remaining Input Modules.

Step 8 — Lift the interposer door



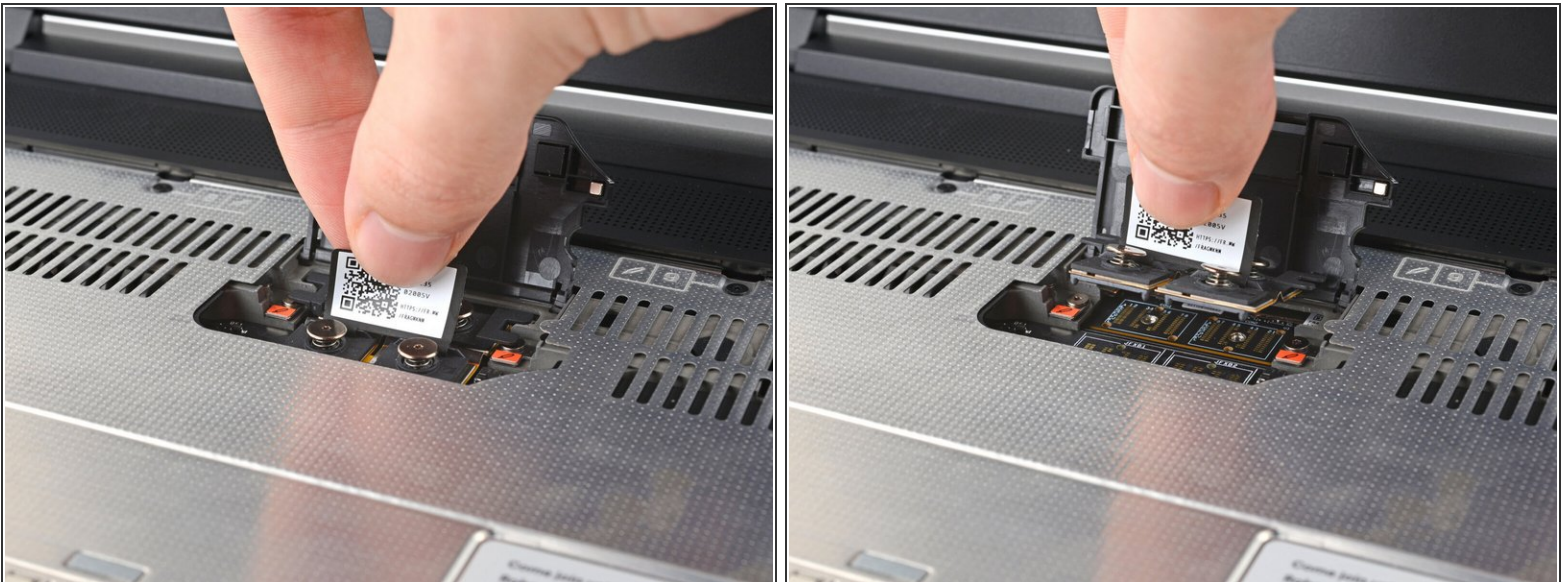
- Lift the interposer door by its black pull tab and let it rest upright.

Step 9 — Loosen the interposer screws



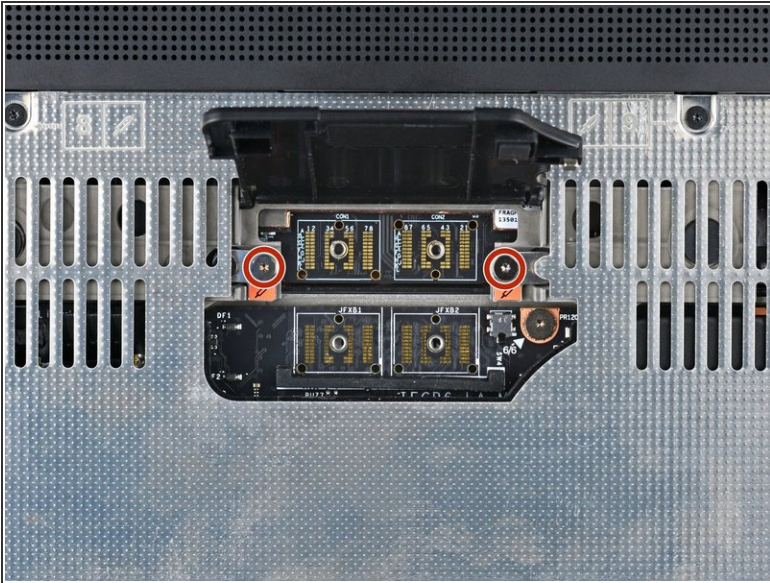
- ❗ If you have the Graphics Module installed, your interposer will have four screws. If you have the Expansion Bay Shell installed, you'll have three screws instead.
- If you have the Graphics Module, use your Framework Screwdriver to loosen the four captive T5 Torx screws securing the interposer.
- If you have the Expansion Bay Shell, use your Framework Screwdriver to loosen the three captive T5 Torx screws securing the interposer.

Step 10 — Remove the interposer



- Lift the interposer by its pull tab and remove it.

Step 11 — Loosen the Expansion Bay Module screws



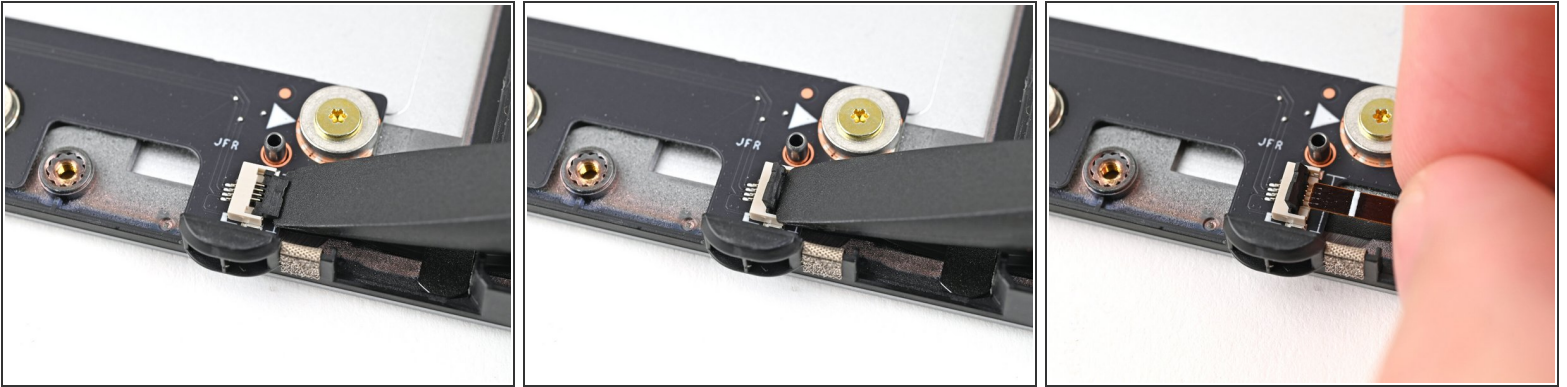
- Use your Framework Screwdriver to loosen the two captive T5 Torx screws securing the Expansion Bay Module.
- Close the interposer door before continuing.

Step 12 — Remove the Expansion Bay Module



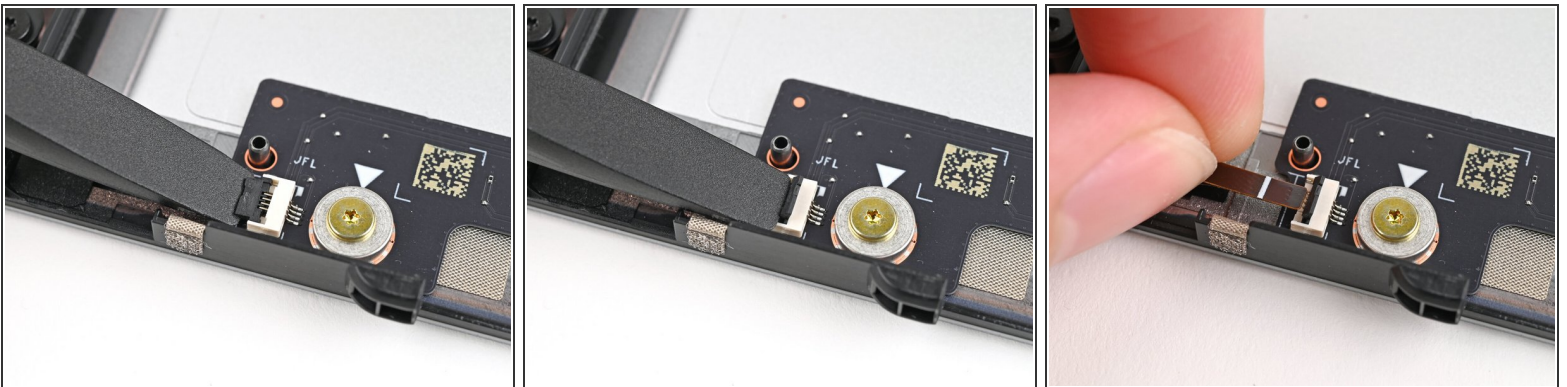
- Close your laptop and flip it over.
- Slide the Expansion Bay Module out of the laptop and remove it.
 - ① The module should slide out easily. If you feel any resistance, check that the screws holding it in place are fully loosened.

