**Install Fstboot on Windows & Ubuntu**

By

Regards

Ashish Tanwer

Masters, Computer Science, Stony Brook University

1063 morse avenue, apt 3-200, Sunnyvale, California-94089

[ashishtanwer@gmail.com](mailto:ashishtanwer@gmail.com), +1-[(631) 551-3060](tel:%28631%29%20551-3060)

<http://ashishtanwer.info>, <http://in.linkedin.com/in/ashishtanwer>

<http://www.youtube.com/user/ashishtanwer> <https://github.com/ashishtanwer>

Fastboot is a protocol designed to flash signed/unsigned partitions to android phones directly into the phones flash memory. If you are familiar with ADB think of it in the same way.

If you're not, just understand it is a tool designed to help flash images such as recoveries, bootloaders, kernels, etc. to your android phone. For the most part you can not use much of fastboot unless you are rooted and have an engineering SPL (Hboot/Bootloader)

If using a [Nexus device](http://www.amazon.com/s/ref=nb_sb_noss_2?url=search-alias%3Dmobile&field-keywords=nexus&rh=n%3A2335752011%2Ck%3Anexus) you in a sense have an engineering bootloader already so don't need to worry about it like HTC folks need. But Some Nexus lines will have different bootloaders with different capabilities.

FASTBOOT FOR WINDOWS

Fastboot.exe can be downloaded to your computer from Google's SDK found [HERE](http://developer.android.com/sdk/index.html" \t "_blank) download the proper package depending on what system you are using. also.. You will need the proper drivers to allow your PC and phone to communicate. You will find these in your devices specific forum or possibly you can use [PdaNet](http://pdanet.en.softonic.com/)

After you downloaded the SDK package to your PC see where it is located, somewhere like this for Windows

C:\android\android-sdk-windows\platform-tools

Of course put it where you like, just **know** where fastboot.exe lies

\*If you want to skip the SDK, you can get ADB and Fastboot by themselves with [THIS HANDY LITTLE TOOL](http://forum.xda-developers.com/showthread.php?t=2317790) created by shimp208

Note: After you have ADB and Fastboot you will may want to finish following this guide to add a path in environmental variables.

**For Windows:**

Although not necessary, but to make it easier i really suggest doing these steps:

left click the Windows (start) button > right click on computer > choose properties > go to advanced system settings > advanced tab > environmental variables > in the first box (user variables

Add PATH C:\android\android-sdk-windows\platform-tools

Alright click ok and you are done!

let’s try this type

Code:

fastboot

Now try typing

Code:

fastboot devices

...and nothing will happen, Why? because there isn't a device attached. Make sure you have android debugging turned on in your phone (not really needed for fastboot but you do need for ADB), plug it into your computer and boot into fastboot mode. On many phones hold volume down while powering on, if this wont bring you to bootloader mode then see your device specific forum, if needed choose fastboot. Again try typing

Code:

fastboot devices

this time you should have a list of attached devices, this is displayed as the serial number to each. Being many commands will "do" things to your phone try typing

Code:

fastboot reboot

If your phone is now back and running your existing OS, congratulations! http://cdn3.xda-developers.com/images/smilies/good.gifYou now at least have fastboot set up and working properly.

FASTBOOT ON UBUNTU

To get fastboot installed on your Linux box first download appropriate SDK package [From Here](http://developer.android.com/sdk/index.html)

\*Not all Linux distros are the same and I don't consider myself a Linux guru, I will explain what I know about the few distributions I've used but remember if something don't work look up specifics for yours [HERE](https://www.google.com/)

After SDK is downloaded extract contents into home folder, maybe in a folder called Android, your choice.

Now we need to make sure we have the latest java JDK installed found [HERE](http://www.oracle.com/technetwork/java/javase/downloads/index.html) or if you prefer you can get it from the terminal

Code:

sudo apt-get update

sudo apt-get install openjdk-6-jdk

or if using Ubuntu, the software center. (I have heard people complain about JDK7 so to be safe stick with JDK 6 for now)

\*\*I have a 64bit machine so I needed the 32bit libraries, you may not need this. If you do run this from terminal

Code:

sudo apt-get install ia32-libs

\*\*As pointed out to me by trevd, if you are using Ubuntu 12.10 or newer you should simply open a terminal and run these two commands

Code:

sudo apt-get install android-tools-fastboot

and

Code:

sudo apt-get install android-tools-fastboot

If you never plan on developing for android or using other tools that come with the SDK

then this should be all you need. And you may also skip the JDK install. As most people will never attempt to create

an app or ROM or mod their phone in a way that they would need more than this, these simple commands should suffice.

