

Hello.

First and foremost, I need to disclose that I have no affiliation with Brennan whatsoever. I purchased my B2 500GB from Amazon in the USA and imported it back to Canada. I am a customer, just like you.

My CD collection was around 400 physical discs and I had numerous .mp3 files as well. When I bought the 500GB version of the B2, it was always with the idea that I would upgrade the hard drive. I happened to have a spare 2TB laptop drive sitting in a drawer. Perfect! I planned to NOT use FLAC and go completely uncompressed. So I thought I needed a LOT of drive space.

As it turns out, I was wrong. 500GB was plenty of space. I've not even used 200GB of space yet. So I swapped the 500GB back in (after copying the files back from the 2TB drive).

Here's how I did it (with pictures!). There's only 10 screws and 3 cables. That's all. It took me about 20 minutes to accomplish. Except for copying of the music. More on that later.

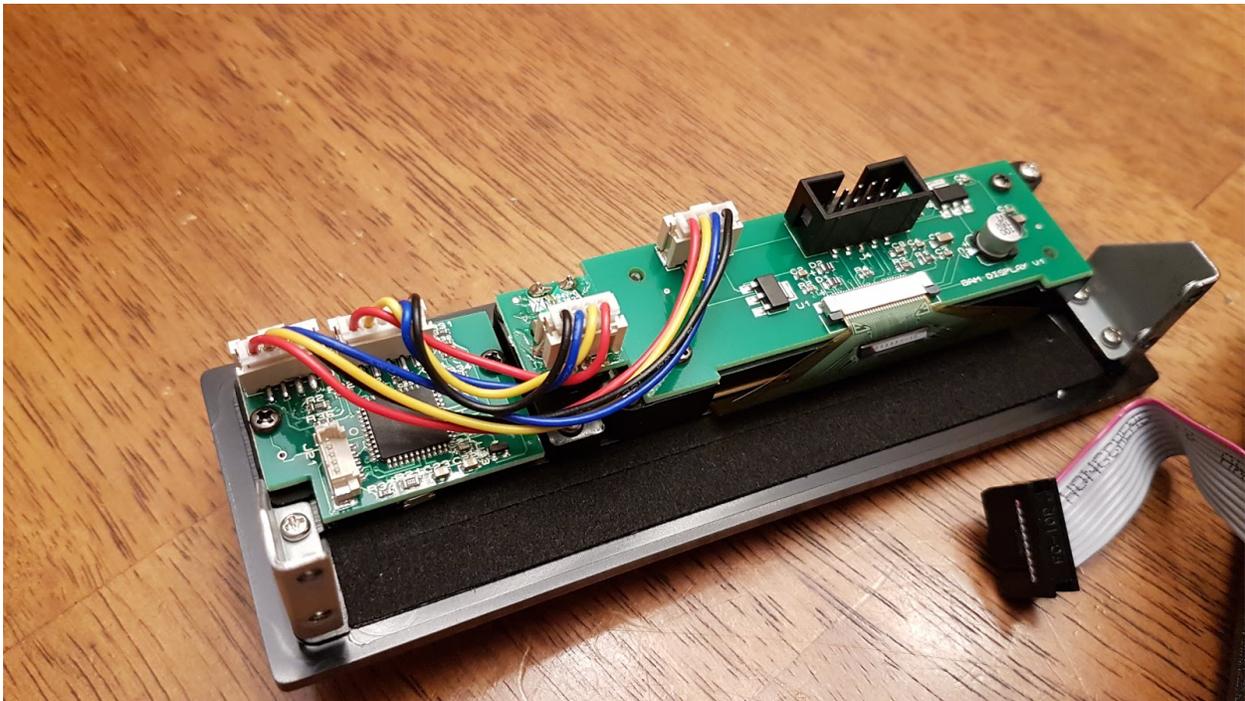
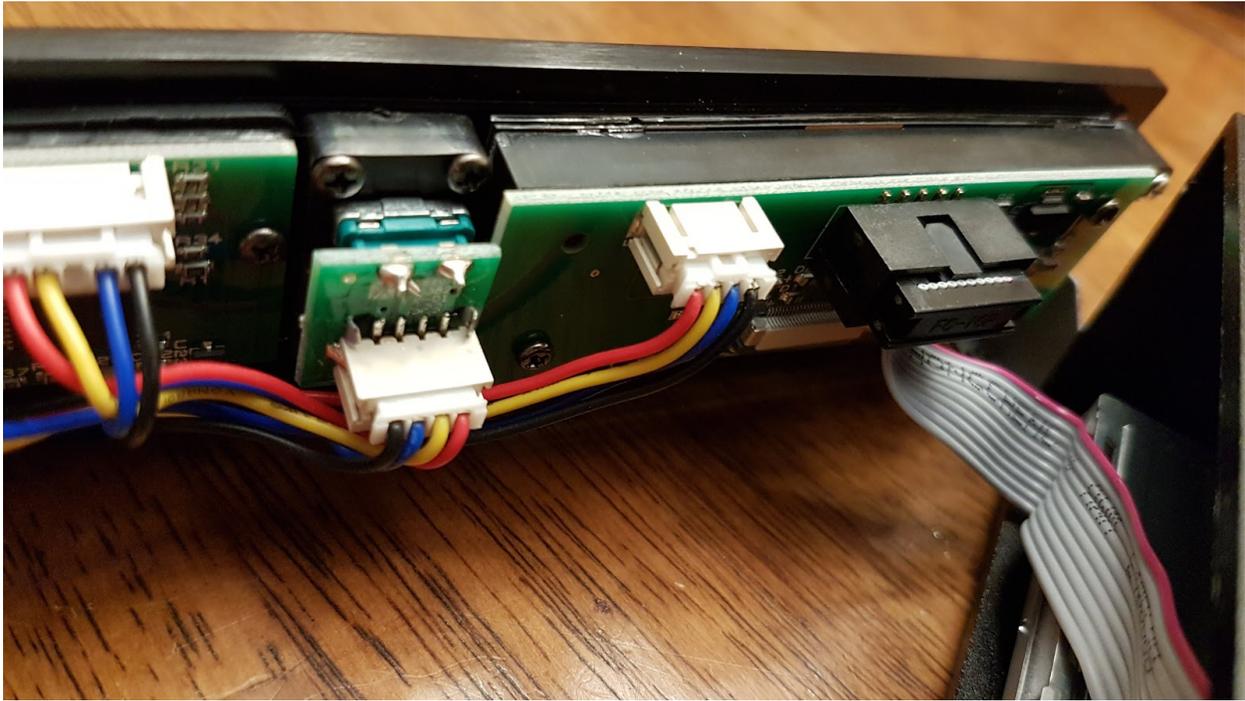
Tools needed: a Phillips screwdriver.