Step 13 — Disconnect the right fan



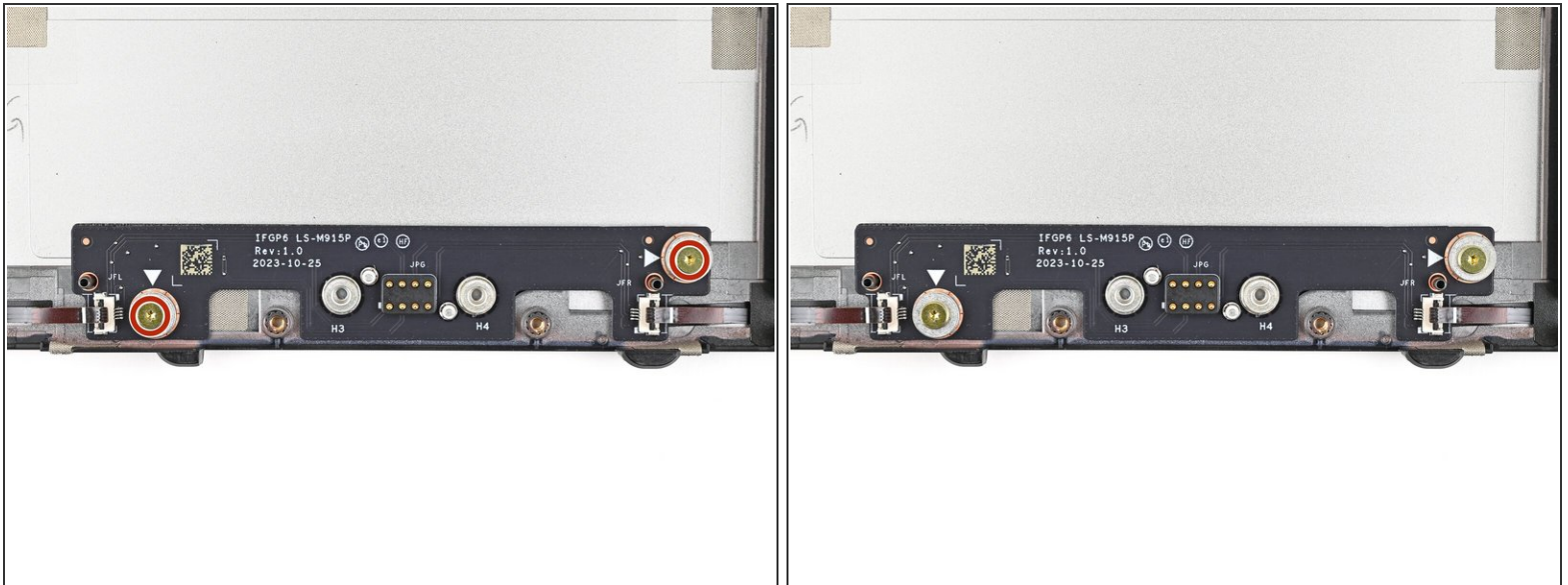
- Use the flat end of your Framework Screwdriver, or a clean fingernail, to lift up and release the locking tab on the right fan [ZIF connector](#).
- Use your fingers to grip the brown pull tab and slide the fan cable straight out of its socket.

Step 14 — Disconnect the left fan



- Repeat the previous step to disconnect the left fan cable.

Step 15 — Remove the Expansion Bay Shell Fan Board screws



- Use your Framework Screwdriver to remove the two 3.6 mm-long screws securing the Expansion Bay Shell Fan Board.

Step 16 — Remove the Expansion Bay Shell Fan Board



- Use your fingers to lift the board straight off its [alignment pegs](#) on Expansion Bay Shell and remove it.

Step 17 — Remove the rubber spacer screws



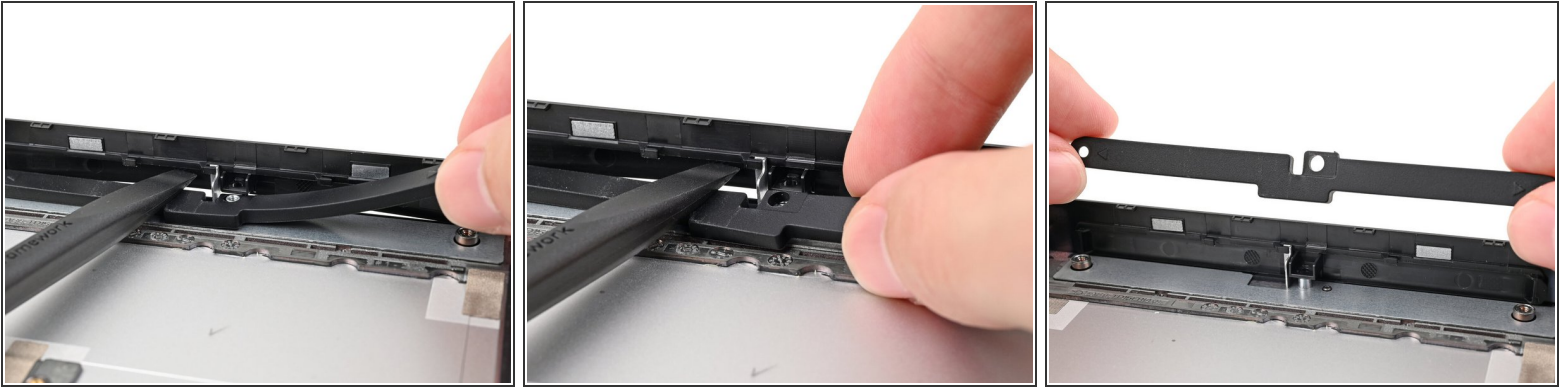
- Use your Framework Screwdriver to remove the three 3.6 mm-long screws securing the rubber spacer.
- ☑ Hold on to these screws—you'll use them to install the Dual M.2 Adapter.

Step 18 — Remove the rubber spacer



- While holding the Expansion Bay Shell down, use the flat end of your Framework Screwdriver to push the plastic strip near the rubber spacer outwards.

Step 19



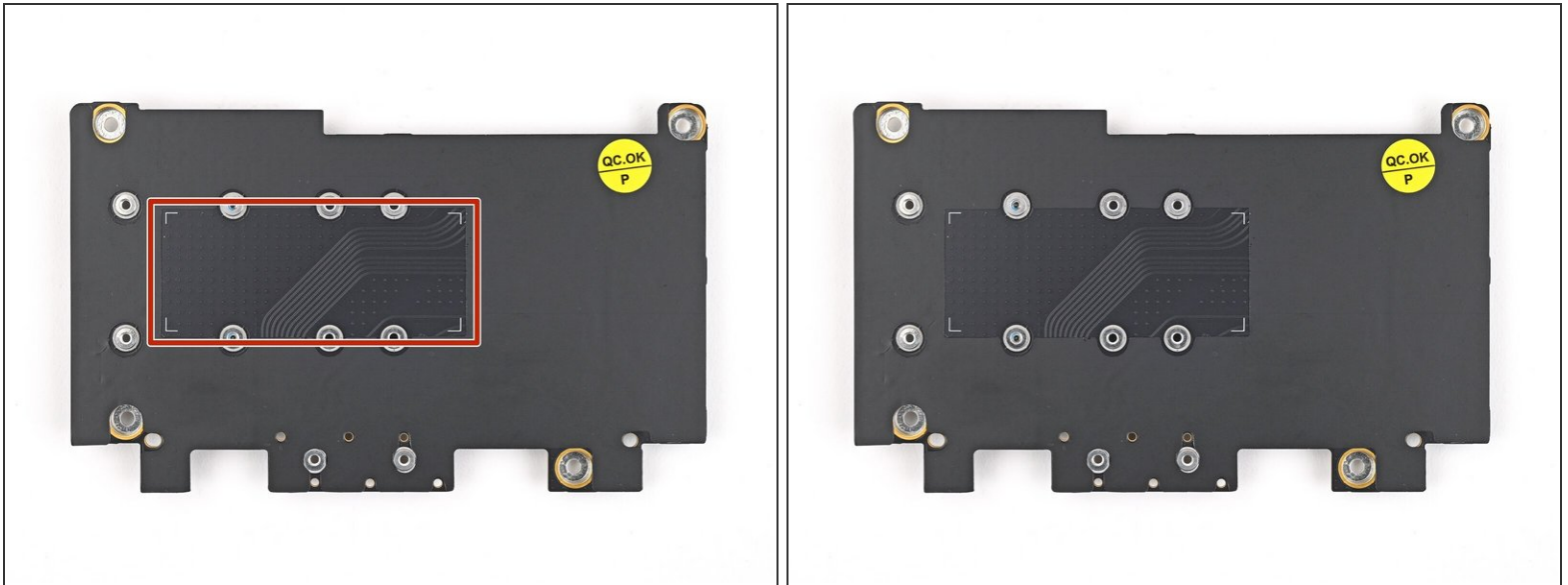
- While keeping the plastic strip bent, lift the rubber spacer out of its screw posts and remove it.

Step 20 — Disassembly complete



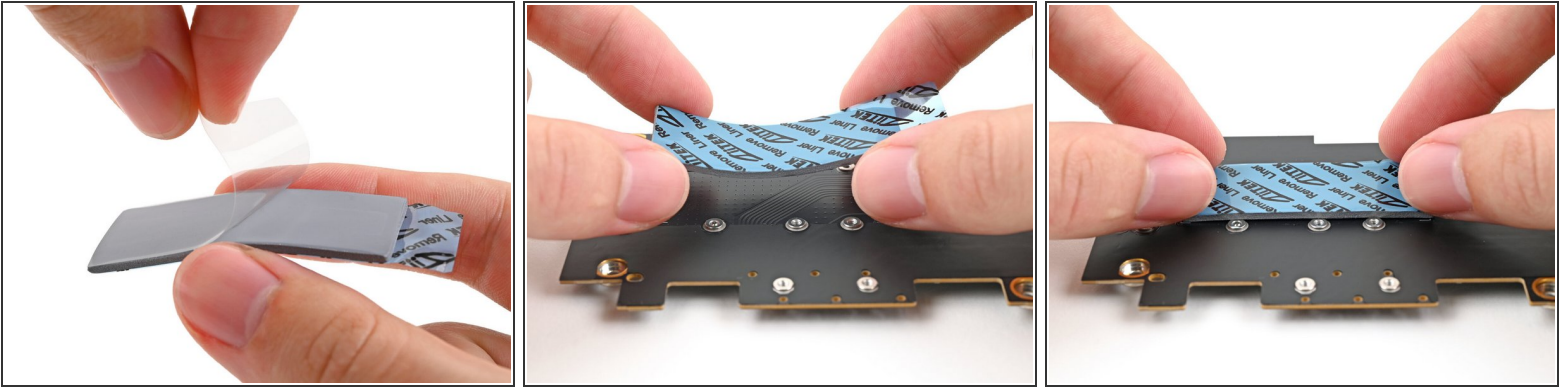
- Congratulations on completing disassembly! **The remaining steps will show how to reassemble your Framework Laptop.**

Step 21 — Dual M.2 Adapter information



- Flip over your Dual M.2 Adapter and locate the marked section where you'll place the **1.75 mm** thermal pad.
 - ① When placing the thermal pad, make sure you don't cover the screw holes.

