



DualSense Joystick Replacement

Follow this guide to replace the joysticks on a...

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INTRODUCTION

Follow this guide to replace the joysticks on a Sony PlayStation 5 DualSense controller.

🔧 TOOLS:

1 x Opening Picks (1)
Spudger (1)
Phillips #00 Screwdriver (1)
Tweezers (1)
Soldering Workstation (1)
Helping Hands (1)

⚙️ PARTS:

PlayStation DualSense Controller
Joystick (1)
PS5 DualSense Controller - Gulikit TMR
Joystick (1)

Step 1 — Unclip the right end of the middle trim



⚠️ Disconnect and power down your controller before you begin.

- Insert an opening pick underneath the middle trim at the bottom-right corner of the controller to release the clips securing it to the case.

Step 2 — Unclip the lower-right edge of the middle trim



- Slide the opening pick along the lower-right edge of the middle trim to release the clips securing it to the case.

Step 3 — Unclip the left end of the middle trim



- Insert an opening pick underneath the middle trim at the bottom-left corner of the controller to release the clips securing it to the case.

Step 4 — Unclip the lower-left edge of the middle trim



- Slide the opening pick along the lower-left edge of the middle trim to release the clips securing it to the case.

Step 5 — Remove the middle trim



- Use your fingers to lift up the bottom edge of the middle trim to release the remaining clips.
- Lift the middle trim over the joysticks to remove it.

Step 6 — Remove the L1 button



- With one hand, grip the controller and use your thumb to hold down the left trigger.
- With your free hand, insert the flat end of a spudger between the **L1** and **L2** buttons.
- Use the spudger to gently pry the **L1** button away from the controller and remove it, holding your finger over the button so it doesn't eject.

Step 7 — Remove the R1 button



- Repeat the previous step to remove the **R1** button.

Step 8 — Remove the rear case screws



- Use a Phillips screwdriver to remove the two 6.4 mm screws securing the bottom corners of the lower case.

Step 9



- Use a Phillips screwdriver to remove the two 6.4 mm screws behind the **L1** and **R1** buttons.

Step 10 — Separate the rear case



⚠ Be gentle when releasing the rear cover clips—they're delicate and can easily break.

- Use the point of a spudger to release the two clips on either side of the headset jack.

Step 11



ⓘ Tight plastic clips secure the [left](#) and [right](#) edges of the rear case.

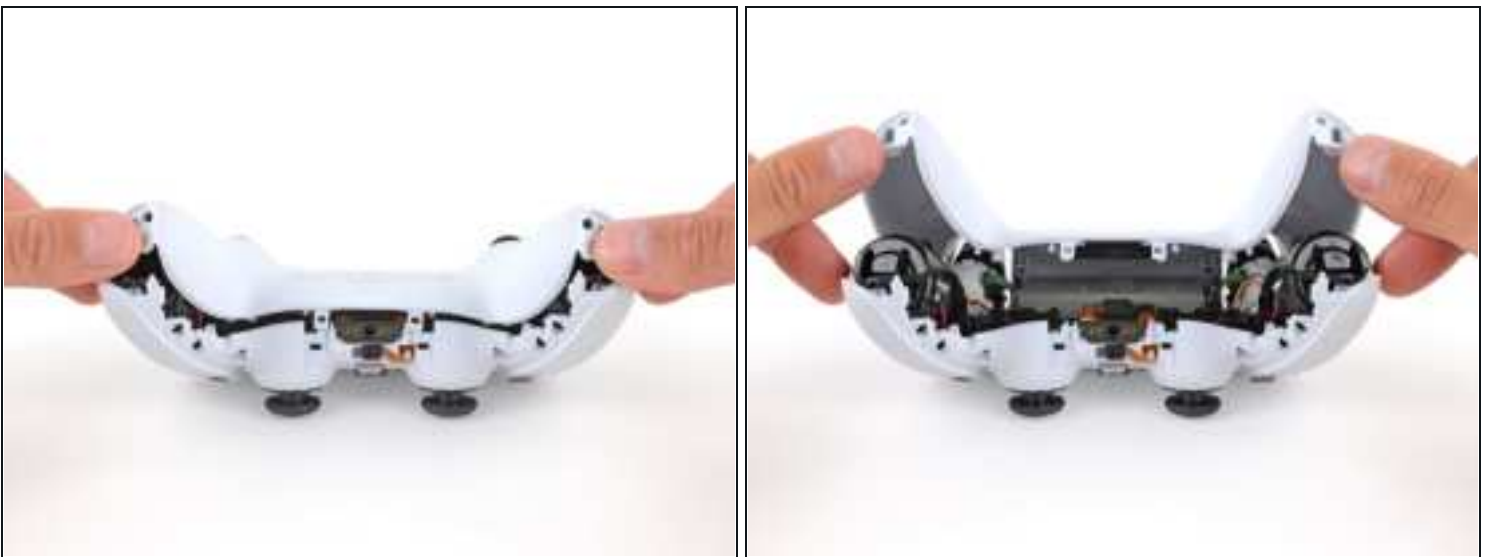
- Insert the flat end of a spudger between the front and rear shells near the bottom of the left edge.
- Slide the spudger along the left edge and gently pry the shells apart to release the clips.

