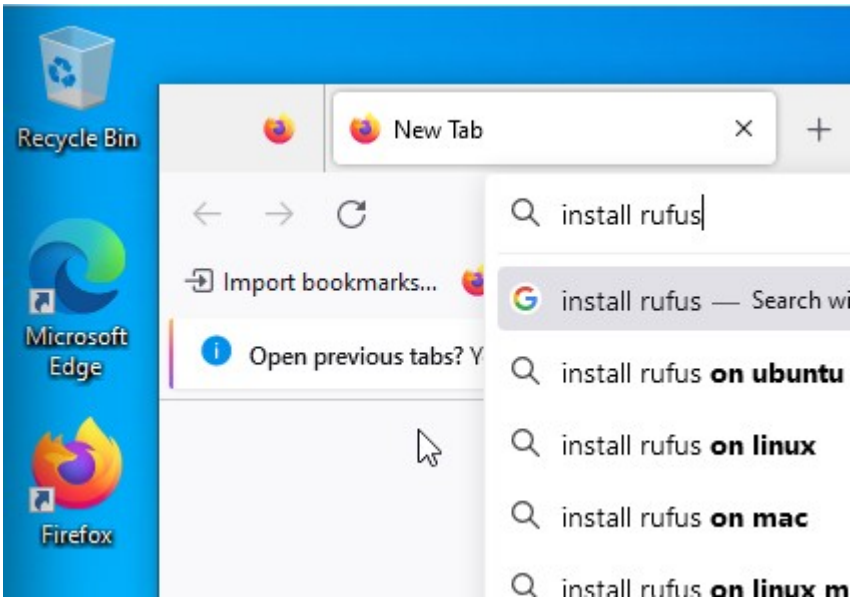
# How To Create A Safe, Persistent Ubuntu Linux USB Stick, Using Your Windows Computer

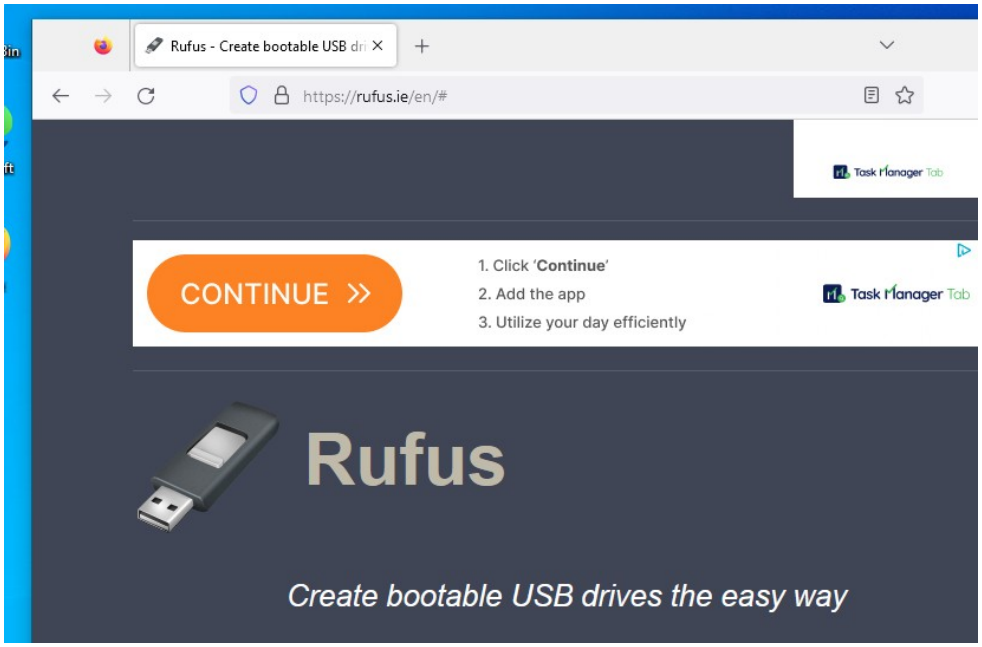
This means that instead of your computer running Windows, it will temporarily run Ubuntu Linux.  And it will run it from the USB stick.  This is a safer, more secure way when you want to do anything related to finances, wealth, etc.

By running Linux, and not running anything from a corporation (aka Windows), you are more in control of what's going on behind the scenes.  Meaning there's no hidden application that is secretly recording your private information as you use the computer.

Once your computer is on and in Windows, open a browser and search for “install rufus”.

