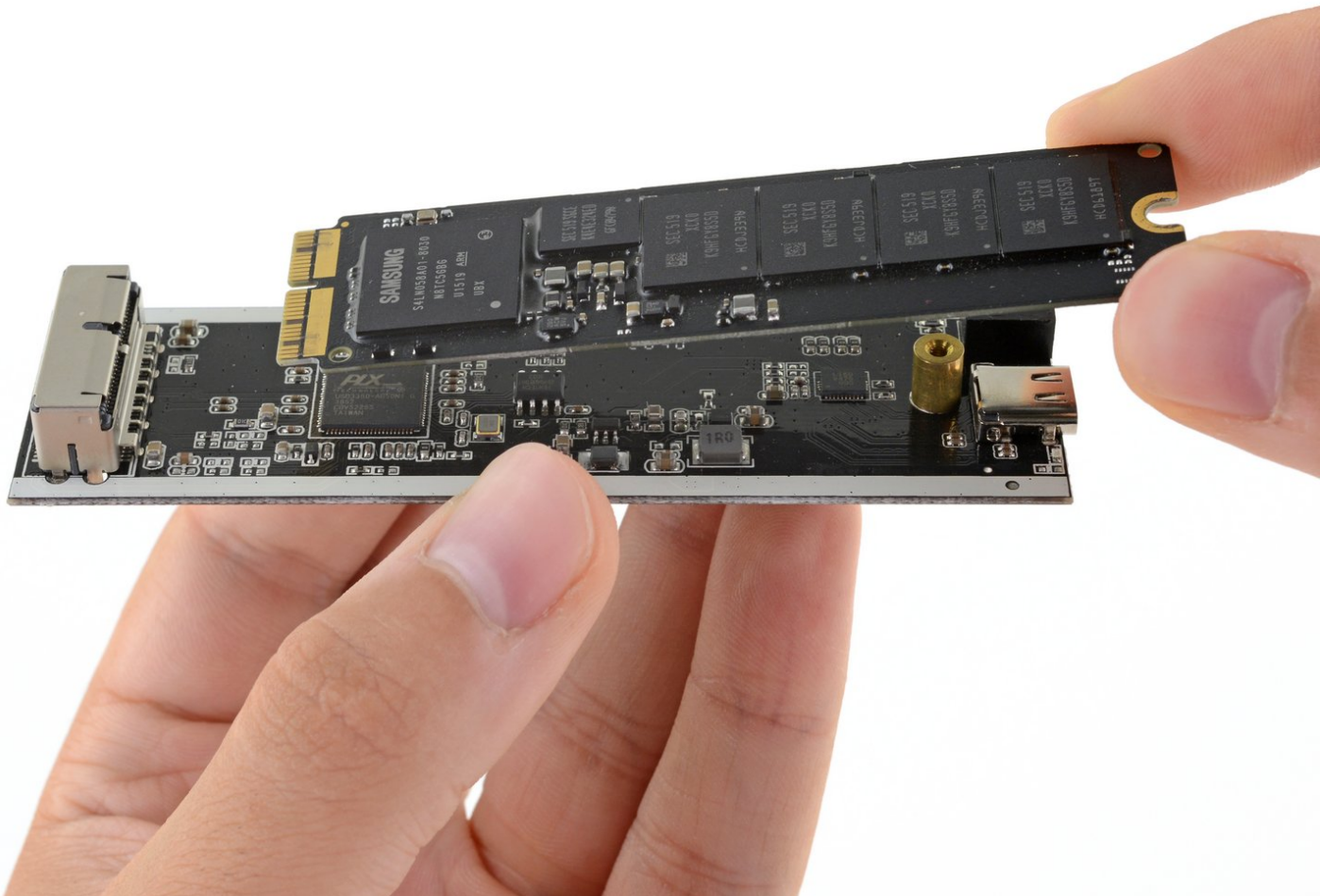# How To Install a Mac SSD into an External Enclosure

This guide will show you how to install a factory-installed Mac SSD to an external SSD enclosure.

Written By: Carsten Frauenheim

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INTRODUCTION

iFixit's [SSD enclosure](#) allows you to repurpose a factory-installed Mac SSD as a portable external drive. Follow this guide to learn how to install your SSD into the enclosure.