Step 12



- Repeat the previous step on the right edge to release its clips.

Step 13



- Lay your controller upside down so the joysticks are on your work surface.
- Hold the controller down with your fingers and use your thumbs to lift the rear case away from the controller to fully separate it.

Step 14 — Remove the rear case



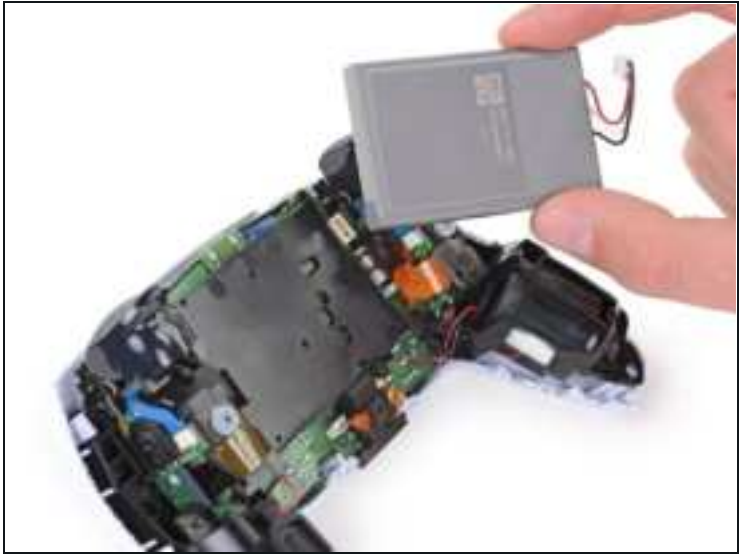
- Remove the rear case.

Step 15 — Disconnect the battery



- Use a pair of [tweezers](#) or your fingers to disconnect the battery from the motherboard.
⚠ Grip the connector, not the wires, when disconnecting.