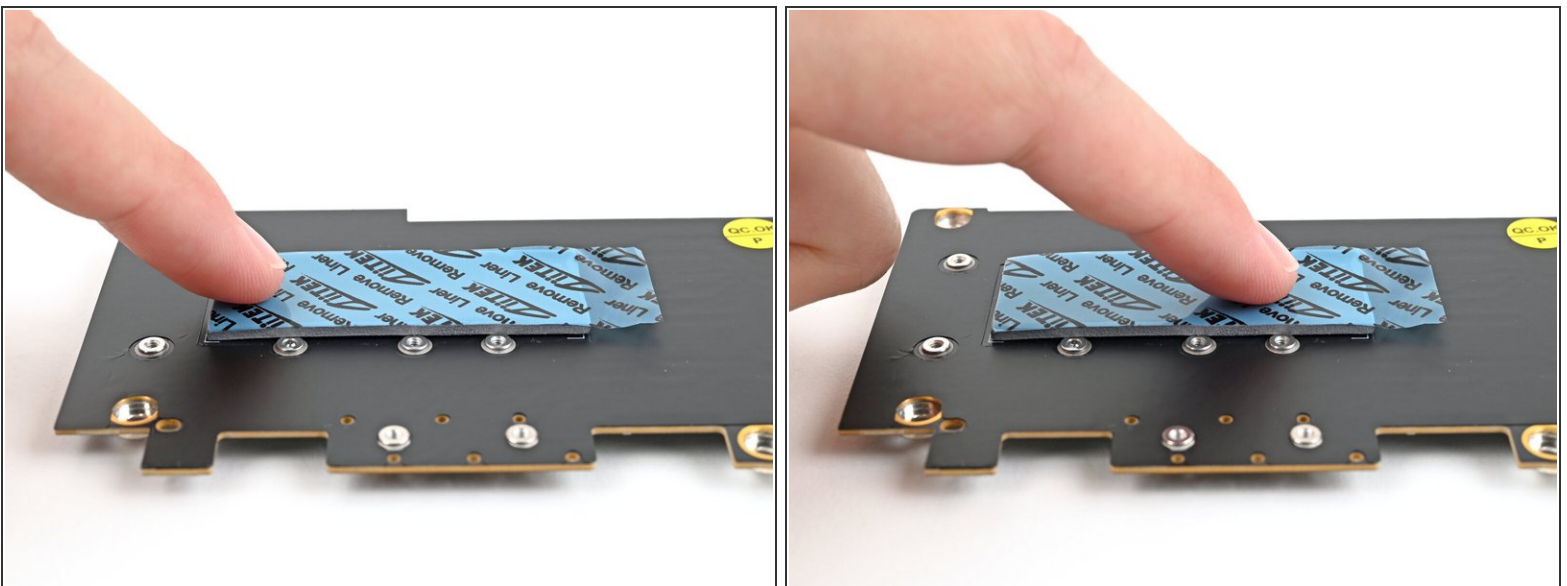
Step 22 — Place the thermal pad



⚠ Once you place the thermal pad, it's difficult to peel it off and move it without damaging it. Take your time and work slowly to ensure it's aligned properly.

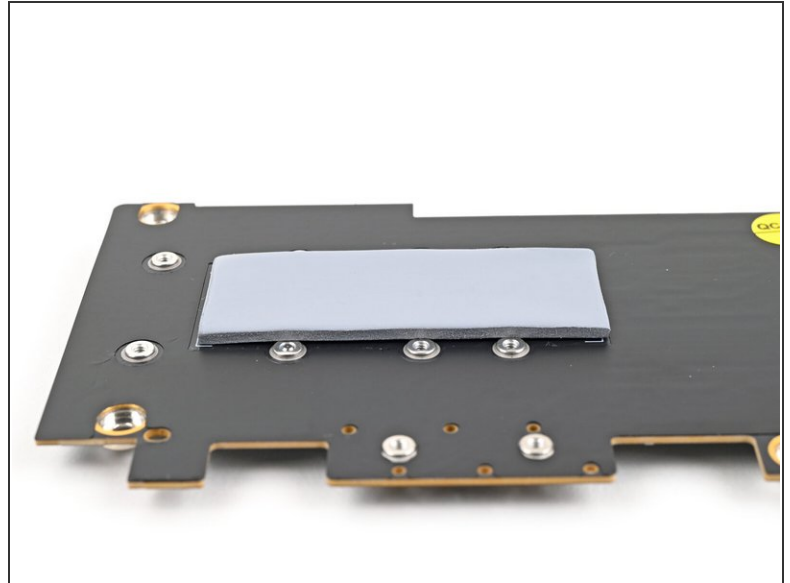
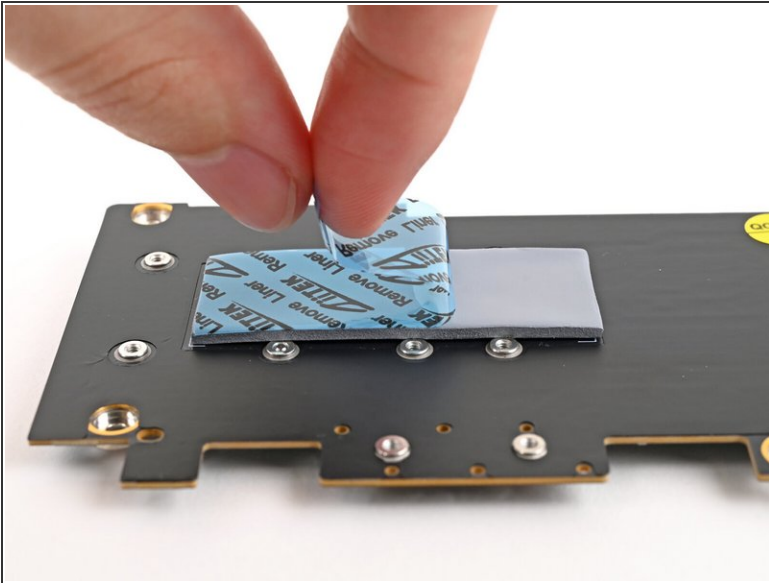
- Remove the clear liner from the thermal pad labeled **1.75 mm** to expose one side of it.
- Place the thermal pad over its spot on the back of the adapter.
- ℹ If you have trouble handling your thermal pad, you can store it in your fridge for a few minutes to make it more rigid.

Step 23



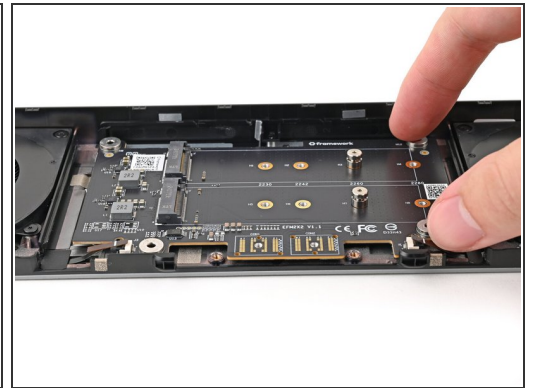
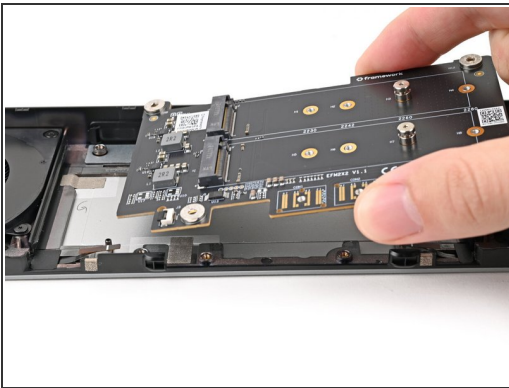
- Use your finger to gently press the thermal pad onto the adapter.

Step 24 — Remove Blue Liner



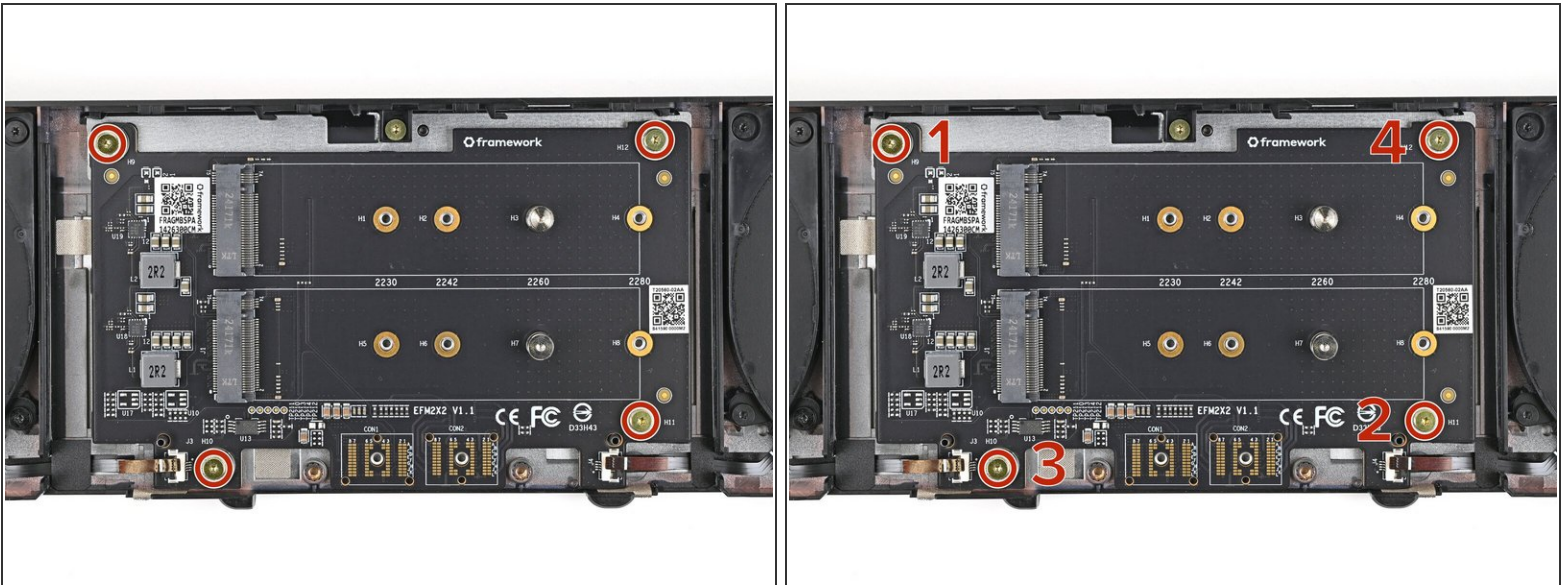
- Remove the blue liner to expose its top side.

