

Motorola Moto Z Play Screen Replacement

Use this guide to replace the screen on your...

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INTRODUCTION

Use this guide to replace the screen on your Motorola Moto Z Play by swapping out the screen/digitizer unit. The replacement screen assembly does not normally include the fingerprint sensor or the front camera flash. If these parts are not being replaced in addition to the screen/digitizer, they must be transferred from the old screen to the new one.

Before you begin, download the [Rescue and Smart Assistant](#) app to backup your device and diagnose whether your problem is software or hardware related.

Warning: Because of the strong adhesive securing the display, minimal clearance for inserting your tools, and high heat required, there's a good chance of accidentally damaging the display when removing it. If you're replacing the display anyway, then you don't have to worry—but if you intend to re-use the display, heed all warnings and work very carefully.



TOOLS:

- [iFixit Opening Picks \(Set of 6\)](#) (1)
- [Spudger](#) (1)
- [Suction Handle](#) (1)
- [iFixit Opening Tool](#) (1)
- [iOpener](#) (1)
- [Tweezers](#) (1)
- [Isopropyl Alcohol](#) (1)



PARTS:

- [Moto Z Play Screen - Genuine](#) (1)

Step 1 — Display Assembly



⚠ Power your phone off before you begin.

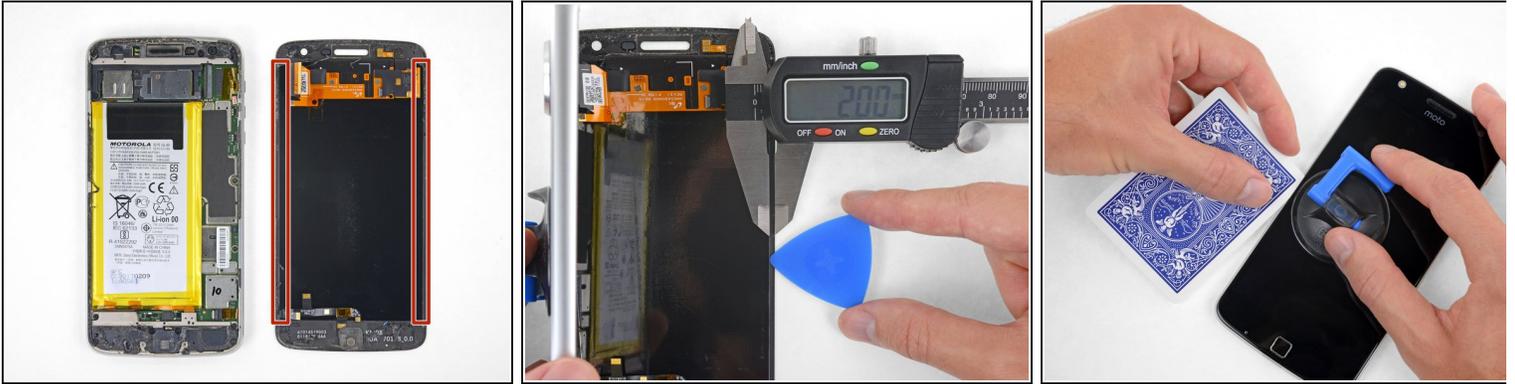
- If possible, drain the battery before disassembly. When the battery is charged, there's increased risk of a dangerous thermal event if the battery is overheated or damaged during repairs.
- If your display is cracked, completely cover it with packing tape to contain the glass shards and avoid injury.

Step 2



- [Prepare an iOpener](#) and heat the front of the phone along its left edge for about two minutes, or until it's slightly too hot to touch. This will help soften the adhesive securing the display.
 - ⓘ You may need to reheat and reapply the iOpener several times to get the phone warm enough. Follow the iOpener instructions to avoid overheating.
- ⚠ A hair dryer, heat gun, or hot plate may also be used, but be careful not to overheat the phone—the display and internal battery are both susceptible to heat damage.**

Step 3



- i** In the following steps, you will separate the display assembly from the Moto Z Play's chassis.
- For reference, refer to the first image, showing the back of the display assembly (right) after it has been removed from the phone (left).
 - If you plan to re-use the display assembly, pay particular attention to the side edges. When slicing through the glue in this area, you must be careful to insert your tool *less* than 2 mm, or your tool will come in contact with the display panel and damage it.
 - Playing cards are a safer, but much slower, prying tool. The soft paper cards are less likely to damage the display panel, which is good news if you plan to reuse it.

Step 4



- Apply a suction cup to the display, near the middle of the left edge.
- Pull up on the suction cup with firm, constant pressure to create a slight gap between the front panel and rear case.
 - ⓘ If the screen is cracked, the suction cup may not stick. [Try lifting it with strong tape](#), or superglue the suction cup in place and allow it to cure so you can proceed.
- This may require a significant amount of force, but you only need to open a very slight gap with the suction cup to insert your tool.
- If you have trouble, apply more heat to further soften the adhesive, and try again. The adhesive cools very fast, so you may need to heat it repeatedly.

Step 5



- Insert an opening pick (or playing card) into the gap you opened behind the display.

Step 6



- Slide the tool all along the left edge of the phone to slice through the adhesive securing the display.

Step 7



- Heat the front of the phone between the display and the lower edge to soften the adhesive underneath.

Step 8



- Slice through the glue under the lower bezel, being careful not to damage the fingerprint sensor.
- Slide or roll your tool past the lower edge of the fingerprint sensor and continue to the other side. Do not pry directly underneath the sensor.

⚠ If you plan to re-use the display, be careful not to slice or pry at the display panel. [Refer to this image](#) to help identify the glued areas while avoiding the display panel (highlighted in red).

Step 9



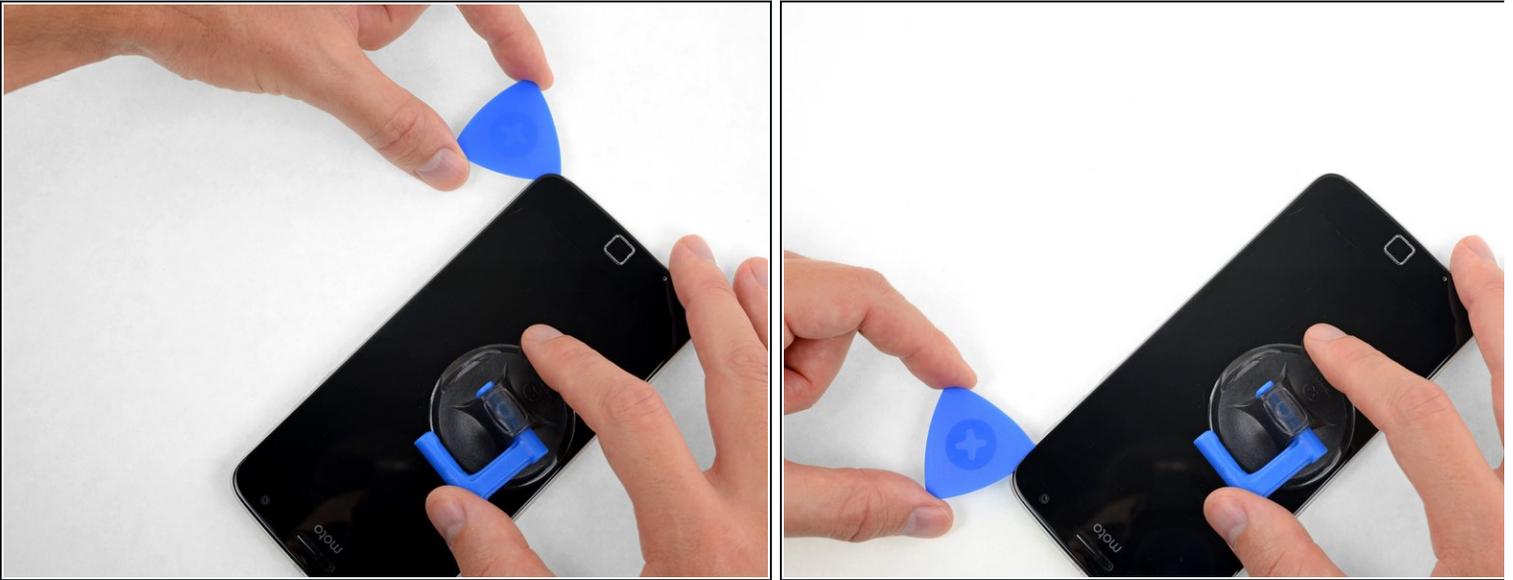
- Continue separating the glue underneath the rest of the lower bezel.

