



Top Cover Replacement on Framework Laptop 12

Written By: Iroh



INTRODUCTION

Follow this guide to replace or change the Top Cover in your Framework Laptop 12.

The Top Cover is the plastic shell that holds the display. It also holds the two antennas along the top edge.

You'll encounter some component terms in this guide:

- The **Display Cover** is the plastic bezel strip below the screen.



TOOLS:

- [Framework Screwdriver](#) (1)
-

Step 1 — Power down your Laptop



- Before you begin repairs, unplug your Laptop and **shut it down from the operating system**. This ensures that the Laptop isn't in standby/suspend mode.
 - ⓘ The indicator LEDs along the edges should be unlit. The Laptop should be silent.
 - ⓘ If you accidentally turn on the Laptop during repair, hold the power button down for 10 seconds to shut it down.
- Make sure your Framework Screwdriver has the T5 Torx bit (labeled as T-5) facing outwards. If it's not, pull the bit out and flip it.

Step 2 — Open your Laptop



- Open the laptop lid so that both the screen and the base lie flat on your work surface.

Step 3 — Remove the Display Cover



- ❗ The Display Cover is held in place with magnets along the top edge and clips along the remaining edges.
- Use the flat end of your Framework Screwdriver to pry up the right edge of the Display Cover.

Step 4



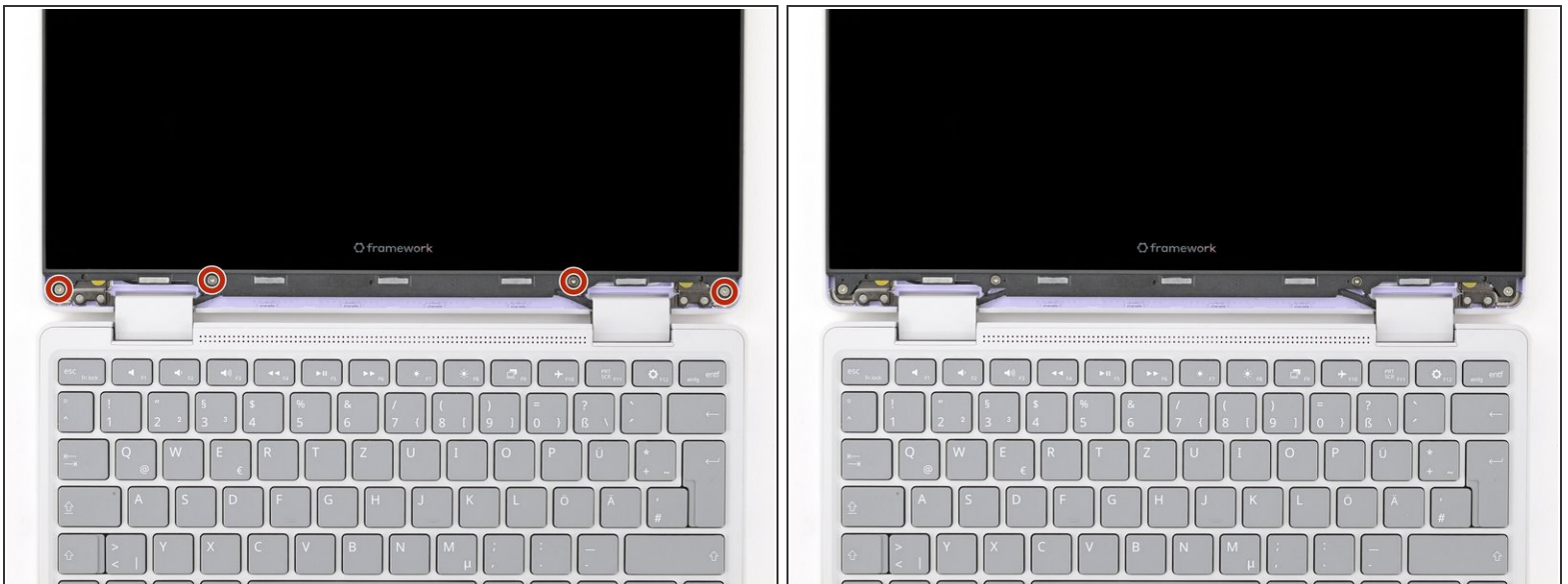
- Slide your fingers under the top edge of the Display Cover to release it from the laptop.

Step 5



- Remove the Display Cover.

