PlayStation 3 Slim Motherboard Replacement
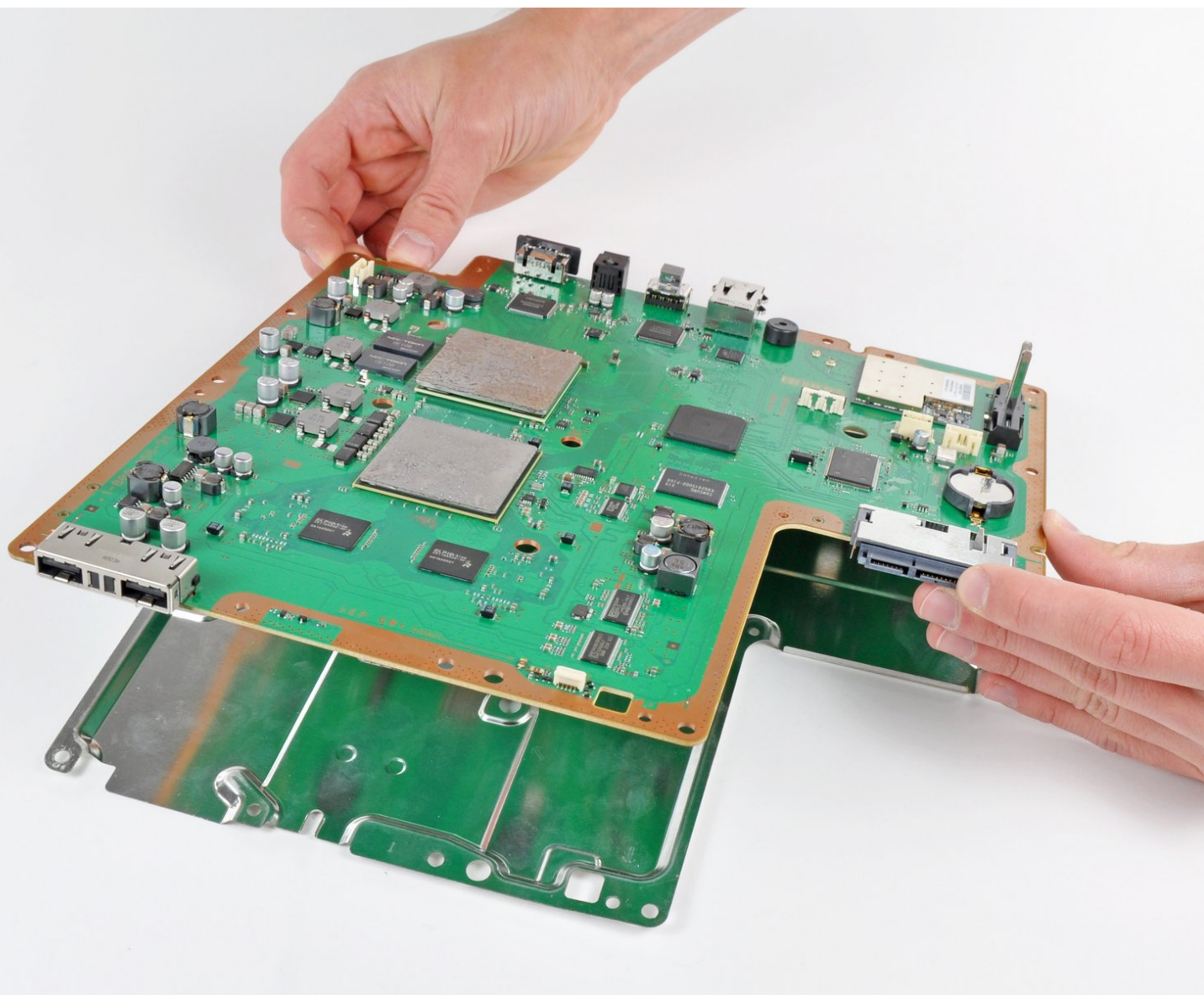
Replace your PlayStation 3 Slim's fried motherboard.

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INTRODUCTION

Use this guide to completely replace your motherboard. Before reattaching the heat sink, be sure to apply a new layer of thermal paste.

🔧 **TOOLS:**

- Arctic Silver ArctiClean (1)
- Arctic Silver Thermal Paste (1)
- Metal Spudger (1)
- Phillips #1 Screwdriver (1)
- Spudger (1)
- T8 Torx Security Bit Screwdriver (1)

⚙️ **PARTS:**

- Sony PlayStation 3 Slim Processor Clamps (1)

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Step 1 — Top Cover

- Turn the PS3 over and lay it on its backside.

- Carefully peel the warranty sticker up off the lower case to reveal a hidden screw cover.

- 📌 To avoid activating the **VOID** that may come up, heat the sticker carefully to remove and replace it cleanly.
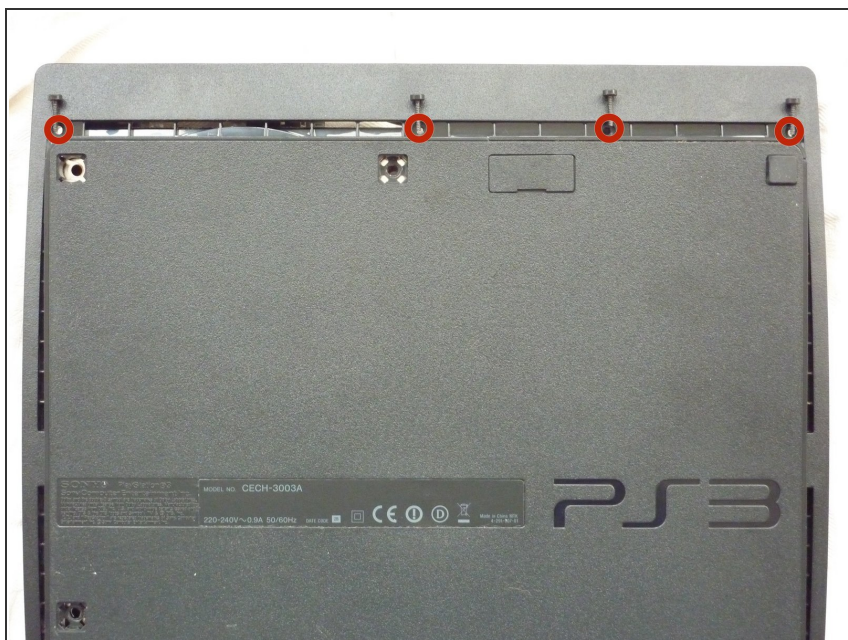
Step 2

- Use the flat end of a metal spudger to pry up the seven screw covers around the edge of the lower case.