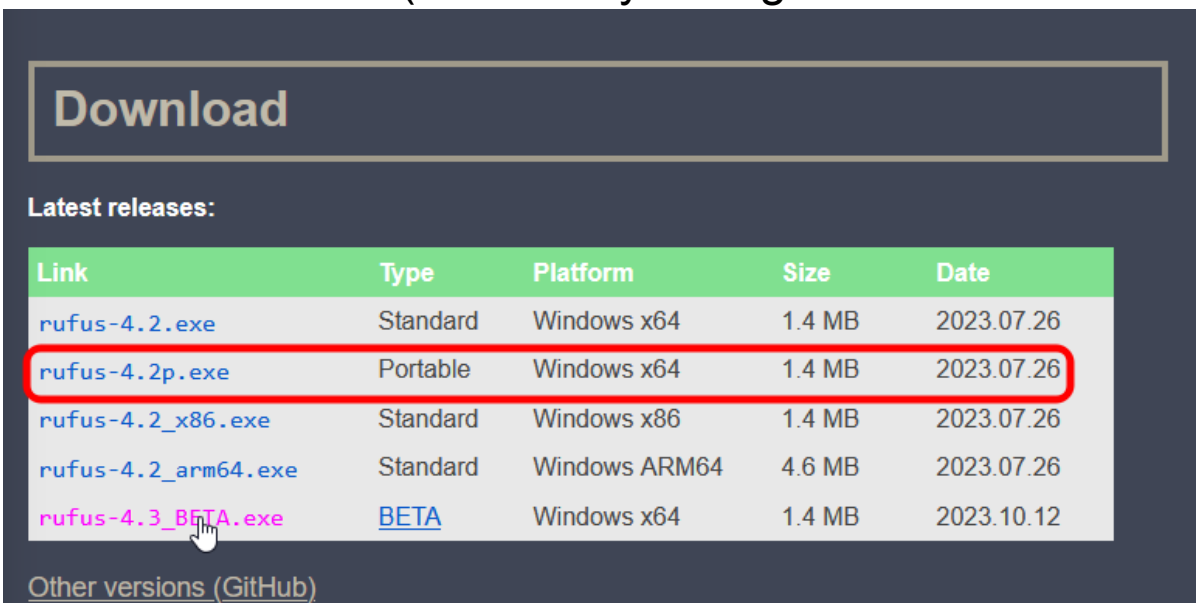



This below is what the website looks like:

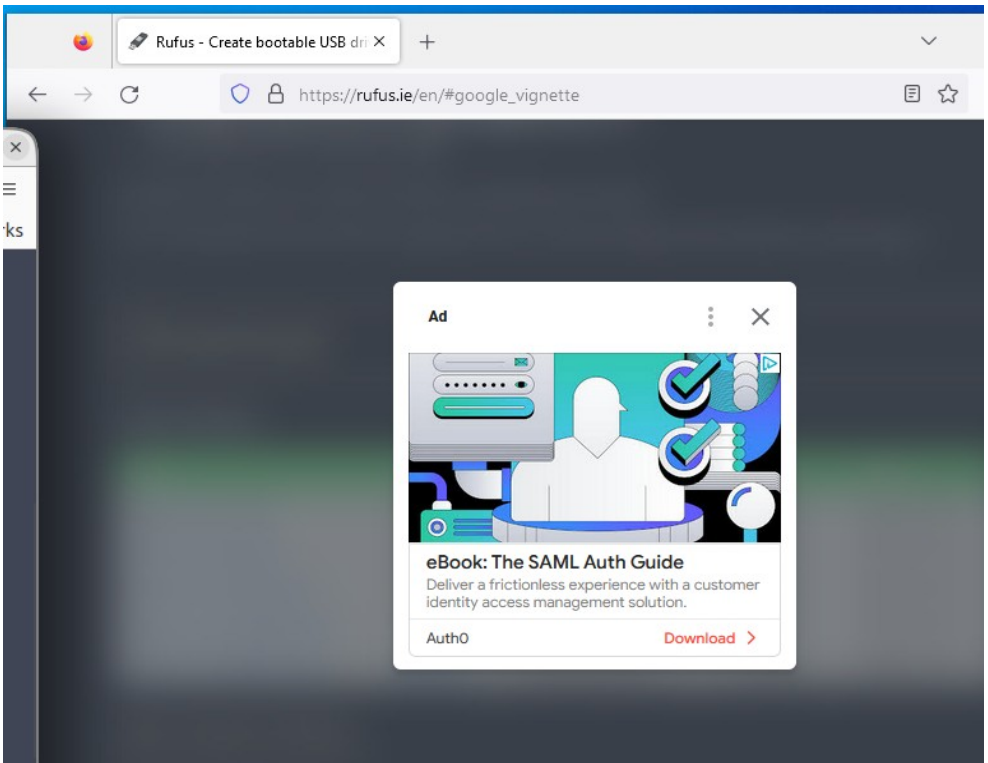


Find the “Downloads” link or tab until you see the “Latest releases” selection list.
You want to download the “Portable” selection.