Unhook all cables & WiFi/Bluetooth dongles out of the rear. Including the power cable.

Turn the Brennan B2 bottom side up. Remove the 4 screws closest to the front panel. You can see I've removed 2 of the 4 in this picture:



Once those 4 screws are removed the front panel can be pulled off (gently). You can remove the ribbon cable you see.



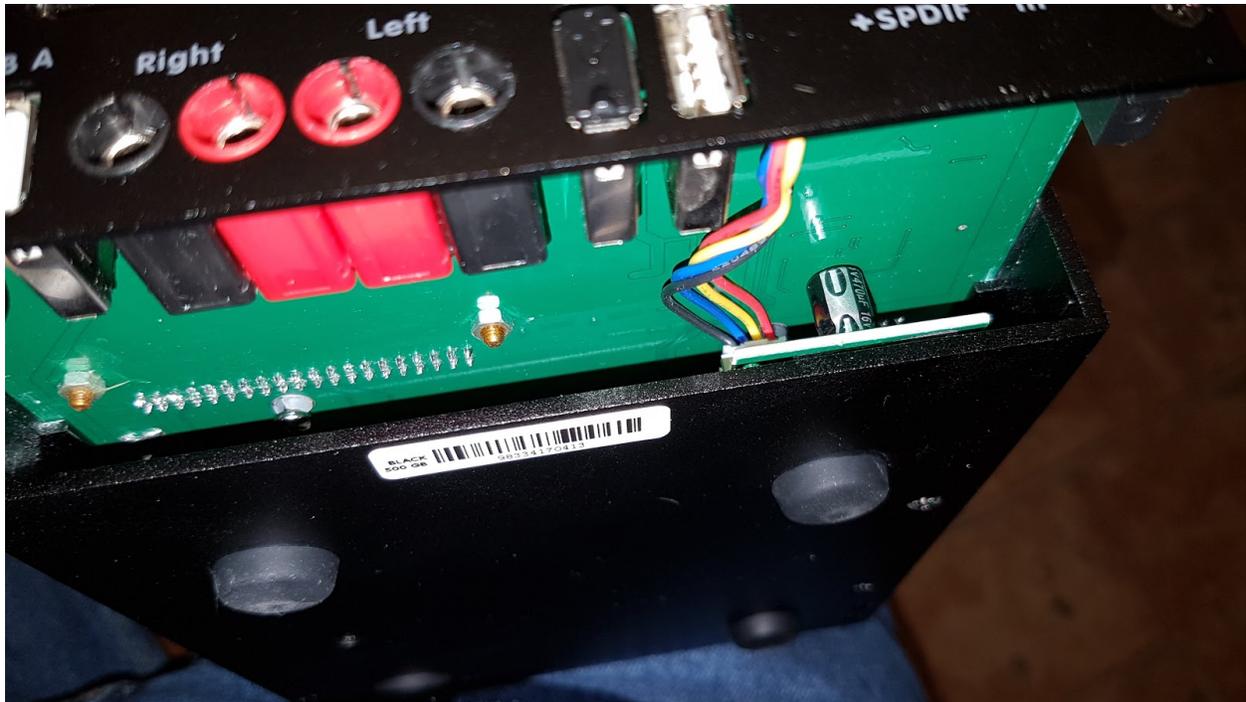
On the rear of the Brennan B2:

Remove the 2 screws on the upper half of the rear panel marked with chevrons.



That will permit the whole internal assembly to be pulled out through the back. Pull it out about 4 inches (10cm) and stop!