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Step 3

- Remove the seven 37 mm Phillips screws securing the top cover to the lower case.

Step 4

- Remove the four 13.3 mm T8 security Torx screws beneath the Blu-ray drive opening. (Some models may only have three screws)

Step 5

- Lift the top cover from its rear edge and rotate it toward the front of the PS3.

- Lift the top cover off the PS3.

Step 6 — Power Supply

- Squeeze the AC inlet connector's locking mechanism and pull straight up to disconnect it from the power supply.

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Step 7

- Pull the DC-Out cables straight up to lift their connector up and out of its socket on the power supply.
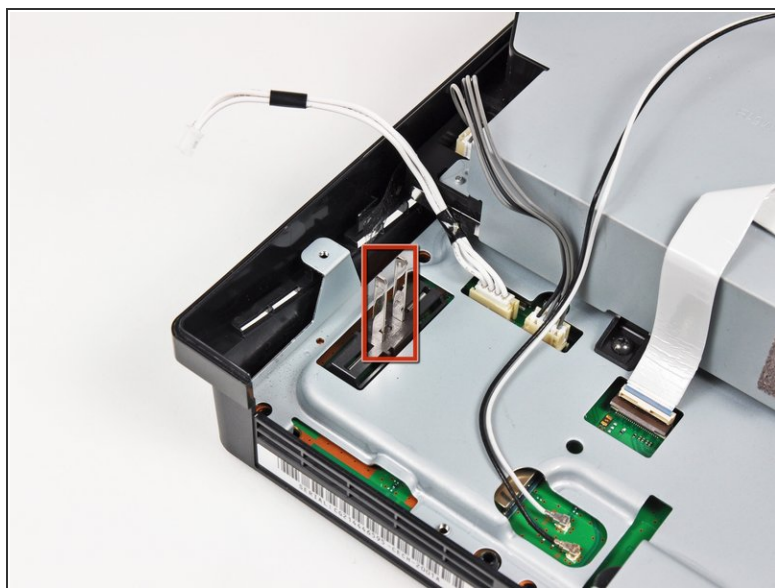
Step 8

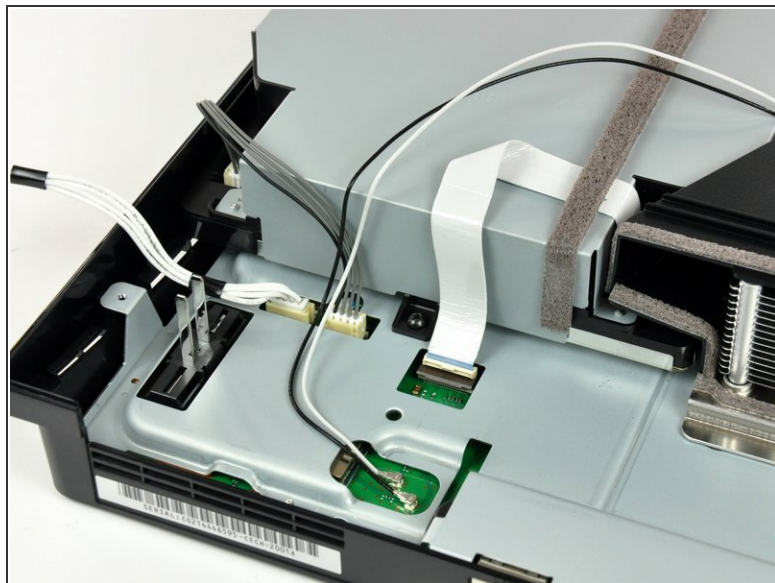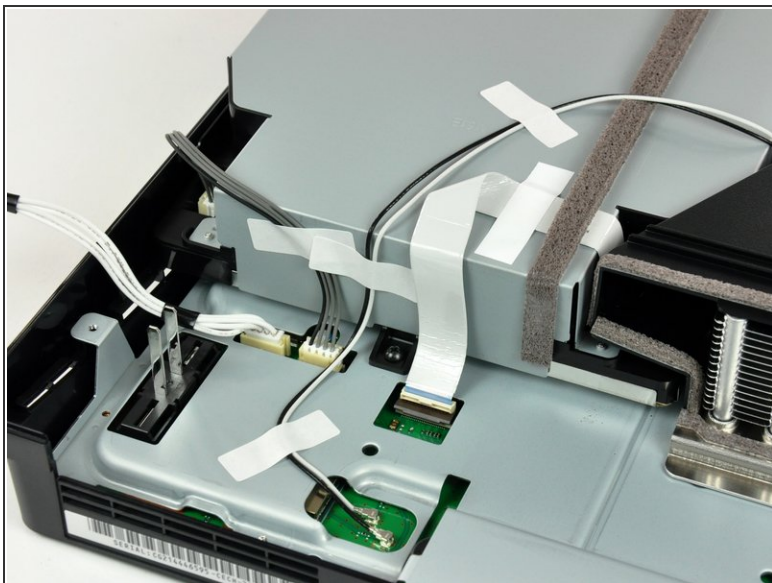- Remove the two 7.6 mm Phillips screws securing the power supply to the lower case.