Step 6 — Remove the display screws



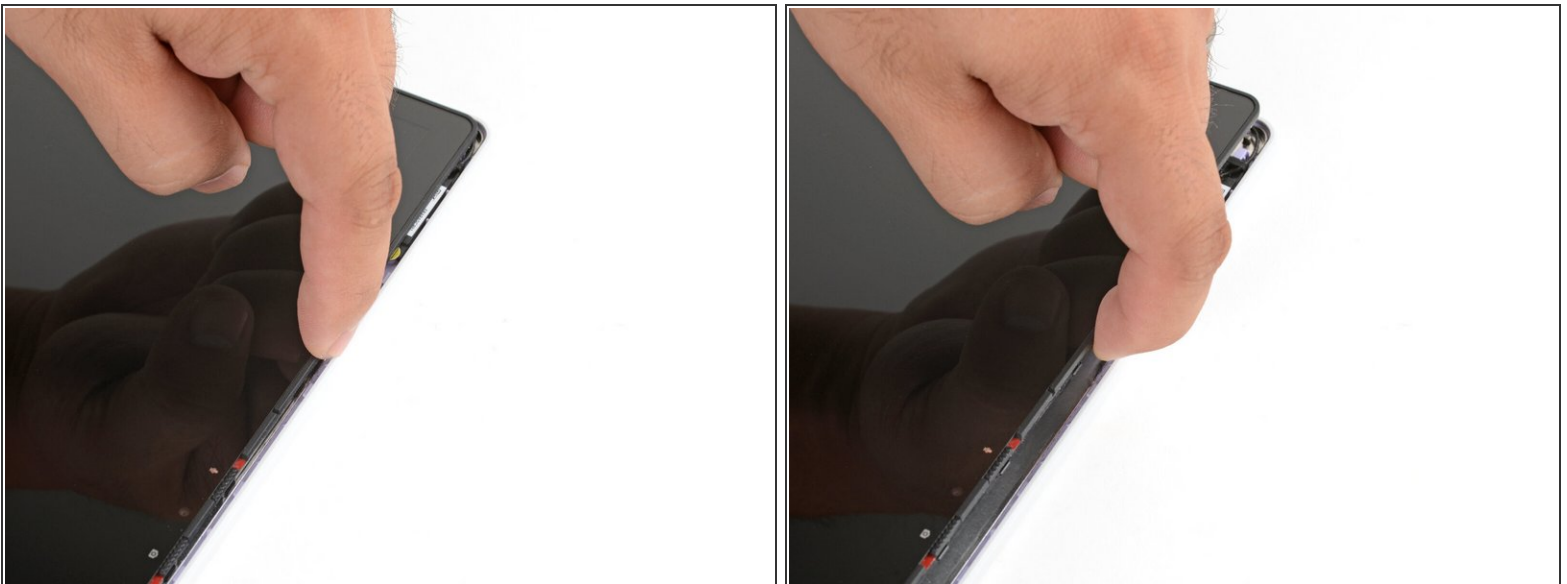
- Use your Framework Screwdriver to remove the four 3.3 mm-long T5 Torx screws securing the display to the Top Cover.
 - ⓘ These screws are **not captive**. Store them in a safe location for reassembly.

Step 7 — Slide the display down



- Insert the bit end of your Framework Screwdriver into the small hole on the display, below the Framework logo.
- Slide the display down towards the hinge edge to release the tabs holding the top edge of the display in place.

Step 8 — Lift the display



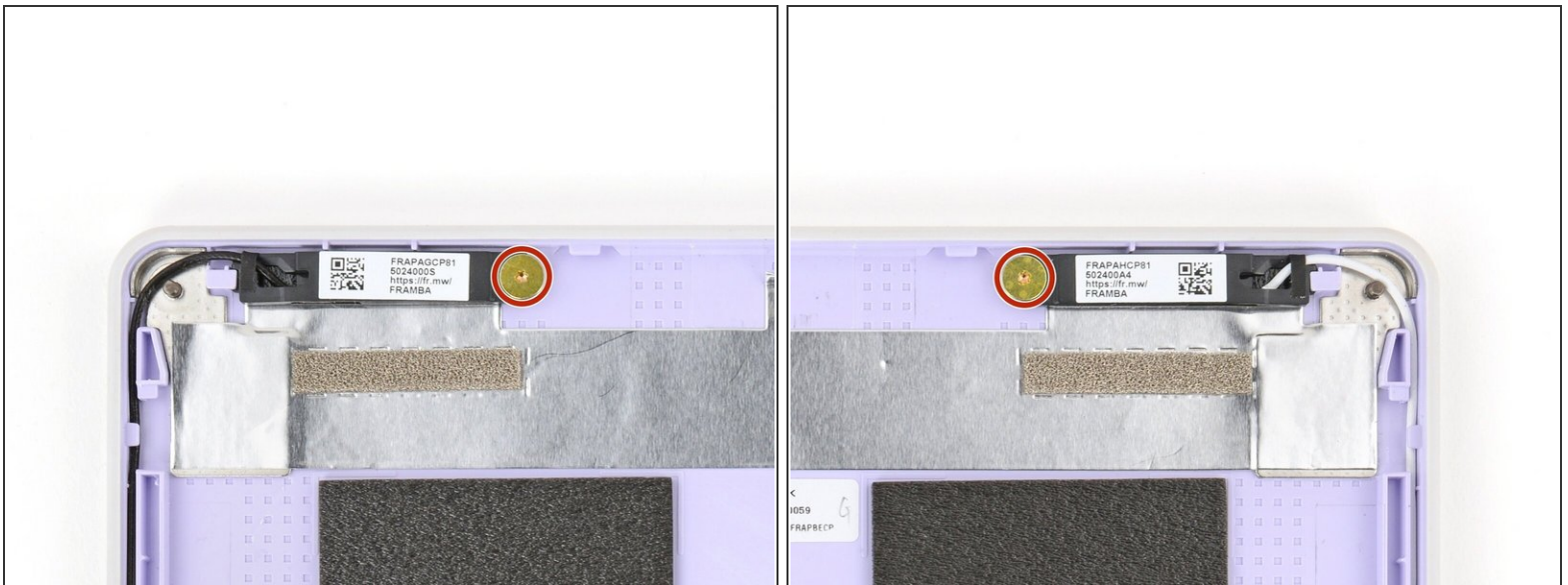
- Use your fingers to lift the top edge of the display from the Top Cover.