Step 25 — Place the Dual M.2 Adapter



- ⚠ Once you place the Dual M.2 Adapter, it's difficult to remove it without damaging the thermal pad. Take your time and work slowly to ensure the adapter is aligned properly.
- Flip over the adapter and place it into its spot in the Expansion Bay Shell, making sure it slots into [its alignment pegs](#).
 - Before continuing, make sure the fan cables aren't trapped under the adapter.

Step 26 — Install the Dual M.2 Adapter screws



- Use your Framework Screwdriver to **partially** install the four 3.6 mm-long screws securing the Dual M.2 Adapter—only screw them in a few turns.
- Tighten the four screws in an "X" pattern starting with the top left screw.
 - ⓘ Only tighten the screws a few turns at a time to evenly compress the thermal pad.
 - ⓘ In order: top left → bottom right → bottom left → top right

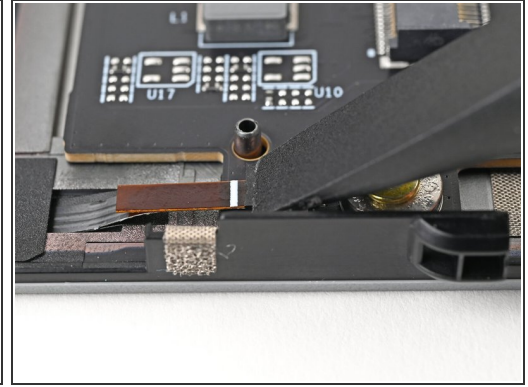
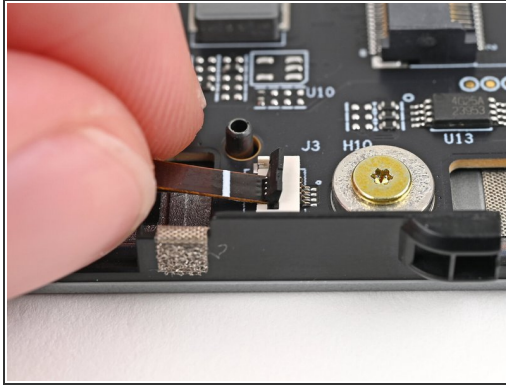
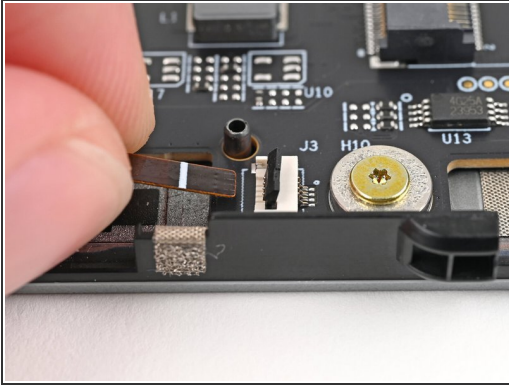
Step 27 — Connect the right fan



- Use your fingers to grip the brown pull tab and slide the right fan cable straight into its socket.
- Use the flat end of your Framework Screwdriver, or a clean fingernail, to press down the locking tab on the right fan ZIF connector.

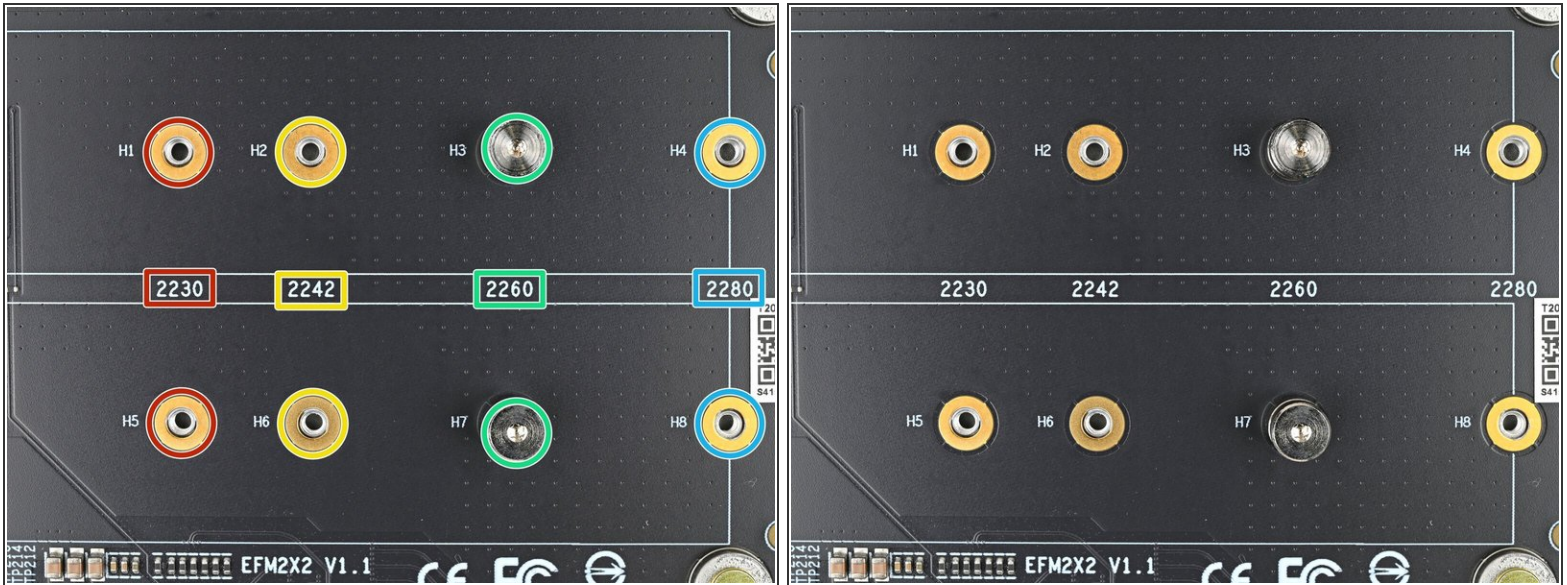
This document was generated on 2026-04-08 02:57:53 AM (MST).

Step 28 — Connect the left fan



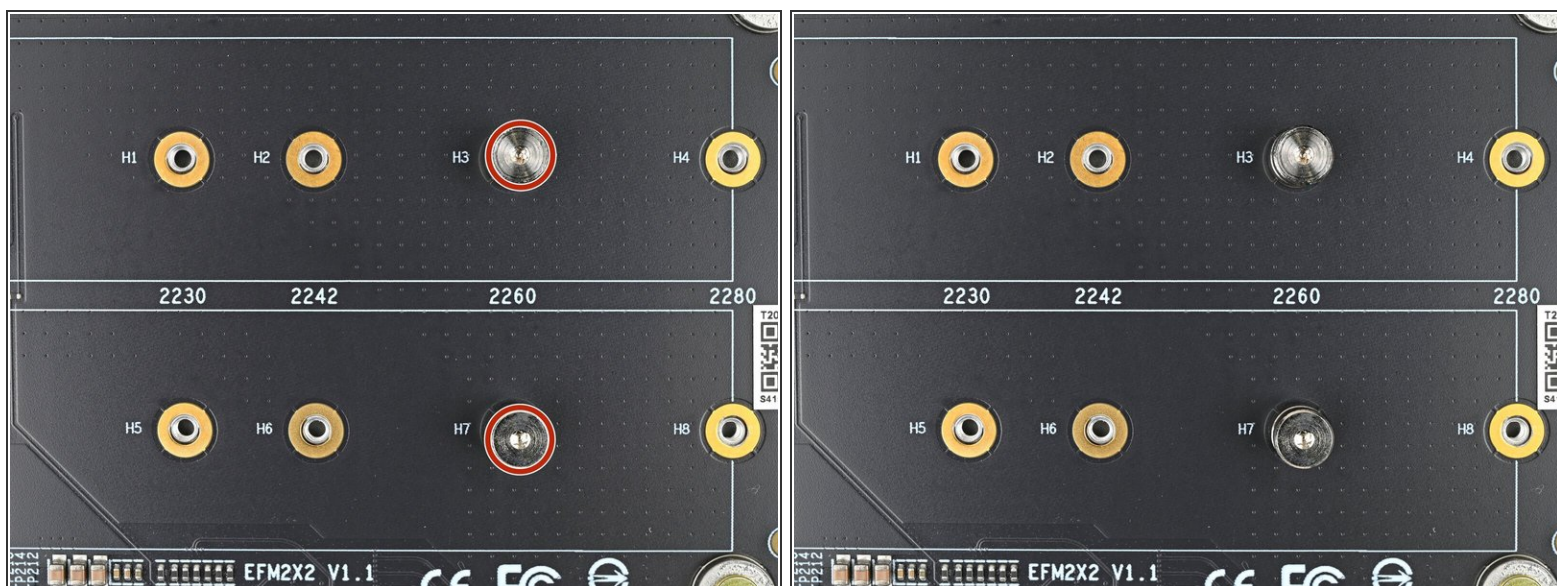
- Repeat the previous step for the left fan.

Step 29 — SSD information



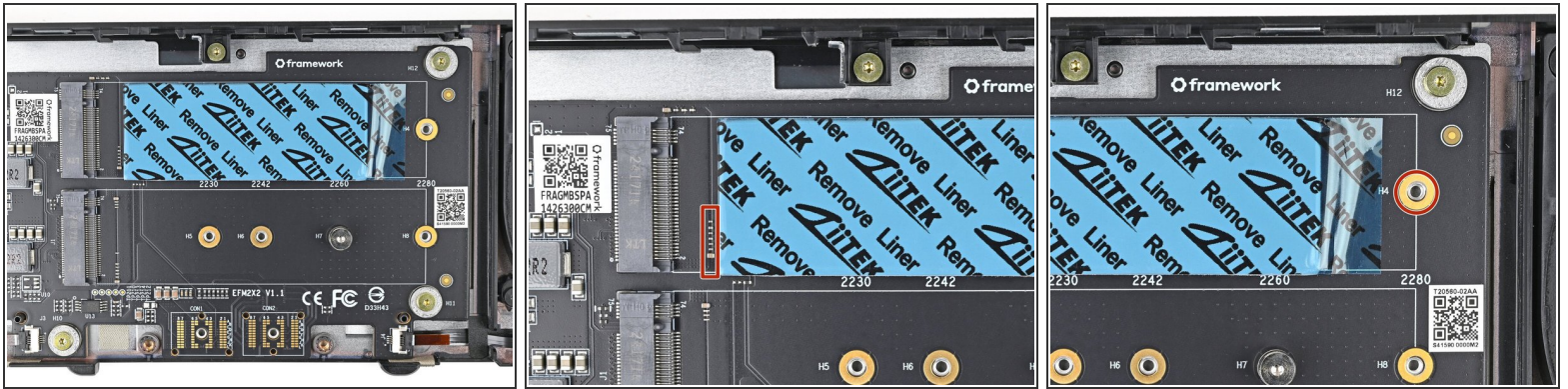
- ① Depending on the size of your SSD, you may need to change the screw position and cut down the included thermal pad to fit the SSD.
- Refer to the markings on the adapter to figure out where your SSD will go:
 - 2230 SSDs → H1 or H5
 - 2242 SSDs → H2 or H6
 - 2260 SSDs → H3 or H7
 - 2280 SSDs → H4 or H8

Step 30 — Remove the SSD screws



- Use your Framework Screwdriver to remove one or both of the 6.7 mm-long T5 Torx SSD screws, depending on how many SSDs you're installing.

