

# Rockchip RK356X Linux SDK Release Note

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## Preface

### Overview

The document presents Rockchip RK3566/RK3568 Linux SDK release notes, aiming to help engineers get started with RK3566/RK3568 Linux SDK development and debugging faster.

### Intended Audience

This document (this guide) is mainly intended for:

Technical support engineers

Software development engineers

### Chipset and System Support

Chipset	Buildroot	Debian 10	Yocto
RK3566	Y	Y	Y
RK3568	Y	Y	Y

## Revision History

Date	Version	Author	Revision History
2020-12-11	V0.0.1	Caesar Wang	Initial version
2021-01-18	V0.1.0	Caesar Wang	Beta version
2021-04-10	V1.0.0	Caesar Wang	Release version

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# 1. Overview

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This SDK is based on Buildroot 2018.02-rc3, Yocto 3.2, and Debian 10 or later version with kernel 4.19 and U-boot v2017.09. It is suitable for RK3566/RK3568 EVB development boards and all other Linux products developed based on it. This SDK supports VPU hardware decoding, GPU 3D, Wayland/X11 display, NPU, QT and other function. For detailed functions debugging and interface introductions, please refer to the documents under the project's docs/ directory.

## 2. Main Functions

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Functions	Module Name
Data Communication	Wi-Fi, Ethernet Card, USB, SDCARD, SATA, PCI-e
Applications	Multimedia playback, settings, browser, file management

## 3. How to Get the SDK

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The SDK is released by Rockchip server. Please refer to Chapter 7 [SDK Building Introduction](#) to build a development environment.

### 3.1 General RK356X Linux SDK Obtain

#### 3.1.1 Get Source Code from Rockchip Code Server

To get RK356X Linux software package, customers need an account to access the source code repository provided by Rockchip. In order to be able to obtain code synchronization, please provide SSH public key for server authentication and authorization when apply for SDK from Rockchip technical window. About Rockchip server SSH public key authorization, please refer to Chapter 10 [SSH Public Key Operation Introduction](#).

RK356X\_Linux\_SDK download command is as follows:

```
repo init --repo-url ssh://git@www.rockchip.com.cn/repo/rk/tools/repo -u \
ssh://git@www.rockchip.com.cn/linux/rockchip/platform/manifests -b rk356x -m \
rk356x_linux_release.xml
```

Repo, a tool built on Python script by Google to help manage git repositories, is mainly used to download and manage software repository of projects. The download address is as follows:

```
git clone ssh://git@www.rockchip.com.cn/repo/rk/tools/repo
```

### 3.1.2 Get Source Code from Local Compression Package

For quick access to SDK source code, Rockchip Technical Window usually provides corresponding version of SDK initial compression package. In this way, developers can get SDK source code through decompressing the initial compression package, which is the same as the one downloaded by repo.

Take RK356X\_LINUX\_SDK\_V1.0.0\_20210410.tgz as an example. After getting a initialization package, you can get source code by running the following command:

```
mkdir rk356x
tar xvf RK356X_LINUX_SDK_V1.0.0_20210410.tgz -C rk356x
cd rk356x
.repo/repo/repo sync -l
.repo/repo/repo sync -c --no-tags
```

Developers can update via `.repo/repo/repo sync -c --no-tags` command according to update instructions that are regularly released by FAE window.

## 4. Software Development Guide

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### 4.1 NPU Development Tool

The SDK NPU development tool includes following items:

#### **RKNN-TOOLKIT2 :**

Development tools are in project directory “external/rknn-toolkit2”. Which is used for model conversion, model reasoning, model performance evaluation functions, etc. Please refer to documents in the docs/ directory for details.

```
├─ RKNNToolKit2_OP_Support-v0.7.0.md
├─ Rockchip_Quick_Start_RKNN_Toolkit2_CN_v0.7.0.pdf
├─ Rockchip_Quick_Start_RKNN_Toolkit2_EN_v0.7.0.pdf
├─ Rockchip_User_Guide_RKNN_Toolkit2_CN_v0.7.0.pdf
├─ Rockchip_User_Guide_RKNN_Toolkit2_EN_v0.7.0.pdf
├─ changelog-v0.7.0.txt
└─ requirements-v0.7.0.txt
```

#### **RKNN-DRIVER:**

RKNN DRIVER development materials are in the project directory “external/rknpu/rknnrt/lib/linux-aarch64/driver/”.

#### **RKNN API:**

RKNN API development materials are in the project directory “external/rknpu2”.