Step 9 — Swing the display over



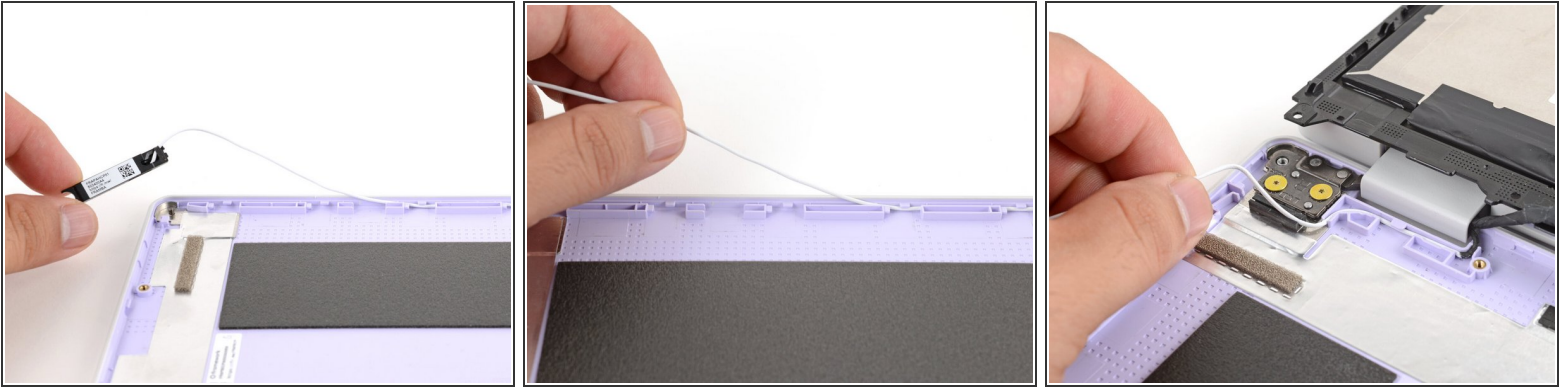
- Use your fingers to carefully swing the display over so it lies on top of the keyboard.

Step 10 — Remove the antenna screws



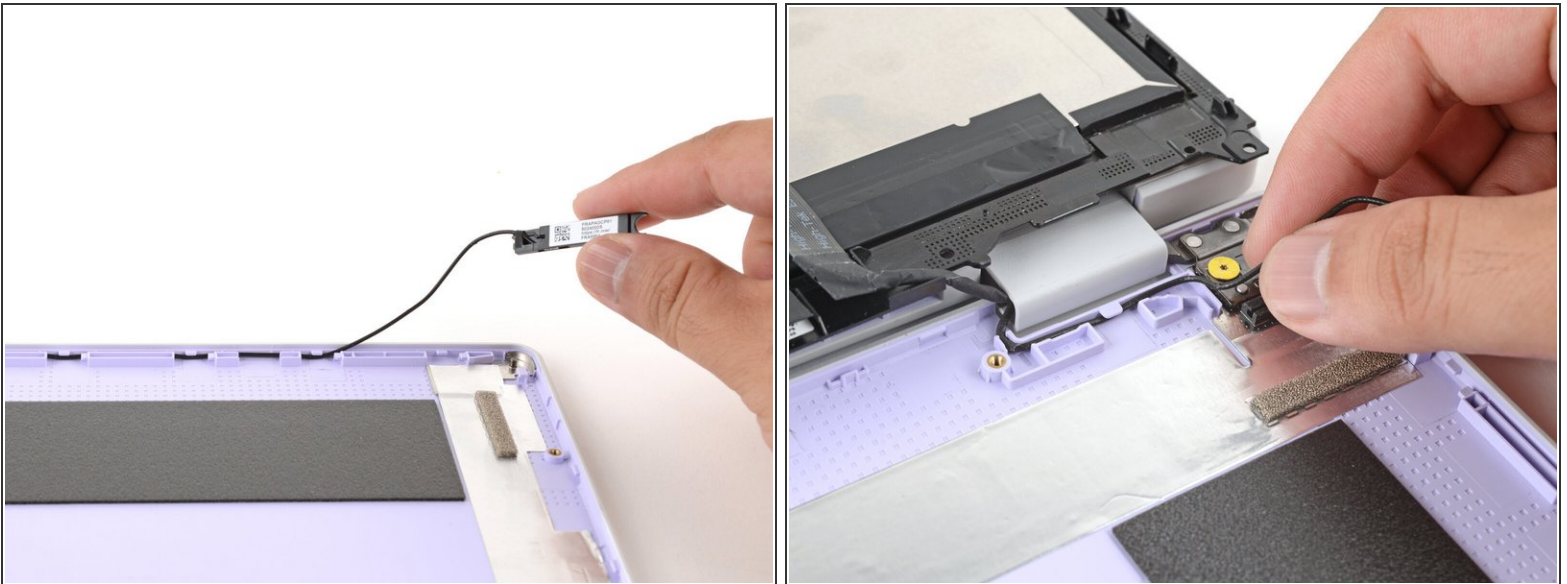
- Use your Framework Screwdriver to remove the two 2.4 mm-long T5 Torx screws securing the two antennas to the Top Cover.