Step 31 — Thermal pad information



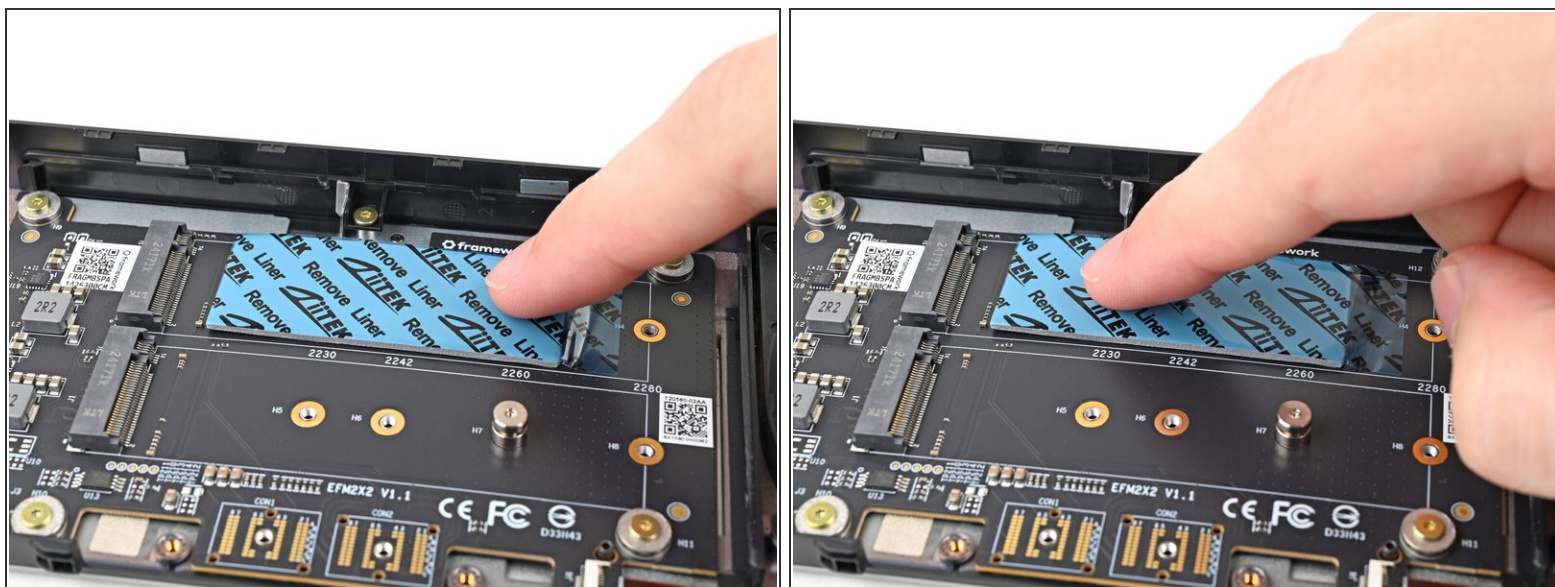
- ❗ The next six steps will show how to install a 2280 SSD. If you're installing anything smaller, skip to this step.
- If you're installing a single-sided SSD (chips on only one side), grab the **2.25 mm** thermal pad.
- If you're installing a double-sided SSD (chips on both sides), grab the **1.25 mm** thermal pad.
- Without removing any liners, place the thermal pad over the slot where you want to install your SSD.
- Orient the thermal pad so it sits between the small components next to the SSD's socket and the screw hole—including the gold ring around it.
- When you're confident in how your thermal pad should be oriented, remove it and continue to the next step.

Step 32 — Install the thermal pad



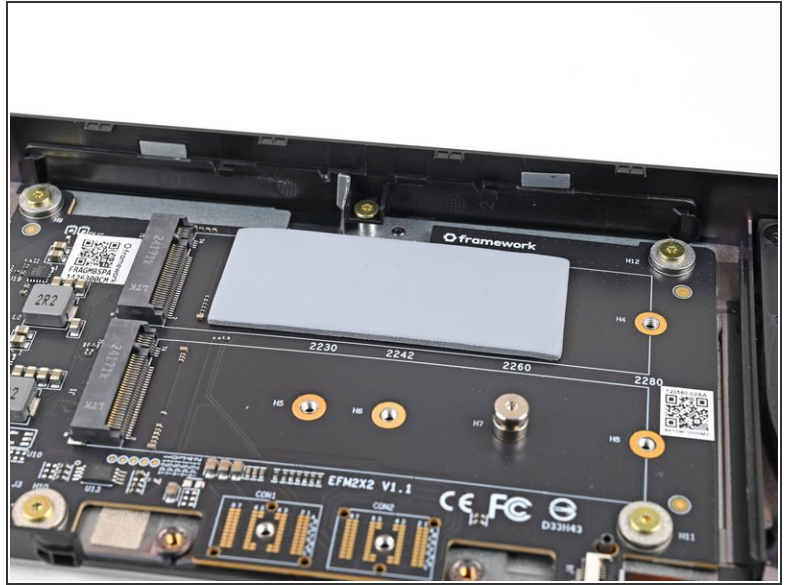
- Remove the clear liner from the thermal pad to expose one side of it.
- Place the thermal pad over its spot on the adapter.

Step 33



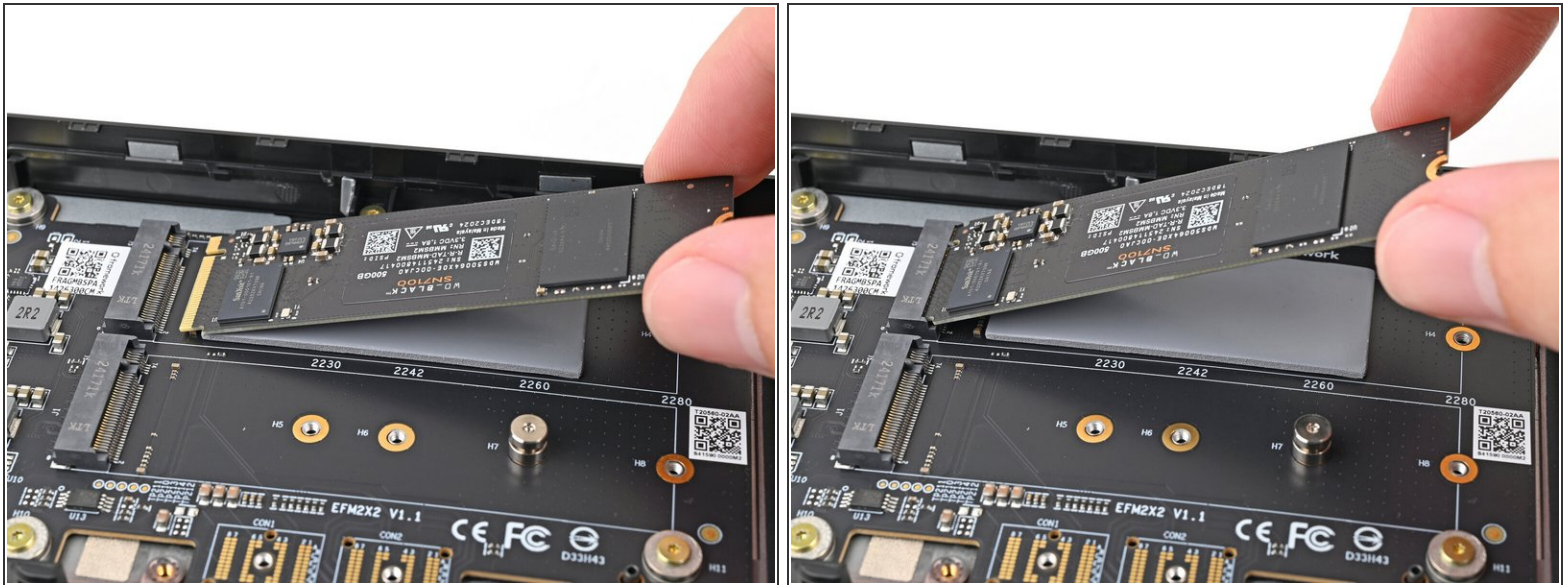
- Use your finger to gently press the thermal pad onto the adapter.

Step 34 — Remove Blue Liner



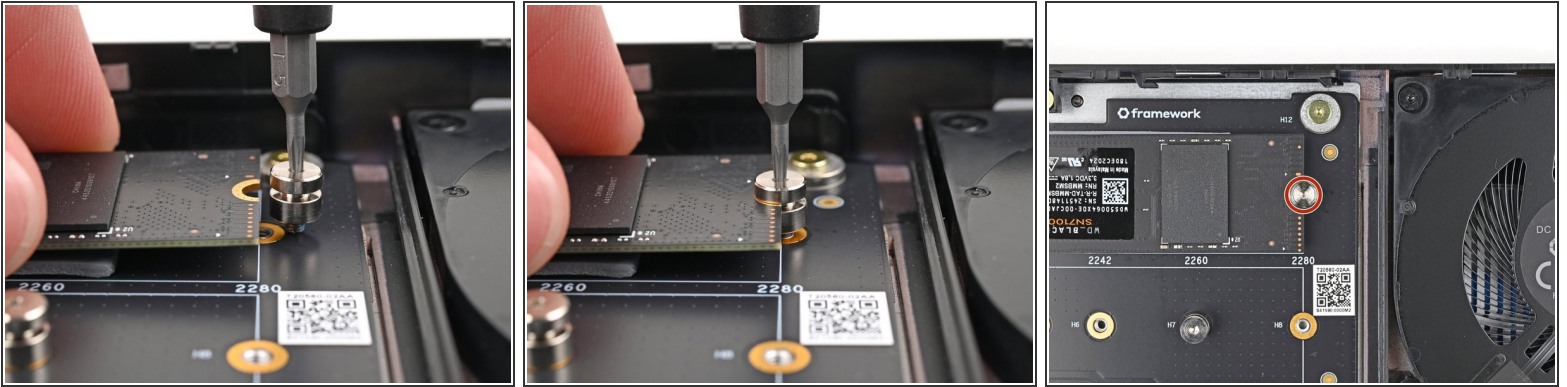
- Remove the blue liner to expose its top side.

