

Replacing the disk drive of a Panasonic FS-FD1A

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Warning:

The most important part in the computer is the printed circuit board (PCB). Parts can be replaced, but not the PCB. Do not try to unsolder the parts, but cut them loose and then remove the solder pins. The use of IC sockets is recommended.



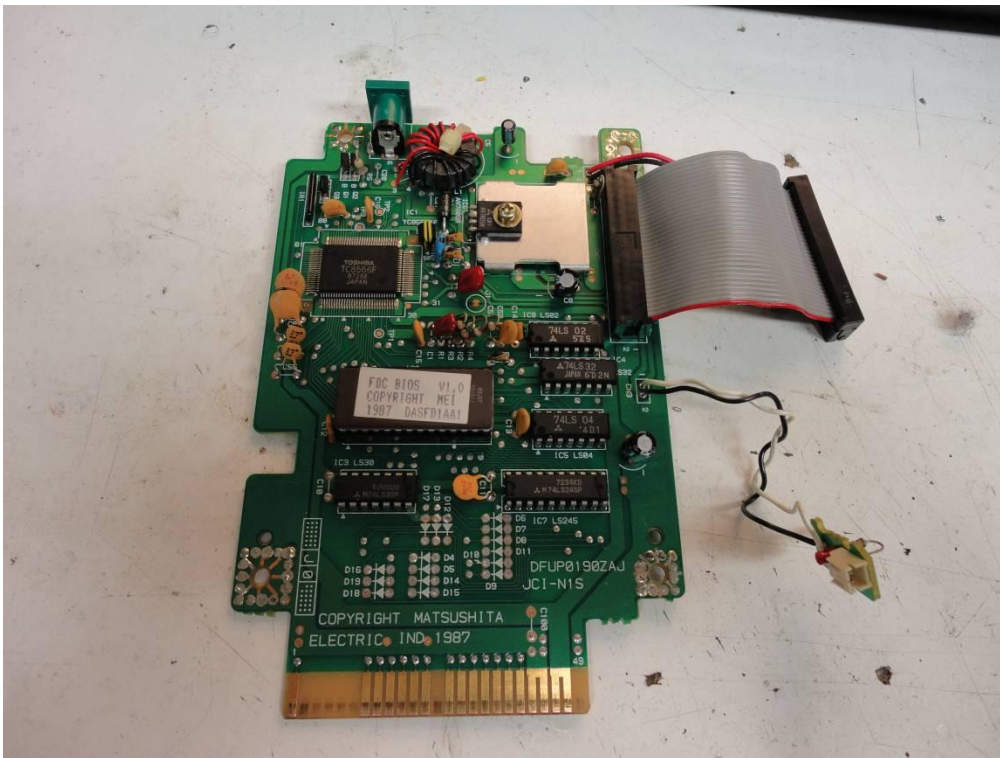
The Panasonic FS-FD1A external disk drive.

Requisites:

- Disk drive suitable for MSX and correctly configured as A-drive.
- 34-pin header.
- 34-wire cable (approximately twice as long as the original cable).
- 2-wire cable with disk drive power connector.

Disassembly:

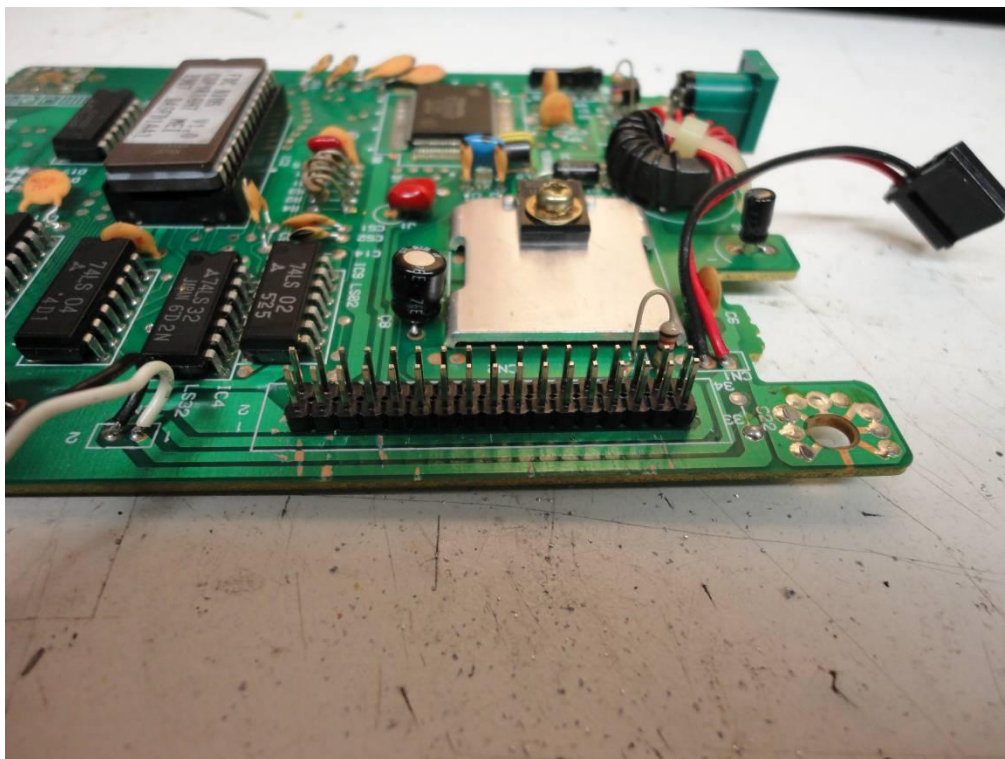
- Remove the housing (2 screws).
- Remove the disk drive (3 screws and 2 connectors).
- Remove the interface board (2 screws).
- Remove CN1 with the 2-wire cable and the disk drive power connector.
- Remove CN2 with the 34-wire ribbon cable.