Step 11 — Unthread the antenna cables



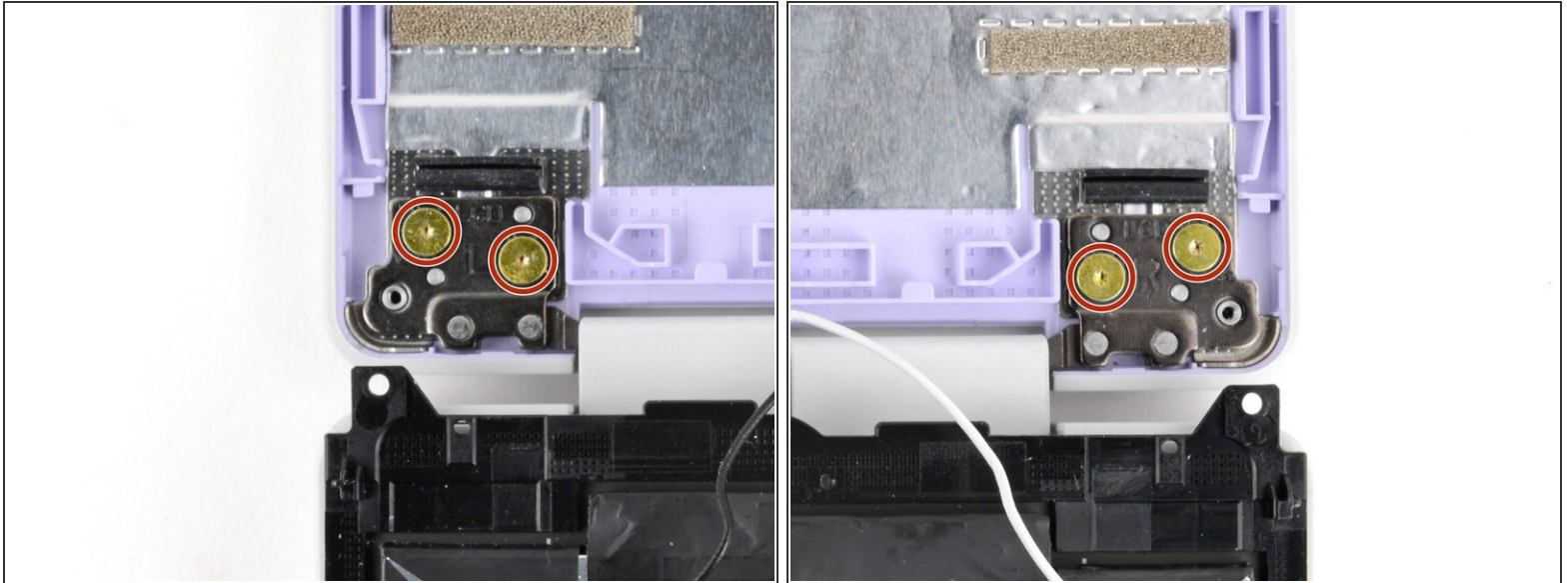
- Use your fingers to lift the right antenna away from the Top Cover.
- Carefully guide the white antenna cable out of its channel until you reach the hinge.

Step 12



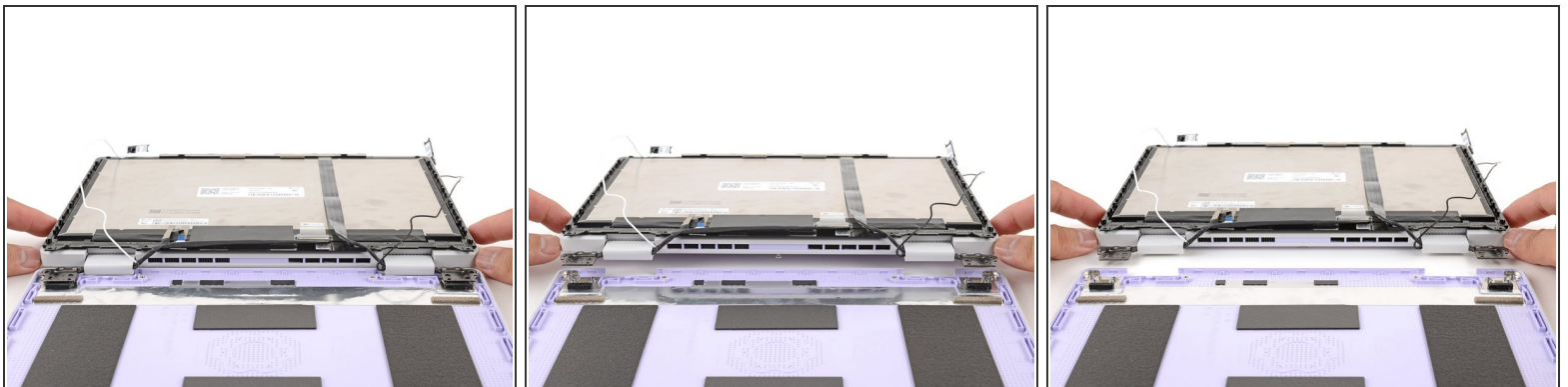
- Repeat the previous step to guide the black antenna cable out of its channel.