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Step 9

- Lift the power supply upward from its left edge as viewed from the front of the PS3.
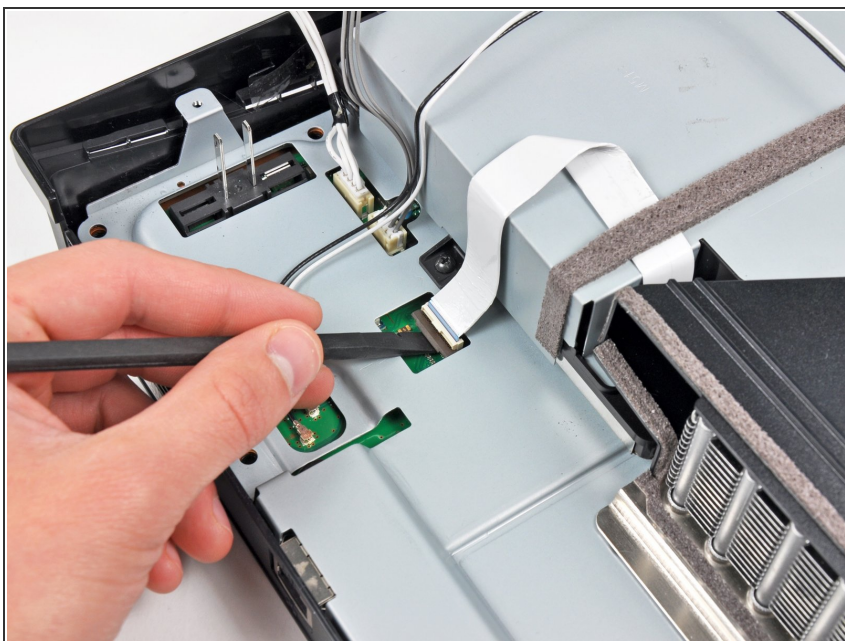
Step 10

- Continue to lift the left edge of the power supply until it lifts off the two metal posts shown in the second picture.

- Remove the power supply from the PS3, minding any cables that may get caught.

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Step 11 — Blu-ray Disc Drive

(i) If present, remove the pieces of tape securing the cables to the body of the Blu-ray drive.

Step 12

- Use the flat end of a spudger or your fingernail to flip up the retaining flap on the Blu-ray ribbon cable socket.

⚠ Be sure you are prying up on the movable retaining flap, **not** the socket itself.
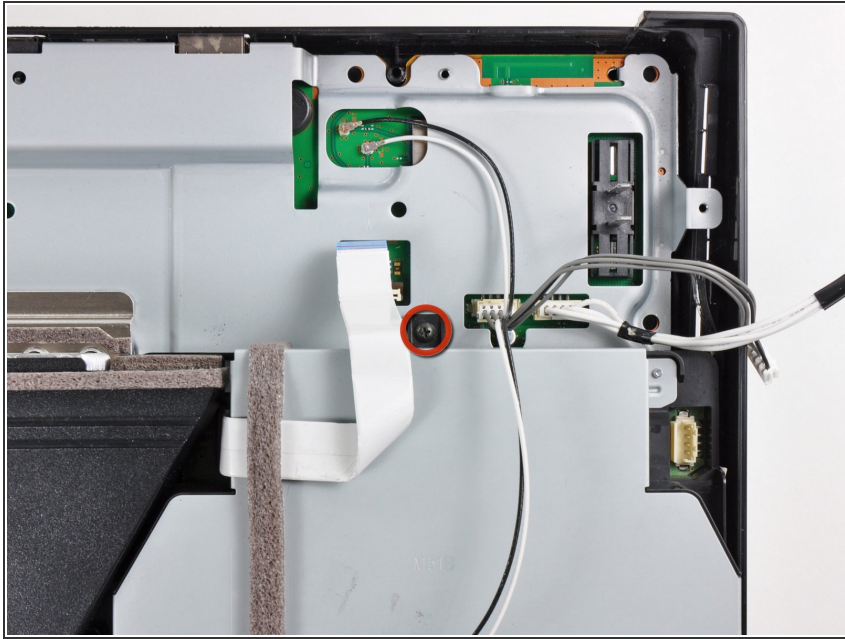
Step 13

- Pull the Blu-ray ribbon cable straight up and out of its socket.

Step 14

- Pull the Blu-ray power cable straight up to lift its connector out of the socket on the Blu-ray drive.

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Step 15

● Remove the single 9.5 mm Phillips screw securing the Blu-ray drive to the lower case.

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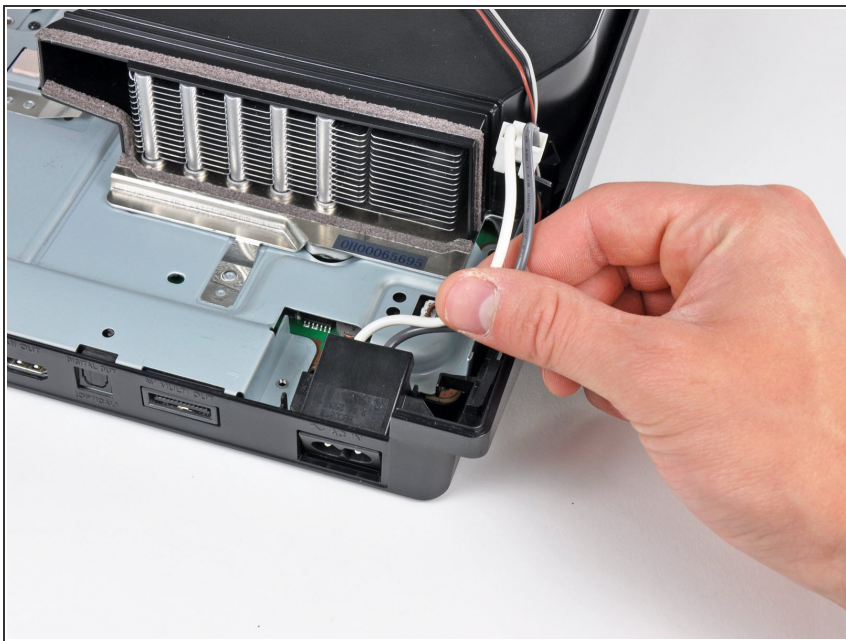
Step 16

- Lift the Blu-ray drive slightly by its right edge to dislodge the control board from its housing.