If you still need to complete your SSD upgrade, [find your Mac](#) and look for the *SSD Replacement* guide.

Note: These enclosures are designed to be used with factory-installed Mac Solid State Drives, and *will not* work with other PCIe replacement drives and adapters, including OWC Aura Pro drives.
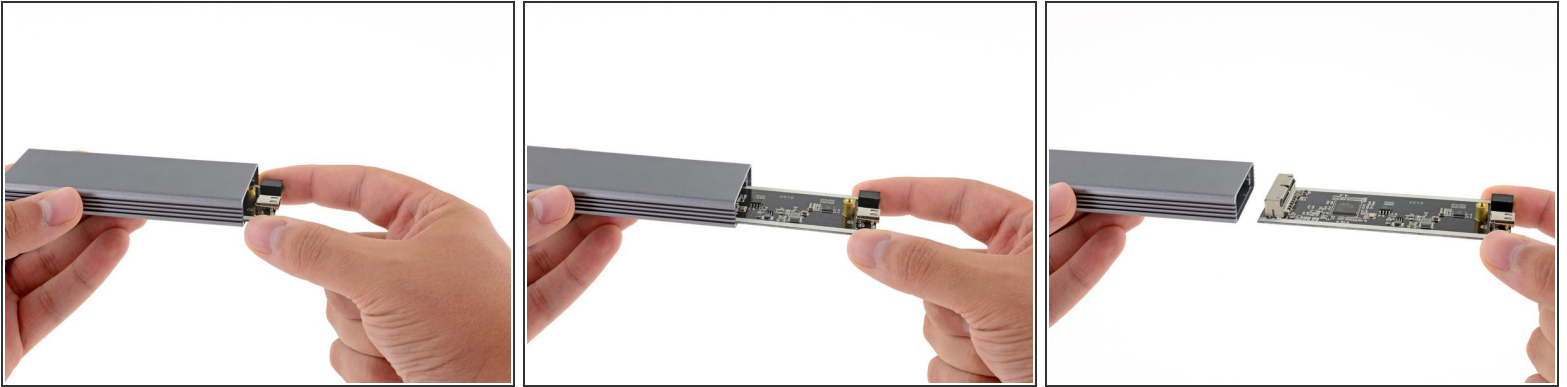

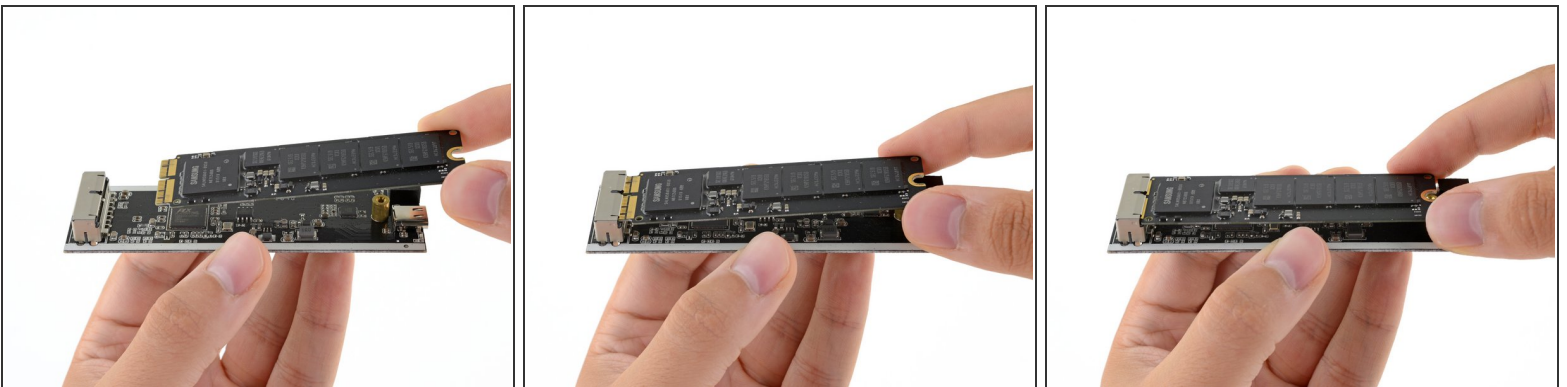
TOOLS:

- [Phillips #00 Screwdriver](#) (1)

PARTS:

- [External SSD Enclosure for Select Mid 2013 to Mid 2015 Macs](#) (1)
- [MacBook Air 11" (2013-2015) 13" (2013-2017) MacBook Pro Retina 13" and 15" (2015) SSD](#) (1)

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Step 1 — Disassemble the enclosure

- Slide the SSD sled out of the metal enclosure to remove it.
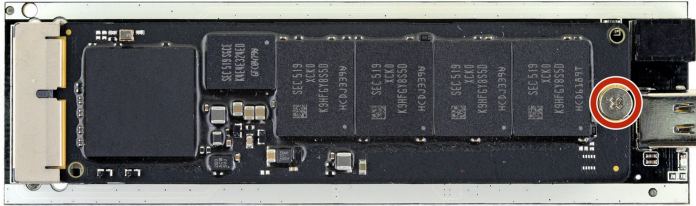
Step 2 — Install the SSD into the enclosure

- Carefully insert your Mac OEM SSD as shown, with the golden contact pads below the connector pins facing upward.
  - (i) The SSD and enclosure are both keyed, so the SSD can only be installed one way.

⚠ The SSD might take a significant amount of force to insert. Make sure you have the orientation correct before you apply any pressure.
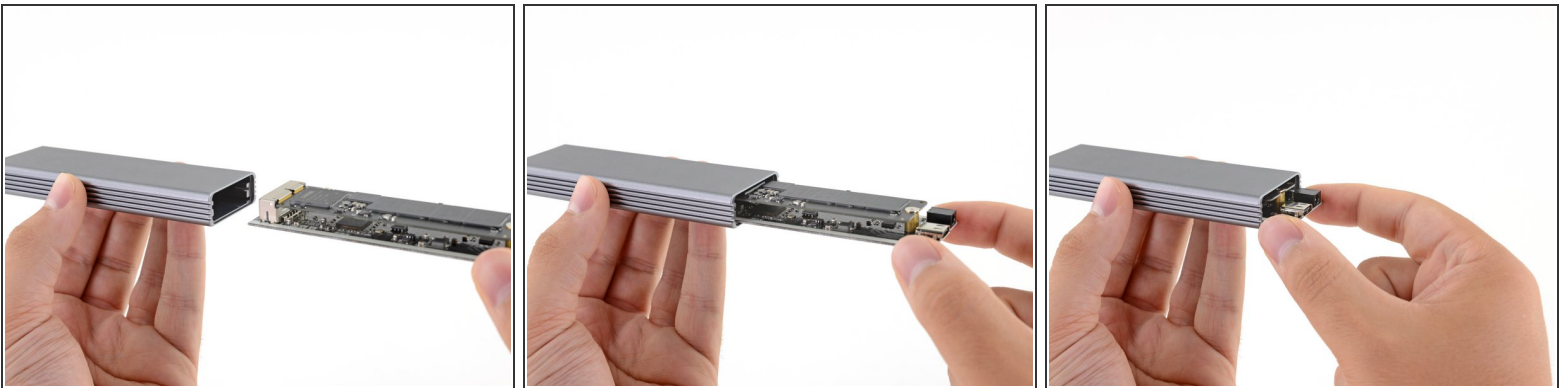
- (i) When the SSD is fully inserted, the notch at the bottom of the drive should be aligned with the hole for the screw in the enclosure.

Step 3

- Use a Phillips driver to install the 4.5 mm screw securing the bottom of the SSD.

Step 4 — Reassemble the enclosure

- Slide the SSD sled into the metal enclosure, SSD connector end first.
  - (i) Make sure the enclosure is in the correct orientation—the sled slides in on the [thin rails](#).
  - (i) The USB-C port should be facing out once installed.

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Step 5

- Place the port cover plate onto the end of the enclosure, aligning the USB-C port with its cutout.
  - (i) The screw hole chamfers should face outwards.

Step 6

- Use a Phillips driver to install the two 8 mm screws onto the end of the enclosure.

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Step 7 — Use your new external SSD

- The drive is now ready to be connected to your computer with either of the included USB cables.

Once your drive is installed, you can [transfer data from it](#), or use Disk Utility to format it and [use it as a Time Machine backup](#).