Step 13 — Remove the hinge screws



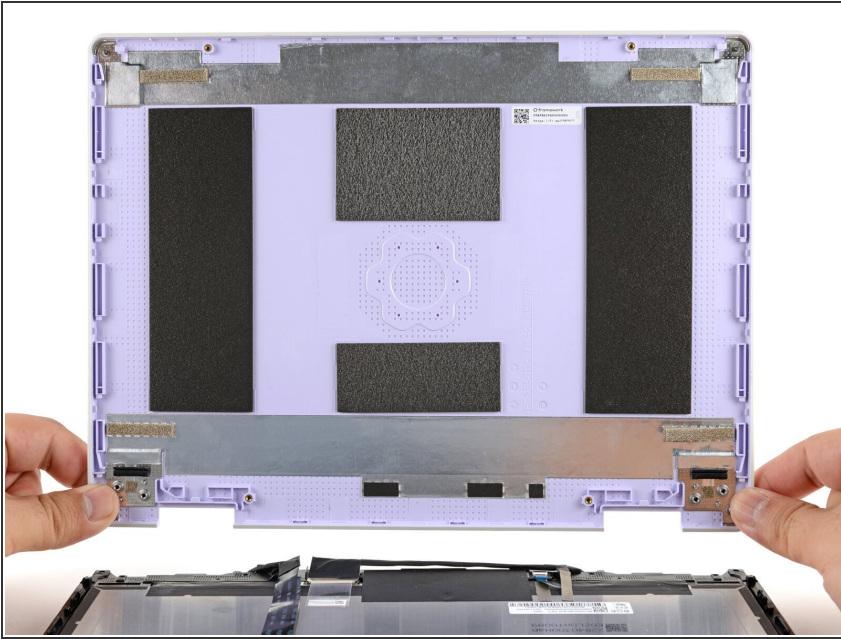
- Use your Framework Screwdriver to remove the four (two per hinge) 2.4 mm-long T5 Torx screws securing the two hinges to the Top Cover.
 - ① These screws are **not captive**. Store them in a safe location for reassembly.

Step 14 — Separate the Top Cover



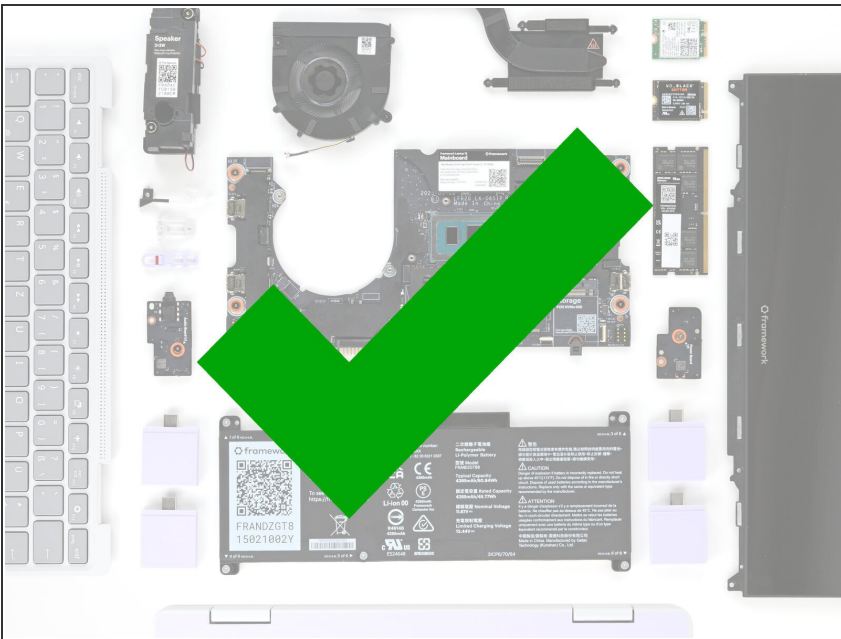
- Use your fingers to lift the hinges over the Top Cover lip.
- Separate the Top Cover from the rest of the laptop.

Step 15 — Remove the Top Cover



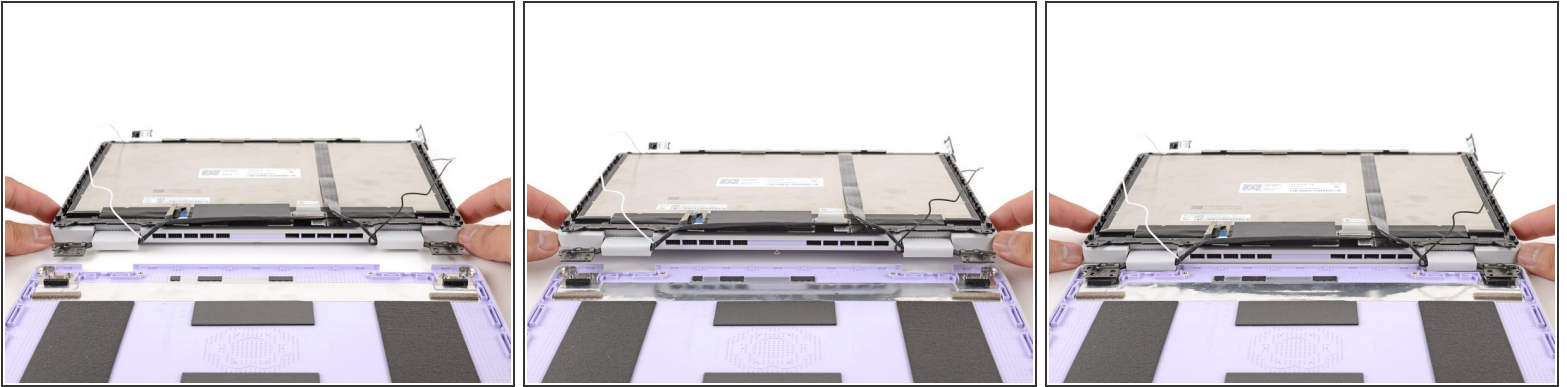
- Remove the Top Cover.