Step 16 — Remove the battery



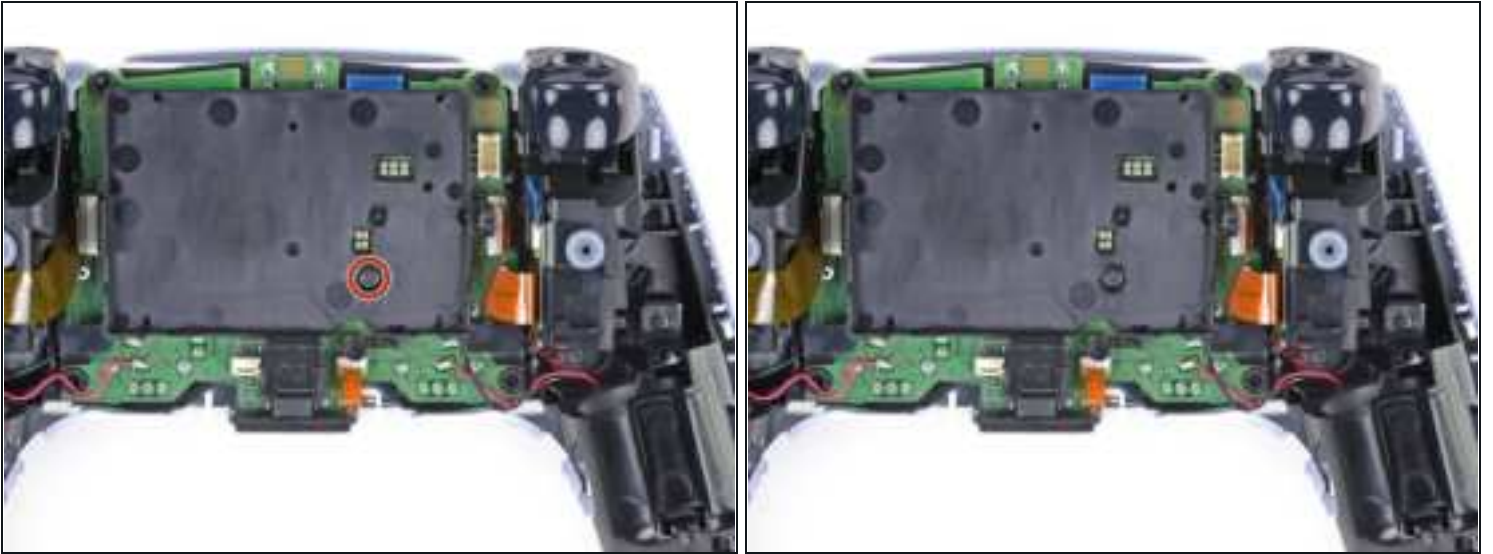
- Lift the battery straight out of the battery bracket.

Step 17 — Remove the lower microphone



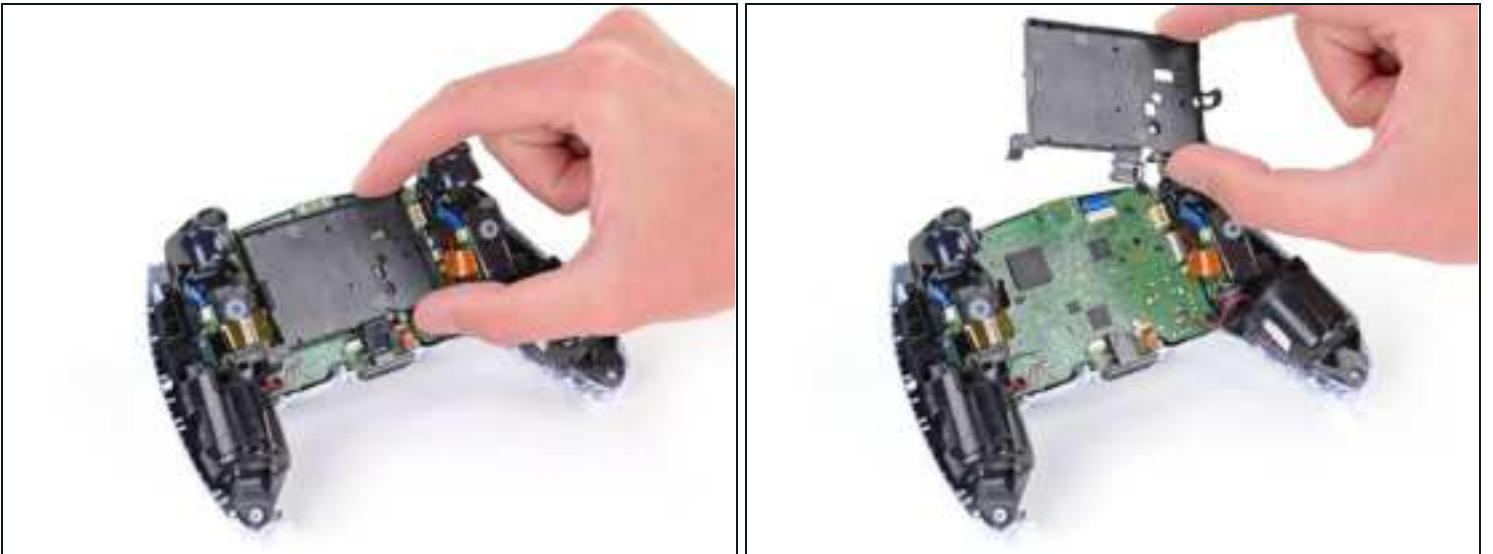
- Grab the lower microphone ribbon cable pull tab with your fingers or a pair of [tweezers](#) and disconnect it from the motherboard.