Step 35 — Install the SSD



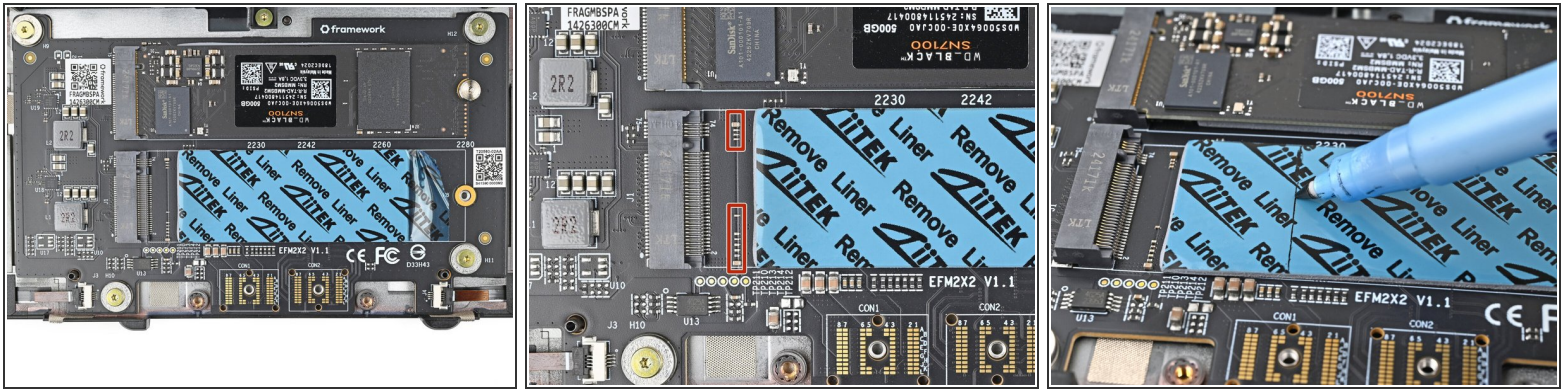
- ⚠ Hold the SSD by its edges. Don't touch the gold contacts with your fingers. If you do, wipe the contacts with a clean, lint-free cloth to remove any finger oils.
- Insert the SSD into the socket at a shallow angle. The gold contacts should mostly be covered by the socket.
- ℹ The SSD fits into the socket in one orientation. If it doesn't feel like it fits, try flipping the module.

Step 36 — Install the SSD screw



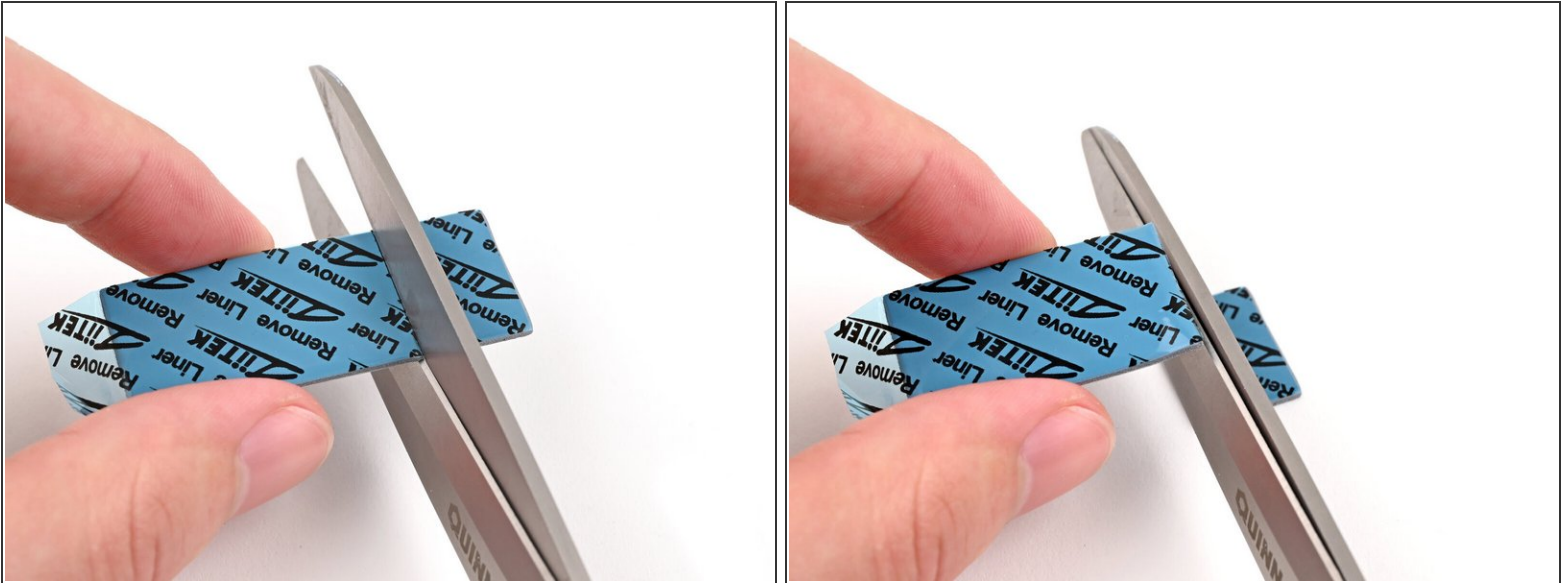
- While lightly pressing the SSD into the thermal pad, guide the gap in the SSD screw into the notch on back of the SSD
 - ⓘ The head of the screw should completely cover the notch and its threads should slot into the adapter's screw hole.
- Use your Framework Screwdriver to install the 6.7 mm-long screw securing the SSD.
 - ⓘ Only tighten the screw until it feels snug. If your SSD is bending, then loosen the screw until the SSD sits flat.

Step 37 — Thermal pad information



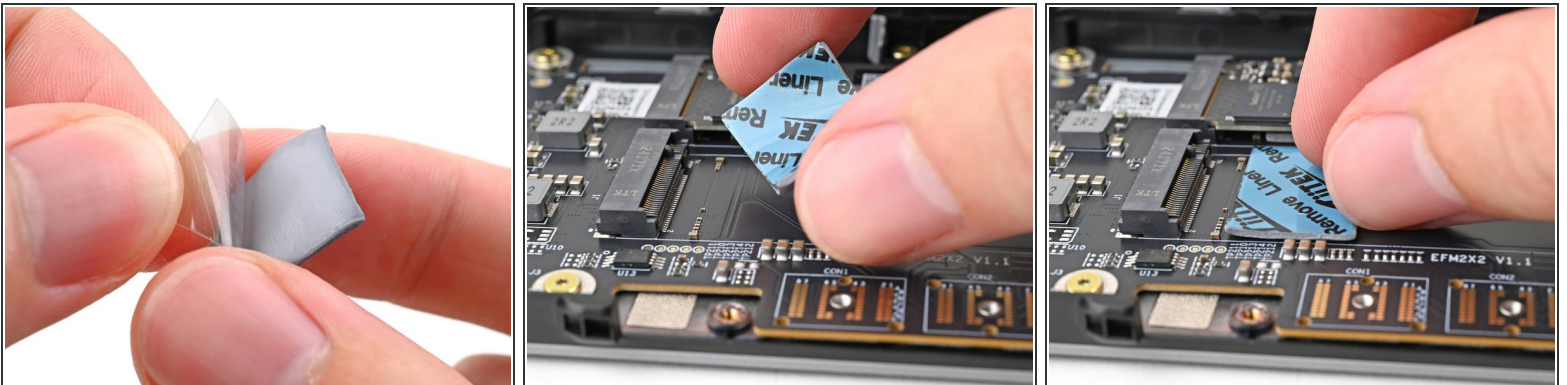
- ① The next seven steps will show how to install an SSD that's **2260 or smaller** (in this case a 2230).
- If you're installing a single-sided SSD (chips on only one side), grab the **2.25 mm** thermal pad.
- If you're installing a double-sided SSD (chips on both sides), grab the **1.25 mm** thermal pad.
- Without removing any liners, place the thermal pad over the slot where you want to install your SSD.
- Orient the thermal pad so it sits near the small components next to the SSD's socket.
- Use a marker to indicate where you need to cut the thermal pad so it fits between the socket and your SSD's screw hole—including the gold ring around it.
- ① Use the SSD size numbers to judge where the screw holes and its contacts are located. [The screw holes are slightly to the left of its number.](#)
- When you're confident in how your thermal pad should be oriented, remove it and continue to the next step.

Step 38



- Use scissors to cut the thermal pad to your desired length.