Step 16 — Disassembly complete



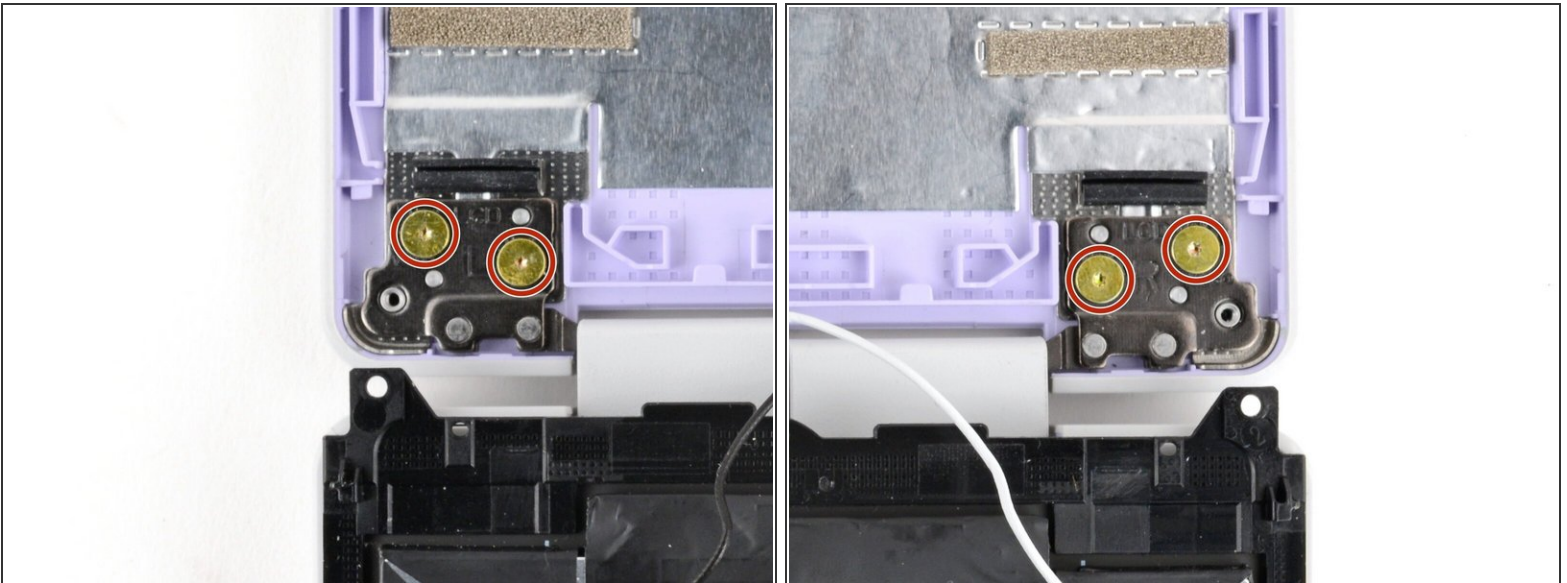
- ❗ Congratulations on completing disassembly! **The remaining steps will show how to reassemble your Framework Laptop.**

Step 17 — Install the Top Cover



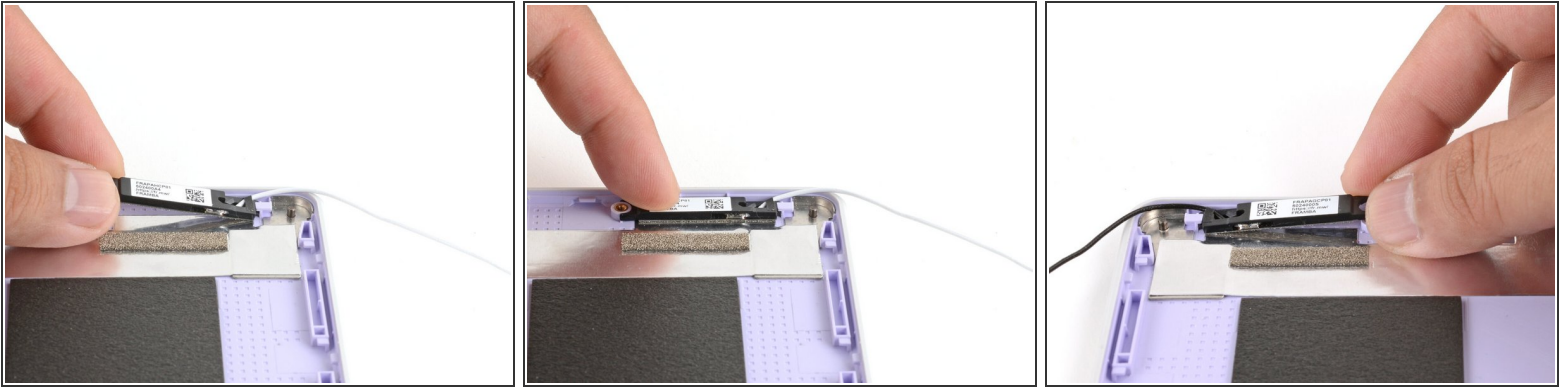
- Use your fingers to lift the hinges over the Top Cover lip and lay them in place.

