Document: Blackberry Trackball select stops working.
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Disclaimer: Taking apart any equipment may void the warranty, may cause damage to the item. If you are not mechanically inclined, don't do this. If you've had one too many cups of coffee this morning, don't do this. This requires steady hands and you don't want to be jittery. By the way, take some personal responsibility, I created this document to try and help you, if you want to blame me because you can't follow instructions, stop reading and turn off your computer. But if you feel like I do and want to get this done without having to pay someone else to do, continue.

After only about 6 weeks of use, my Blackberry 8120 Pearl started acting up. I was sitting in a meeting and the trackball select/enter button stopped working. I thought it was debris or something in the trackball that caused it to stop.

As it turned out, this wasn't the issue. I did some surfing on the net, couldn't find anything. I was starting to get ticked off as the phone was fairly new. Now most of you at this point would say, take it back to the store and get a replacement. I placed a call and they told me that it would take 2 days to get here – fine, but I'm impatient. I surfed on the internet a little more. Found a repair service that is going to charge you $50 to do this.

Anyways, long story short, I figure out what was wrong and I'm going to show you how to fix yours.

Tools
- Exacto knife (push-pin or clothes pin can be substituted here)
- Tweezers (thanks honey)
- q-tips (cotton ear swabs)
- magnifying glass (optional)

READ THESE STEPS ALL THE WAY THROUGH BEFORE BEGINNING

Okay so here's how you start, first you've got to remove the trackball. There's plenty of information on how to do this already on the internet, so just do a quick search for "Blackberry trackball removal". But if you aren't inclined to do that, here's a quick summary.
1. turn theBlackberry off and remove the battery
2. start from the bottom side of the chrome ring, using your finger nails, carefully pry it open
3. turn the black on its belly, hold it in your palm, give a light tap on the back and the trackball should pop out.

Once you've removed the track ball you should see the following.

Where the red arrow is pointed is where you will be working.

What you want to do next is to take the push-pin (make sure you do this very carefully) use the point to peel back this section (above, where the red arrow is pointing)
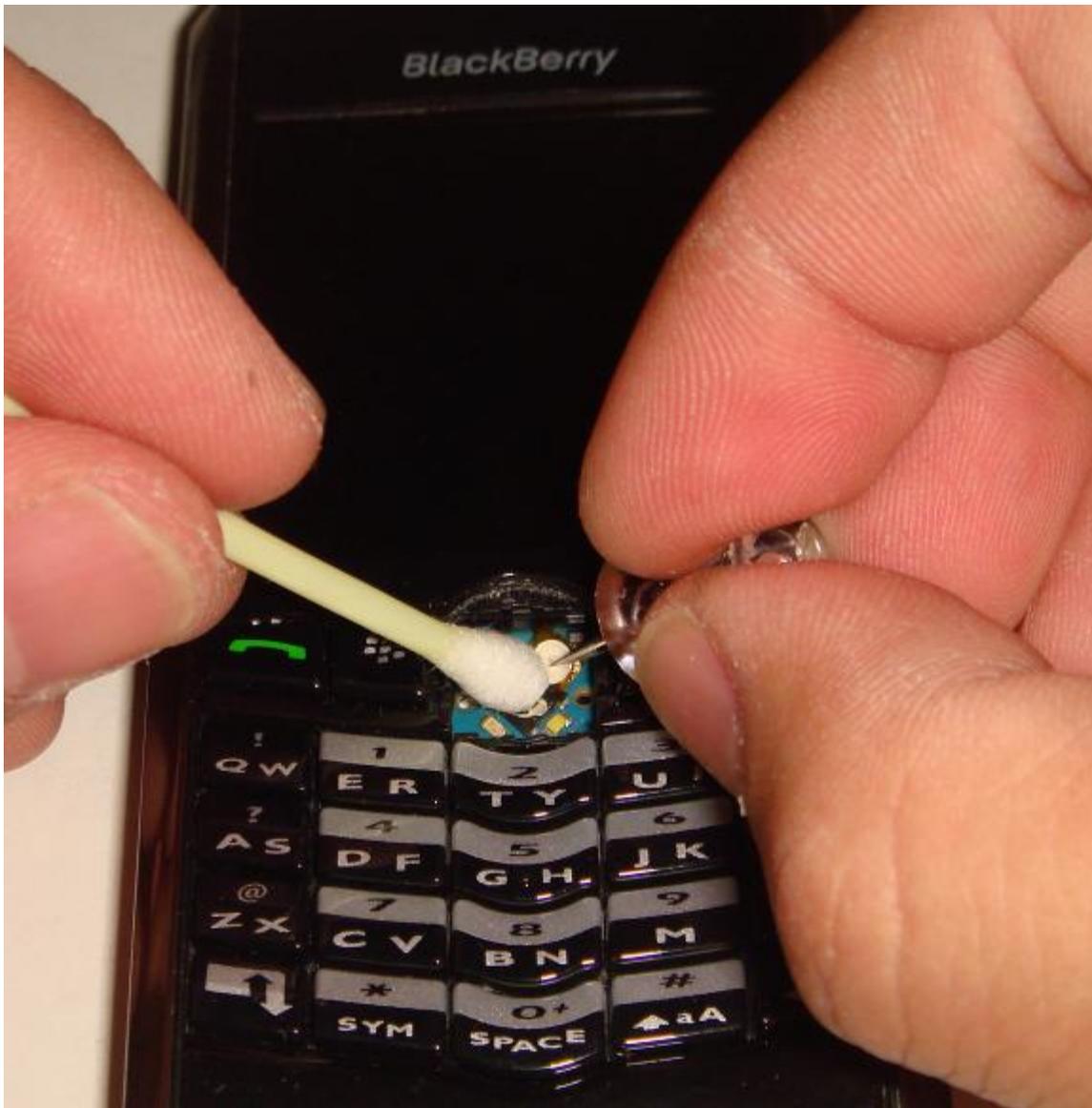
You'll have to just do it slowly once you get enough edge, you can use the tweezers to peel it all the way off.

Once you've pulled it off, it will look like this.

The next step is to take your q-tip (dipped mine in a little bit of rubbing alcohol, sqeezing any excess out) and clean both the contact that is in the BB as well as that piece that you peeled off.

When you clean the peeled off part, make sure you're not swabbing the sticky section or you'll have to figure out how to make this stick back in the phone.

The reason your button wasn't working was because the contacts became dirty. So by cleaning it you've just revived it.

Now put the square peeled section back into the place (with the contact side down). Try to line it up as best as you can, and then using a blunt tip, press down so that it sticks.

You can now put the trackball back in (making sure that the two pegs are lined up horizontally) and then put the ring back on.

Put the battery back in, and turn it on. Your button should now be working again.

Goodluck, and you can send hate-mail at the above address.
Thanks.