Step 10



- Heat the right edge of the phone to soften the adhesive securing the right edge of the display.

Step 11



- Slide your tool along the right edge of the phone to separate the glue securing the display.

Step 12



- Heat the front of the phone between the display and the top edge.

Step 13



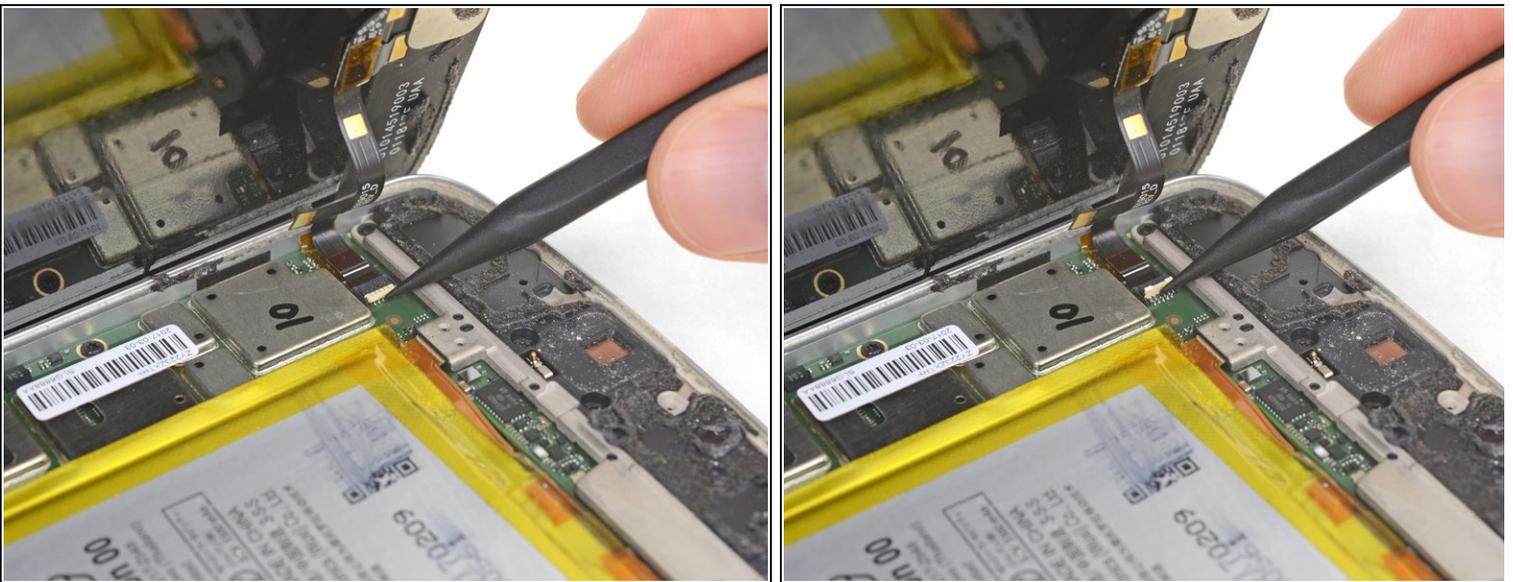
- Insert your tool at the top right corner of the phone, and begin to slide it underneath the top bezel to separate the glue.
⚠️ As before, if you want to re-use the display, don't insert the tool far enough to touch the display panel.
- When your tool just passes the left edge of the earpiece speaker, **stop**.
- Slide or roll your tool over the top of the [flash module for the selfie camera](#) to avoid damaging it.

Step 14



- If the display remains stuck, re-heat and slice the adhesive repeatedly as needed.
- Lift the display from the left edge and swing it open, away from the phone.

Step 15



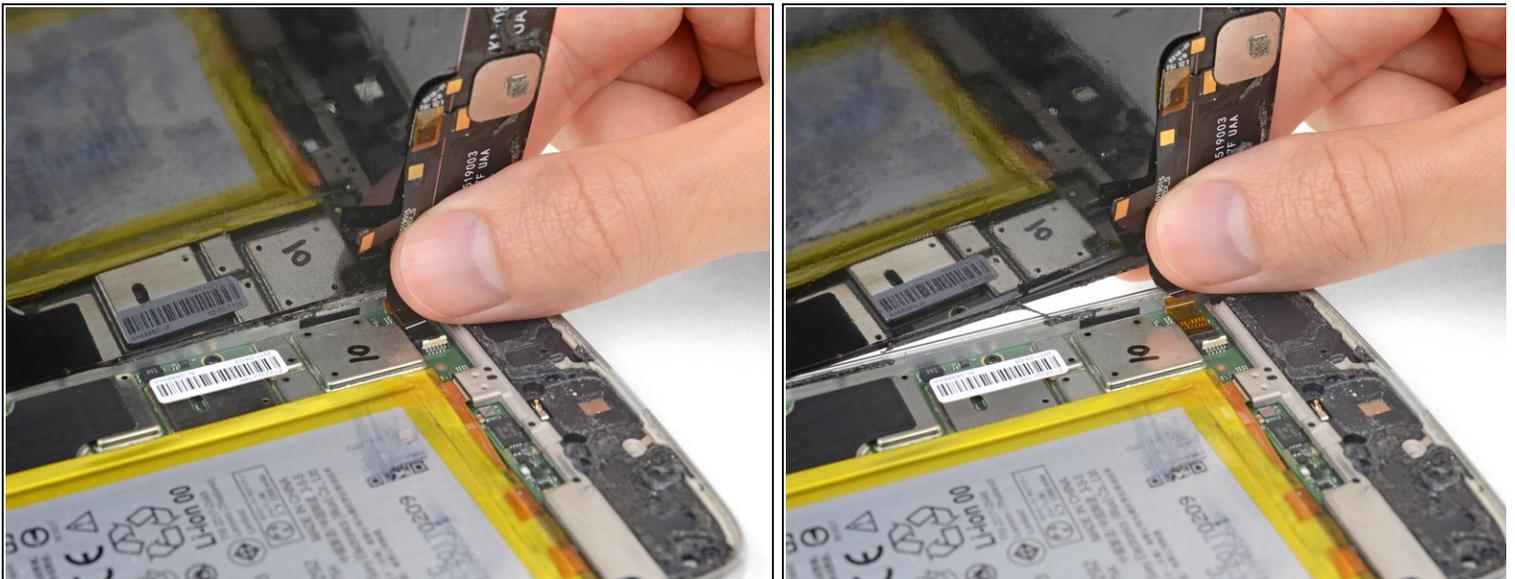
- While holding the display open, use the point of a spudger to pry up the locking tab on the fingerprint sensor cable's [ZIF connector](#).