Step 18 — Secure Hinge Screws



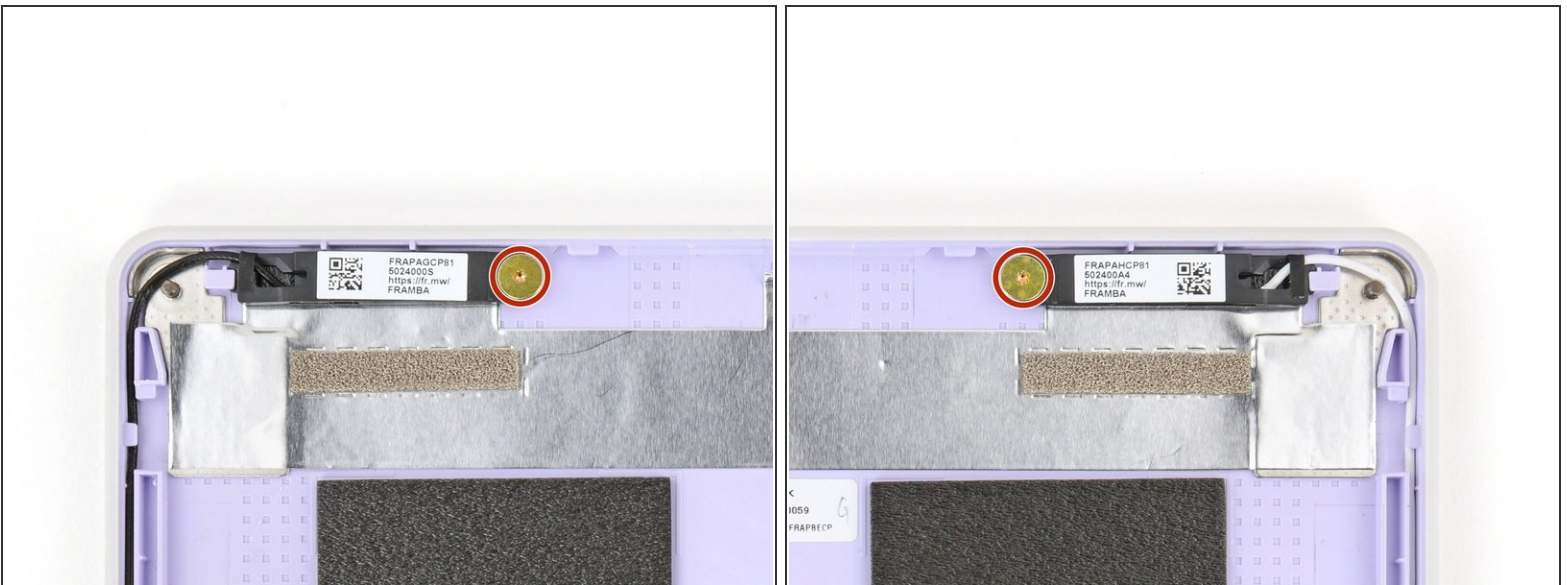
- Use your Framework Screwdriver to install the four 2.4 mm-long T5 Torx screws to secure the two hinges to the Top Cover.
- ⚠ Make sure to install these screws in the marked locations. There are additional screw holes on the hinges that are not for these screws.

Step 19



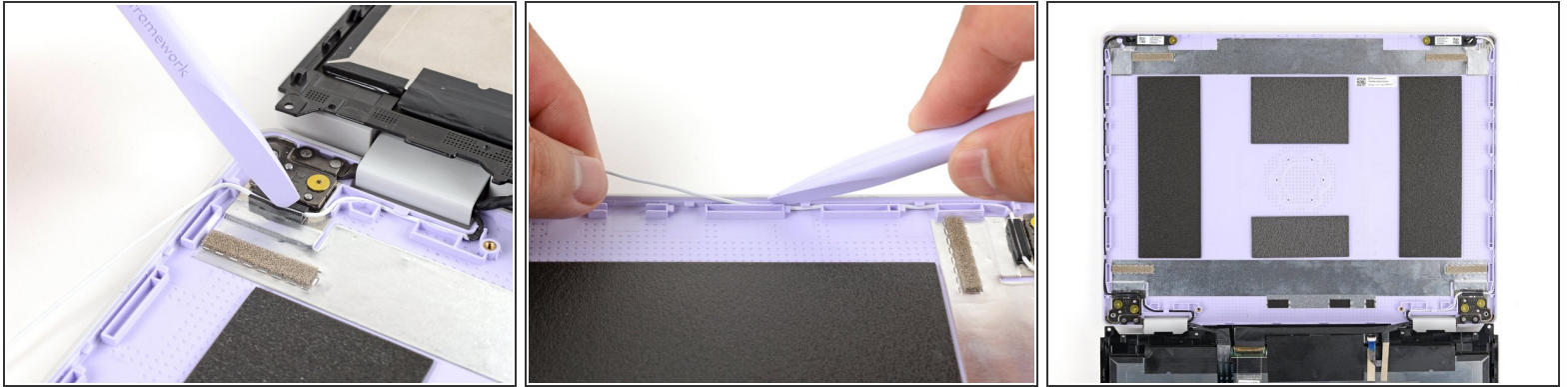
- Lay each antenna in place in the Top Cover.

Step 20 — Secure Antenna Screw



- Use your Framework Screwdriver to install the two 2.4 mm-long T5 Torx screws to secure the antennas to the Top Cover.