Step 39 — Install the thermal pad



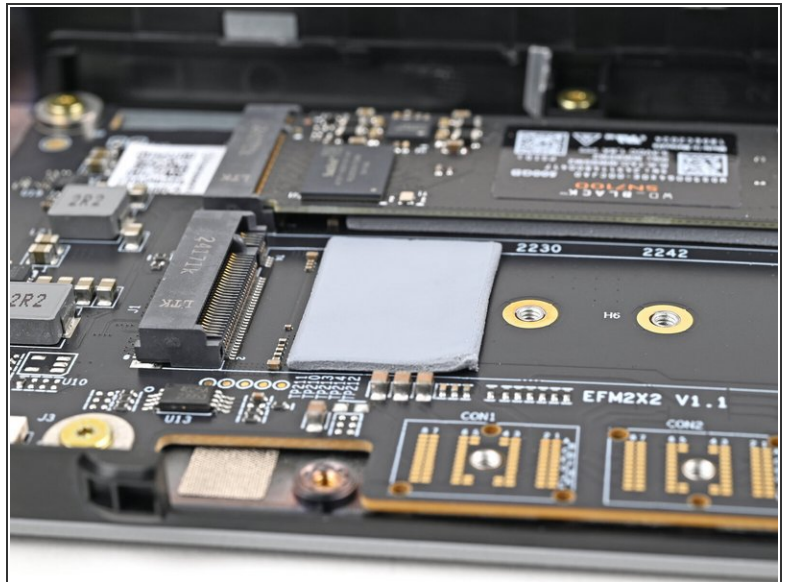
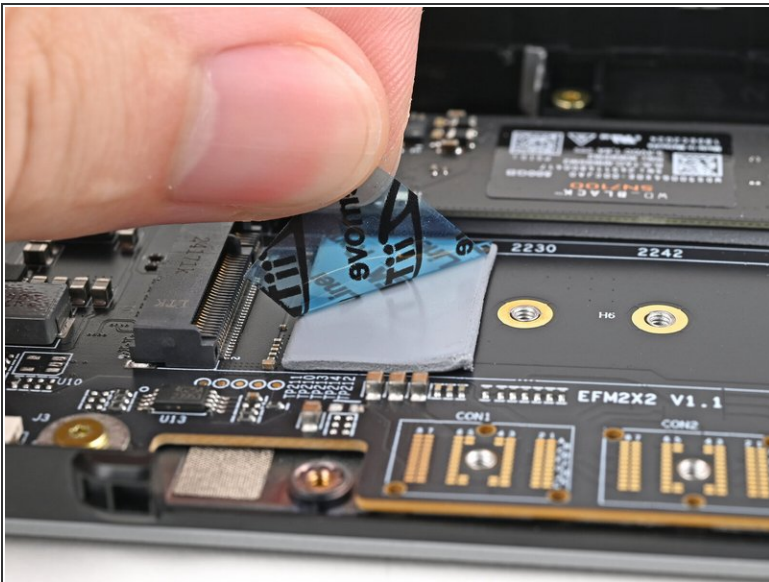
- Remove the clear liner from the thermal pad to expose one side of it.
- Place the thermal pad over its spot on the adapter.

Step 40 — Press the Thermal Pad down



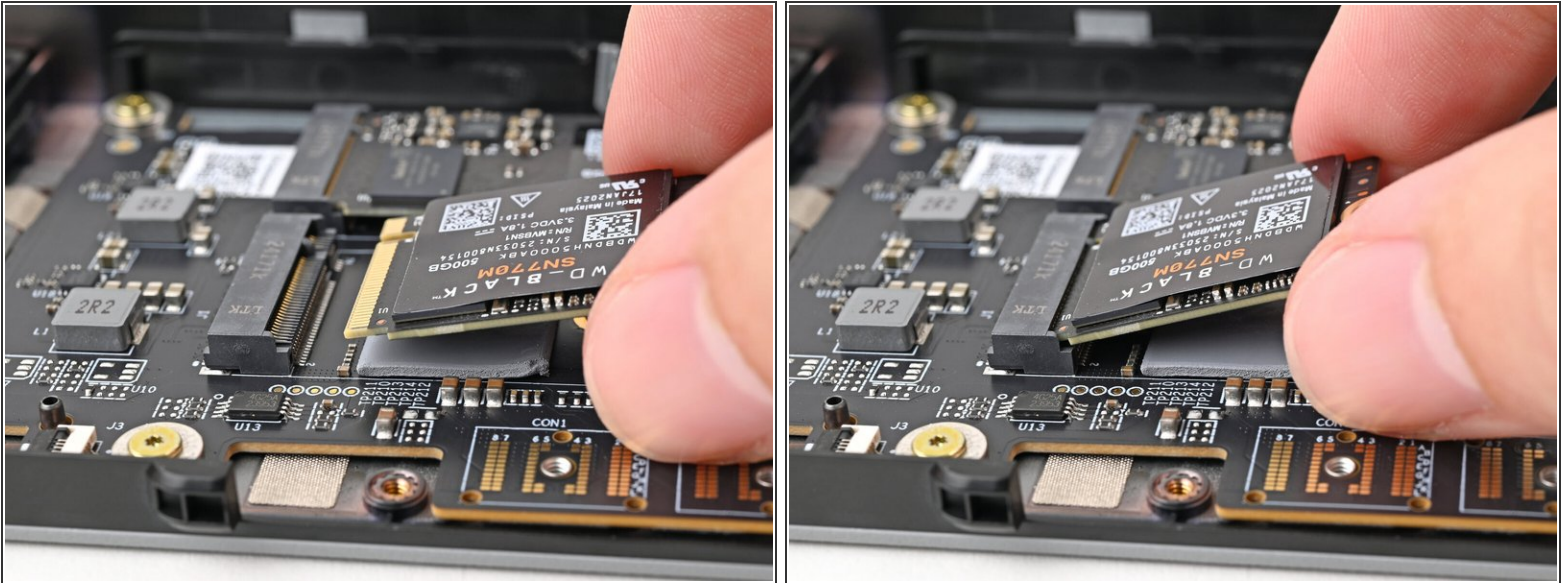
- Use your finger to gently press the thermal pad onto the adapter.

Step 41 — Remove the Blue Liner



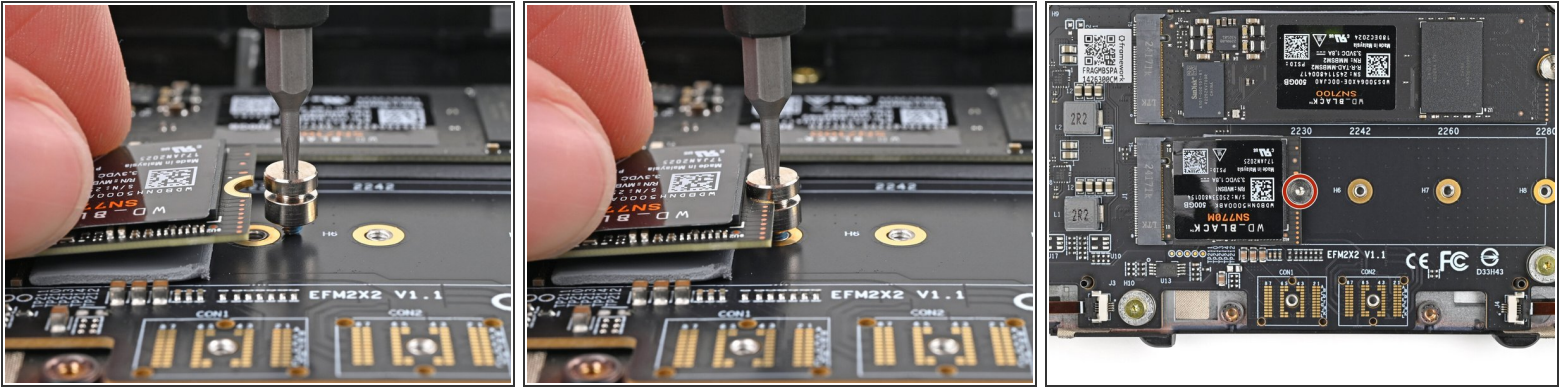
- Remove the blue liner to expose its top side.

Step 42 — Install the SSD



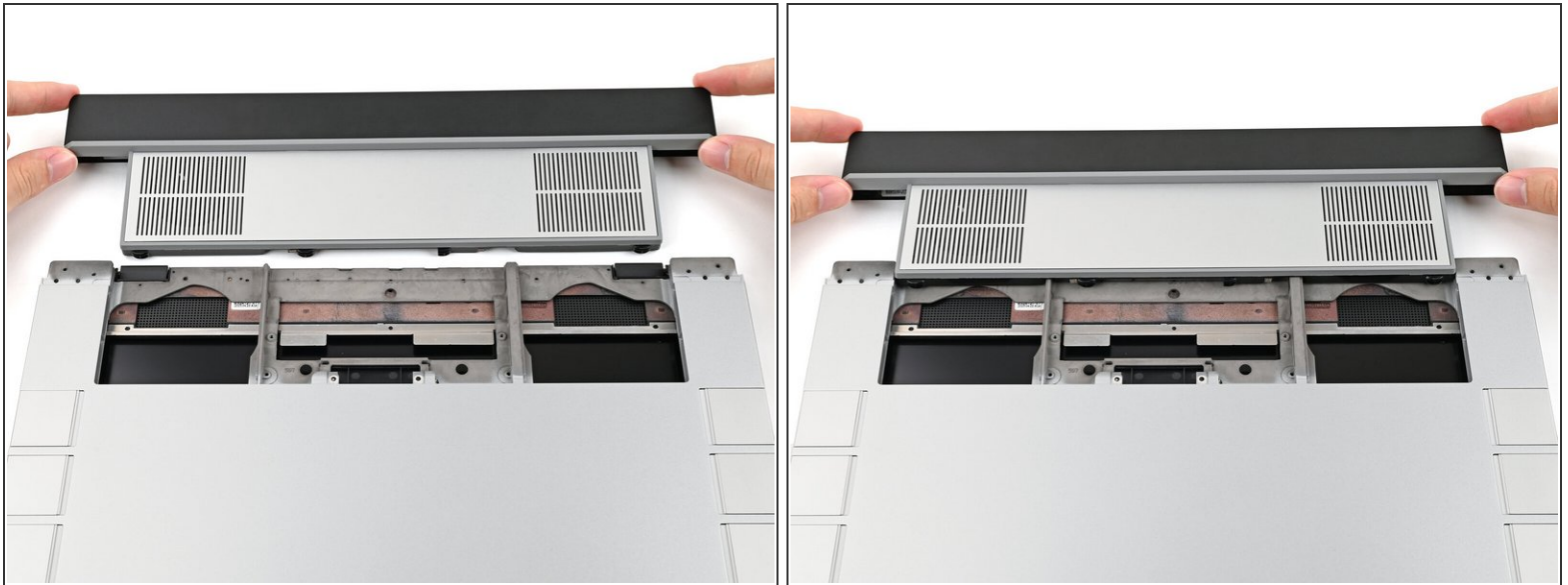
- ⚠ Hold the SSD by its edges. Don't touch the gold contacts with your fingers. If you do, wipe the contacts with a clean, lint-free cloth to remove any finger oils.
- Insert the SSD into the socket at a shallow angle. The gold contacts should mostly be covered by the socket.
 - ① The SSD fits into the socket in one orientation. If it doesn't feel like it fits, try flipping the module.

Step 43 — Install the SSD screw



- While lightly pressing the SSD into the thermal pad, guide the gap in the SSD screw into the notch on back of the SSD
 - ⓘ The head of the screw should completely cover the notch and its threads should slot into the adapter's screw hole.
- Use your Framework Screwdriver to install the 6.7 mm-long screw securing the SSD.
 - ⓘ Only tighten the screw until it feels snug. If your SSD is bending, then loosen the screw until the SSD sits flat.

