

Right to Repair

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Scenario:

How many times have you broken your phone in some way, screen, water damage, and wished you could open it up and fix it yourself?

Use the Slack to Vote!

- 1 Too Often
 - 2 Sometimes
 - 3 Never happened to me
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What is the Right to Repair?

- You have the right to fix anything you own
- E.g. Motor Vehicle Owners' Right to Repair Act (2012)
 - Car manufacturers are required to sell parts and diagnostic equipment to their own repair shops as well as independent mechanics



Why should we support the right to repair?

Reduction of E-waste

- Environmental impact of creating a new phone
 - Copper: 15 g
 - Gold: .034 g
 - Silver: 0.34 g
 - Palladium: 0.015 g
 - Platinum: 0.001 g
 - Aluminum: 25 g
- Environmental impact of throwing out old phone
 - Less than 1% recycled

Why should we support the right to repair?

Magnuson Moss Warranty Act (1975)

- Warranty must be explained on a good more than \$15
- Any vagueness will be decided in favor of the consumer in a court.
- Warranty cannot state that only proprietary parts be used
- Full warranty must include remedy within reasonable time, no charge, cannot limit warranty time, guarantees consumer refund/replacement due to defect in product

Current Legislation for the Right to Repair: DMCA

- Who owns a device after you purchase it?
- Physical goods are no longer just physical goods.
- Section 1201 of DMCA protects copyright protecting software
- Currently loosens section 1201 to grant access to medical devices including not implanted devices
- Networking hardware also loosened restrictions
- Any device where the main functionality does not depend on software.

Arguments against right to repair

- Device Security
- Prevents Data Theft
- Prevents Unauthorized repair
- Decreases Risks to intellectual property
- Maximizes profit (which may lead to more jobs)

Apple vs Rossman

WSJ reporter had 2 water damaged Macbooks and sought repairs.

	Apple	Authorized Apple Repair	Rossman	Buy New
Macbook Air	\$799	\$870	n/a	\$999
Macbook Pro	\$999	\$1170	\$325	\$1299

Rossman unable to repair Macbook Air due to severity of water damage but also lack of schematics and parts.

Standardized parts would be nice



- Group fighting for the right to repair with policy changes
- Proposed changes:
 - Information for repair should be widely available
 - Tools and parts for repair should be widely available
 - Unlocking and modification to a device should be legal
 - Devices should be designed to make repair possible

Solutions

- Legal path to ensure right to repair
 - Ensure schematics for devices
 - Make repair manuals more available to individuals
 - Make replacement parts more available for a reasonable cost
- Open source software (e.g. Linux) to bring life to phased out machines
- Classes to teach students how to repair their own devices
- Support business ecosystem that supports right to repair
 - Support independent repair people
 - Buy more repairable goods

<https://frame.work/>



Sources

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Our Website: <https://ikimbxv.github.io/repair/index.html>