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## 2 Ways to Create an ISO



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# from a Bootable USB in Linux

by [Aaron Kili](#) | Published: March 18, 2019 | March 18, 2019

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In this article, we will show you how to create an ISO from a [bootable USB drive in Linux](#). We will explain two ways to achieve this: via the command line interface (CLI) and a graphical user interface (GUI) program.

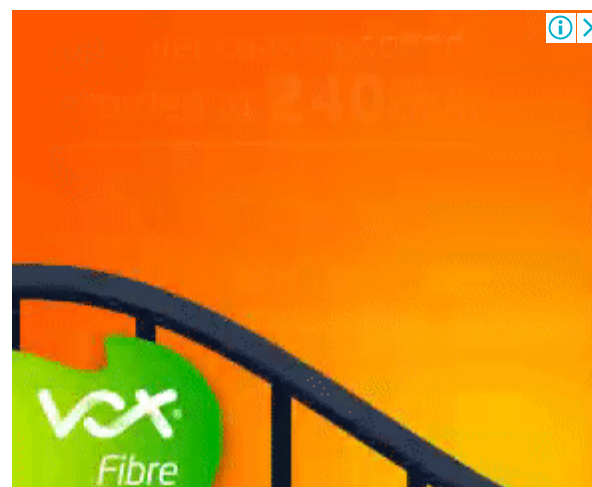
## Create An ISO From A Bootable USB Drive Using dd Tool

dd is a commonly used

command-line tool for Linux



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and other Unix-like operating systems, used to convert and copy files.

To create an ISO image from a Bootable USB Drive files, first you need to insert your USB drive and then find the device name of your USB using following [df command](#).

```
$ df -hT
```

### Sample Output

```
Filesystem      Type
udev           dev
tmpfs          tmp
/dev/sda3      ext
tmpfs          tmp
tmpfs          tmp
tmpfs          tmp
/dev/sda1      vfat
tmpfs          tmp
/dev/sda5      ext
/dev/sdb1      iso9660
```

From the output above, you can clearly see that our attached USB device name is

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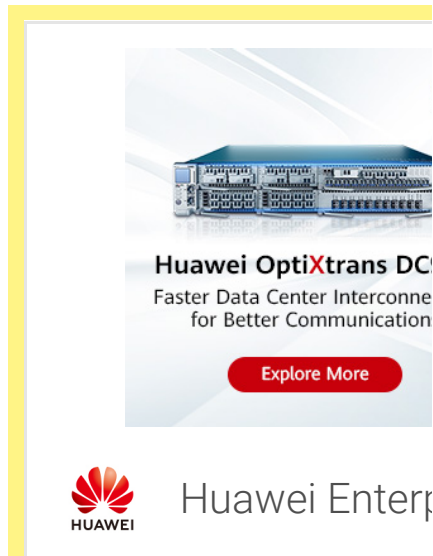
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[/dev/sdb1](#)

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Now you can run the following command to create an ISO from a bootable USB drive as shown. Make sure to replace `/dev/sdb1` with your USB drive and `/home/tecmint/Documents` with the full name of the new ISO image.

```
$ sudo dd if=/dev/
```

In the above command, the option:

- **if** – means read from specified FILE instead of stdin.
- **of** – means write to specified FILE instead of stdout

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Once done, you can verify the ISO image using following [ls command](#) as shown.

```
$ ls -l /home/tec
```

```
tecmin@tecmin:~$ sudo dd if=/dev/sdb1 of=/home/tecmin/Documents/Linux_Mint-19_XFCE.iso  
(sudo) password for tecmin:  
689100+ records in  
689100+ records out  
10839040 bytes (1.9 GiB) copied, 94.6594 s, 28.0 MB/s  
tecmin@tecmin:~$ ls -l /home/tecmin/Documents/Linux_Mint-19_XFCE.iso  
-rwxr-xr-x 2 root root 10839040 Mar 18 22:00 /home/tecmin/Documents/Linux_Mint-19_XFCE.iso  
tecmin@tecmin:~$
```

Create ISO from Bootable USB Using dd

Command

## Create An ISO From A Bootable USB Drive Using Gnome Disks

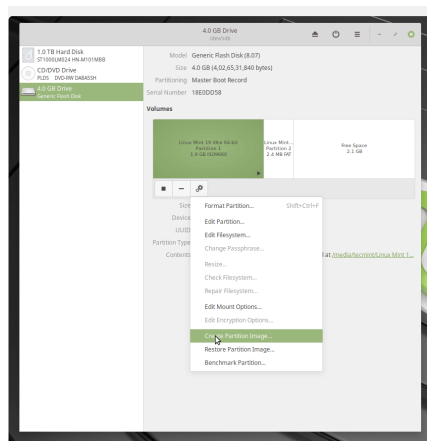
Gnome Disks is a graphical tool used to [manage disk drives and media](#) in Linux. It is used to [format and partition drives](#), mount and unmount partitions, and query S.M.A.R.T. (Self-Monitoring Analysis and Reporting Technology) attributes.

