

Build Yocto Image for Raspberry Pi

This page provides all the instructions needed to build yocto image for raspberry pi with kanto recipes

Building a Yocto Image for a Raspberry Pi involves several steps, including setting up the environment, download the necessary layers, configuring the build and compiling the image.

Before you begin

- Install the required packages required for the build on a Ubuntu/Debian system

```
sudo apt-get update
sudo apt install -y gawk wget git-core diffstat unzip texinfo gcc-multilib
build-essential chrpath socat cpio python3 python3-pip python3-pexpect \
xz-utils debianutils iputils-ping libssl1.2-dev xterm zstd liblz4-tool \
```

Clone the Yocto/Poky Repository

- Verify the Yocto Version of Kanto available in meta-kanto layer,
<https://github.com/eclipse-kanto/meta-kanto>, this example provides information for kirkstone branch.
- Create a Source folder

```
mkdir sources
cd sources
```

- If it is kirkstone branch then, clone poky for kirkstone version in source directory

```
git clone https://github.com/yoctoproject/poky.git
cd poky
git checkout kirkstone
```

Note : Change branch based on meta-kanto layer.

Add Meta Layers to the source directory

- Based on the yocto version, clone the meta layers in the source directory meta-raspberrypi meta-openembedded meta-virtualization meta-lts-mixins
- Clone meta-raspberry pi layer to sources directory

```
cd ..  
git clone git://git.yoctoproject.org/meta-raspberrypi  
cd meta-raspberrypi  
git checkout kirkstone
```

- Clone meta-openembedded layer to sources directory

```
cd ..  
git clone https://github.com/openembedded/meta-openembedded.git  
cd meta-openembedded  
git checkout kirkstone
```

- Clone meta-virtualization layer to sources directory

```
cd ..  
git clone https://git.yoctoproject.org/git/meta-virtualization  
cd meta-virtualization  
git checkout kirkstone
```

- Clone meta-lts-mixins layers to source directory

```
cd ..  
git clone https://git.yoctoproject.org/git/meta-lts-mixins  
cd meta-lts-mixins  
git checkout kirkstone/go
```

Note : The above layer is required to get the updated go version to be added in the yocto build, since kanto requires go version 1.19 and above.

Add meta-kanto layer to the sources directory

- Clone meta-kanto layer to the sources directory

```
cd ..  
git clone https://github.com/eclipse-kanto/meta-kanto.git
```

```
cd meta-kanto
git checkout kirkstone
```

Note : Make sure all the layers cloned are of same yocto version (kirkstone in this case)

Create Build Directory

- After cloning all the required meta layers, move out of source directory to create build directory

```
cd ../..
source sources/poky/oe-init-build-env
```

- Run the below command to view the layers present in `bblayers.conf` file

```
bitbake-layers show-layers
```

Note : Resolve any dependencies if occurred while running bitbake command.

Configure bblayer.conf file

- By Default in the `bblayer.conf` file some of the layers will be added
- Add all the layers to the `bblayers.conf` file with below command

```
bitbake-layers add-layer /home/path/to/meta/layer/directory
```

The following layers should be added in the `bblayer.conf` file

```
meta-raspberrypi
meta-openembedded
meta-virtualization
meta-lts-mixins
meta-openembedded/meta-oe
meta-openembedded/meta-python
meta-openembedded/meta-networking
meta-openembedded/meta-filesystems
meta-kanto
```

- Example to add layers to `bblayers.conf` file

while adding layers bitbake might have dependencies, add the dependent layers first.
Example,

To add meta-kanto layer to bblayer.conf file which is kept at /home/yocto/sources/meta-kanto

```
bitbake-layers add-layers /home/yocto/sources/meta-kanto
```

- After adding all the required layers in bblayer.conf file, verify again by running the below command

```
bitbake-layers show-layers
```

Configure local.conf file

- Open local.conf file which is placed at the below location in build directory

```
vi conf/local.conf
```

- Change the machine variable in local.conf file to raspberry pi machine

```
MACHINE ??= "raspberrypi4"
```

Note: Check the sources/meta-raspberrypi/conf/machine for the available machines for raspberry pi.