**Downloading Fastboot**

ummm.. isn't that what I just did? Possibly, but as far as I know ADB, fastboot and everything else in platform-tools wont automatically download with the SDK.

Other have told me it does, so feel free to navigate to the platform-tools folder and see if you see these applications.

If you skipped installing the SDK and just installed fastboot and ADB from the command line you can skip down to creating a path. So if you got them, skip this, if you don't, do this:

From in a terminal type

Code:

cd ~/android-sdk-linux/tools

./android

\*\*note depending on what you named the folder the downloaded and extracted SDK is in you may need to change your cd command to something else.

Now a new window will pop up, Click on "Available Packages" and you will be see two boxes. One is Android Repository and the other is Third-party Add-ons.

Click on "Android Repository" then click on Install Selected. now click on "Accept All" and then click on the Install button.

Personally I like downloading all that is possible here, you may have limited space or bandwidth so all you 'need' is the contents of platform-tools.

If you want to download some API's later go for it, they aren't needed unless you are developing.

**Adding a Path**

Just like in windows changing directories can be brutally annoying so lets add a path. Open a Terminal and type:

Code:

nano ~/.bashrc

or you can use gedit, whatever you have/like to use (sudo gedit ~/.bashrc)

At the end of this text (or at the begining add the following

Code:

Android tools

export PATH=~/android-sdk-linux/platform-tools:~/android-sdk-linux/tools:$PATH

\*\*again be sure this is your path (neat trick, find fastboot from within platform-tools, right click on it, go to properties, highlight the location/path and copy/paste this)

Now click save, this will make so you no longer need to type ./adb all the time

I have been told a reboot is needed here but I don't think so, just type this into a command line:

Code:

source ~/.bashrc

**Drivers? I don't need no stinking drivers!**

True, sorta, but more than likely we will need to add the android rules so your device can communicate with PC. Open a Terminal and Type

Code:

gksudo gedit /etc/udev/rules.d/51-android.rules

now add the following lines:

Code:

SUBSYSTEM=="usb", ATTRS{idVendor}=="0bb4", MODE="0666"

SUBSYSTEM=="usb", ATTRS{idVendor}=="0502", MODE="0666"

SUBSYSTEM=="usb", ATTRS{idVendor}=="12d1", MODE="0666"

SUBSYSTEM=="usb", ATTRS{idVendor}=="1004", MODE="0666"

SUBSYSTEM=="usb", ATTRS{idVendor}=="22b8", MODE="0666"

SUBSYSTEM=="usb", ATTRS{idVendor}=="04e8", MODE="0666"

SUBSYSTEM=="usb", ATTRS{idVendor}=="0fce", MODE="0666"

SUBSYSTEM=="usb", ATTRS{idVendor}=="0489", MODE="0666"

SUBSYSTEM=="usb", ATTRS{idVendor}=="18d1", SYMLINK+="android\_adb", MODE="0666"

SUBSYSTEM=="usb", ATTRS{idVendor}=="04e8", MODE="0666", GROUP="plugdev"

Depending on your device this should be all you need and then some, feel free to check out [THIS](http://developer.android.com/tools/device.html) for the most up to date vendor list.

**Now for a test!**

So plug your phone into PC via usb, have it in fastboot mode (from within bootloader) and open a new terminal, type:

Code:

fastboot devices

If you see a string of #s and letters then success!

IMPORTANT FASTBOOT COMMANDS

Now in terminal/cmd type:

Code:

fastboot devices

all is good when serial number is displayed, now type:

Code:

fastboot erase system -w

fastboot erase boot

*\*This isn't 100% necessary but I'm a firm believer in wiping before any flash, even a backup*

Code:

fastboot flash userdata data.img

fastboot flash system system.img

fastboot flash boot boot.img

fastboot reboot