

# Nothing Phone (1) Battery Replacement

Written By: Dominik Schnabelrauch



# INTRODUCTION

Use this guide to replace a worn-out or dead battery in your Nothing Phone (1).

If your battery is swollen, take appropriate precautions.

For your safety, discharge the battery below 25% before disassembling your phone. This reduces the risk of fire if the battery is accidentally damaged during the repair.

You'll need replacement adhesive to reattach the rear glass when reassembling the device. Your device will function normally, but will most likely lose its IP (Ingress Protection) rating.

```
TOOLS:
                                                             PARTS:
                                                           • Precut Adhesive Card (1)
• iOpener (1)
                                                           optional
• iFixit Opening Picks (Set of 6) (1)

    Suction Handle (1)

• Heat Gun (1)
optional

    iFixit Adhesive Remover (for Battery, Screen,

and Glass Adhesive) (1)
optional

    Microfiber Cleaning Cloths (1)

optional

    Isopropyl Alcohol (90% or Greater) (1)

    ESD Safe Tweezers Blunt Nose (1)

• Tweezers (1)
• Spudger (1)
```

# Step 1 — Heat the rear glass



- Prepare an iOpener and apply it to the rear glass for at least two minutes to loosen the adhesive underneath.
  - A hair dryer, <u>heat gun</u>, 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 2 — Insert an opening pick



- Secure a suction handle to the bottom edge of the rear glass, as close to the edge as possible.
- (i) If the rear glass is cracked, the suction handle may not stick. Try <u>lifting it with strong tape</u>, or superglue the suction handle in place and allow it to cure so you can proceed.
- Lift the rear glass with the suction handle to create a small gap between the back cover and the frame.
  - *(i)* If you're having trouble creating a gap, apply more heat to further soften the adhesive. Follow the <u>iOpener</u> instructions to avoid overheating.
- Insert an opening pick into the gap you created.
- Slide the opening pick to the bottom right corner to slice the adhesive.
- Leave the opening pick in place to prevent the adhesive from resealing.

# Step 3 — Slice the adhesive



- Insert a second opening pick at the bottom edge of your phone.
- Slide the opening pick to the bottom left corner to slice the adhesive.
- Leave the opening picks in place to prevent the adhesive from resealing.

## Step 4 — Slice the adhesive



Mhen you slice near the glyph, insert only the tip of the opening pick (~2-3 mm) to avoid damaging the LEDs.

- (i) If the adhesive becomes hard to cut, it has most likely cooled down. Use your iOpener for one to two minutes to reheat it.
- Insert a third opening pick at the bottom left corner of your phone.
- Slide the opening pick along the left edge of your phone to slice the adhesive.
- Leave the opening pick in the top left corner to prevent the adhesive from resealing.

# Step 5



- Insert a fourth opening pick underneath the top left corner of your phone.
- Slide the opening pick along the top edge to slice the adhesive.
- Leave the opening pick in the top right corner to prevent the adhesive from resealing.

# Step 6



- Insert a fifth opening pick underneath the top right corner.
- Slide the opening pick along the right edge of the rear glass to slice the remaining adhesive.
- (i) At this point, the rear glass should be separated from the frame. If there's still resistance around the edges of the glass, use an opening pick to separate any remaining adhesive.

#### Step 7 — Remove the rear glass



- Remove the rear glass.
- Apply new adhesive where necessary after cleaning the relevant areas with isopropyl alcohol (>90%).
  - *i* Since the rear glass of the Nothing Phone (1) is transparent a <u>dust blower</u> may come in handy for cleaning before installing a new rear glass.
- Secure the new back cover with pre-cut adhesive or double-sided adhesive tape. After installing the back cover, apply strong, steady pressure to your phone for several minutes to help the adhesive form a good bond—a stack of heavy books works well.

## Step 8 — Remove the plastic cover



- (i) The plastic covering the earpiece speaker is held in place by mild adhesive. If you're having a hard time removing it, apply a <u>heated iOpener</u> for 1-2 minutes to loosen the adhesive underneath.
- Insert an opening pick underneath the grey plastic cover at the top edge of your phone.
- Use your opening pick to pry up the plastic cover.
- Remove the plastic cover.



# Step 9 — Unfasten the earpiece speaker screws

 Use a Torx T5 screwdriver to remove the two 4.2 mm-long screws securing the earpiece speaker.