- Add required variables in local.conf file as shown and provided in the link below,

<https://github.com/eclipse-kanto/meta-kanto>

```
# Add the required DISTRO_FEATURES
DISTRO_FEATURES:append = " virtualization systemd"

# Configure the kernel modules required to be included
MACHINE_ESSENTIAL_EXTRA_RRECOMMENDS += "kernel-modules"

# System initialization manager setup
VIRTUAL-RUNTIME_init_manager = "systemd"
DISTRO_FEATURES_BACKFILL_CONSIDERED = "sysvinit"
VIRTUAL-RUNTIME_initscripts = "systemd-compat-units"

# Add the Eclipse Kanto components
IMAGE_INSTALL:append = " mosquito"
IMAGE_INSTALL:append = " suite-connector"
IMAGE_INSTALL:append = " aws-connector"
IMAGE_INSTALL:append = " azure-connector"
```

```

IMAGE_INSTALL:append = " software-updates"
IMAGE_INSTALL:append = " file-upload"
IMAGE_INSTALL:append = " file-backup"
IMAGE_INSTALL:append = " update-manager"
IMAGE_INSTALL:append = " container-management"
IMAGE_INSTALL:append = " local-digital-twins"

```

- Run bitbake `target-name` available as shown below,

```

Common targets are:
core-image-minimal
core-image-full-cmdline
core-image-sato
core-image-weston
meta-toolchain
meta-ide-support

```

Note : If any build issues comes up, resolve the issue and run the bitbake `target-name` command again for the build.

Final Build Image Repository Location

- After the successful build, the image will be available at the below location.

```
build/tmp/deploy/images/`machine_name` /
```

Run & Test the image with QEMU (Quick Emulator)

- If RaspberryPi device is not available, the image can be run and tested on QEMU. Make the below changes to run on QEMU.