Please refer to documents in the docs/ directory for details.

```
├─ Rockchip_RK356X_User_Guide_RKNN_API_V0.7_CN.pdf
└─ Rockchip_RK356X_User_Guide_RKNN_API_V0.7_EN.pdf
```

## 4.2 Software Update History

Software release version upgrade can be checked through project xml file by the following command:

```
.repo/manifests$ ls -l -h rk356x_linux_release.xml
```

Software release version updated information can be checked through the project text file by the following command:

```
.repo/manifests$ cat RK356x_Linux_SDK_Note.md
```

Or refer to the project directory:

```
<SDK>/docs/RK356X/RK356X_Linux_SDK_Note.md
```

## 5. Hardware Development Guide

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Please refer to user guides in the project directory for hardware development:

RK3566 EVB hardware development guide:

```
<SDK>/docs/RK356X/Rockchip_RK3566_EVB_User_Guide_V1.0_EN.pdf
```

RK3568 EVB hardware development guide:

```
<SDK>/docs/RK356X/Rockchip_RK3568_EVB_User_Guide_V1.0_EN.pdf
```

RK3568 NVR hardware development guide:

```
<SDK>/docs/RK356X/Rockchip_RK3568_NVR_User_Guide_V1.0_EN.pdf
```

## 6. SDK Project Directory Introduction

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There are buildroot, debian, recovery, app, kernel, u-boot, device, docs, external and other directories in the project directory. Each directory or its sub-directories will correspond to a git project, and the commit should be done in the respective directory.

- app: store application APPs like qcamera/qfm/qplayer/qseting and other applications.
- buildroot: root file system based on Buildroot (2018.02-rc3).
- debian: root file system based on Debian.
- device/rockchip: store board-level configuration for each chip and some scripts and prepared files for building and packaging firmware.
- docs: stores development guides, platform support lists, tool usage, Linux development guides, and so on.
- IMAGE: stores building time, XML, patch and firmware directory for each building.
- external: stores some third-party libraries, including audio, video, network, recovery and so on.

- kernel: stores kernel4.19 development code.
- prebuilts: stores cross-building toolchain.
- rkbin: stores Rockchip Binary and tools.
- rockdev: stores building output firmware.
- tools: stores some commonly used tools under Linux and Windows system.
- u-boot: store U-Boot code developed based on v2017.09 version.
- yocto: stores the root file system developed based on Yocto 3.2.

## 7. SDK Building Introduction

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### 7.1 SDK Dependency Packages Installation

This SDK is developed and tested on Ubuntu system. We recommend using Ubuntu 18.04 for compilation. Other Linux versions may need to adjust the software package accordingly. In addition to the system requirements, there are other hardware and software requirements.

Hardware requirements: 64-bit system, hard disk space greater than 40G. If you do multiple builds, you will need more hard drive space

Software requirements: Ubuntu 18.04 system:

Please install software packages with below commands to setup SDK compiling environment:

```
sudo apt-get install repo git ssh make gcc libssl-dev liblz4-tool \  
expect g++ patchelf chrpath gawk texinfo chrpath diffstat binfmt-support \  
qemu-user-static live-build bison flex fakeroot cmake gcc-multilib g++-multilib \  
unzip \  
device-tree-compiler python-pip ncurses-dev pyelftools \  

```

It is recommended to use Ubuntu 18.04 system or higher version for development. If you encounter an error during compilation, you can check the error message and install the corresponding software packages.

### 7.2 SDK Board Level Configuration

Enter the project SDK/device/rockchip/rk356x directory:



Board level configuration	Note
BoardConfig-rk3566-evb2-lp4x-v10.mk	Suitable for RK3566 EVB development board with LPDDR4
BoardConfig-rk3568-evb1-ddr4-v10-spi-nor-64M.mk	Suitable for RK3568 development boards with DDR4 and SPI NOR
BoardConfig-rk3568-evb1-ddr4-v10.mk	Suitable for RK3568 development boards with DDR4
BoardConfig-rk3568-nvr-spi-nand.mk	Suitable for RK3568 NVR with SPI NAND development board
BoardConfig-rk3568-nvr.mk	Suitable for RK3568 NVR development board
BoardConfig.mk	Default

The first way:

Add board configuration file behind `/build.sh` , for example:

Select the board configuration of **RK3566 EVB development board**:

```
./build.sh device/rockchip/rk356x/BoardConfig-rk3566-evb2-lp4x-v10.mk
```

Select the board configuration of the **RK3568 EVB with SPI NOR development board**:

```
./build.sh device/rockchip/rk356x/BoardConfig-rk3568-evb1-ddr4-v10-spi-nor-64M.mk
```

Select the board configuration of the **RK3568 EVB development board**:

```
./build.sh device/rockchip/rk356x/BoardConfig-rk3568-evb1-ddr4-v10.mk
```