Step 18 — Remove the battery bracket



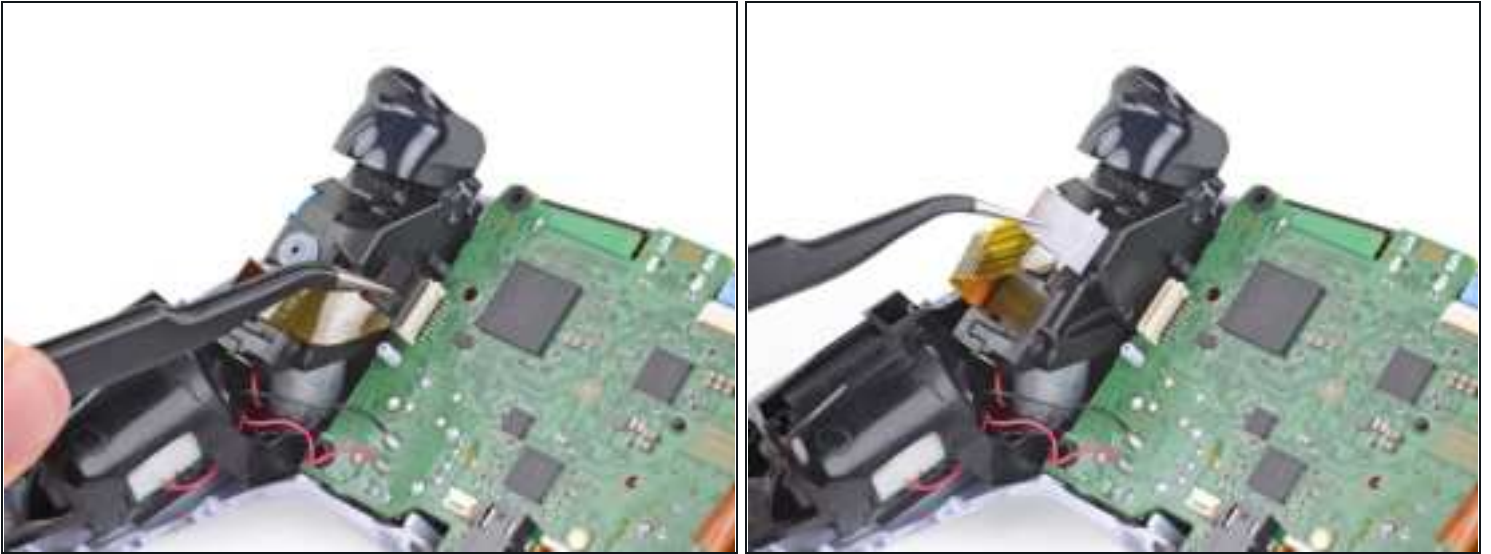
- Use a Phillips screwdriver to remove the 6.4 mm screw securing the battery bracket.