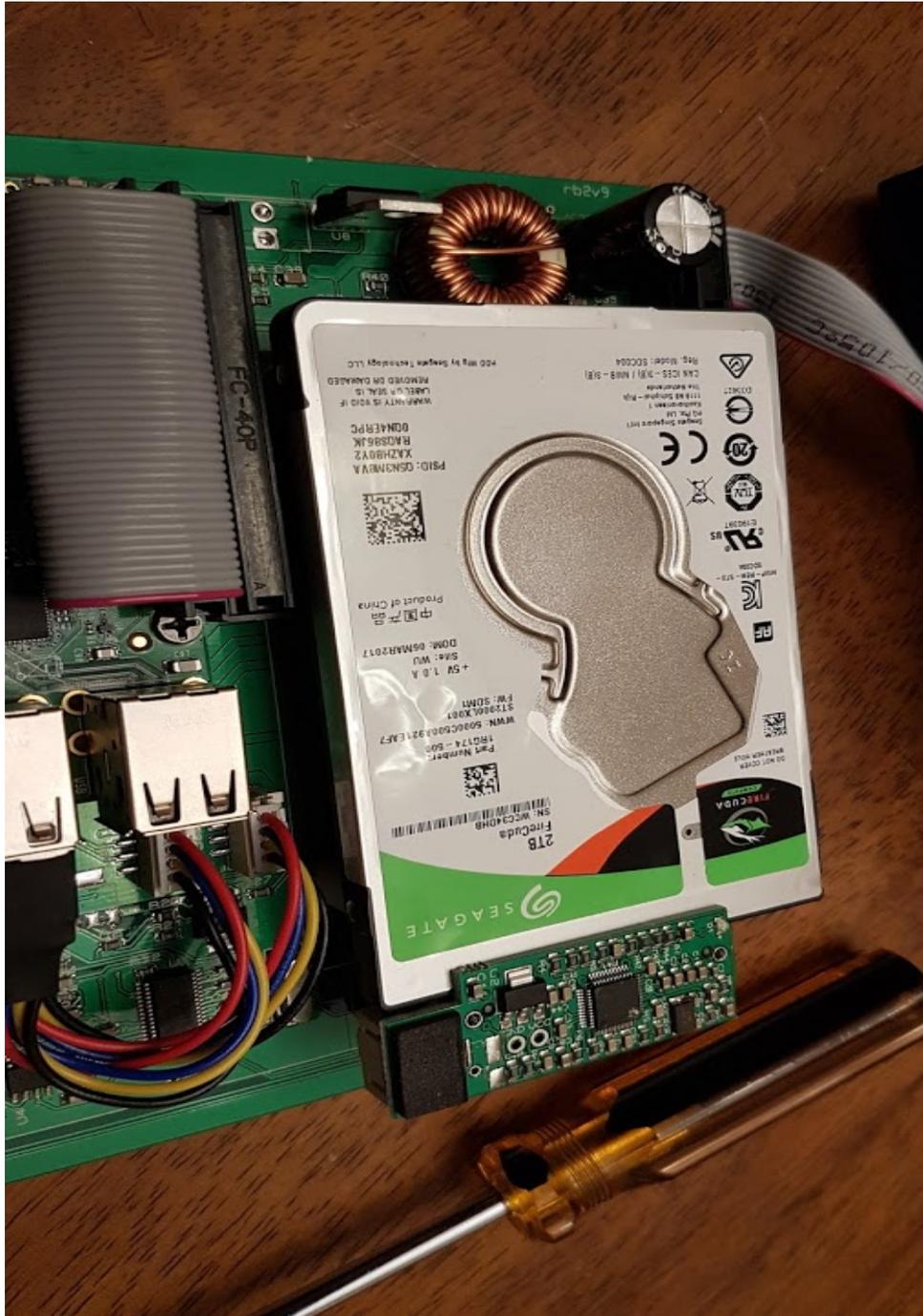
WARNING! The data cable to the CD drive is still attached and tough to get at. If you pull the entire assembly out you risk damaging that connector. It's got that rainbow coloured cable attached to it:



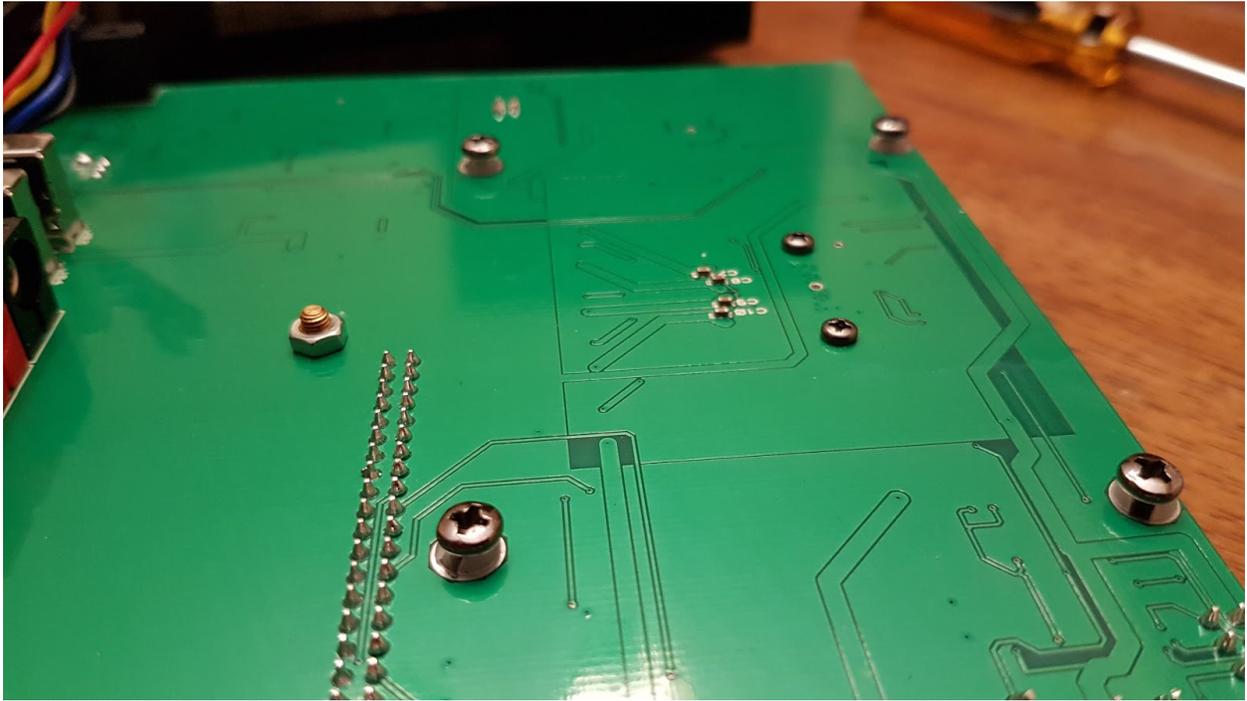
Don't pull that cable, just rock the little board it's attached to, side to side gently. It will come off the CD drive nicely. Putting it back on is the trickiest part of this whole procedure, but it will go back in its place. It just takes patience.

Once the CD connector is disconnected, the whole internal assembly can be pulled out through the rear of the Brennan B2 case.

Here's what it looks like (2tb drive is already installed in this picture):



Flip over the Brennan B2's mainboard and you'll notice 4 large screws. They sit higher than the rest. They hold the hard drive in place. Remove them.



Carefully flip the board back over, the hard drive is loose but still connected by a cable!



Don't pull on the cable. Just rock the little attached board side to side and it will come loose. I think mine had a small amount of glue on it originally. The glue just pulled off.

The hard drive is now free.