In `build/conf/local.conf` file

- Change the machine variable name to relevant qemu arch as shown below by changing the MACHINE variable from raspberrypi4 to `qemux86_64`

```

# You need to select a specific machine to target the build with. There are
# of emulated machines available which can boot and run in the QEMU emulator
#
#MACHINE ?= "qemuarm"
#MACHINE ?= "qemuarm64"
#MACHINE ?= "qemux86"

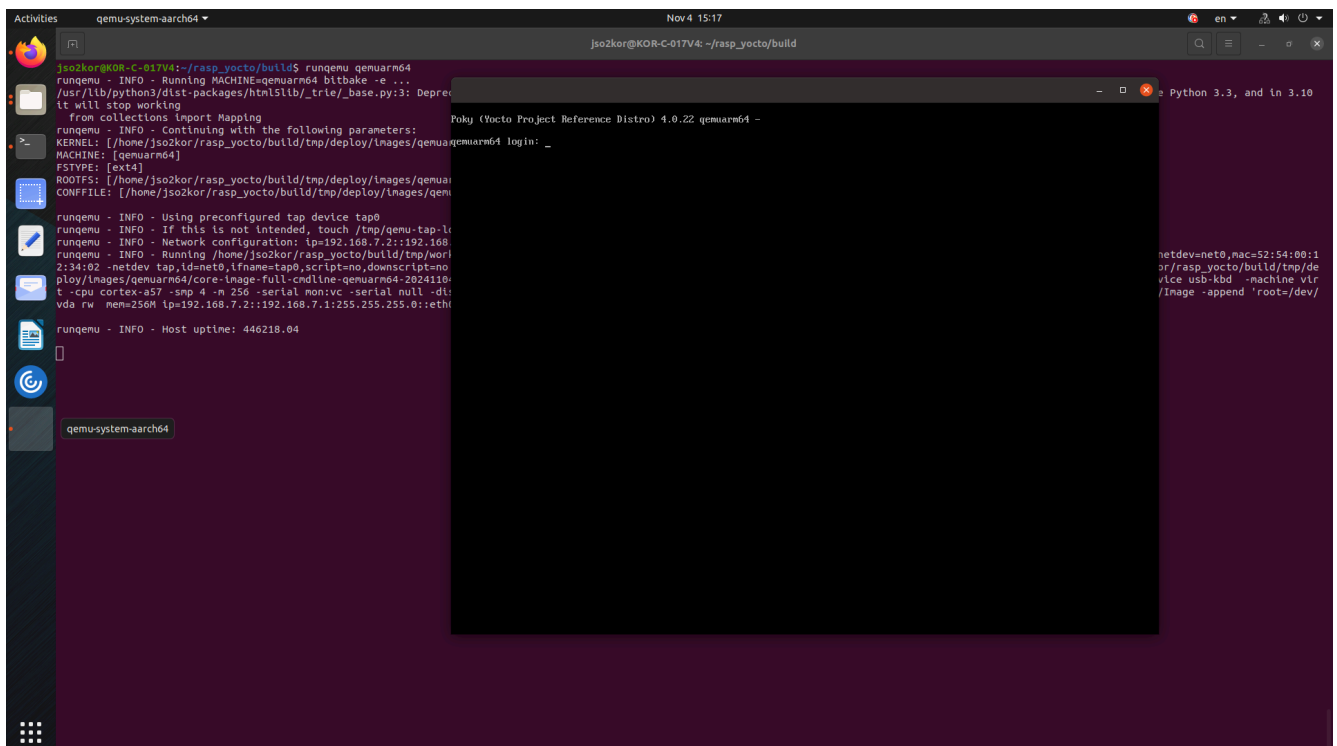
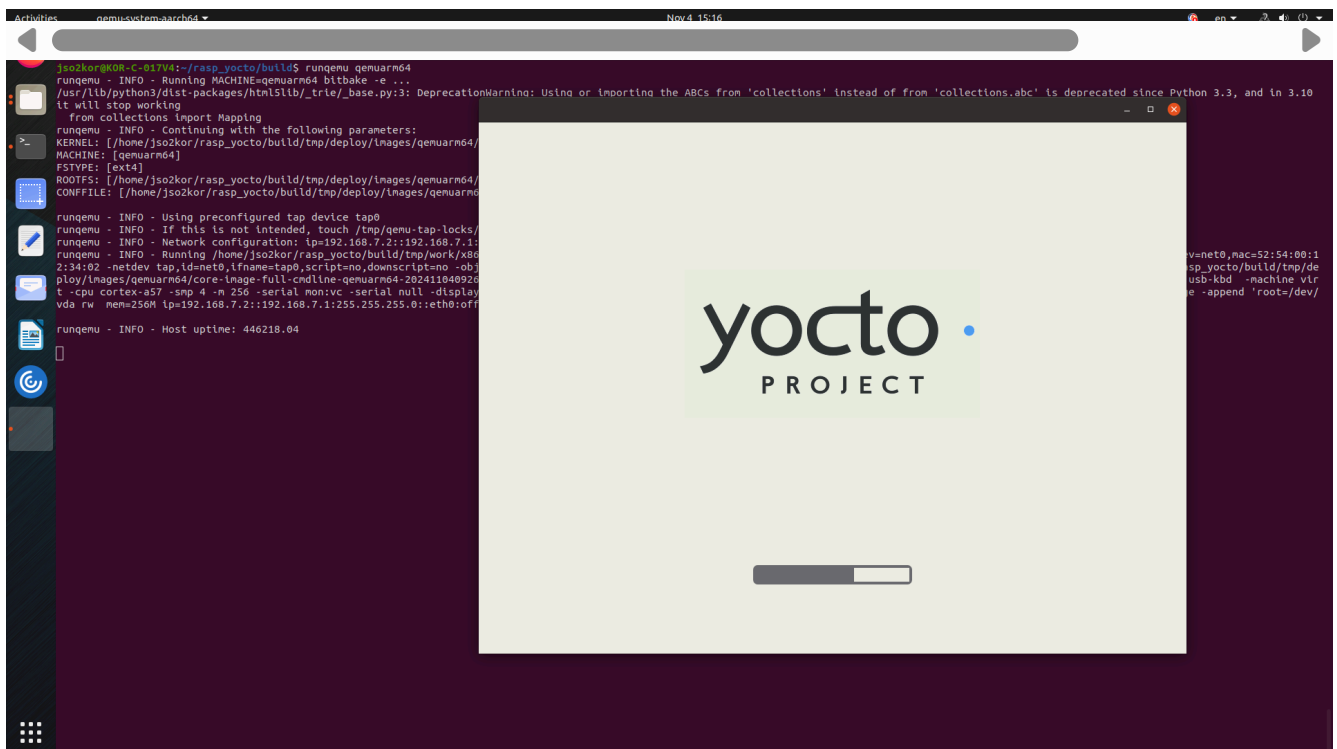
```

```
#MACHINE ?= "qemux86-64"
```

```
# This sets the default machine to be qemux86-64 if no other machine is set
MACHINE ?= "qemuarm64"
```

