

# Chapter 1

## How to use this tutorial

### 1.1 Introduction

This tutorial was made to aid my friend in installing and configuring Linux on his laptop. It is made to cover edge cases and to be as simple as possible. This tutorial is made for beginners and is not meant to be a comprehensive guide to Linux. I hope someone finds this tutorial useful and that it helps them in their journey to learn Linux.

### 1.2 How to use this tutorial

The tutorial is divided into chapters. Each chapter covers a specific topic. The chapters are meant to be read in order. The tutorial is meant to be read on a phone or a laptop while you are installing Linux on your computer.

A chapter will start with a brief introduction to the topic and then will have a list of steps that you need to follow. The steps are meant to be followed in order. Each step will have a brief explanation of what you need to do. The steps are meant to be simple and easy to follow. If you have any questions or need help, feel free to ask me. I will try to help you as much as I can.



## Chapter 2

# What and why of Debian and Linux

### 2.1 What and why Debian?

Debian is a free operating system (OS) for your computer. An operating system is a set of programs that manage the hardware and software of your computer. Debian is fundamentally different from Windows and macOS. Debian is made by a community of people who work together to create a free and open-source operating system while Windows and macOS are made by companies. The companies naturally want to make a profit, so they do not share their code with the public and are often in my opinion anti consumer and anti-privacy. Debian is made by people who want to make a good operating system that is free as in free to do as you want to it and free as in freedom. Debian is made to be secure, stable, and easy to use unlike Windows and macOS which are close source and are hard to audit for security vulnerabilities while Debian is open source and can be audited by anyone. Debian is made to be easy to use and is made to be used by anyone. There are three main distributions of Linux that most people use Debian, Fedora, and Arch most other distributions are spinoffs of these three. Debian is the most stable and secure of the three and is the one that I recommend for beginners. Here is a list of reasons why you should use Debian:

- Debian is free and open-source  
unlike Windows and macOS which are closed source
- Debian is secure  
Debian is made to be secure and is made to be used by anyone
- Debian is stable  
Debian is made to be stable and not bleeding edge like Arch Linux

- Debian is easy to use

Debian is made to be easy to use and is made to be used by anyone unlike Arch Linux which is made for advanced users

- Debian is well documented and supported

Debian has a large community of users and developers who can help you if you have any questions or need help unlike Fedora which is made by a company and is not as well documented or supported

All ubuntu packages are based on Debian packages so you can use Ubuntu packages on Debian

For all these reasons I recommend Debian for beginners. Debian is made to be easy to use and is made to be used by anyone. Debian is made to be secure, stable, and easy to use. Debian is free and open-source and is made to be used by anyone. Debian is well documented and supported and has a large community of users and developers who can help you if you have any questions or need help. Debian is the best distribution of Linux for beginners and is the one that I recommend for beginners.

## 2.2 Vocabulary

- Operating System (OS) - A set of programs that manage the hardware and software of your computer
- Bleeding edge - The latest and greatest software that is not stable
- Spinoff - A distribution of Linux that is based on another distribution of Linux
- distribution - A version of Linux that is made by a community of people who work together to create a free and open-source operating system
- open-source - Software that is free to use and can be audited by anyone

## 2.3 Prerequisites

Before you start installing Debian, you need to have a few things ready. Here is a list of things that you need to have before you start installing Debian:

- A computer with at least 2GB of RAM and 20GB of free space and a 64-bit processor
- A USB drive with at least 4GB of space
- A keyboard and mouse
- An internet connection (optional but recommended)

- A phone or a laptop to read this tutorial
- A phone or a laptop to download the Debian ISO file and to create a bootable USB drive

## 2.4 Downloading Debian

The first step in installing Debian is to download the Debian ISO file. The Debian ISO file is a file that contains the Debian operating system. You can download the Debian ISO file from the Debian website. Here is how you can download the Debian ISO file: <https://www.debian.org/>

## 2.5 Creating a bootable USB drive

The next step in installing Debian is to create a bootable USB drive. A bootable USB drive is a USB drive that contains the Debian ISO file and can be used to install Debian on your computer. You can create a bootable USB drive using a program called Rufus. Rufus is a free and open-source program that can be used to create bootable USB drives. You can download Rufus from the Rufus website. Here is how you can create a bootable USB drive using Rufus:

- Download Rufus from the Rufus website
- Insert the USB drive into your computer
- Open Rufus
- Select the USB drive that you want to use
- Select the Debian ISO file that you downloaded
- Click on the start button
- select DD mode and click on start
- Wait for Rufus to finish creating the bootable USB drive
- Once Rufus has finished creating the bootable USB drive, you can remove the USB drive from your computer

## 2.6 Booting from the USB drive

The next step in installing Debian is to boot from the USB drive. To boot from the USB drive, you need to restart your computer and enter the BIOS or UEFI settings. The BIOS or UEFI settings are the settings that control how your computer boots. You can enter the BIOS or UEFI settings by pressing a key on your keyboard when your computer starts up. The key that you need to press depends on your computer. Here is how you can enter the BIOS or UEFI settings:

- Restart your computer
- Press the key that you need to press to enter the BIOS or UEFI settings (usually F2, F10, or Del)
- Select the USB drive as the boot device
- Save the settings and exit the BIOS or UEFI settings
- Your computer will now boot from the USB drive
- You will see the Debian installer

## 2.7 Installing Debian (installer)

The next step in installing Debian is to install Debian using the Debian installer. The Debian installer is a program that guides you through the installation process. You can use the Debian installer to install Debian on your computer. Here is how you can install Debian using the Debian installer:

- Select the language that you want to use
- Select your keyboard layout
  - If you are not sure, select the default option
- select your network connection
  - most likely you will want to use a wired connection if you have one
  - if you do not have a wired connection, you can select the option to use a wireless connection
- Enter your hostname
  - The hostname is the name of your computer on the network
  - You can enter any name that you want
- Enter your domain name
  - The domain name is the name of your network
  - You can skip this step if you do not have a domain name
- Enter your root password
  - The root password is the password that you will use to log in as the root user AKA the superuser Administrator on Windows
  - You can enter any password that you want but make sure that it is secure and that you remember it

**THERE IS NO WAY TO RECOVER A LOST ROOT PASSWORD. IF YOU FORGET IT, YOU WILL HAVE TO REINSTALL DEBIAN.**

- Enter your desired name this is not your username but the name that you want to use for your account
- Enter your username
- Enter your password

The password is the password that you will use to log in to your account

You can enter any password that you want but make sure that it is secure and that you remember it

- Select your time zone

The time zone is the time zone that you are in do not worry about this if you're always moving enter the time zone that you are in most of the time

- Partition your disk

if you want to use the entire disk for Debian, you can select the option to use the entire disk

if you want to partition the disk yourself, you can select the option to partition the disk yourself

if you are not sure, you can select the default option

select all files in one partition

- Wait for Debian to finish partitioning the disk and installing the base system
- configure the package manager
  - select the mirror country that is closest to you
  - select the mirror that is closest to you or select the default option
- select no proxy
- select the software that you want to install
  - if you are not sure, select the following options:
    - Debian desktop environment