Step 44 — Insert the Expansion Bay Module



- Align the Expansion Bay Module with its slot in the laptop.
 - ① Check that the module sits evenly with [the rail on the outside edges of the slot](#).
 - ① Check that [the two center rails](#) are threaded between the fans.

Step 45



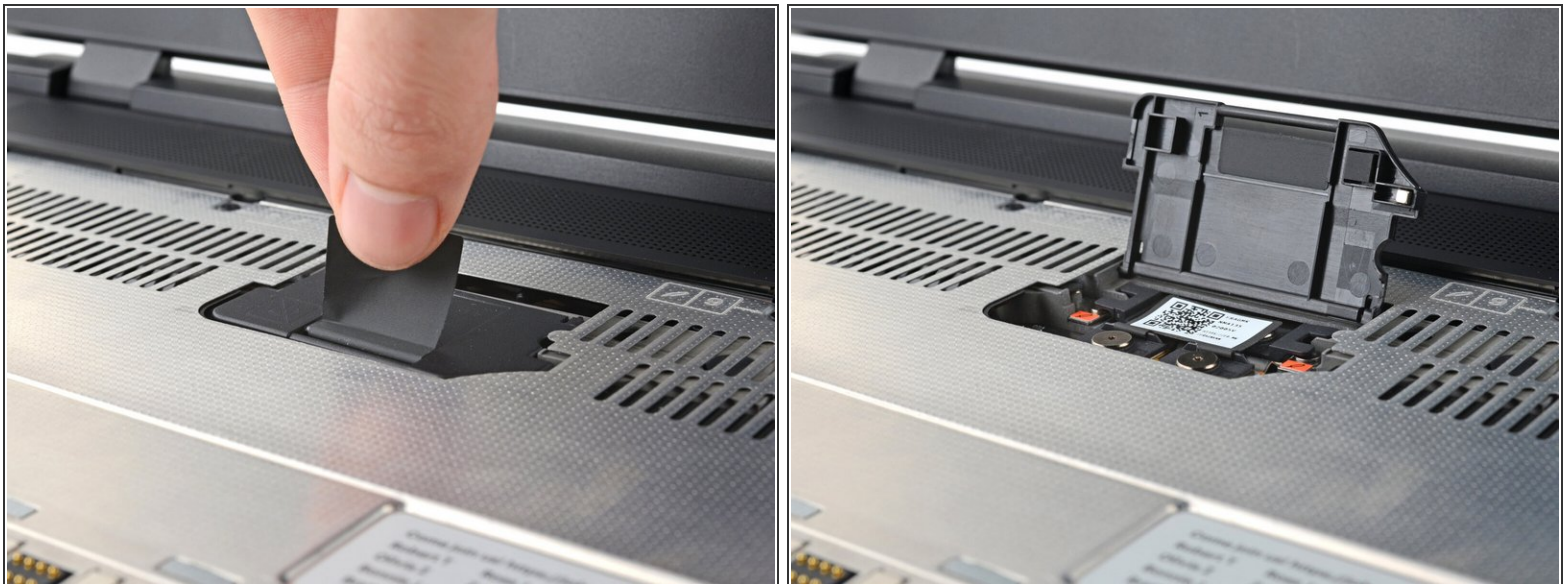
- While keeping the module level with the laptop, slide it into its slot.
 - ① The module should slide in easily. If you feel any resistance, pull the module out and realign it.
 - ① You should hear an audible "click" when the module's clips snap into place.

Step 46



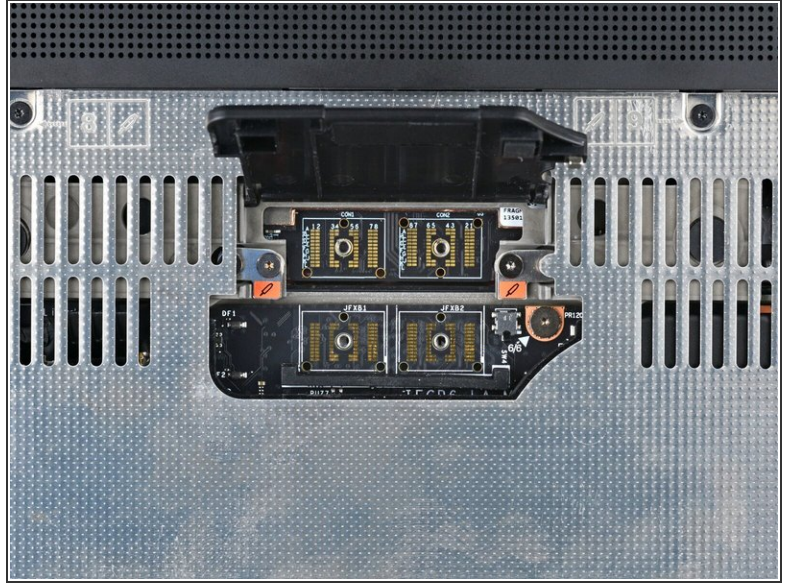
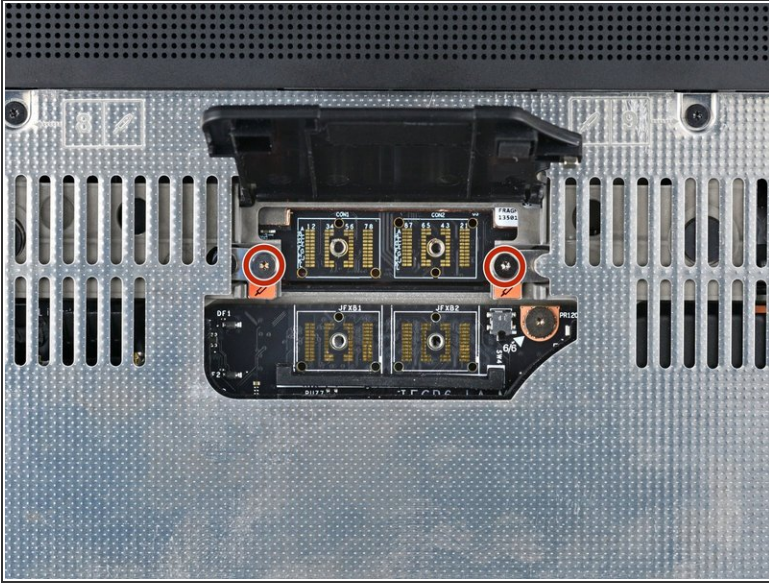
- While keeping the shell level with the laptop, slide it into its slot.
 - ① The shell should slide in easily. If you feel any resistance, pull the module out and realign it.
 - ① You should hear an audible "click" when the shell's clips snap into place.

Step 47 — Lift the interposer door



- Flip over the laptop and open it.
- Lift the interposer door by its black pull tab and let it rest upright.

Step 48 — Tighten the Expansion Bay Module screws



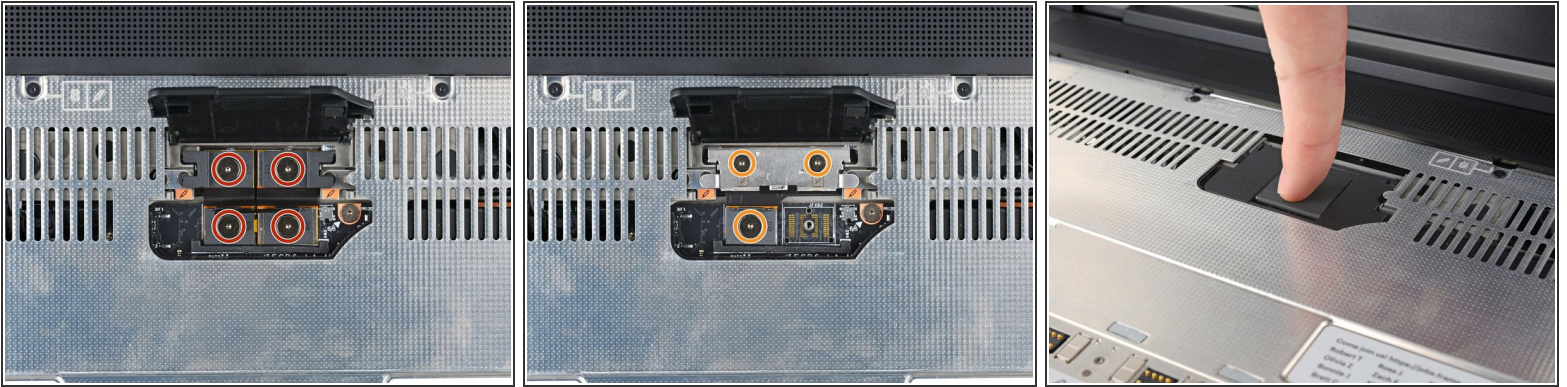
- Use your Framework Screwdriver to tighten the two captive T5 Torx screws securing the Expansion Bay Module.

Step 49 — Place the interposer



- Place the interposer over its spot between the Mainboard and the Expansion Bay.
 - ① Depending on if you're installing a Graphics Module or the Expansion Bay Shell, the interposer should be oriented so either [rubber grommets](#) or [metal tabs](#) cover the Expansion Bay screws.

Step 50 — Tighten the interposer screws



- ❗ If you have the Graphics Module installed, your interposer will have four screws. If you have the Expansion Bay Shell installed, you'll have three screws instead.
- If you have the Graphics Module, use your Framework Screwdriver to tighten the four captive T5 Torx screws securing the interposer.
- If you have the Expansion Bay Shell, use your Framework Screwdriver to tighten the three captive T5 Torx screws securing the interposer.
- Close the interposer door.

Step 51 — Install the Input Modules



- ❗ Your Input Module(s) might be different, but the procedure to remove them is the same.
- Align the top edge of the Input Module with the top edge of the laptop.
- Lay the Input Module on the laptop and let the magnets pull the keyboard into place
 - ❗ Make sure the Input Module is seated properly on its [alignment pegs](#) and sits flush with the edges of the laptop.
- Repeat for any remaining Input Modules.

Step 52 — Install the keyboard



- Align the top edge of the keyboard with the top edge of the laptop.
- Lay the keyboard on the laptop and let the magnets pull the keyboard into place
 - ❗ Make sure the keyboard is seated properly on its [alignment pegs](#) and sits flush with the edges of the laptop.

Step 53 — 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 54 — 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.
- Repeat the same procedure for the other Touchpad Spacer.

Step 55 — Lock the Input Modules



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

You finished fixing your Framework Laptop!

Take your e-waste to an [R2 or e-Stewards certified recycler](#).

If you need help, [contact Framework support](#).