Step 16



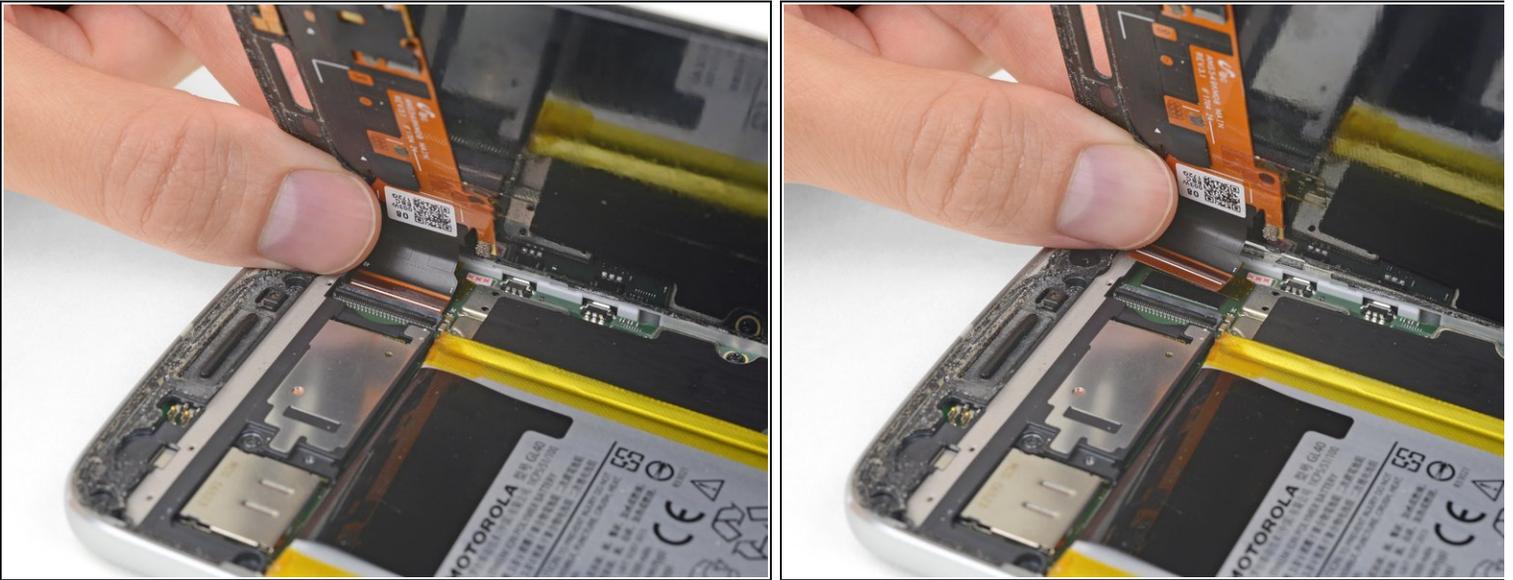
- At the opposite end of the phone, use your spudger to flip open the locking tab on the display cable connector.

Step 17



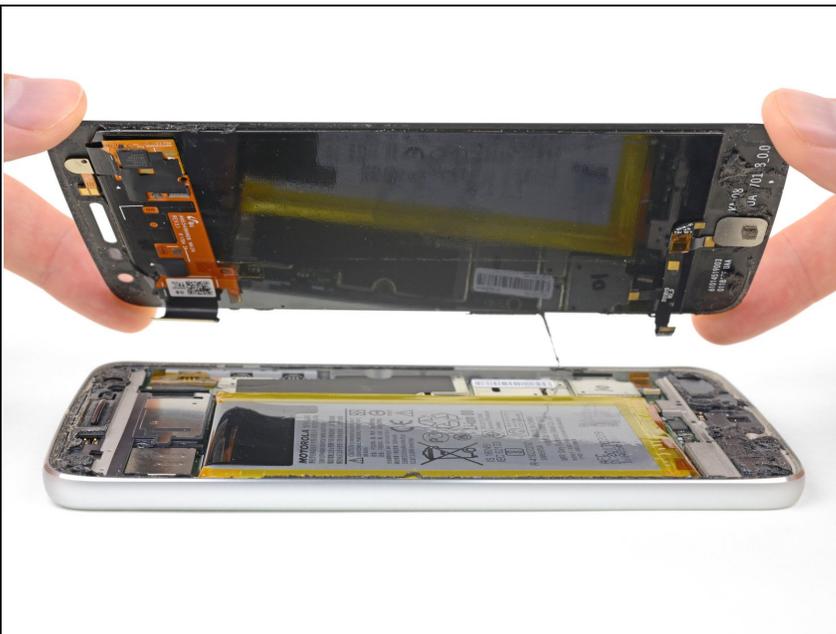
- Gently pull the fingerprint sensor cable to slide it out of its socket, disconnecting it from the motherboard.

Step 18



- Gently pull the display cable to slide it out of its socket on the motherboard.