Step 21 — Route Antenna Cables



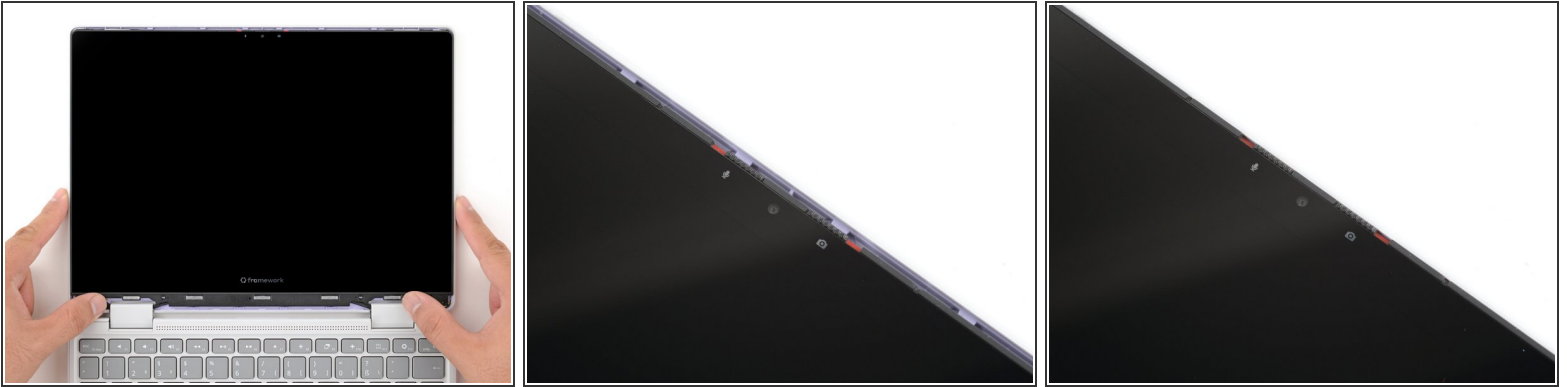
- Use your fingers and your Framework Screwdriver to guide and press both antenna cables back into their channels.
- ① Zoom in on the third image to see how the cables sit in their channels.

Step 22 — Swing the display over



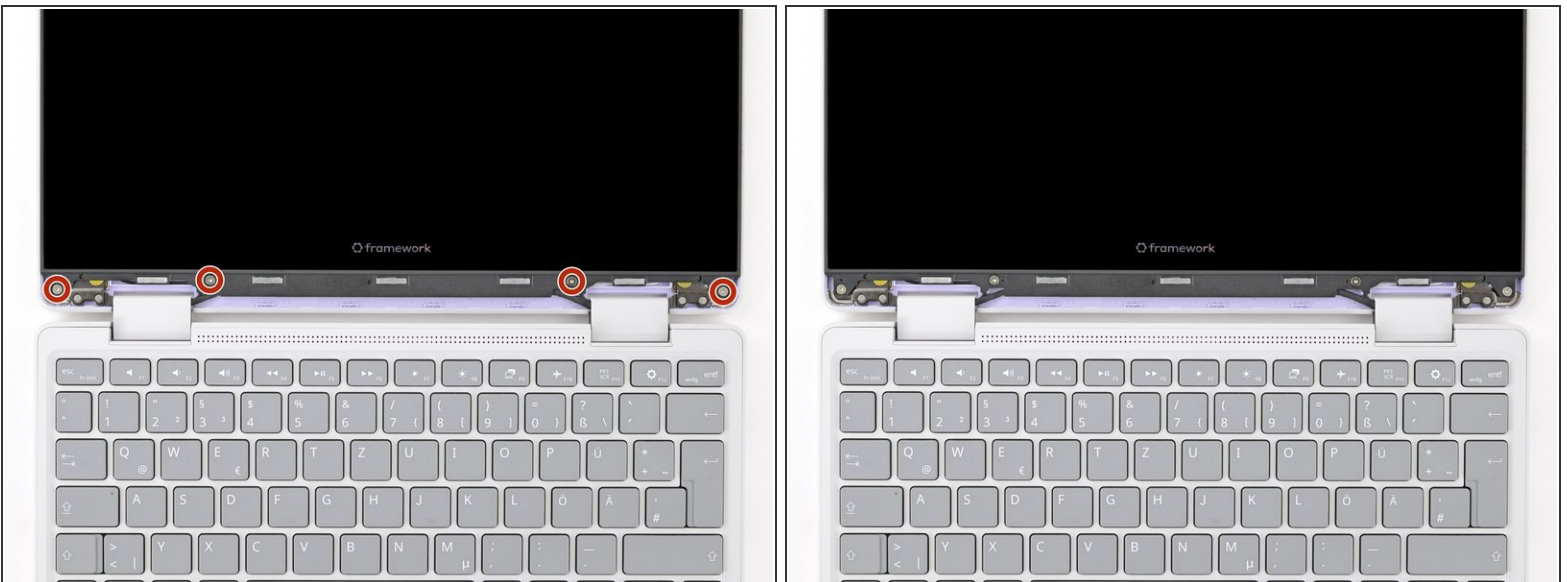
- Use your fingers to carefully swing the display over so it lies on top of the Top Cover.

Step 23 — Slide the display in place



- Align the display in the Top Cover such that the top edge of the display is slightly below the top edge of the Top Cover.
- Use your fingers to slide the display upwards to latch the tabs on the top edge of the display.
- ❗ The top edge shouldn't have any gaps when the display's in place.

Step 24 — Install the display screws



- Use your Framework Screwdriver to install the four 3.3 mm-long T5 Torx screws to secure the display to the Top Cover.
- ❗ **Tighten the screws until they're snug.** Don't over-tighten them, or you may damage the screw tabs.

Step 25 — Install the Display Cover



- Align the Display Cover to the bottom of the display.

Step 26



- Use your finger to press along the length of the Display Cover to snap it onto the laptop.
 - ① Make sure all the clips along the left, top, and right edges are fully seated.

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](#).