

# Detailed instructions on how to safely and cleanly disassemble a mechanical keyboard.

This guide shows you how to properly disassemble a mechanical keyboard for cleaning, modding, or replacing keycaps, avoiding broken clips and damaged components. Discover more here!

Knowing how to properly disassemble a mechanical keyboard makes deep cleaning easier, removes dust and dirt, and extends the device's lifespan. Mastering this process also allows you to safely replace components or upgrade switches at home. Follow these instructions to minimize the risk of damaging your keyboard.

## Tools needed before disassembling a mechanical keyboard.

To safely and effectively disassemble a mechanical keyboard, please prepare the following tools:

1. **Keycap puller:** A specialized tool for removing keycaps (it's best to choose a wire puller made of steel to avoid scratching the edges of the keys).
2. **Switch puller:** To help safely remove switches from mechanical keyboards, avoiding bending the copper pins or damaging the socket.
3. **Small screwdriver:** The Phillips head (4-sided) type is common and helps to loosen the screws that secure the frame and casing.
4. **Soft brush and tweezers:** Used to remove dust from narrow crevices and to pick up small foreign objects stuck under the circuit board.
5. **Tray:** To keep screws and small components together, preventing them from getting lost during the process.
6. **Alcohol and cotton swabs:** Use to wipe surfaces and small areas; they evaporate quickly, limiting moisture in the circuit board.



Complete mechanical keyboard disassembly and cleaning kit.

## Detailed instructions on how to disassemble a mechanical keyboard.

Below is a guide on how to disassemble a mechanical keyboard, applicable to most mechanical keyboards currently available. You can also apply this method to Fuhlen and Dareu mechanical keyboards due to their similar structure.

### 1. Take a picture of the keyboard layout:

1. Before proceeding, use your phone to take a clear picture of the entire keyboard layout.



### 2. Remove the keycaps:

1. Use a keycap puller to lift each key vertically. Do not shake vigorously from side to side to avoid breaking the keycap stems.



How to remove keycaps from a mechanical keyboard

### 3. Cleaning a mechanical keyboard:

1. After disassembly, use a soft brush or compressed air to clean the surfaces. Soak the keycaps and plastic casing in cold or lukewarm water with mild soap (never use hot water).



#### 4. Reassemble all the keys:

1. Reassemble the parts in the reverse order and test all the keys before use.

**Note:** Disconnect the keyboard from the computer before attempting to disassemble a mechanical keyboard. Only remove switches if your keyboard supports hot-swap. If it's a soldered circuit board, absolutely do not use pliers to forcefully pull them out.

Gaming keyboards offer fast response, smooth typing, and durability, helping you play games more accurately. If your old keys are stuck or unresponsive, upgrade immediately to avoid interruptions to your gaming experience. Grab deals and buy genuine gaming keyboards today.

## Important notes when disassembling and cleaning a mechanical keyboard.

Before attempting to disassemble a mechanical keyboard, you need to keep a few important points in mind to ensure safety and avoid damaging the components.

1. **Ensure the power is off:** Disconnect the cord and remove the battery to avoid any problems during operation.
2. **Save the original key layout:** Take a photo of the layout to avoid incorrect installation, especially with keyboards that have a unique design.
3. **Proper removal and cleaning:** Lift the keycaps upright using a specialized tool. Use 90% alcohol, 70% alcohol, or a cleaning solution designed for the device.
4. **Water and temperature control:** Prevent liquid from getting into the switch, and do not use hot water or high-temperature dryers as this can easily damage the plastic.
5. **Ensure complete dryness before reassembly:** Allow keycaps to dry naturally for 12-24 hours and check for cracks or breaks before finalizing.

## Tips to minimize the need for frequent disassembly and cleaning.

To minimize the need to disassemble your mechanical keyboard, you should maintain the following proper usage and maintenance habits:

1. Ensure your workspace is always clean and avoid placing food or drinks on your keyboard.
2. Use the silicone cover when not in use for extended periods to prevent dust and debris from getting into the switches.
3. Wipe the keycap surface weekly with a dry or slightly damp soft cloth to remove accumulated dust.
4. Gently blow away dust between the keys using compressed air or sweep with a soft brush periodically.
5. Clean your hands before typing to avoid excess oil from getting on the keycaps.
6. Place the keyboard in a dry place, avoiding dampness to minimize dirt buildup and component oxidation.

Knowing how to disassemble a mechanical keyboard not only helps you master the device but also ensures a consistently fresh typing experience. Hopefully, this information will help you be more proactive in maintaining your personal equipment.

*This article uses AI imagery.*

## Frequently Asked Questions

How can you distinguish between a hot-swap switch and a soldered switch?

You can check the specifications from the manufacturer or inspect the PCB directly. Hot-swap keyboards allow for direct switch replacement via sockets without soldering. If the switch pins are secured to the circuit board with solder, it's a soldered switch, and you'll need a soldering iron to replace it.

How often should I clean my mechanical keyboard?

For average users, it's recommended to dust surfaces weekly and deep clean them every 3-6 months. If the environment is dusty or you have pets, you should shorten this timeframe to ensure hygiene.

What tool can I use as a substitute when I don't have a keycap puller?

When removing a mechanical keyboard without a keycap puller, you can use a paperclip or a U-shaped piece of wire to pull the keycap up. However, this method can easily scratch or break the keycap pins, so it should only be used in emergencies.

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