Step 19



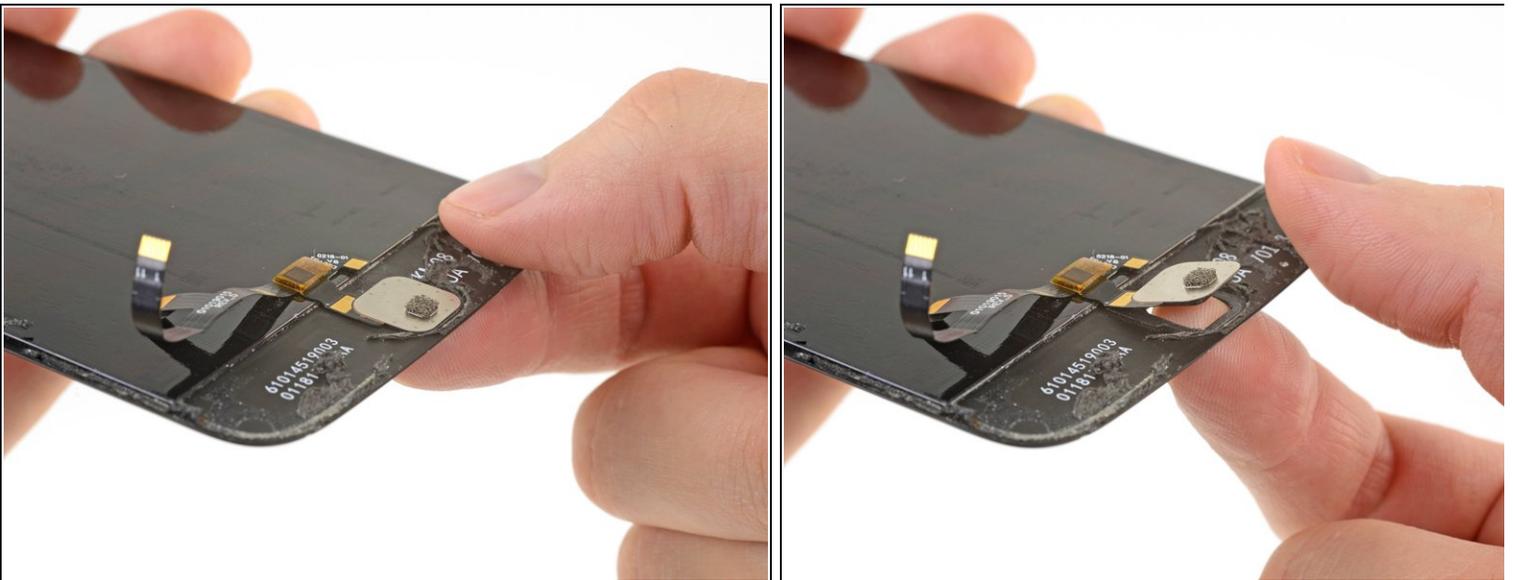
- Remove the display assembly.

Step 20 — Display Components



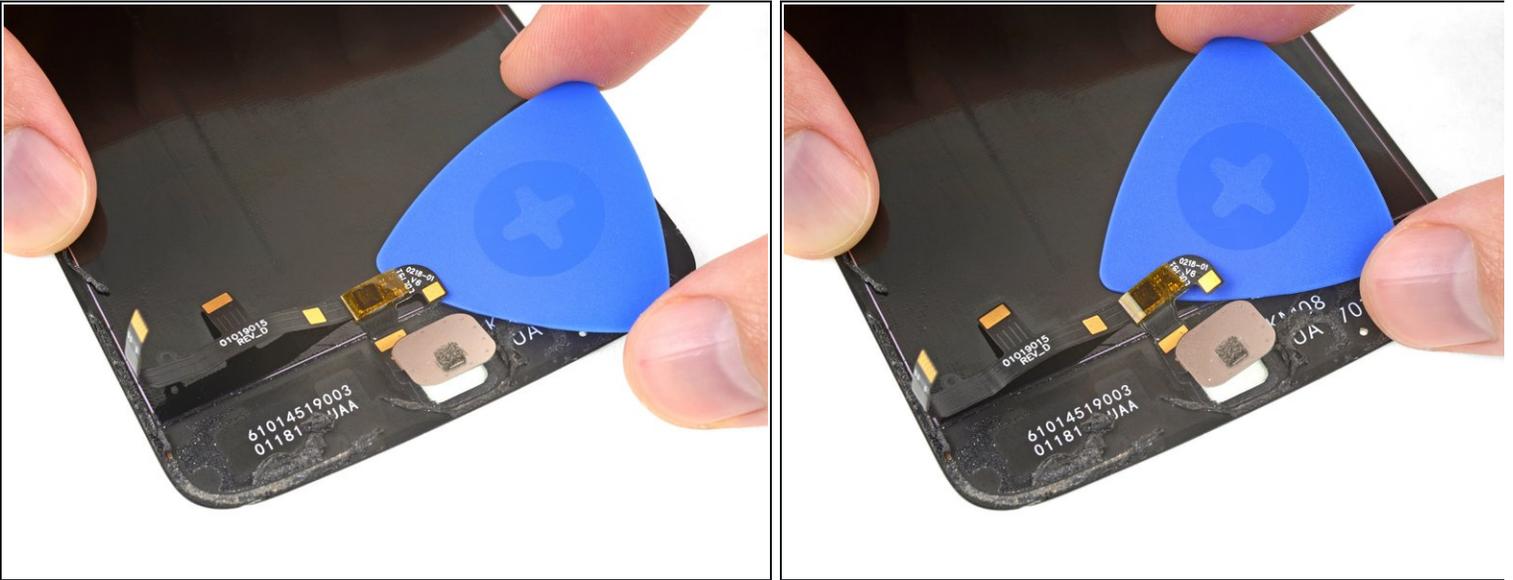
- ★ If your replacement display does not already include a flash assembly and fingerprint sensor, complete the following steps to transfer those components from your old display to your new display.
- Apply heat for 2-3 minutes to the bezel area below the display on your old display assembly, in order to soften the adhesive securing the fingerprint sensor.

Step 21



- Using your finger, press firmly on the outward-facing side of the fingerprint sensor until it separates from the display assembly.

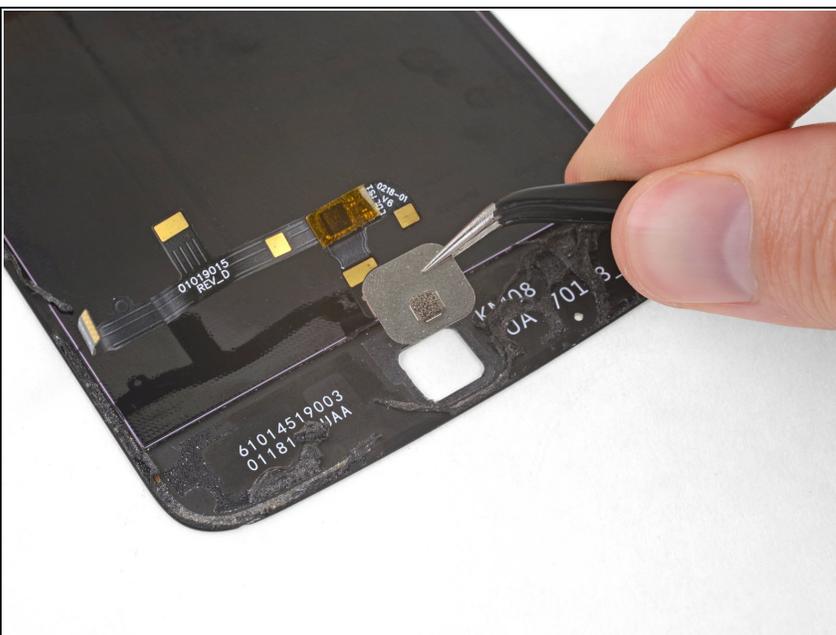
Step 22



- Slide an opening pick underneath the fingerprint sensor's flex cable, and carefully cut through the adhesive securing it in place.

⚠ Be careful not to damage the flex cable. If necessary, apply more heat to further soften the adhesive.