Select the board-level configuration of the **RK3568 NVR with SPI NAND development board**:

```
./build.sh device/rockchip/rk356x/BoardConfig-rk3568-nvr-spi-nand.mk
```

Select the board-level configuration of the **RK3568 NVR development board**:

```
./build.sh device/rockchip/rk356x/BoardConfig-rk3568-nvr.mk
```

The second way:

```
rk356x$ ./build.sh lunch
processing option: lunch

You're building on Linux
Lunch menu...pick a combo:

0. default BoardConfig.mk
1. BoardConfig-rk3566-evb2-lp4x-v10.mk
2. BoardConfig-rk3568-evb1-ddr4-v10-spi-nor-64M.mk
3. BoardConfig-rk3568-evb1-ddr4-v10.mk
4. BoardConfig-rk3568-nvr-spi-nand.mk
```

```
5. BoardConfig-rk3568-nvr.mk
6. BoardConfig.mk
Which would you like? [0]:
```

## 7.3 Compilation Commands

Execute the command in the root directory: `./build.sh -h|help`

```
rk356x$ ./build.sh -h
Usage: build.sh [OPTIONS]
Available options:
BoardConfig*.mk    -switch to specified board config
lunch               -list current SDK boards and switch to specified board config
uboot               -build uboot
spl                 -build spl
loader              -build loader
kernel              -build kernel
modules             -build kernel modules
toolchain           -build toolchain
rootfs              -build default rootfs, currently build buildroot as default
buildroot           -build buildroot rootfs
ramboot             -build ramboot image
multi-npu_boot      -build boot image for multi-npu board
yocto               -build yocto rootfs
debian              -build debian10 buster/x11 rootfs
pcba                -build pcba
recovery            -build recovery
all                 -build uboot, kernel, rootfs, recovery image
cleanall            -clean uboot, kernel, rootfs, recovery
firmware            -pack all the image we need to boot up system
updateimg           -pack update image
otapackage          -pack ab update otapackage image
save                -save images, patches, commands used to debug
allsave             -build all & firmware & updateimg & save
check               -check the environment of building

Default option is 'allsave'.
```

View detailed build commands for some modules, for example: `./build.sh -h kernel`

```
rk356x$ ./build.sh -h kernel
###Current SDK Default [ kernel ] Build Command###
cd kernel
make ARCH=arm64 rockchip_linux_defconfig rockchip_linux_bifrost.config
make ARCH=arm64 rk3568-evb1-ddr4-v10-linux.img -j12
```

## 7.4 Automatic Build

Enter root directory of project directory and execute the following commands to automatically complete all build:

```

./build.sh all # Only build module code(u-Boot, kernel, Rootfs, Recovery)
               # Need to execute ./mkfirmware.sh again for firmware package

./build.sh     # Base on ./build.sh all
               # 1. Add firmware package ./mkfirmware.sh
               # 2. update.img package
               # 3. Copy the firmware in the rockdev directory to the
IMAGE/***_RELEASE_TEST/IMAGES directory
               # 4. Save the patches of each module to the
IMAGE/***_RELEASE_TEST/PATCHES directory
               # Note: ./build.sh and ./build.sh allsave command are the same

```

It is Buildroot by default, you can specify rootfs by setting the environment variable RK\_ROOTFS\_SYSTEM. There are three types of system for RK\_ROOTFS\_SYSTEM: buildroot, Debian, and yocto.

For example, if you need debain, you can generate it with the following command:

```

$export RK_ROOTFS_SYSTEM=debian
$./build.sh

```

## 7.5 Build and package each module

### 7.5.1 U-boot Build

```

### U-Boot build command
./build.sh uboot

### To view the detailed U-Boot build command
./build.sh -h uboot

```

### 7.5.2 Kernel Build

```

### Kernel build command
./build.sh kernel

### To view the detailed Kernel build command
./build.sh -h kernel

```

### 7.5.3 Recovery Build

```

### Recovery build command
./build.sh recovery

### To view the detailed Recovery build command
./build.sh -h recovery

```

Note: Recovery is a unnecessary function, some board configuration will not be set

## 7.5.4 Buildroot Build

Enter project root directory and run the following commands to automatically complete compiling and packaging of Rootfs.

```
./build.sh rootfs
```

After build, rootfs.ext4 is generated in Buildroot directory “output/rockchip\_chipset/images”.

