



How to disable a faulty Toshiba Portege Z30 Pointer stick (Accupoint)

A fail-safe way to completely disable a wandering pointer from a broken pointer stick on the Toshiba Portege Z30 Keyboard

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INTRODUCTION

The Toshiba Portege Z30 is a great lightweight laptop; however one issue that reoccurs is that with age, the blue pointer stick in the middle of the keyboard begins to move the mouse on it's own accord. The option to disable it does exist in the touchpad settings; however my experience is doing this has a knock-on effect of making the touchpad operation erratic and unresponsive. So here is a fail-safe way to disable the pointer stick permanently and restore proper operation to the touchpad. It also has the benefit of keeping the mouse buttons in operation, which are disabled when you disable the pointer stick in the settings.

All you will need is a Philips screwdriver and a pair of scissors. We're going DIY on this one!

TOOLS:

- [Phillips #00 Screwdriver](#) (1)
 - [Utility Scissors](#) (1)
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Step 1 — How to disable a faulty Toshiba Portege Z30 Pointer stick (Accupoint)



- Take your Philips screwdriver to the screws on the base of the laptop (not forgetting the screws under the rubber feet, bottom right).

Step 2



- Disconnect the battery with multicoloured wires, and use your screwdriver to remove the 4 screws holdigin it in place. Remove the battery.

Step 3



- Turn your attention to the keyboard connector pictured, held in place by the plastic locks. Delicately unclip the locks on either side and pull the ribbon from the socket.

Step 4



- As you can see, the ribbon is divided into two parts, with a small and large section. The smaller section is what we're interested in - this receives signals from the pointer stick on the keyboard.
- Take your pair of scissors and make a cut across the smaller 4 lined section, approximately 1cm from the end. This will cut the pointer stick connection from the motherboard, and ensure the ribbon cable still correctly fits in the socket.

Step 5



- Success! The modified keyboard ribbon cable is now ready to be re-fitted in the socket, and the pointer stick has now been permanently disabled. No more wandering pointer!

As ever, follow these instructions in reverse order in order to re-assemble your device.