Step 23



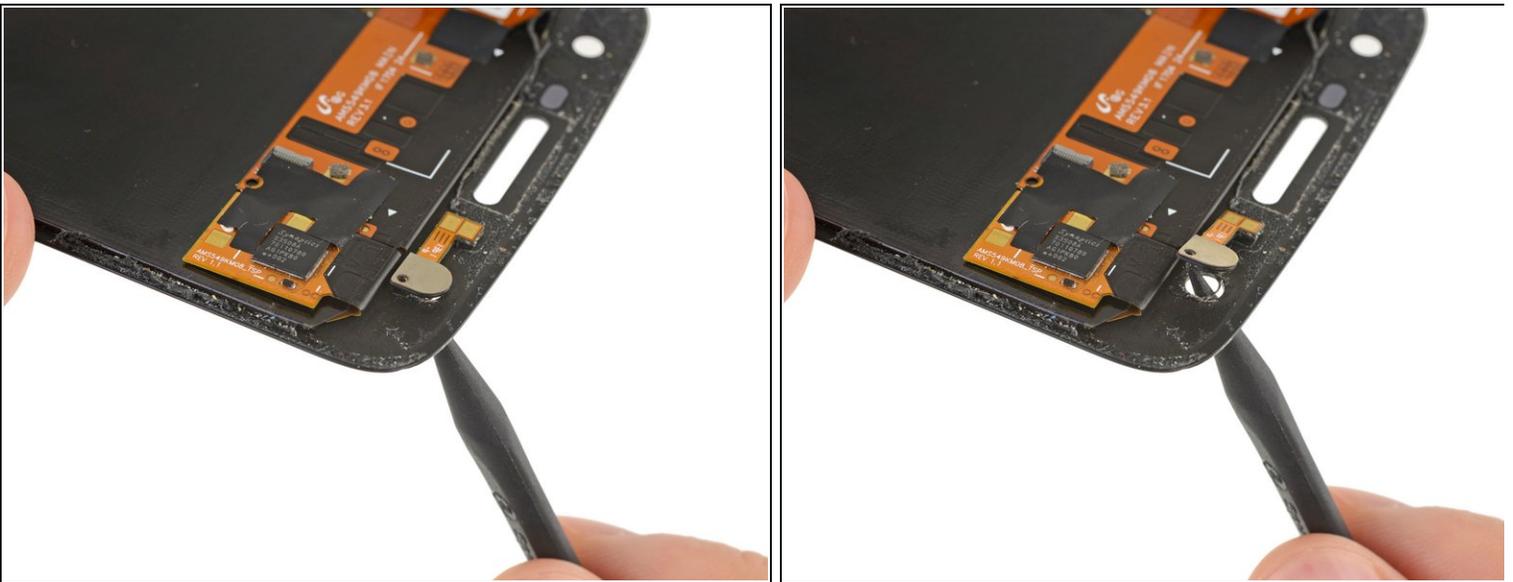
- Remove the fingerprint sensor from the old display and set it aside.

Step 24



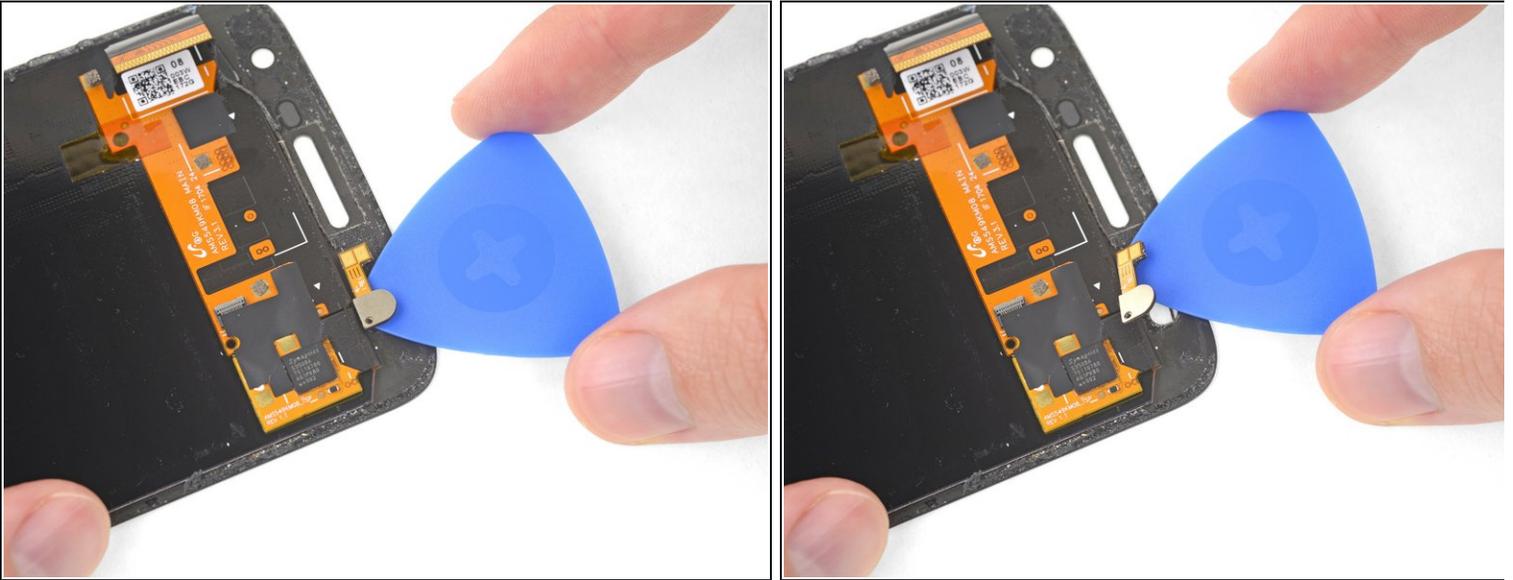
- Apply heat for 2-3 minutes to the top bezel area above the display on your old display assembly, in order to soften the adhesive securing the front camera flash.

Step 25



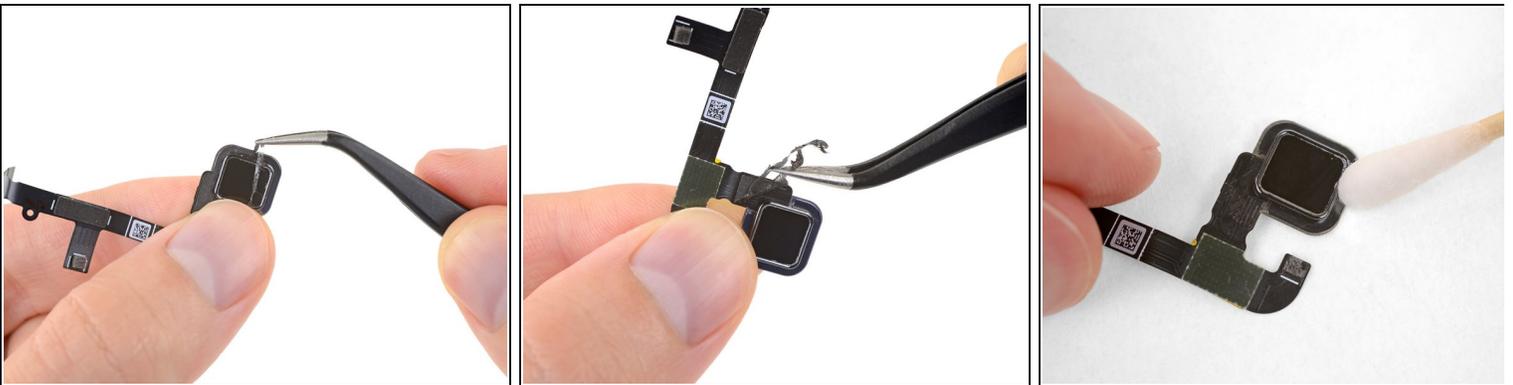
- Use the point of a spudger to push the outward-facing side of the camera flash until it separates from the display assembly.