## Step 10 — Remove the earpiece speaker



- Insert the flat end of a spudger underneath the bottom edge of the earpiece speaker.
- Use your spudger to pry up the earpiece speaker.
- Use a pair of tweezers or your fingers to remove the earpiece speaker.

### Step 11 — Disconnect the flash assembly LED glyph cables



- Use a spudger to disconnect the flash assembly cable by prying the connector straight up from its socket.
- Use a spudger to disconnect the LED glyph cable by prying the connector straight up from its socket.

## Step 12 — Remove the recording indicator light cover



- Insert an opening pick underneath the recording indicator light cover at the top right corner of the screen.
- Use your opening pick to pry up the plastic cover.
- Use a pair of tweezers or your fingers to remove the recording indicator light cover.



## Step 13 — Unfasten the motherboard cover screws

 Use a Torx T5 screwdriver to remove the four 4.2 mm-long screws securing the motherboard cover.

# Step 14 — Unfasten the daughterboard screws



 Use a Torx T5 screwdriver to remove the four 4.2 mm-long screws securing the daughterboard cover.

## Step 15 — Remove the bottom LED glyph assembly



Be very careful when working on the bottom LED assembly. There's a <u>cable running underneath</u> its whole surface that can be damaged easily.

- (i) The bottom LED assembly is held in place by small pieces of adhesive.
- Slide an opening pick underneath the right, bottom and left edge of the bottom LED assembly to carefully separate it from the daughterboard cover.
  - ▲ Do not slide the opening pick deeper than shown in the photos. Otherwise you risk damaging the LED cable.

## Step 16 — Fold over the bottom LED assembly



The bottom LED assembly is still held in place by a small piece of adhesive sitting between the cable winds. Avoid straining or tearing the cable when folding the assembly over.

• Use a pair of blunt nosed tweezers and carefully fold the bottom LED assembly over to get free access to the LED cable connector.

## Step 17 — Open the connector bracket



(i) The LED connector bracket sits very tight and may require some force to open it.

- Insert one arm of a pair of tweezers into the gap at the right side of the connector bracket.
- Push your tweezers toward the left edge of the phone to free the closure flap of the connector bracket.
  - (i) If you're struggling to free the flap, pull the black rubber piece to the left to give the bracket more room.
- Lift the connector bracket with your tweezers to access the LED connector.



Step 18 — Disconnect the LED cable

• Use a spudger to disconnect the LED cable by prying the connector straight up from its socket. This document was generated on 2022-09-05 07:46:45 AM (MST).

# Step 19 — Remove the bottom LED assembly



• Use a pair of tweezers or your fingers to remove the bottom LED assembly.



## Step 20 — Unfasten the daughterboard cover screws

 Use a Torx T5 screwdriver to remove the five 4.2 mm-long screws securing the daughterboard cover

## Step 21 — Remove the plastic shield



- (i) The grey plastic shield on top of the daughterboard cover is held in place by mild adhesive.
- Use a pair of tweezers to carefully separate the grey plastic shield from the daughterboard cover and remove it.

#### Step 22 — Fingerprint cable information



When prying up the daughterboard cover in the following step be very careful and avoid levering with too much force or to press your prying tool too deep underneath the cover. Otherwise, the fingerprint cable running underneath can be easily torn.

## Step 23 — Pry up the daughterboard cover



- Insert the pointed end of a spudger underneath the top edge of the daughterboard cover just above the black rubber guard securing the LED connector bracket.
- Pry up with the spudger to release the daughterboard cover from its clips.

# Step 24 — Remove the daughterboard cover



• Use a pair of tweezers or your fingers to remove the daughterboard cover.

# Step 25 — Remove the black rubber guard



• Use a pair of tweezers to remove the black rubber guard securing the LED connector bracket.

#### Step 26 — Remove the connector bracket



• Use a pair of tweezers to remove the LED connector bracket.

## Step 27 — Disconnect the interconnect cable



 Use a spudger to disconnect the interconnect cable by prying the connector straight up from its socket.

#### Step 28 — Separate the interconnect cable adhesive



- (i) The interconnect cable is held in place by mild adhesive.
- Carefully slide an opening pick underneath the interconnect cable to separate it from the charging coil assembly and the loudspeaker.

