Instructions to replace Hard Drive in iBook 500



Revised: June 24, 2001 – Added the Screw template (page 10) and clarified some of the instructions.

- 1. Kiss your old hard drive goodbye (but seriously, backup your data).
- 2. Open the CD/DVD/CDRW drive and shutdown the iBook. If the drive closes don't worry, push a small paper clip into the hole by the power connector.
- 3. Setup on a large flat area and get your tools ready:
 - Jeweler's flat head and Phillips screwdriver.
 - Small flat head and Phillips screwdriver.
 - Small needle nose pliers.
 - Small Allen wrench
 - Small Torx driver (T-9 I'm told).
- 4. Place the iBook on a soft cloth (upside down). Remove the (3) small feet and the battery. I found it easiest to use the Jeweler's flat head and pry in between the rubber foot and the metal ring. The feet pop out easily.
- 5. Remove the (5) screws from the bottom along with the (3) Allen screws. The two long ones go in the back.



6. Remove the (2) screws from inside the CD/DVD/CDRW. Slide it out just a little and you'll be able to get at the second screw.





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7. Remove the (2) screws from inside the battery compartment. They are next to the battery connector.



8. Start removing the bottom cover. Carefully pry the case off. I started with the battery compartment. Notice the small clip inside the battery compartment and as you're prying the bottom cover use your small jewelers screwdriver to release the clip.





9. The bottom cover has now been removed.

10. From the bottom, remove the small screw next to the latch (sleep LED). Remove the small long screw from the front left corner (it holds the top lid on) Remove the (2) screws from inside the battery area.



- 11. Open the iBook up and remove the Keyboard.
- 12. Remove the (6) screws inside the keyboard area and the (2) small screws holding down the Airport plate.



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- 13. Unplug both the Track pad (carefully pry up the ribbon cable clamp) and the keyboard.
- 14. Unplug the (2) connecting wires that are attached to the underside of the top cover from the main board (Carefully pull straight up with needle nose pliers).
- 15. Remove the top cover (carefully). I started in the back left corner along with the front right corner (battery compartment).



16. Remove the screws from the front left corner, just enough to lift up the shield and get at the hard drive.



- 17. Unplug the ribbon cable (labeled "To Main Board").
- 18. Carefully unplug the wire in the front left corner and the tape holding it down to the hard drive.
- 19. Lift up and out the hard drive and carefully unplug the ribbon cable.
- 20. Remove the brackets and then using a small Torx driver, remove the (4) small screws.
- 21. Remove the metal tape shield from the back of the hard drive.

You've removed the hard drive!



Screw Template (holder)

(I recommend you printout this page and use it to place the screws on)

The Bottom Cover and Bottom Screws (14 screws):

- (3) Remove feet and screws Small
- (3) Bottom Allen screws (2) long in the back, (1) short in the middle front
- (2) CD/DVD/CDRW screws Very small
- (2) Battery compartment base screws Small
- (2) Battery compartment top lid screws Very small
- (1) Sleep LED screw Small short
- (1) Corner screw Small long

The Keyboard and Top Cover (7 screws):

- ♦ (2) Memory / Airport cover plate Very small
- (3) Keyboard screws Small
- (1) Keyboard magnet remove magnet then screw Small
- (1) Keyboard metal shield Small

The Metal Shielding and Hard Drive (9 screws):

(This is kind of tricky identifying the screws, the goal is to remove just enough screws to allow you to lift the metal shield and gain access to the hard drive - you do not have to remove the entire shield!)

- (1) Metal cover over hard drive FRONT screw Small short
- (2) Metal cover over hard drive In between hard drive area and keyboard section screws – Small
- (2) Metal cover over battery connector Very small
- (2) Metal cover over CD/DVD/CDRW area Very small
- (2) Metal cover left side middle Very small

Screw descriptions:

Very small – Use the Jeweler's Phillips screwdriver only. Example – The two screws that hold down the plate over the memory.

Small – Use either the Jeweler's or regular Phillips screwdriver. Example – Remove keyboard and any of the three screws you can see.

Small short – Use either the Jeweler's or regular Phillips screwdriver. Example – The screw holding the latch mechanism or the hard drive metal cover, front screw.

Small long – Use either the Jeweler's or regular Phillips screwdriver. Example – There is only one of these screws, after you remove the bottom cover it is located in the corner.

If you've removed more than 30 screws... good for you! But I can't help you put them all back ©

Install your new hard drive!

- 1. Install the metal tape shield and the (4) screw plugs into the new hard drive.
- 2. Install the (2) brackets onto the side of the new hard drive.
- 3. Place the hard drive back into the case and carefully plug in the ribbon cable.
- 4. Carefully plug in the wire in the front left corner and replace the tape holding it down to the hard drive.
- 5. Plug in the ribbon cable (labeled "To Main Board").
- 6. Replace the shield and install the screws.
- 7. Replace the top cover, but only enough to reconnect the (2) wires to the main board from step (14).
- 8. Once the wires are connected reseat the top cover. Start with the back right corner (power connector) and carefully place back into position.
- 9. From the bottom, install the screw that holds the sleep LED and the long screw located in the front left corner.
- 10. Reinstall all of the keyboard area screws (6); plug in the Track pad and the keyboard ribbon cable. When plugging in the Track pad make sure the ribbon cable connector is released (the ribbon cable will slide right in, push the top down to lock it in place).
- 11. Install the Airport plate using the (2) small screws. Reinstall the Airport card if needed.
- 12. Carefully put the keyboard back in place.
- 13. Replace the bottom cover, sliding it squarely into position. It will snap into place.
- 14. Replace the (2) screws from inside the CD/DVD/CDRW. Slide it out just a little and you'll be able to get at the second screw.
- 15. Replace the (4) screws inside the battery compartment. Two are next to the battery connector and the other two are holding the top lid on.
- 16. Replace the (5) screws into the bottom along with the (3) Allen screws. The two long ones go in the back.
- 17. Replace the battery.
- 18. Wipe with a clean dry cloth (cheese cloth works best).
- 19. Power on the iBook and clear the PRAM (hold {option} + {command} + "P" + "R") until you hear the start up tones at least three times.
- 20. If your hard drive is brand new you'll have to boot up from your CD and re-install. If your CD is from another laptop, be prepared to at least update the hard drive driver using Drive Setup from your iBook CD.