- Remove the Blu-ray drive from the PS3.

⚠ After you reinstall the Blu-ray drive, be sure the control board is firmly seated in the lower case before proceeding.
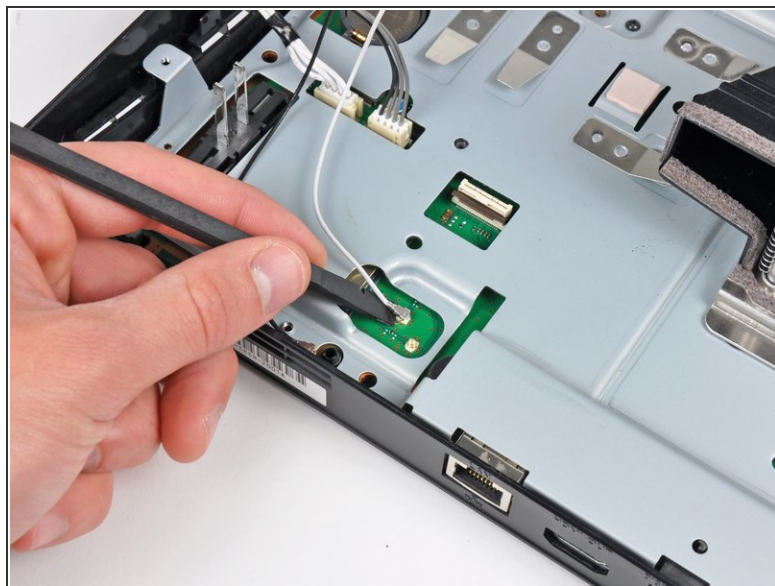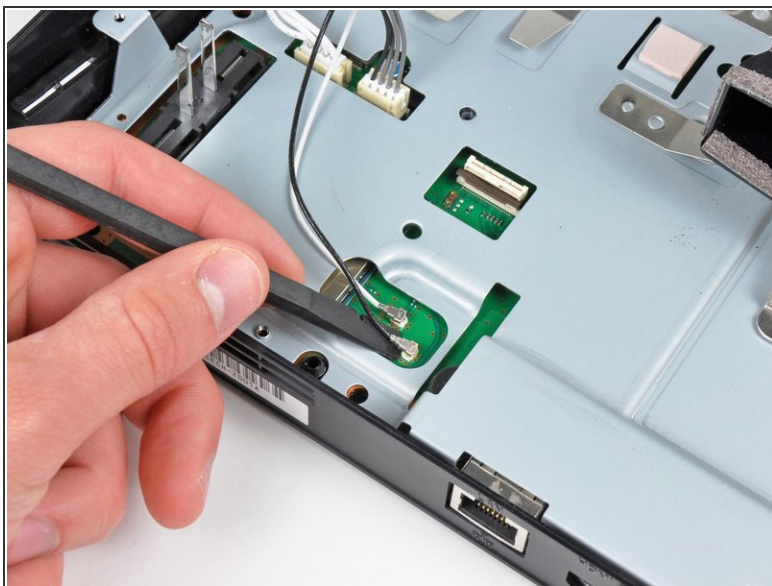
ⓘ If replacing the Blu-ray drive with a new drive, <u>swap the circuit board from your old drive into the new drive</u>.

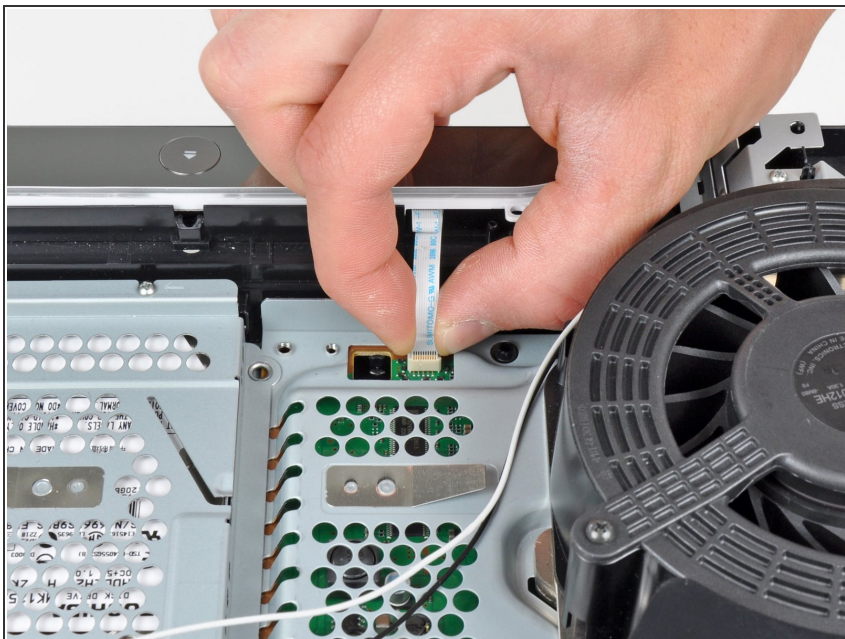## Step 17 — Motherboard Assembly

- Pull the AC-In cables upward to remove the AC inlet from the lower case.

