Cloning SD card using MAC

**Step 1. Insert Your SD Card**

Ensure that you have inserted the SD Card, that you wish to clone, into the SD Card reader of your Mac. If your Mac does not have an internal SD Card reader, you will need to plug in an external SD Card reader via a USB socket.

**Step 2. Locate Your SD Card**

Open **Terminal** and enter the following command to locate your SD Card:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1 | diskutil list |

The response will be something similar to that shown in my screenshot of **Terminal**. Identify your SD Card (look under **NAME** and **SIZE** to verify correct volume). In my example, the SD Card is **/dev/disk2**.

**Step 3. Cloning Your SD Card**

Whether your RPi SD Card is all set up as you want it, or you just want to make an incremental clone before installing some software, backing up your SD Card could save you time in the long run.

In my example, my SD Card is **/dev/disk2**. Amend this as necessary for yours. In **Terminal**, enter the following command to create a disc image (**.dmg**) of your SD Card on the **Desktop**.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1 | sudo dd if=/dev/disk2 of=~/Desktop/raspberrypi.dmg |

Writing image to SD card

**Step 1. Insert the SD Card to be Restored**

Insert a blank (or used and nuked) SD card into the SD card reader on your Mac.

**Step 2. Locate the SD Card to be Restored**

Open Terminal and locate your SD Card, noting that the number may be different to that previously used, using the command:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1 | diskutil list |

Locating the SD Card using a Terminal Command

**Step 3. Unmount the SD Card**

In Terminal, enter the following command:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1 | diskutil unmountDisk /dev/disk2 |

Unmounting the SD Card with a Terminal command

**Step 3. Format the SD Card**

When you have identified your SD Card, enter the following command to format it as FAT16, in my case it’s **/dev/disk2**. Amend this as required for your circumstances:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1 | sudo newfs\_msdos -F 16 /dev/disk2 |

**Step 4. Restore from a Cloned Disc Image**

Locate the disc image, dmg, that you previously cloned. My example assumes that the dmg is on the Desktop. In Terminal, enter the following command ensuring that you identify the correct destination disc, in my example it’s **/dev/disk2**.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1 | sudo dd if=~/Desktop/raspberrypi.dmg of=/dev/disk2 |