Step 26



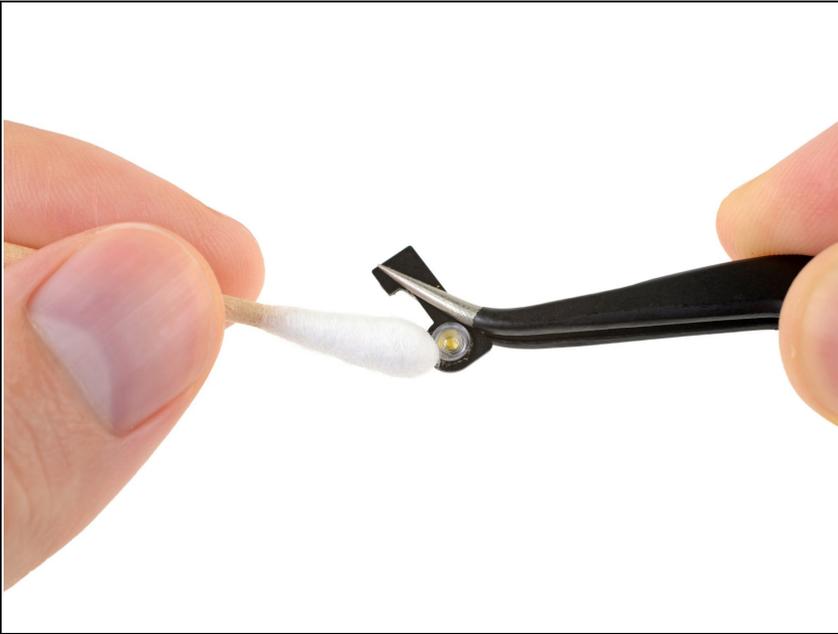
- Slide an opening pick underneath the flash flex cable, and carefully cut through the adhesive securing it in place.
- Remove the front camera flash and set it aside.

Step 27



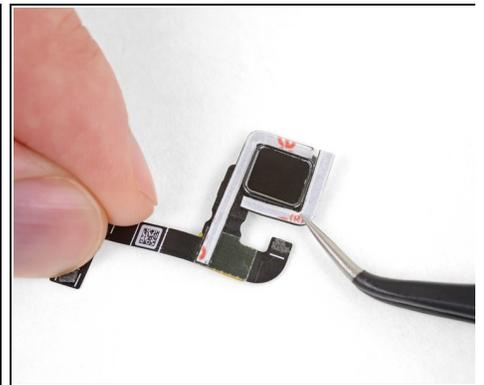
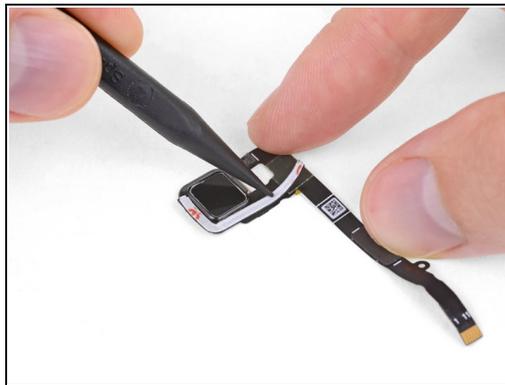
- Carefully peel away and remove any remaining old adhesive from the fingerprint sensor.
- For best results, clean the adhered areas with isopropyl alcohol to help prep the surface for the new adhesive.

Step 28



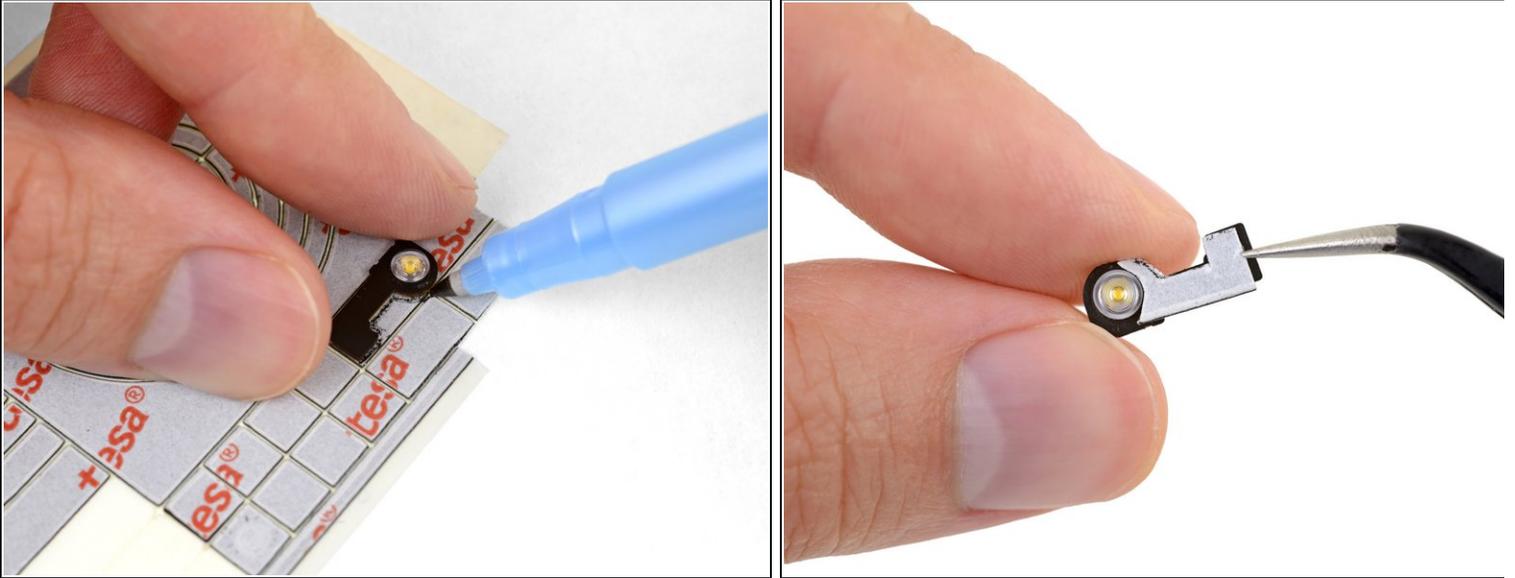
- Remove any remaining adhesive from the flash assembly as well. If desired, clean it thoroughly with isopropyl alcohol.