# Step 29 — Fold over the interconnect cable



A During the following step do not fold the cable sharply and only bend it to avoid cable damage.

• Use a pair of tweezers to fold the interconnect cable to the left like you'd open the cover of a book.

# Step 30 — Separate the wireless charging coil adhesive



- (i) The charging coil assembly is held in place by mild adhesive.
- Insert an opening pick underneath the bottom right edge of the charging coil assembly.
- Slide the opening along the right edge of the charging coil assembly to separate the adhesive.

# Step 31



- Insert an opening pick underneath the bottom left edge of the charging coil assembly.
- Slide the opening along the left edge of the charging coil assembly to separate the adhesive.

# Step 32 — Fold over the charging board assembly



Mhen folding the charging coil assembly over avoid straining components and cables.

• Carefully fold the charging coil to the top edge of the phone to access the motherboard cover screws.

### Step 33 — Unfasten the motherboard cover screws



 Use a Phillips screwdriver to remove the three 4.2 mm-long screws securing the motherboard cover.

#### Step 34 — Separate the camera cover and flash assembly



- Return the charging coil to its original position.
- ▲ Don't try to remove the camera cover and flash assembly all the way. Its cable runs underneath the motherboard cover and is very fragile.
- Carefully slide an opening pick underneath the camera cover and flash assembly to separate it from the motherboard cover.

## Step 35 — Fold over the camera cover and flash assembly



Avoid straining the camera cover and flash assembly cable when folding it over.

• Use a pair of tweezers to carefully fold the camera cover and flash assembly toward the battery.

# Step 36 — Unfasten the motherboard cover screws



- Use a Torx T5 screwdriver to remove the two 4.2 mm-long screws securing the motherboard cover.
- Return the camera cover and flash assembly to its original position.

## Step 37 — Pry up the motherboard cover



- Carefully fold the charging coil to the top edge of the phone to access the bottom edge of the motherboard cover.
- Insert the flat end of a spudger underneath the bottom right edge of the motherboard cover.
- Pry up with the spudger to release the motherboard cover from its clips.
- Repeat the prying procedure for the bottom left edge of the motherboard cover.

# Step 38 — Remove the LED glyph assembly



• Remove the LED glyph assembly.

# Step 39 — Disconnect the battery cable



• Use a spudger to disconnect the battery cable by prying the connector straight up from its socket.

## Step 40 — Peel off the battery pull-tab



- A Take care not to puncture or bend the battery with your tool—a punctured or bent battery may leak dangerous chemicals or cause fire.
- Use a pair of blunt nose tweezers or a clean fingernail to peel the pull-tab labeled with an **arrow** off the battery.
- Use the blunt nose tweezers to peel off remaining pieces of the pull-tab from the left battery edge.

#### Step 41 — Loosen the battery adhesive



- (i) The battery adhesive of the Nothing Phone (1) is very strong and loosening it beforehand eases the battery removal procedure and prevents damaging the cables running underneath.
  - Apply a <u>heated iOpener</u> to the screen to loosen the battery adhesive. Apply the iOpener for at least 2 minutes.
  - (i) A hair dryer, <u>heat gun</u>, or hot plate may also be used, but be careful not to overheat the device.

# Step 42 — Lift the battery



• Grab the pull-tab and pull up on the adhesive strip to lift the battery out of its recess and swing it up to an upright position.

## Step 43 — Remove the battery



- Remove the battery.
- Do not reinstall a damaged or deformed battery, as doing so is a potential safety hazard.
- Secure the new battery with pre-cut adhesive or double-sided adhesive tape. In order to position it correctly, apply the new adhesive into the device at the places where the old adhesive was located, not directly onto the battery. Press the new battery firmly into place.
  - During reassembly, temporarily reconnect the battery to the motherboard to help align it correctly. Disconnect the battery after it is seated.

If possible, turn on your device and test your repair before installing new adhesive and resealing.

To reassemble your device, follow these instructions in reverse order. During reassembly apply new adhesive where necessary after cleaning the relevant areas with isopropyl alcohol (>90%).

For optimal performance, <u>calibrate your newly installed battery</u> after completing this guide.

Take your e-waste to an <u>R2 or e-Stewards certified recycler</u>.

Repair didn't go as planned? Try some basic troubleshooting, or ask our Answers community for help.