Step 19



- Lift the battery bracket out of the motherboard.

Step 20 — Disconnect the right trigger assembly



- Grip the right trigger assembly ribbon cable pull tab with a pair of tweezers or your fingers and pull up to disconnect it from the motherboard.
 - ① Do not completely remove the ribbon cable yet.

Step 21



- Grip the right trigger assembly ribbon cable pull tab with a pair of tweezers or your fingers, and pull up to disconnect it from the trigger assembly.
- Remove the ribbon cable.

Step 22 — Disconnect the left trigger assembly



- Grip the left trigger assembly ribbon cable pull tab with a pair of tweezers or your fingers and pull up to disconnect it from the motherboard.
 - ⓘ Do not completely remove the ribbon cable yet.

Step 23



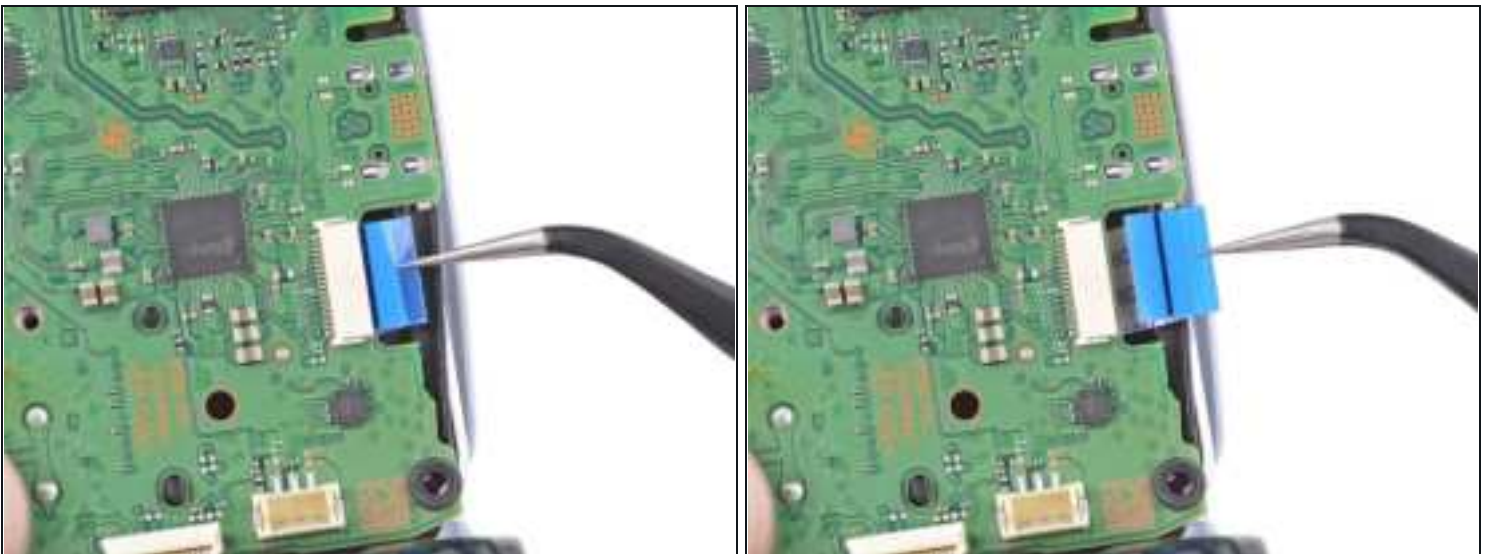
- Grip the left trigger assembly ribbon cable pull tab with a pair of tweezers or your fingers, and pull up to disconnect it from the trigger assembly.
- Remove the ribbon cable.

Step 24 — Disconnect the upper microphone



- Use a pair of tweezers or your fingers to grip the upper microphone ribbon cable pull tab, and pull up to disconnect it from the motherboard.