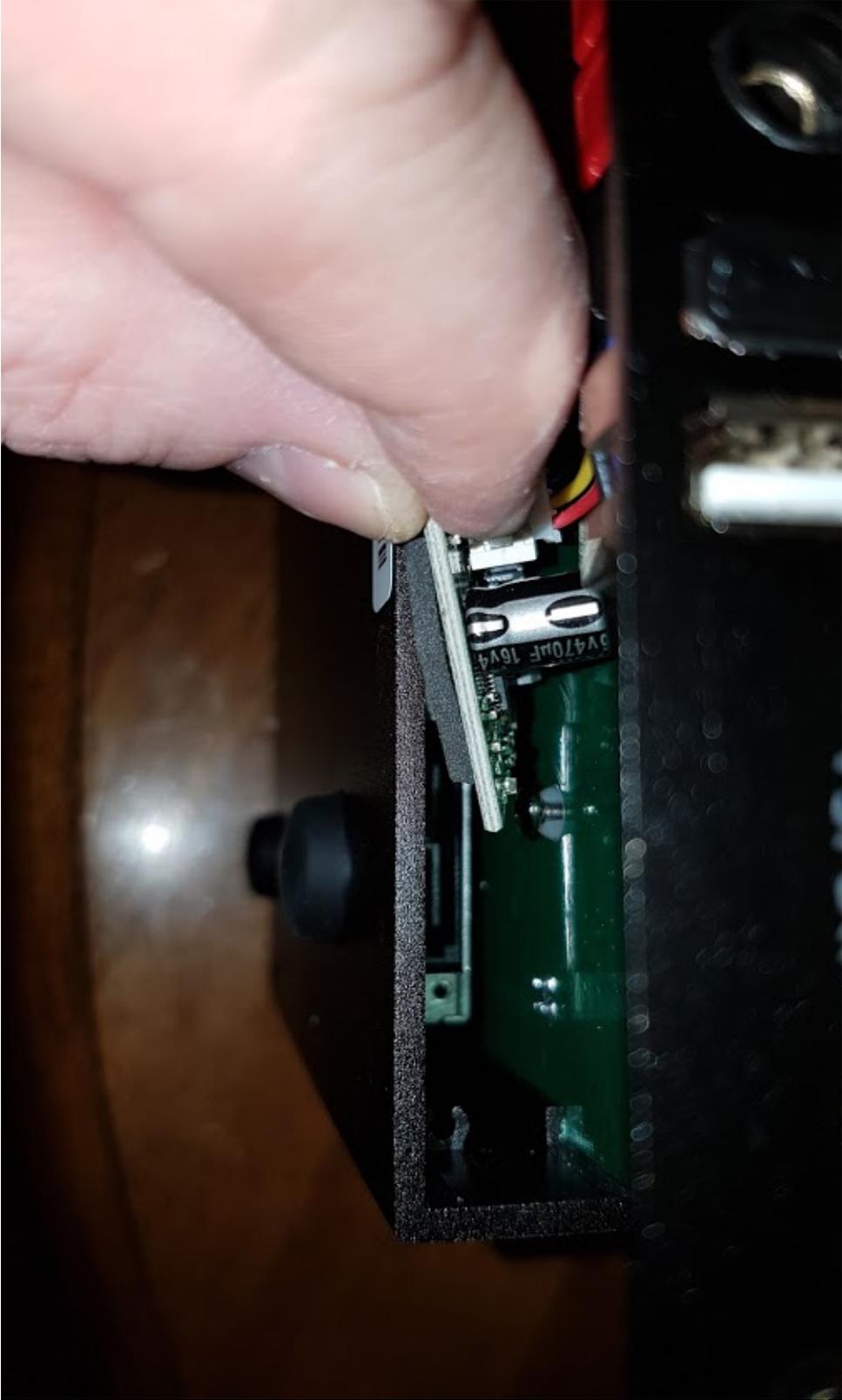
If you have music on it, you'll probably want to copy it over to the new hard drive before you install the new drive. I moved 193GB of music to my new drive in under an hour (USB 3.0) BEFORE I installed the new drive into my B2. You need to format the new drive with FAT32. Obviously, using a computer is the fastest way to move the music.