Step 18

- Use the flat end of a spudger to pry both antenna connectors up from their sockets on the motherboard.

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Step 19

- Pull the control board ribbon cable up and out of its socket on the motherboard.

- Remove the control board.

Step 20

- Turn the PS3 over and lay it on its backside.

- Use the flat edge of a metal spudger to pop up the small access door on the bottom cover near the front of the PS3.

- Remove the blue Phillips screw hidden under the access door.
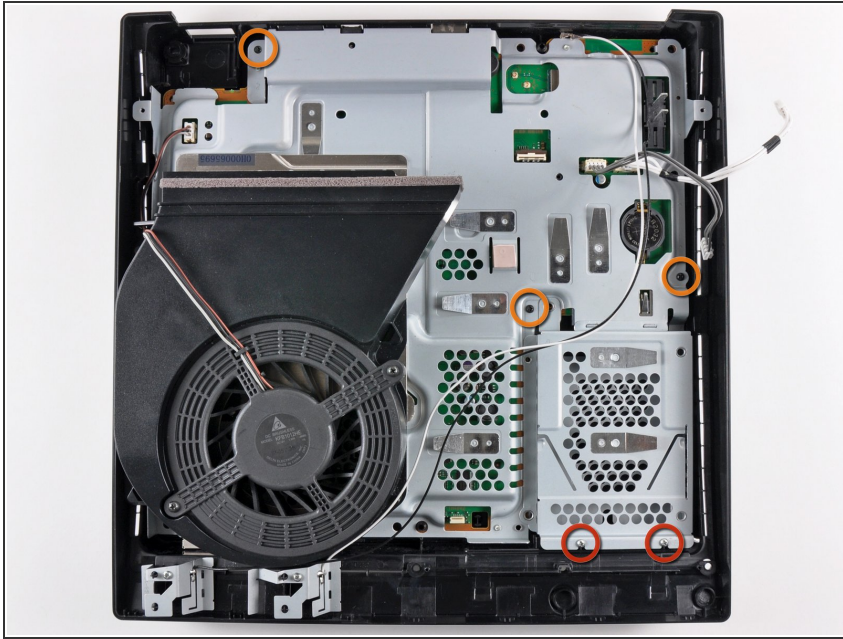
Step 21

- Slide the hard drive bay cover toward the right side of the lower case, then pull it away from the front edge to remove it from the PS3.
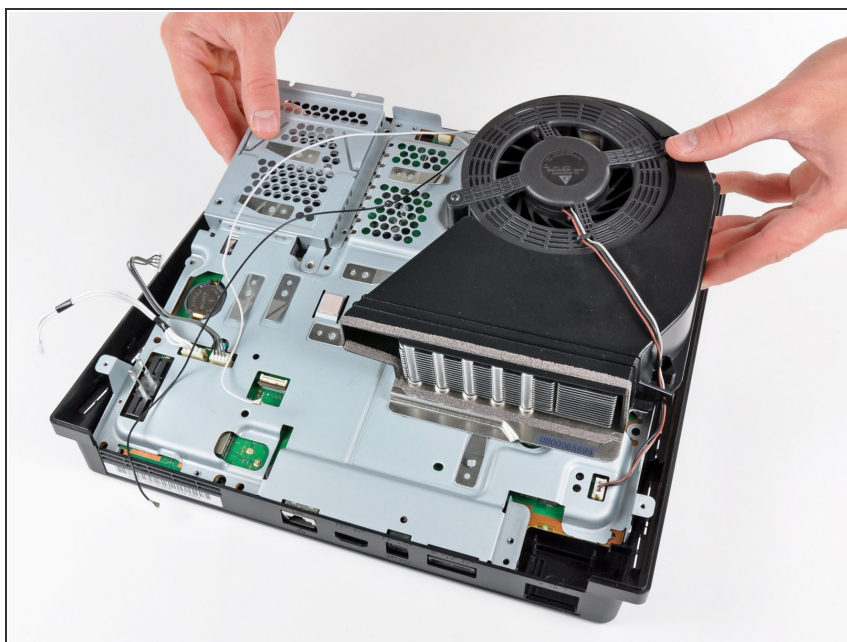
Step 22

- Using its attached metal handle, pull the hard drive out of its bay.

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Step 23

- Remove the following five screws securing the motherboard assembly to the lower case:
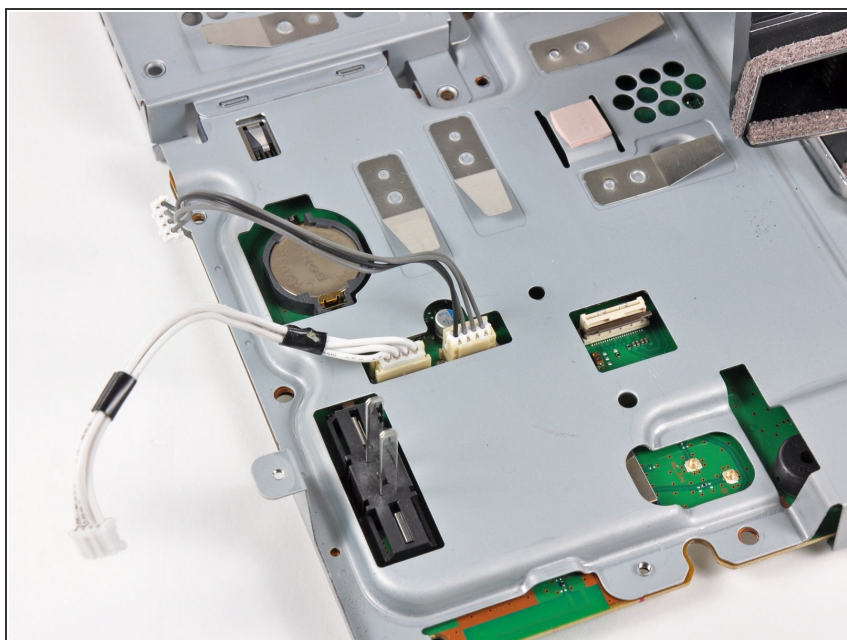 - Two silver 6 mm Phillips
  - Three black 8 mm Phillips