Step 25 — Disconnect the touchpad



- Use a pair of tweezers or your fingers to grip the touchpad ribbon cable pull tab, and pull it straight out of the motherboard connector.

Step 26 — Lift out the motherboard



- Carefully guide the joysticks through the front case and lift the motherboard out.

⚠ Do not completely remove the motherboard. There are four soldered wires tethering the motherboard to the vibrator motors.

Step 27 — Desolder the vibration motors



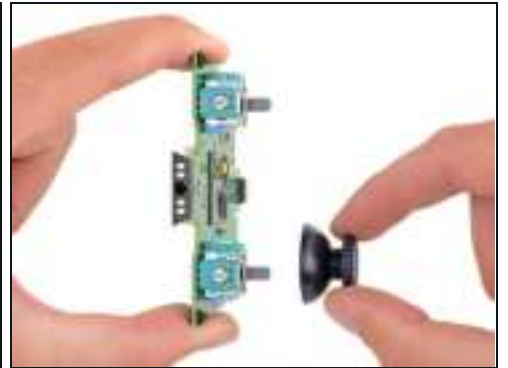
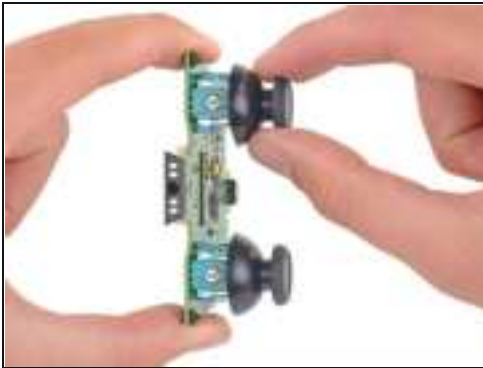
- ① The next few steps require desoldering and soldering connections. To learn how to solder, check out our [soldering guide](#)—if you've already soldered, you can still find some helpful tips and tricks in this guide!
- Flip over the controller and motherboard.
- Use a soldering iron to desolder the vibration motor wires from the motherboard:
 - Two red wires
 - Two black wires
- ☑ During reassembly, remember to solder the wires back into the same position. The red wires belong closest to the edge and next to the **Rs** on the motherboard.

Step 28



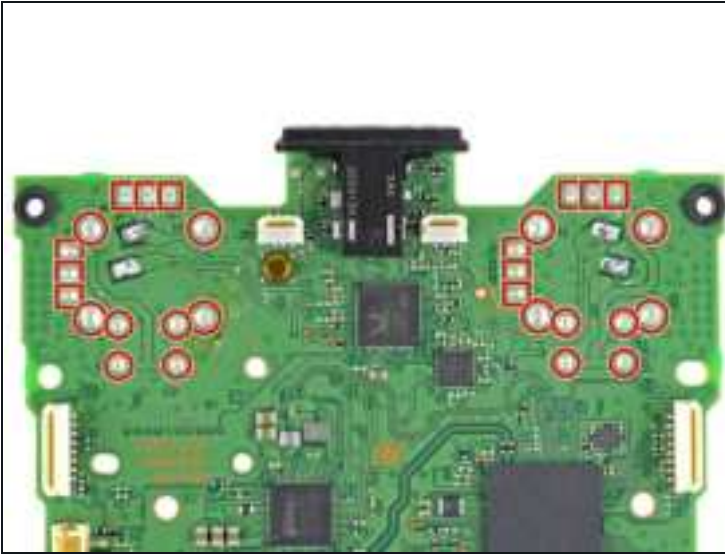
- Separate the controller from the motherboard.

Step 29 — Remove the joystick covers



- Pull the joystick covers straight off the joystick assemblies.
- Only the motherboard remains.

Step 30 — Desolder the joysticks



- Use a soldering iron and [desoldering pump](#) to desolder the fourteen connections on each joystick.
- ① See our [desoldering pump guide](#).

Step 31



- Remove the joysticks from the motherboard.

To reassemble your device, follow the above steps in reverse order.

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

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