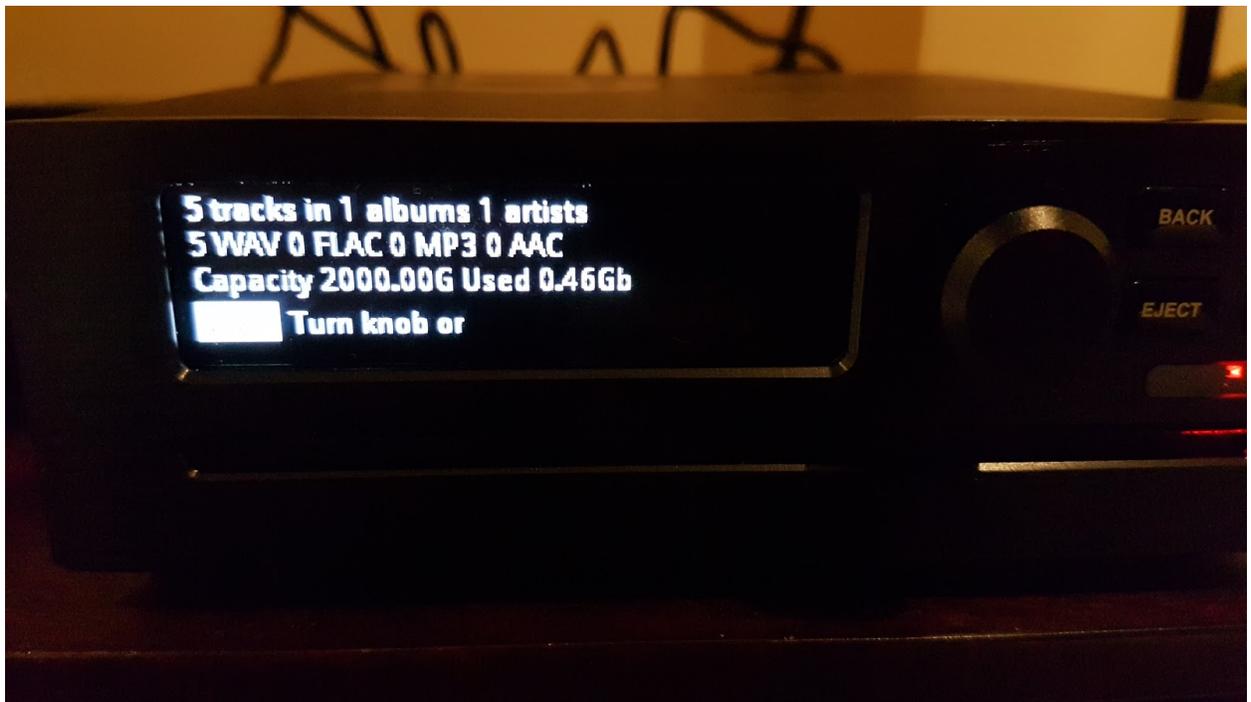
Now reverse the whole process: attach the hard drive data cable, hold the new drive in place with the 4 screws...

There's a slot on the inside of the B2 case for the main board to slide into. Just in case you didn't notice that when you removed it.

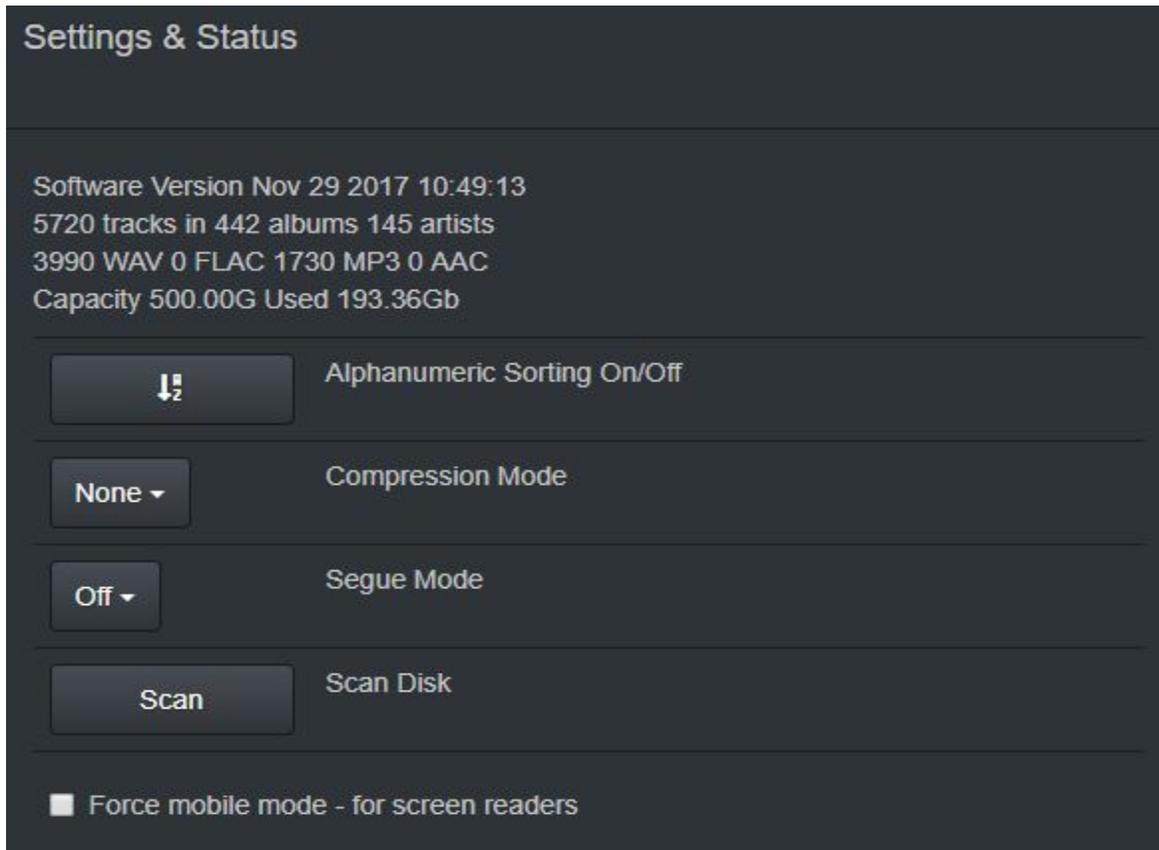
As mentioned, the trickiest part for me was re-attaching the CD cable. It's a tight fit. But once it's lined up and connected, putting the B2 back together is rather simple.