Step 29



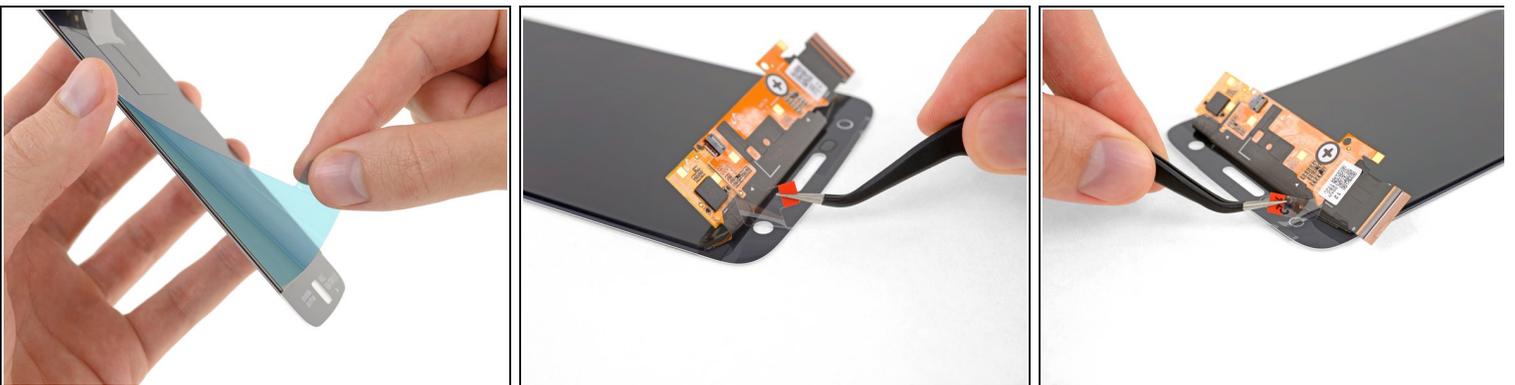
- Cut two pieces of L-shaped double-sided adhesive tape, and stick them firmly to the perimeter of the fingerprint sensor as shown.

Step 30



- Use the flash assembly and a fine-point pen or marker to trace out an appropriately-sized piece of double-sided adhesive tape.
- Cut the tape to about the right size and shape and apply it to the front-facing side of the flash assembly.

Step 31



- Remove any protective tapes or films from the back of your new display assembly.

Step 32



- Peel off and remove the liner from the adhesive tape on the fingerprint sensor.
- Place your new display face-down, and carefully lower the fingerprint sensor into position on the back.
- Press firmly on the back of the fingerprint sensor for several seconds to allow the adhesive to bond and secure it in place.

Step 33



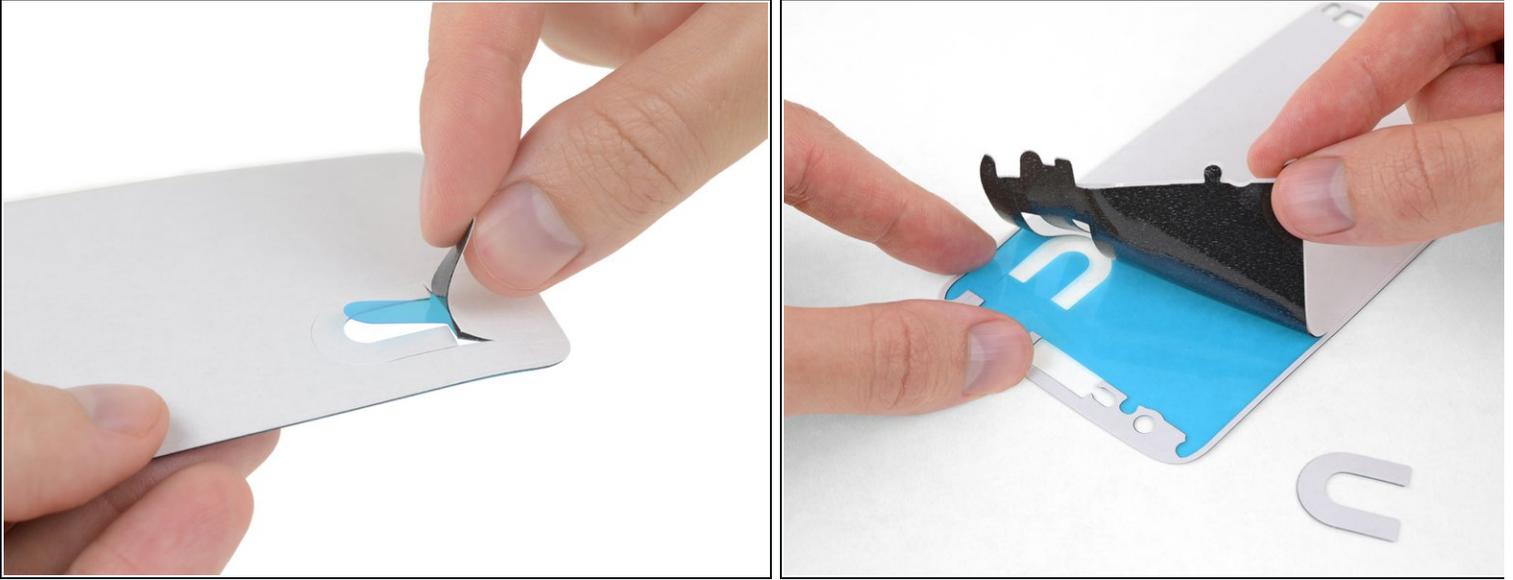
- Peel away the liner from the adhesive tape on the flash assembly, and press the flash into place on the back of the new display.
- ☑ Be sure to install the flash assembly in its original, horizontal alignment, or the copper pads on the back won't line up with the spring contacts in the phone, and your flash won't work.

Step 34 — Display Installation



- Peel away and remove all the old display adhesive from the body of your phone.
 - ☑ If you're reinstalling your existing display, remove all the old adhesive from that as well.
- Use the point of your spudger to scour away and remove any smaller bits of adhesive that remain stuck.
 - ⚠ Be extremely careful not to accidentally puncture the battery with your spudger.
- For best results, clean the area underneath the removed adhesive with isopropyl alcohol to help prep the surface so the new adhesive bonds more strongly.

Step 35



i Some pre-cut adhesive sheets for the display contain up to three layers: a plastic liner (usually blue), an adhesive layer in the middle (black), and a wax paper liner (white).

- If yours came with a paper liner, peel it away and remove it.