### 7.5.4.1 Buildroot Cross Compilation

If you need to build a single module or a third-party application, you need to setup the cross compilation environment. Says RK3568 EVB, Cross compilation tool is located in “buildroot/output/rockchip\_rk3568/host/usr” directory. You need to set bin/ directory of tools and aarch64-buildroot-linux-gnu/bin/ directory to environment variables, and execute auto-configuration environment variable script in the top-level directory (only valid for current console):

```
source envsetup.sh
```

Enter the command to check:

```
cd buildroot/output/rockchip_rk3568/host/usr/bin  
./aarch64-linux-gcc --version
```

Then the following logs are printed:

```
gcc version 9.3.0 (Buildroot 2018.02-rc3-02723-gd3fbc6ae13)
```

### 7.5.4.2 Build Modules in Buildroot

For example, for the qplayer module, commonly used build commands are as follows:

- Build qplayer

```
SDK$make qplayer
```

- Rebuild qplayer

```
SDK$make qplayer-rebuild
```

- delete qplayer

```
SDK$make qplayer-dirclean  
or  
SDK$rm -rf /buildroot/output/rockchip_rk356*/build/qplayer-1.0
```

## 7.5.5 Debian Building

```
./build.sh debian
```

Or enter debian/ directory:

```
cd debian/
```

Please refer to the readme.md in the directory for further building and Debian firmware generation.

### (1) Building base Debian system

```
sudo apt-get install binfmt-support qemu-user-static live-build  
sudo dpkg -i ubuntu-build-service/packages/*  
sudo apt-get install -f
```

Build 64 bit Debian:

```
RELEASE=buster TARGET=desktop ARCH=arm64 ./mk-base-debian.sh
```

After building, linaro-buster-alip-xxxxx-1.tar.gz (xxxxx is timestamp generated) will be generated in “debian/”:

FAQ:

- If you encounter the following problem during above building:

```
noexec or nodev issue /usr/share/debootstrap/functions: line 1450:  
..../rootfs/ubuntu-build-service/buster-desktop-arm64/chroot/test-dev-null:  
Permission denied E: Cannot install into target '/rootfs/ubuntu-build-  
service/buster-desktop-arm64/chroot' mounted with noexec or nodev
```

Solution:

```
mount -o remount,exec,dev xxx (xxx is the project directory), and then rebuild
```

In addition, if there are other building issues, please check firstly that the building system is not ext2/ext4.

- Because building Base Debian requires to access to foreign websites, and when domestic networks access foreign websites, download failures often occur:

The live build is used in Debian10, you can configure like below to change the image source to domestic:

```

+++ b/ubuntu-build-service/buster-desktop-arm64/configure
@@ -11,6 +11,11 @@ set -e
 echo "I: create configuration"
 export LB_BOOTSTRAP_INCLUDE="apt-transport-https gnupg"
 lb config \
+ --mirror-bootstrap "https://mirrors.tuna.tsinghua.edu.cn/debian" \
+ --mirror-chroot "https://mirrors.tuna.tsinghua.edu.cn/debian" \
+ --mirror-chroot-security "https://mirrors.tuna.tsinghua.edu.cn/debian-security" \
+ --mirror-binary "https://mirrors.tuna.tsinghua.edu.cn/debian" \
+ --mirror-binary-security "https://mirrors.tuna.tsinghua.edu.cn/debian-security"
--apt-indices false \
--apt-recommends false \
--apt-secure false \

```

If the package cannot be downloaded for other network reasons, there are pre-build packages shared on [Baidu Cloud Disk](#), put it in the current directory, and then do the next step directly.

## (2) Building rk-debian rootfs

Build 64bit Debian:

```
VERSION=debug ARCH=arm64 ./mk-rootfs-buster.sh
```

## (3) Creating the ext4 image(linaro-rootfs.img)

```
./mk-image.sh
```

The linaro-rootfs.img will be generated.

## 7.5.6 Yocto Build

Enter project root directory and execute the following commands to automatically complete compiling and packaging Rootfs.

RK3566/RK3568 EVB boards:

```
./build.sh yocto
```

After compiling, rootfs.img is generated in yocto directory “/build/latest”.

FAQ:

If you encounter the following problem during above compiling:

```

Please use a locale setting which supports UTF-8 (such as LANG=en_US.UTF-8).
Python can't change the filesystem locale after loading so we need a UTF-8
when Python starts or things won't work.

```

Solution:

```

locale-gen en_US.UTF-8
export LANG=en_US.UTF-8 LANGUAGE=en_US.en LC_ALL=en_US.UTF-8

```

Or refer to [setup-locale-python3](#). The image generated after compiling is in “yocto/build/latest/rootfs.img”. The default login username is root.

Please refer to [Rockchip Wiki](#) for more detailed information of Yocto.