Step 24

- Lift the motherboard assembly from its front edge and remove it from the lower case, minding the antenna cable still attached to the lower case.
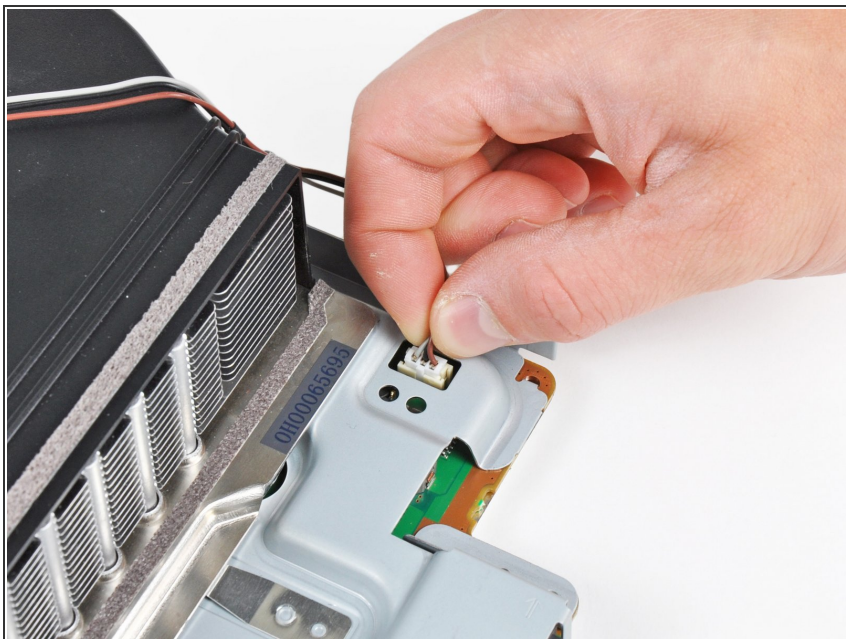
⚠️ Be careful not to bend the metal antenna bodies as you lift the motherboard assembly.
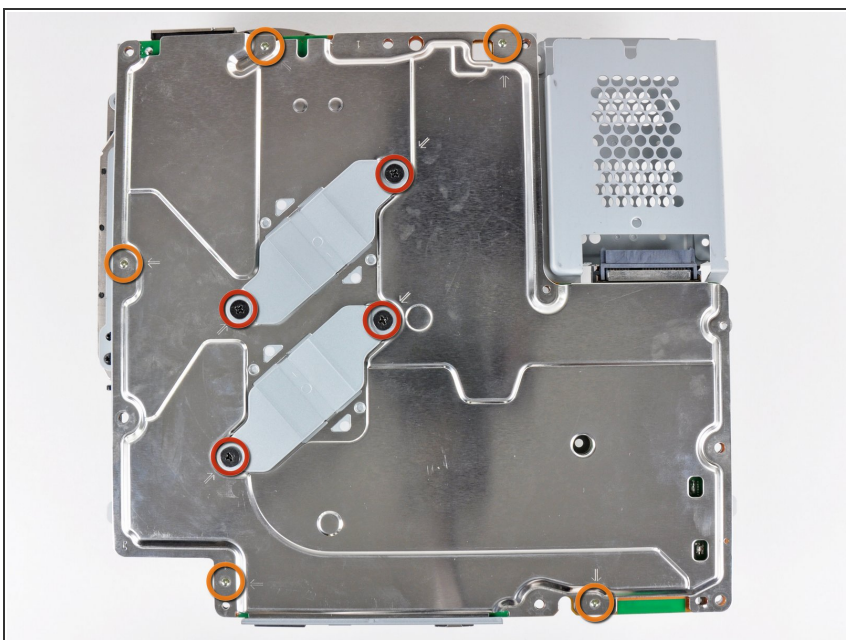
Step 25 — Top Shield Assembly

- Disconnect the DC-In and Blu-ray power cables from the motherboard.

ⓘ Pull the cables straight upward to lift the connectors up and out of their sockets on the motherboard.

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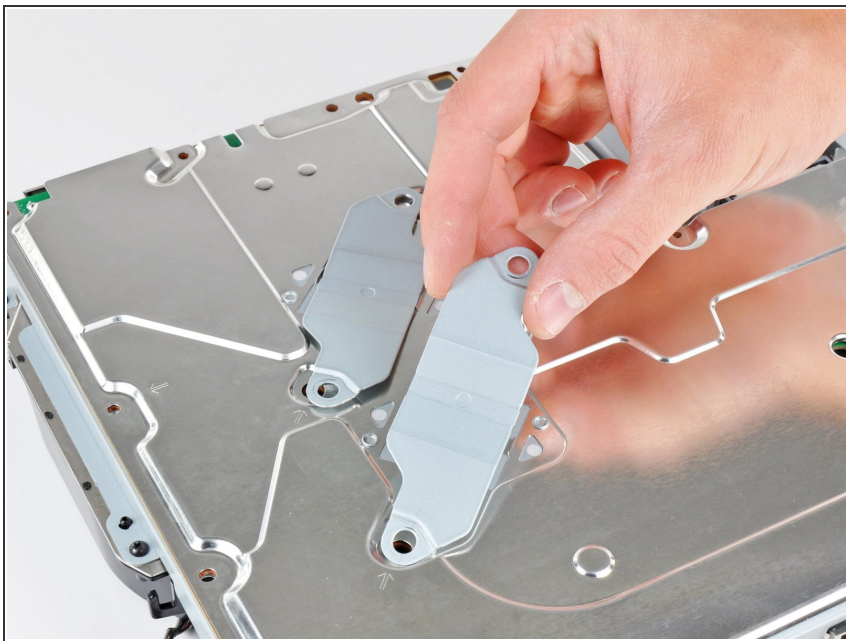
Step 26