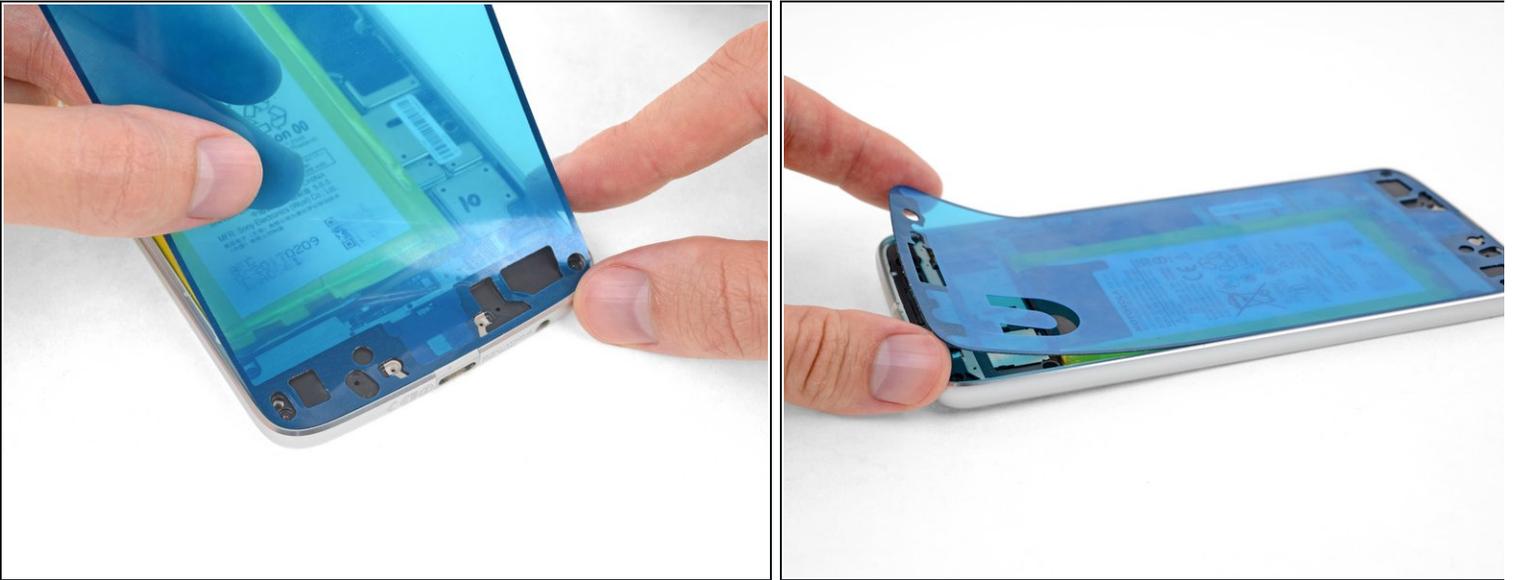
Step 36



- Peel off and discard any remaining paper liner, exposing the adhesive on one side.

✦ Before you continue, the adhesive sheet should look like the third image.

Step 37



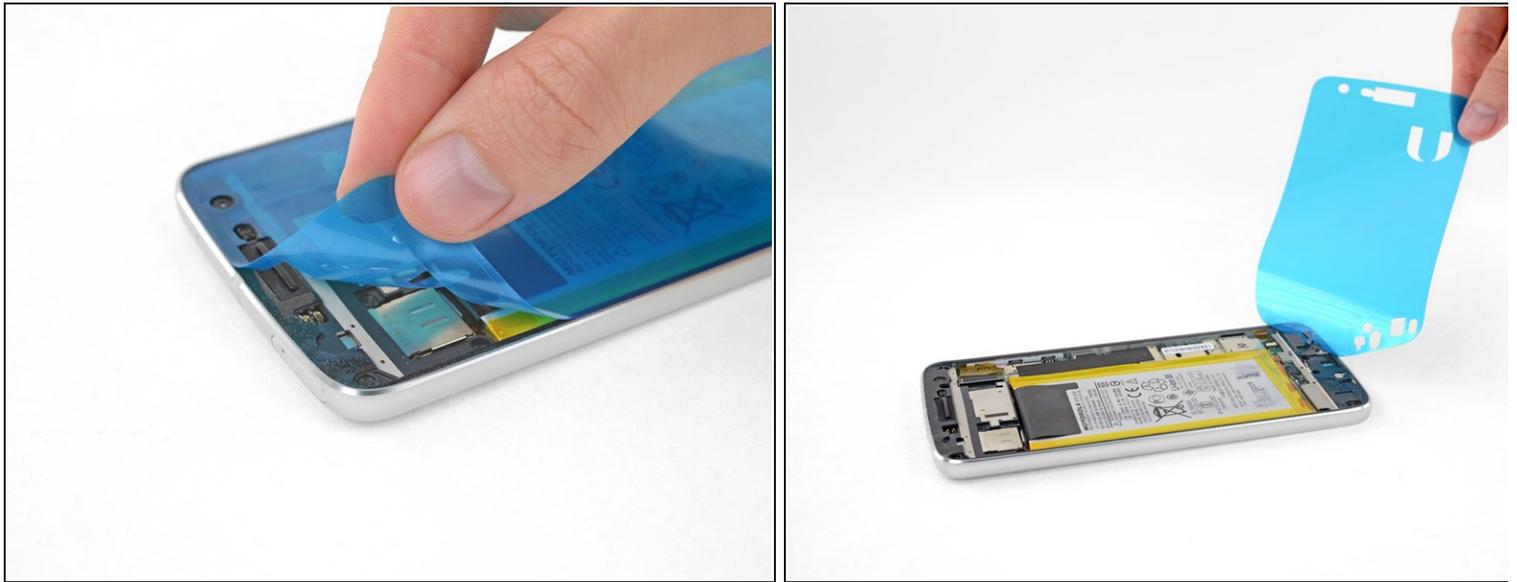
- Hold the adhesive sheet with the exposed adhesive facing down, and carefully align it into the lower edge of the phone.
 - ⚠ Make sure the adhesive sheet is oriented correctly—the edge with multiple holes lines up with the bottom edge, and the rectangular cutout for the earpiece speaker lines up at the top.
- When it's correctly aligned, lower the rest of the adhesive sheet into the phone.

Step 38



- Firmly press the adhesive into place.
- Use the flat edge of your spudger to press along the edges and hard-to-reach areas.
 - ⚠ Be very careful not to accidentally puncture the battery with your spudger.

Step 39



- Peel off and discard the plastic liner, exposing the display adhesive.

Step 40



- Before sealing the display in place, connect the flex cables for the display and fingerprint sensor, and then power your phone on.
- Test all functions to make sure your repair was successful before sealing up the display.
- ☞ When fully inserted, the white line across each flex cable should be even with the markings on the motherboard on each side of the cable.
- ⚠ Do not remove, insert, or adjust the cables while the phone is powered on.
- ☞ The cables can be tricky to align and install. Be sure not to touch the gold contacts on the back, or your finger oils may cause a malfunction. If you do accidentally touch them, wipe them gently with isopropyl alcohol.

Step 41



- When your repair is tested and complete, press the display firmly into place and remove any plastic liners from the screen.
- ✦ To help the display adhesive bond more securely, heat the perimeter of the display and then place the phone face-up under a heavy stack of books for 30 minutes.
- ⓘ Don't rest the phone on its camera bump while doing this, or the uneven pressure may prevent your display from adhering correctly. Place a couple thin books under the phone on either side of the camera bump to elevate it and keep the pressure in the right place.

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

Repair didn't go as planned? Check out our [Answers community](#) for troubleshooting help.