### 7.5.6.1 Firmware Package

After compiling various parts of Kernel/U-Boot/Recovery/Rootfs above, enter root directory of project directory and run the following command to automatically complete all firmware packaged into rockdev directory:

Firmware generation:

```
./mkfirmware.sh
```

## 8. Upgrade Introducton

Interfaces layout of RK3566 EVB board are showed as follows:

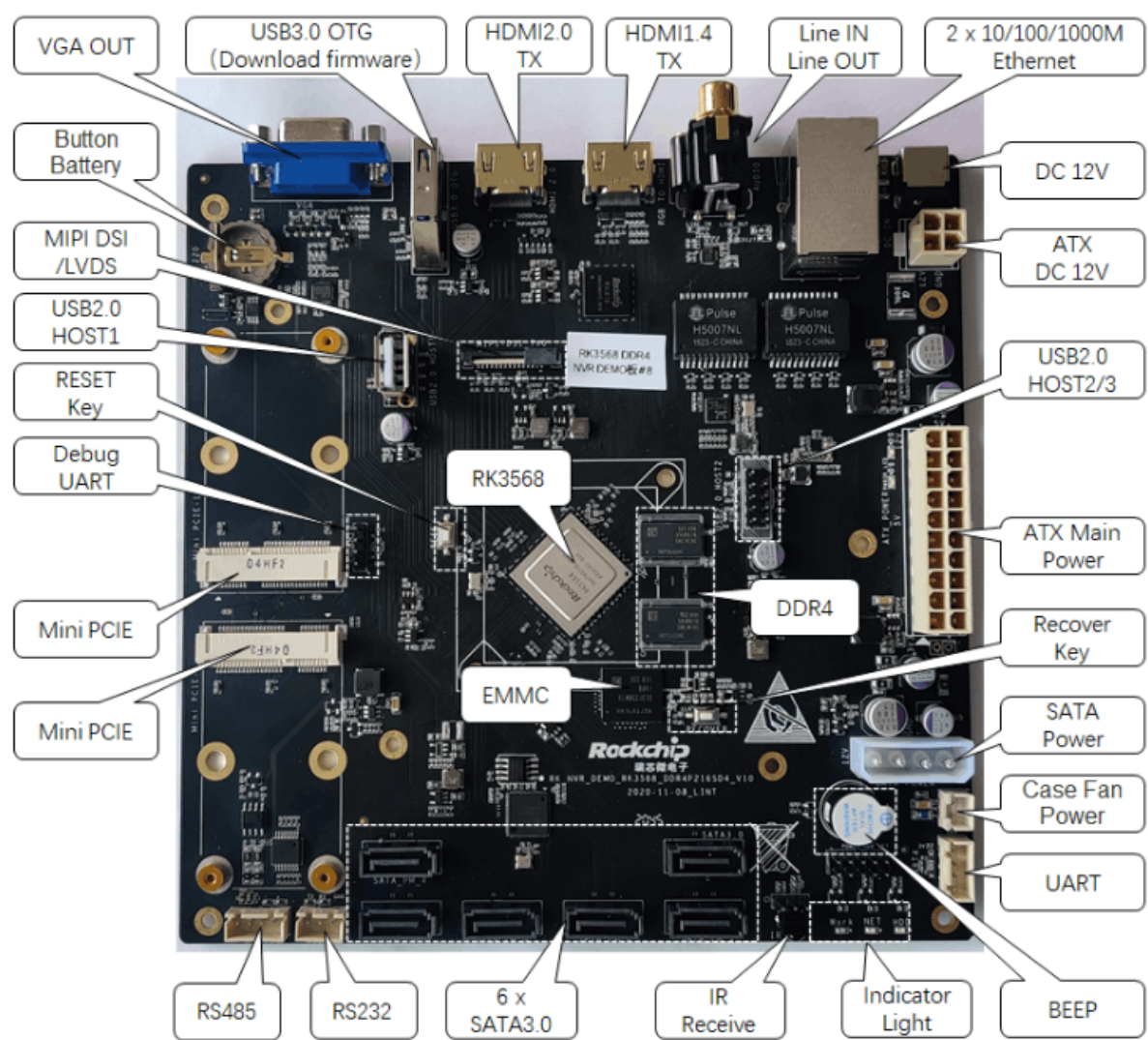


Interfaces layout of RK3568 EVB board are showed as follows:





Interfaces layout of RK3568 EVB board are showed as follows:



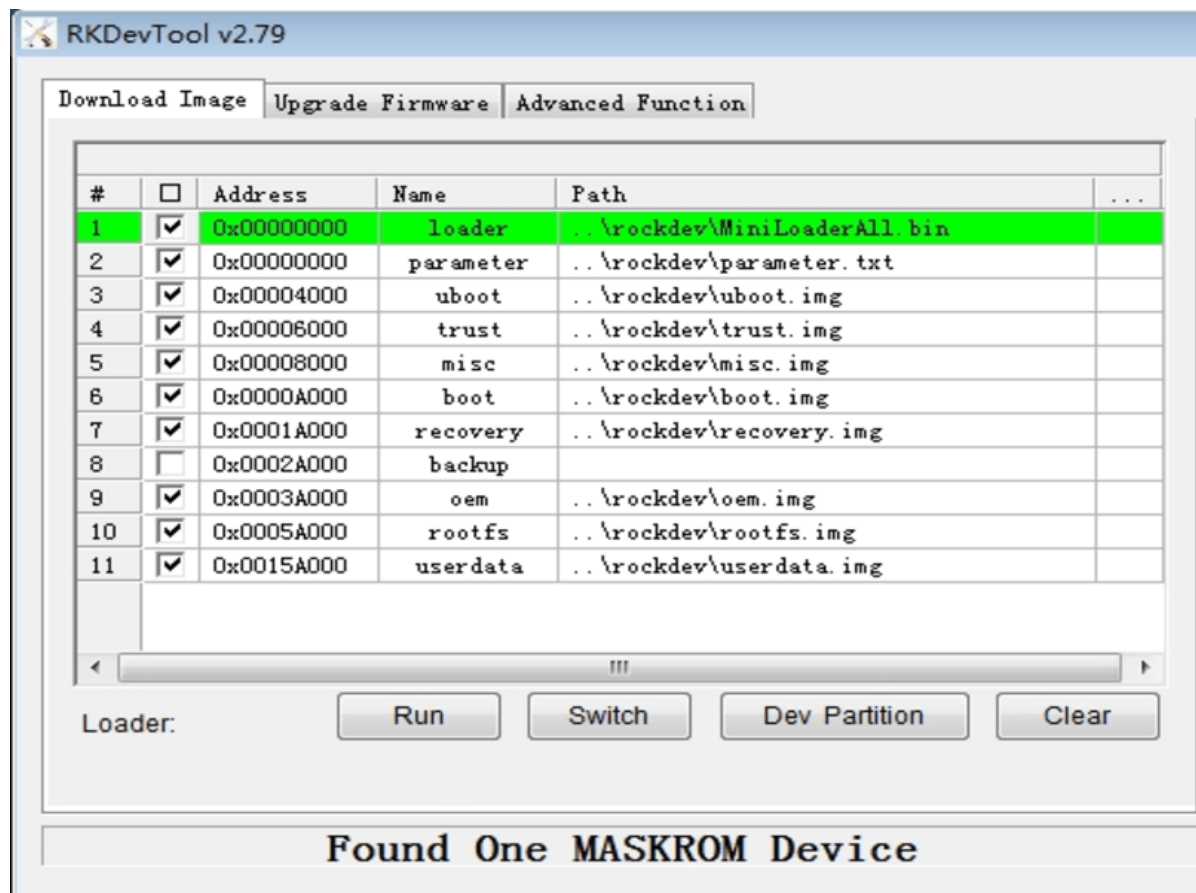


## 8.1 Windows Upgrade Introduction

SDK provides windows upgrade tool (this tool should be V2.79 or later version) which is located in project root directory:

```
tools/  
└─ windows/RKDevTool
```

As shown below, after compiling the corresponding firmware, device should enter MASKROM or BootROM mode for update. After connecting USB cable, long press the button “MASKROM” and press reset button “RST” at the same time and then release, device will enter MASKROM Mode. Then you should load the paths of the corresponding images and click “Run” to start upgrade. You can also press the “recovery” button and press reset button “RST” then release to enter loader mode to upgrade. Partition offset and flashing files of MASKROM Mode are shown as follows (Note: Window PC needs to run the tool as an administrator):



Note: Before upgrade, please install the latest USB driver, which is in the below directory:

```
<SDK>/tools/windows/DriverAssitant_v5.0.zip
```

## 8.2 Linux Upgrade Instruction

The Linux upgrade tool (Linux\_Upgrade\_Tool should be v1.57 or later versions) is located in “tools/linux” directory. Please make sure your board is connected to MASKROM/loader rockusb, if the compiled firmware is in rockdev directory, upgrade commands are as below:

```

sudo ./upgrade_tool ul rockdev/MiniLoaderAll.bin
sudo ./upgrade_tool di -p rockdev/parameter.txt
sudo ./upgrade_tool di -u rockdev/uboot.img
sudo ./upgrade_tool di -t rockdev/trust.img
sudo ./upgrade_tool di -misc rockdev/misc.img
sudo ./upgrade_tool di -b rockdev/boot.img
sudo ./upgrade_tool di -recovery rockdev/recovery.img
sudo ./upgrade_tool di -oem rockdev/oem.img
sudo ./upgrade_tool di -rootfs rockdev/rootfs.img
sudo ./upgrade_tool di -userdata rockdev/userdata.img
sudo ./upgrade_tool rd