● Pull the fan cables straight up to lift the fan connector up and out of its socket on the motherboard.
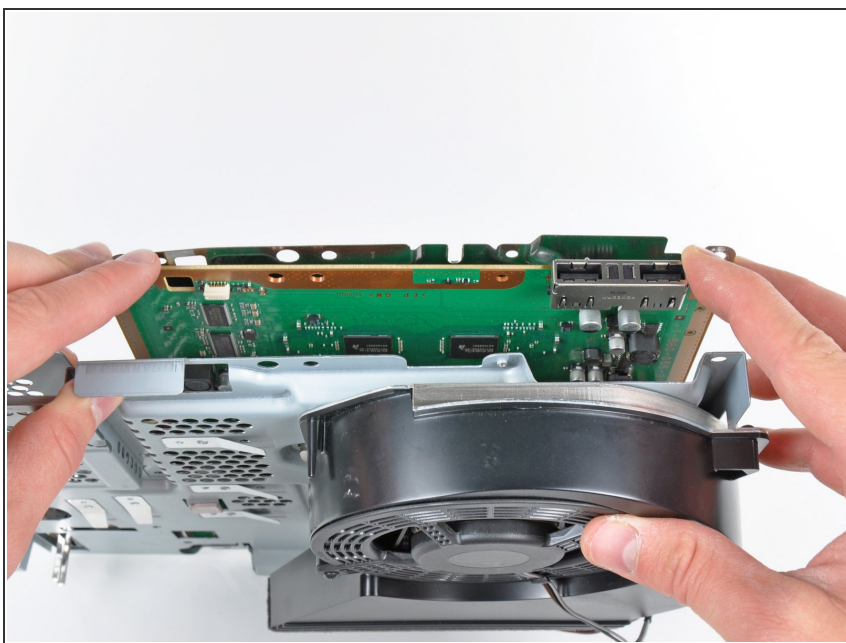
Step 27

● Remove the following nine screws holding the motherboard assembly together:

  ● Four 14.8 mm shouldered Phillips

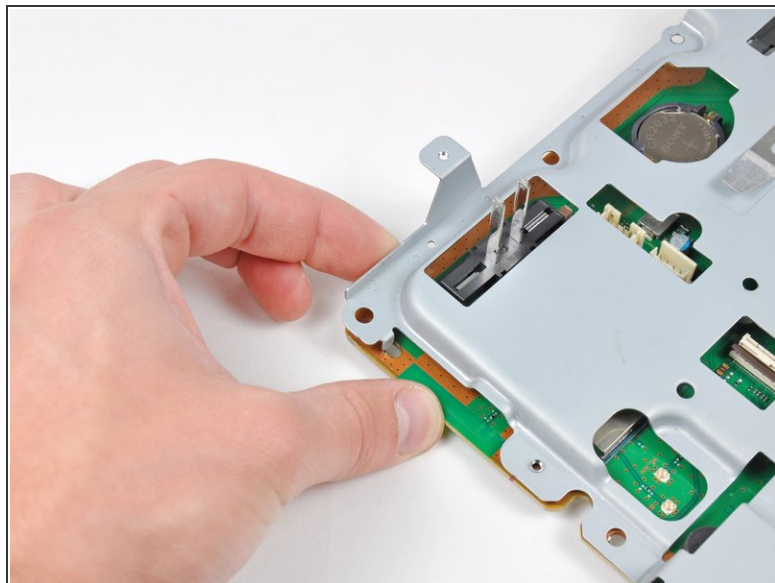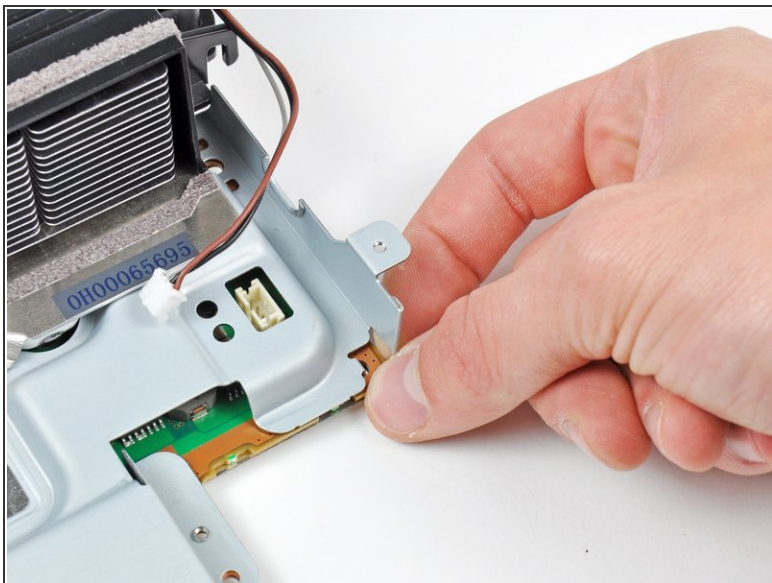 ● Five 9.5 mm Phillips