If you don't have **gnome-disk** utility on your system, you can install it by running the following command.



```
$ sudo apt install  
$ sudo yum install  
$ sudo dnf install
```

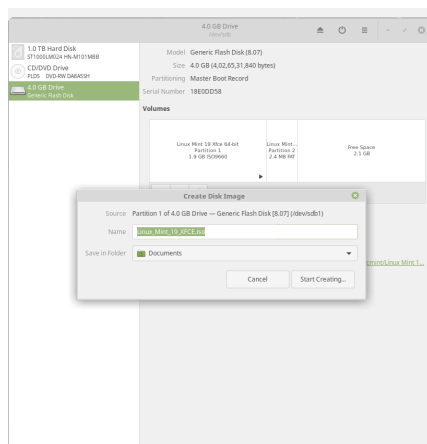
After successfully installing Gnome disk, search and open it from the system menu or dash. Then from the default interface, select the bootable device from the list of mounted devices on the left-hand pane, by clicking on it and click on disk options. Then click on **Create Disk Image** option as shown in the following image.



Create a Disk Partition Image

From the dialog window, set the name of the ISO file, its location and click Start creating. Then enter your password to open the

bootable device and the process should start if the authentication is successful.



*Create ISO from Bootable USB Using  
Gnome Disks*



That's it for now! In this article, we've explained two ways to create an ISO from a bootable USB drive in Linux. Use the comment form below to share your thoughts with us or ask questions.

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**Aaron Kili**

Aaron Kili is a Linux and F.O.S.S enthusiast, an upcoming Linux SysAdmin, web developer, and currently a content creator for TecMint who loves working with computers and strongly believes in sharing knowledge.

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**sebi**

🕒 October 2, 2019 at 4:02  
pm

Shouldn't you provide the  
iso filename for **if=...** and  
the media for **of=...**? In  
the parameter definition,  
you say so but in the  
example, you do the other  
way.

Reply

**Aaron Kili**

🕒 October 3, 2019  
at 7:43 pm

@SEBI

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heading, "2 Ways to Create an ISO from a Bootable USB in Linux". We are showing how to create an ISO(**/home /tecmint /Documents /Linux\_Mint\_19\_X** from a bootable media(**/dev /sdb1**).

Reply

**AbdulRehman**

🕒 September 22, 2019 at 6:23 pm

I accidentally deleted my image so i re created .Thanks buddy

Reply

**Aaron Kili**

🕒 September 23, 2019 at 1:17 pm  
@AbdulRehman

Good to know that this worked for you. Thanks for the feedback.

Reply

**Denis**

🕒 July 18, 2019 at 11:55 pm  
Thank you!

Reply

**Madhu**

🕒 May 17, 2019 at 9:02 pm  
This will create an image of USB (**.img** actual file type) and not standard

ISO9660 for

you are just changing the extension name, and the size of the output file is equal to the size of the input USB drive, ie: if there is 300MB of content in the 2GB USB drive, then the output file is 2GB only!.

Reply

**Carlos**

🕒 March 19, 2019 at 9:42 pm

I use "cp file.iso /dev/sdx" :-)

Reply

**Aaron Kili**

🕒 March 20, 2019

at 3:58 pm

@Carlos

Many thanks for sharing.

Reply

**hurukan**

🕒 March 18, 2019 at 2:15 pm

Wanted to know how to make a USB bootable from a bootable ISO image that is booted without any problem using vmware/virtualbox.

When I put this ISO image on USB stick it doesn't boot at all. I tried many programs, many techniques and none of them worked.

Reply

**Paul**

🕒 March 19, 2019

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at 12:05 pm  
Copy-Paste ISO  
to USB is not  
working as you  
have to write  
boot sector to  
the underlaying  
hardware. Try to  
use a program  
like UByte to  
make a bootable  
USB from ISO.

Reply

**Aaron Kili**

🕒 March 19, 2019

at 5:26 pm

@hurukan

Check this out:

<https://www.tecmint.com/install-linux-os-on-usb-drive/> or  
<https://www.tecmint.com/create-bootable-usb-in-linux-commandline/>

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