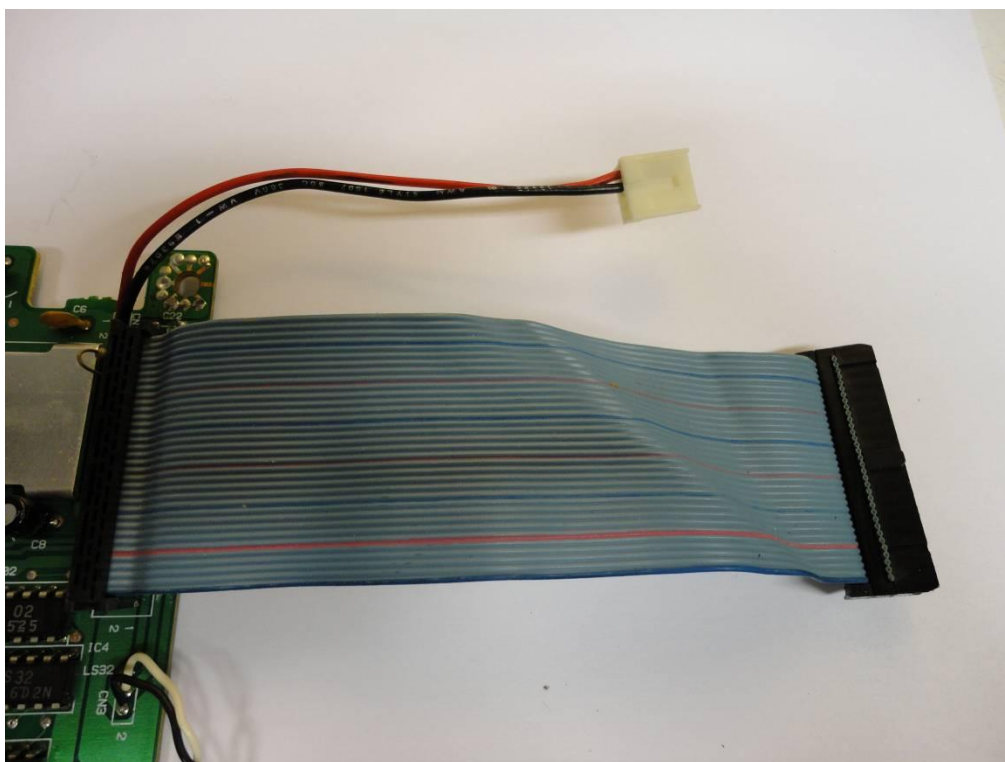
The interface PCB removed from its housing.

Mounting the disk drive:

- Solder a longer 2-wire cable with a disk drive power connector to the free space on CN1.
- Solder a 34-pin header to the free space on CN2.
- Mount a longer 34-wire flat cable (without strain relief) to the 34-pin header.
- Mount the interface board in the housing (2 screws).
- Mount the new disk drive (3 screws).
- Connect both cables to the new disk drive. The 34-wire flat cable should be connected while rotated at a 180° angle compared to the original position.
- Ensure the cables fit neatly in the housing and mount the second part of the housing (2 screws).



The 34-pin header has been soldered.



The longer cables are connected to the PCB.



The new disk drive is installed and the cables are connected.