```

Or upgrade the whole update.img in the firmware

```

sudo ./upgrade_tool uf rockdev/update.img

```

Or in root directory, run the following command on the machine to upgrade in MASKROM state:

```

./rkflash.sh

```

## 8.3 System Partition Introduction

Default partition introduction (below is RK3568 EVB reference partition):

Number	Start (sector)	End (sector)	Size	Name
1	16384	24575	4096K	uboot
2	24576	32767	4096K	misc
3	32768	98303	32M	boot
4	98304	163839	32M	recovery
5	163840	229375	32M	bakcup
6	229376	12812287	6144M	rootfs
7	12812288	13074431	128M	oem
8	13074432	61071326	22.8G	userdata

- uboot partition: for uboot.img built from uboot.
- misc partition: for misc.img built from recovery.
- boot partition: for boot.img built from kernel.
- recovery partition: for recovery.img built from recovery.
- backup partition: reserved, temporarily useless. Will be used for backup of recovery as in Android in future.
- oem partition: used by manufactor to store their APP or data, mounted in /oem directory
- rootfs partition: store rootfs.img built from buildroot or debian.
- userdata partition: store files temporarily generated by APP or for users, mounted in /userdata directory

## 9. RK356X SDK Firmware

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- Baidu Cloud Disk

[Buildroot](#)

[Debian rootfs](#)

[Yocto rootfs](#)

- Microsoft OneDriver

[Buildroot](#)

[Debian rootfs](#)

[Yocto rootfs](#)

## 10. SSH Public Key Operation Introduction

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Please follow the introduction in the “Rockchip\_User\_Guide\_SDK\_Application\_And\_Synchronization\_CN” to generate an SSH public key and send the email to [fae@rock-chips.com](mailto:fae@rock-chips.com), to get the SDK code.

This document will be released to customers during the process of applying for permission.

### 10.1 Multiple Machines Use the Same SSH Public Key

If the same SSH public key should be used in different machines, you can copy the SSH private key file `id_rsa` to “`~/.ssh/id_rsa`” of the machine you want to use.

The following prompt will appear when using a wrong private key, please be careful to replace it with the correct private key.

```
~/tmp$ git clone git@172.16.10.211:rk292x/mid/4.1.1_r1
Initialized empty Git repository in /home/cody/tmp/4.1.1_r1/.git/
The authenticity of host '172.16.10.211 (172.16.10.211)' can't be established.
RSA key fingerprint is fe:36:dd:30:bb:83:73:e1:0b:df:90:e2:73:e4:61:46.
Are you sure you want to continue connecting (yes/no)? yes
Warning: Permanently added '172.16.10.211' (RSA) to the list of known hosts.
git@172.16.10.211's password: █
```

After adding the correct private key, you can use git to clone code, as shown below.

```
~$ cd tmp/
~/tmp$ git clone git@172.16.10.211:rk292x/mid/4.1.1_r1
Initialized empty Git repository in /home/cody/tmp/4.1.1_r1/.git/
The authenticity of host '172.16.10.211 (172.16.10.211)' can't be established.
RSA key fingerprint is fe:36:dd:30:bb:83:73:e1:0b:df:90:e2:73:e4:61:46.
Are you sure you want to continue connecting (yes/no)? yes
Warning: Permanently added '172.16.10.211' (RSA) to the list of known hosts.
remote: Counting objects: 237923, done.
remote: Compressing objects: 100% (168382/168382), done.
Receiving objects: 9% (21570/237923), 61.52 MiB | 11.14 MiB/s
```

Adding ssh private key may result in the following error.

```
Agent admitted failure to sign using the key
```

