

# Installation

## Download VikingsOS

If you haven't already, you will need to [download VikingOS from our home page](#). You will need to copy the downloaded ISO file to a USB flash drive using the instructions below.

## Recommended System Specifications

While we don't have a strict set of minimum system requirements, we recommend at least the following specifications for the best experience:

- Recent Intel i3 or comparable dual-core 64-bit processor
- 4 GB of system memory (RAM)
- Solid state drive (SSD) with 15 GB of free space
- Internet access
- 1024x768 display

## Back Up Your Data

Make sure to back your important data up to an external location such as a cloud service or an external hard drive. Installing a new operating system may overwrite your existing data.

## Creating an Install Drive

You'll need a USB flash drive with at least 2 GB of free space and a program called Rufus.

1. Open Rufus
2. Insert your USB drive and select it in the "Device" list
3. Select "Disk or ISO image" in the "Boot selection" list
4. Click "SELECT" to choose the ISO that you downloaded previously.
5. We generate a checksum (or hash sum) for VikingOS images so you can verify your downloaded file. This ensures that you've received the full, complete download and that your install image is not corrupted in any way. Click next to "SELECT" and verify that the text next to "SHA256" matches the following hash:

**a8c7b8c54aeb0889bb3245356ffcd95b77e9835ffb5ac56376a3b627c3e1950f**

6. If the hashes match, click "START" and wait for the process to finish.

## Bootting from the Install Drive

In order to start the installation process, you must boot your computer from the install drive.

- Assuming that your computer is still on, start by inserting your install drive and restarting your computer.
- Most computers will briefly allow you to change the boot order for this boot only by pressing a special key — usually F12, but sometimes ESC or another function key. Refer to the screen or your computer's documentation to be sure.

- Press F12 (or the appropriate key) and select the install drive—usually "USB-HDD" or something containing the word "USB", but the wording may vary. If you choose the incorrect drive, your computer will likely continue to boot as normal. Just restart your computer and pick a different drive in that menu.
- Shortly after selecting the appropriate boot drive, you should be presented with the VikingOS splash screen. You may now follow the on-screen instructions which will guide you through the rest of the process.

## Verify your Download

Verifying your download is an important, but optional step. We generate a checksum (or hash sum) for VikingOS images and we recommend that you verify that your download matches that checksum before trying to install. This ensures that you've received the full, complete download and that your install image is not corrupted in any way.

Running the following command in your Terminal:

```
shasum -a 256 ~/Downloads/VikingOS-5.0-stable.20181016.iso
```

Should produce the output:

**a8c7b8c54aeb0889bb3245356ffcd95b77e9835ffb5ac56376a3b627c3e1950f**

Note: This is assuming that you have downloaded the .iso file to your Downloads folder. In case you have downloaded it elsewhere, please specify the correct path to the downloaded file, as shown below

```
shasum -a 256 <path to the downloaded folder>/VikingOS-5.0-stable.20181016.iso
```

## **After Installation**

Take this time to read the getting started guide to learn about your new operating system.