- Run bitbake target-name command by sourcing the oe-init-build-env script
- In the same build directory run the below command to run qemu

```
runqemu qemuarm64
```



- The above command will open a window which boots as "YOCTO PROJECT" and it enters to command line window. Enter login as `root`, and check for kanto components with the below commands.

```
systemctl status \
suite-connector.service \
container-management.service \
software-update.service \
file-upload.service \
file-backup.service \
system-metrics.service \
kanto-update-manager.service
```

All listed services must be in an active running state.

```

Nov 04 09:46:32 qemuarm64 systemd[1]: Started Eclipse Kanto - Suite Connector.
Nov 04 09:46:32 qemuarm64 file-upload.service: 2024/11/04 09:46:32 UTC: 2min 23s ago
Nov 04 09:46:34 qemuarm64 file-backup[228]: 2024/11/04 09:46:34 Directory '/var/tmp/file-backup' not found!
Nov 04 09:46:34 qemuarm64 file-backup[228]: Press Ctrl+C to exit.
Nov 04 09:46:32 qemuarm64 systemd[1]: Started Eclipse Kanto - File Backup.
Nov 04 09:46:34 qemuarm64 file-backup[228]: 2024/11/04 09:46:34 Directory '/var/tmp/file-backup' not found!
Nov 04 09:46:34 qemuarm64 file-backup[228]: Press Ctrl+C to exit.
Nov 04 09:46:32 qemuarm64 systemd[1]: Started Eclipse Kanto - Software Update.
Nov 04 09:46:32 qemuarm64 software-update.service: 2024/11/04 09:46:32 UTC: 2min 23s ago
Nov 04 09:46:34 qemuarm64 software-update[232]: 2024/11/04 09:46:34 Directory '/var/tmp/file-backup' not found!
Nov 04 09:46:34 qemuarm64 software-update[232]: Press Ctrl+C to exit.

```

Flash the image on Raspberry Pi

- The build image will be available at `build/tmp/deploy/images/raspberrypi4/`
- Identify the SD Card Device with the below command to find the device name of your SD card

```
lsblk
```

- Flash the image to sd card

```
sudo dd if=/path/to/image.wic of=/dev/sdX bs=4M status=progress
```

- Boot the Raspberry Pi,

Insert the SD card into your Raspberry Pi and power it on. The Pi should boot from the Yocto image. Login to your device and run the below command to verify the kanto components.

```
systemctl status \
suite-connector.service \
container-management.service \
software-update.service \
file-upload.service \
file-backup.service \
system-metrics.service \
kanto-update-manager.service
```

Last modified November 5, 2024