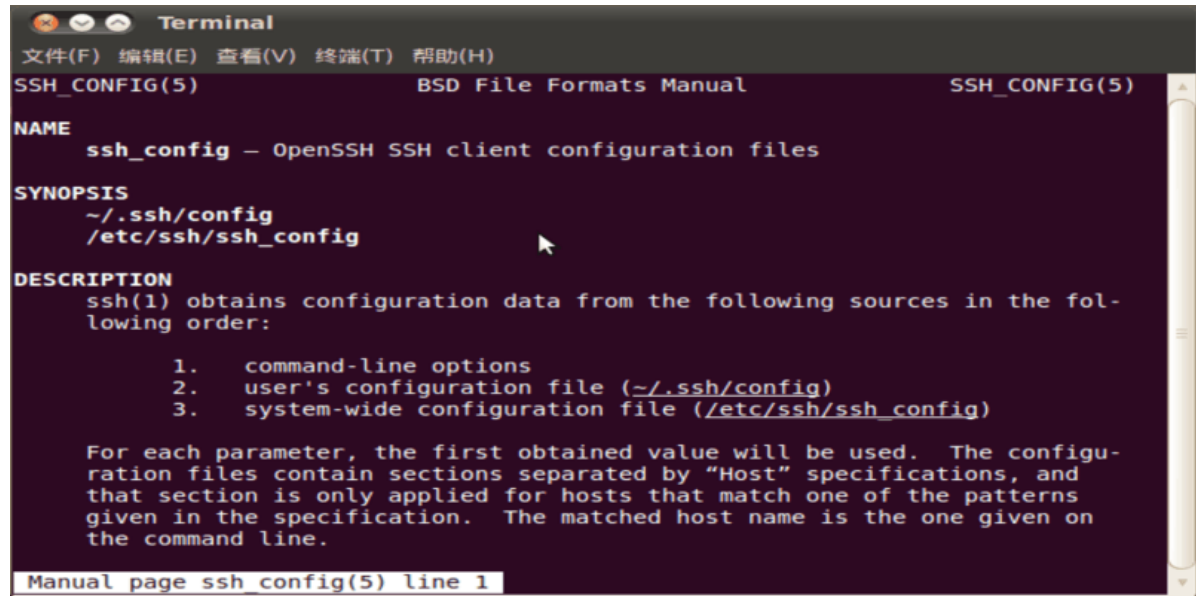
Enter the following command in console to solve:

```
ssh-add ~/.ssh/id_rsa
```

## 10.2 One Machine Switches Different SSH Public Keys

You can configure SSH by referring to `ssh_config` documentation.

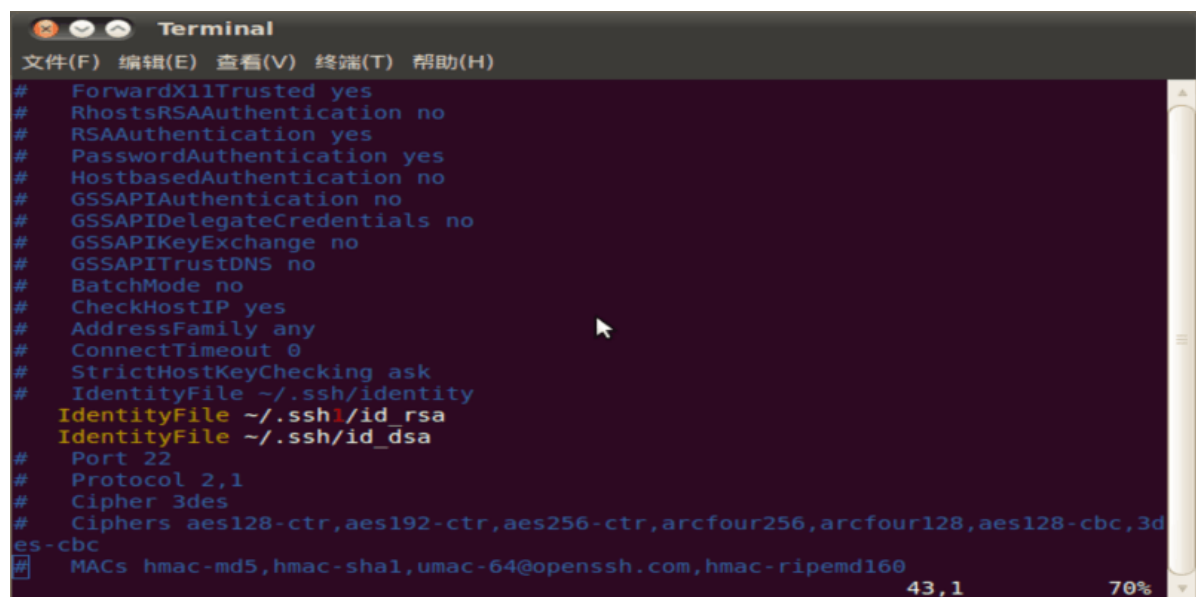
```
~$ man ssh_config
```



Run the following command to configure SSH configuration of current user.

```
~$ cp /etc/ssh/ssh_config ~/.ssh/config
~$ vi ~/.ssh/config
```

As shown in the figure, SSH uses the file `“~/.ssh1/id_rsa”` of another directory as an authentication private key. In this way, different keys can be switched.



## 10.3 Key Authority Management

Server can monitor download times and IP information of a key in real time. If an abnormality is found, download permission of the corresponding key will be disabled.

Keep the private key file properly. Do not grant second authorization to third parties.

## 10.4 Reference Documents

For more details, please refer to document

“/docs/Others/Rockchip\_User\_Guide\_SDK\_Application\_And\_Synchronization\_CN.pdf”