Step 28

- Remove the two heat sink clamps from the bottom of the motherboard assembly.
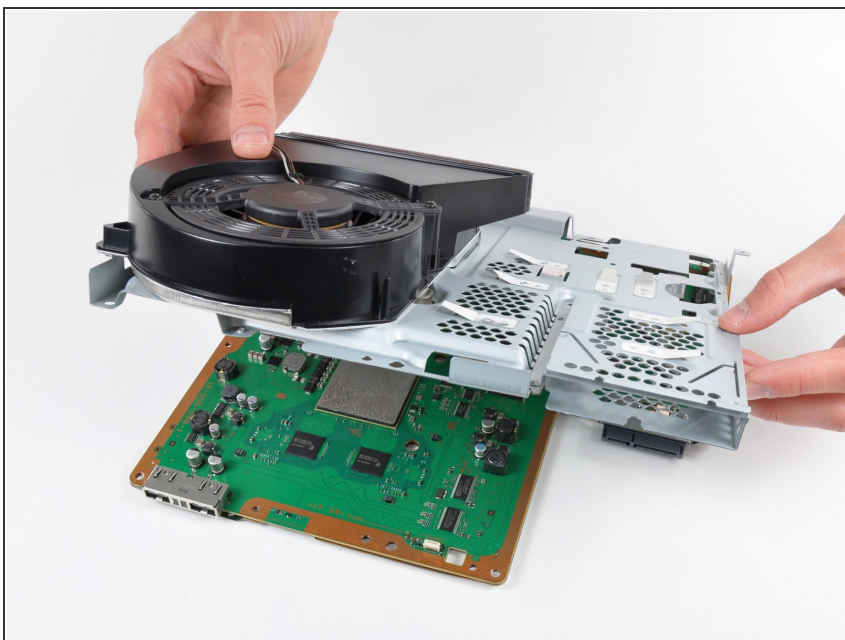
Step 29

- ⓘ If necessary, gently pry the motherboard off the top shield near the heat sink and its shroud.
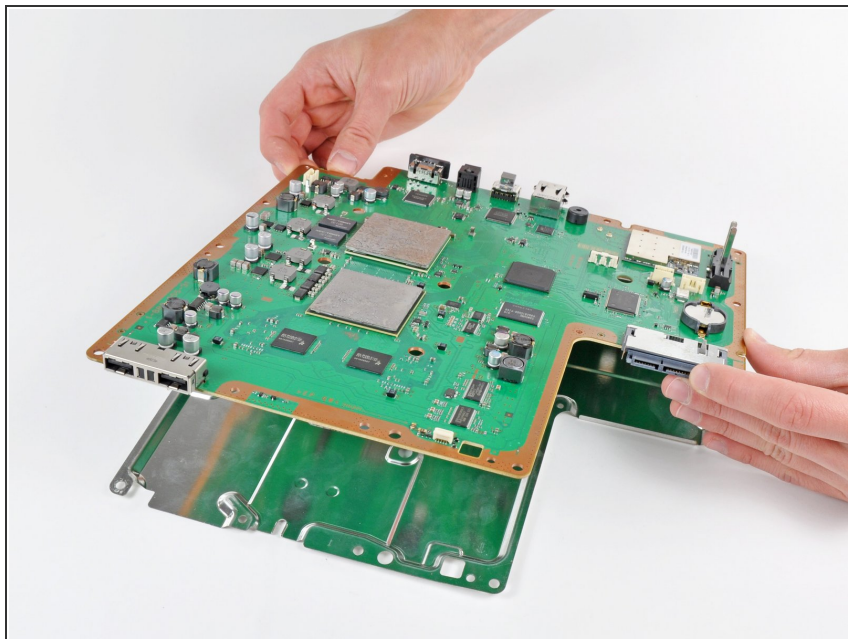
Step 30

- Gently press the board away from the top shield assembly near the fan connector and the corner of the board near the wireless sockets.

Step 31

- Lift the top shield assembly off the motherboard from its front edge.

- ⚠️ Be careful not to damage the sockets as you rotate the top shield assembly away from the motherboard.
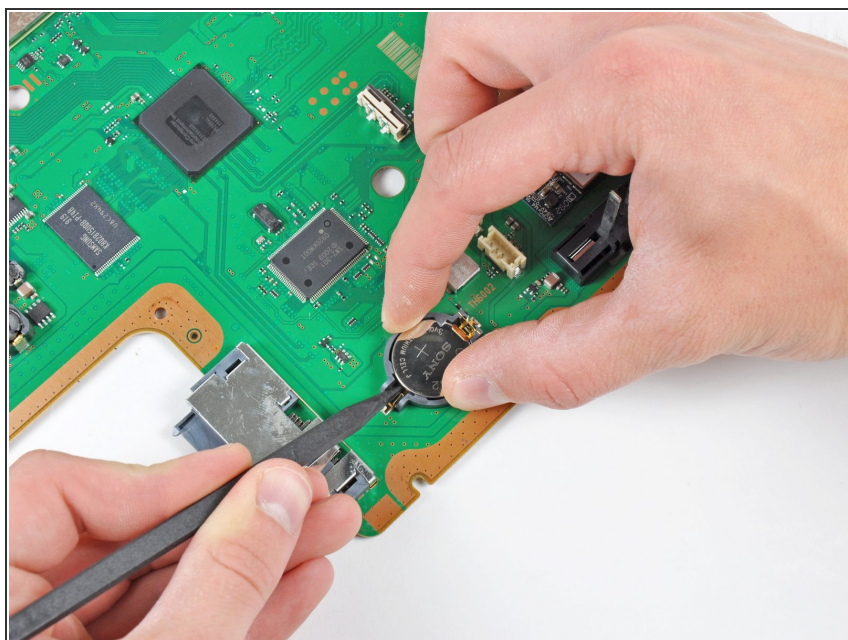
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Step 32 — Motherboard

- Carefully lift the motherboard off the bottom shield.

- ⚠ Handle the motherboard by its edges.

Step 33

- While holding the plastic retainer down against the board, use the tip of a spudger to pry the PRAM battery out of its housing.

- ⚠ Failure to hold the plastic retainer down during the prying process may result in it tearing off the motherboard.

- 📌 Before installing the heat sink onto the motherboard, it is essential to apply a new layer of thermal paste. This guide will show you how to do it.

To reassemble your device, follow these instructions in reverse order.

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