CD Cable about to be reconnected:

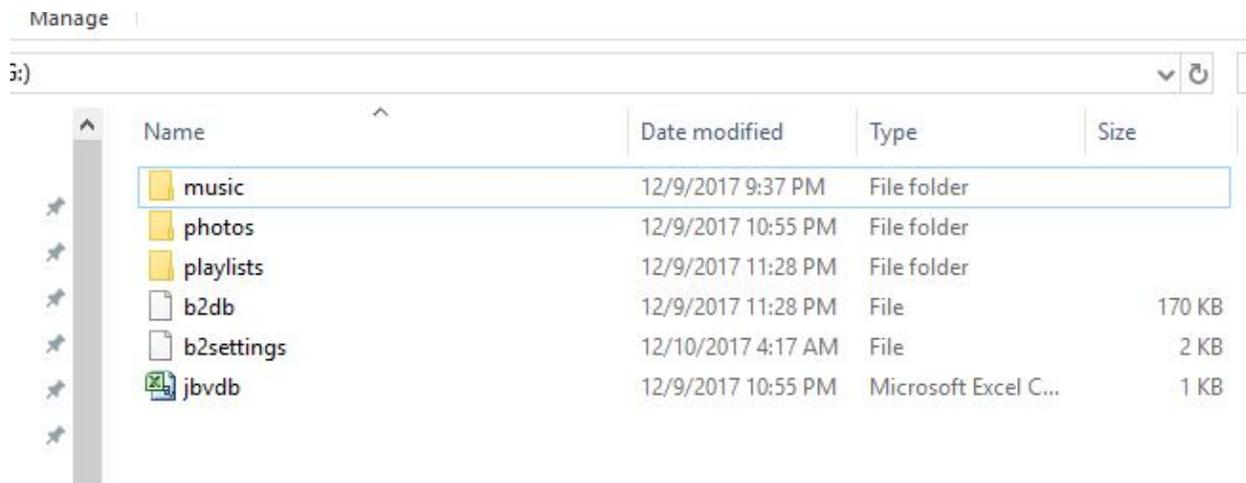




And back again to 500GB when I released 2TB was overkill for my small collection:



For those who may be interested, here's the file structure on the hard drive:



It's actually not that difficult to accomplish. 10 screws & 3 cables. That's it.

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