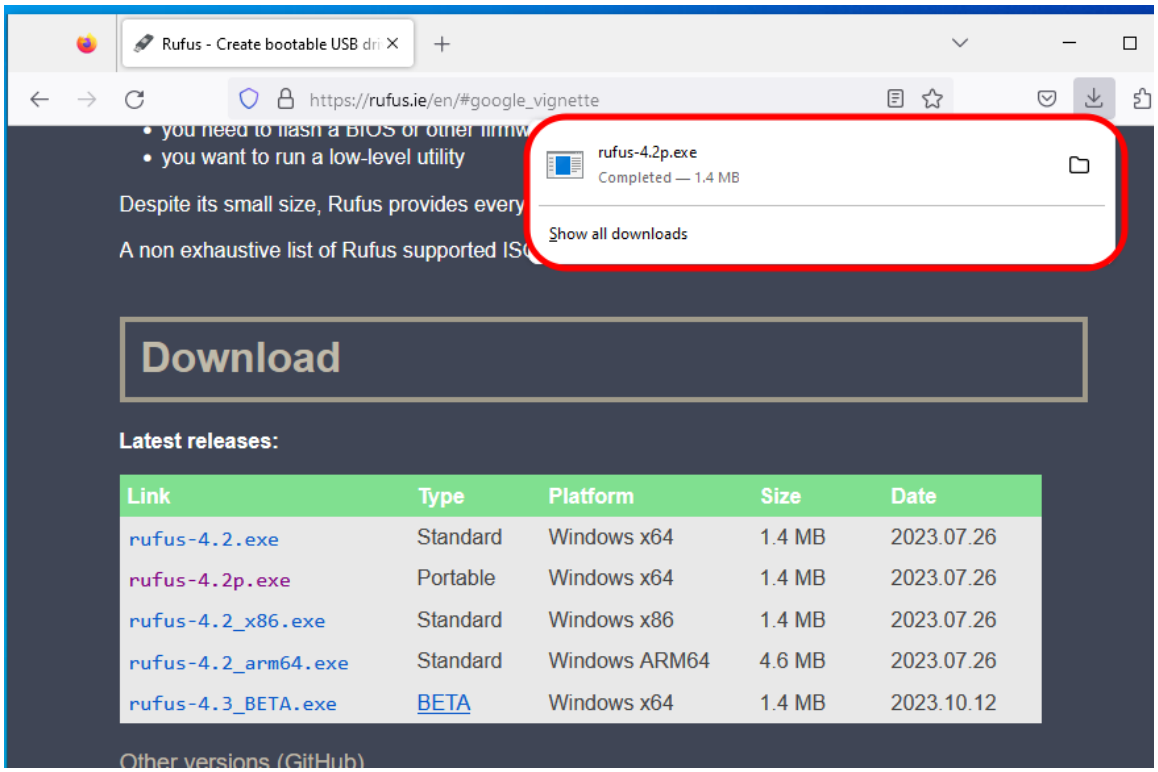
Get the latest version (which may be higher than shown here)



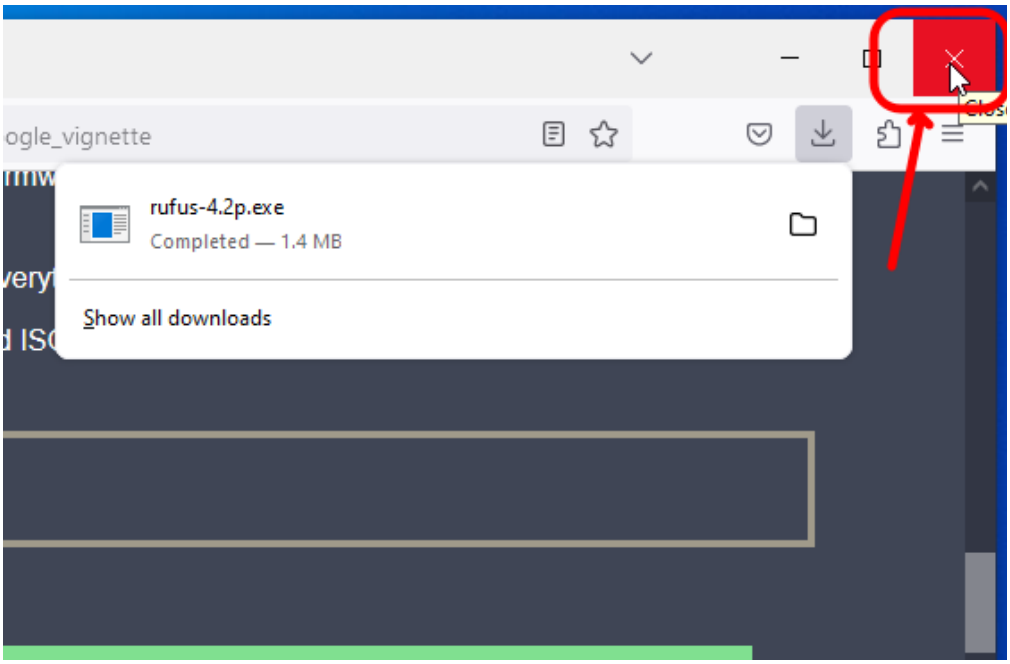

While it is downloading you might see (below), just click in the grayed out area, DON’T click on anything in the center box - it’s an advertisement.



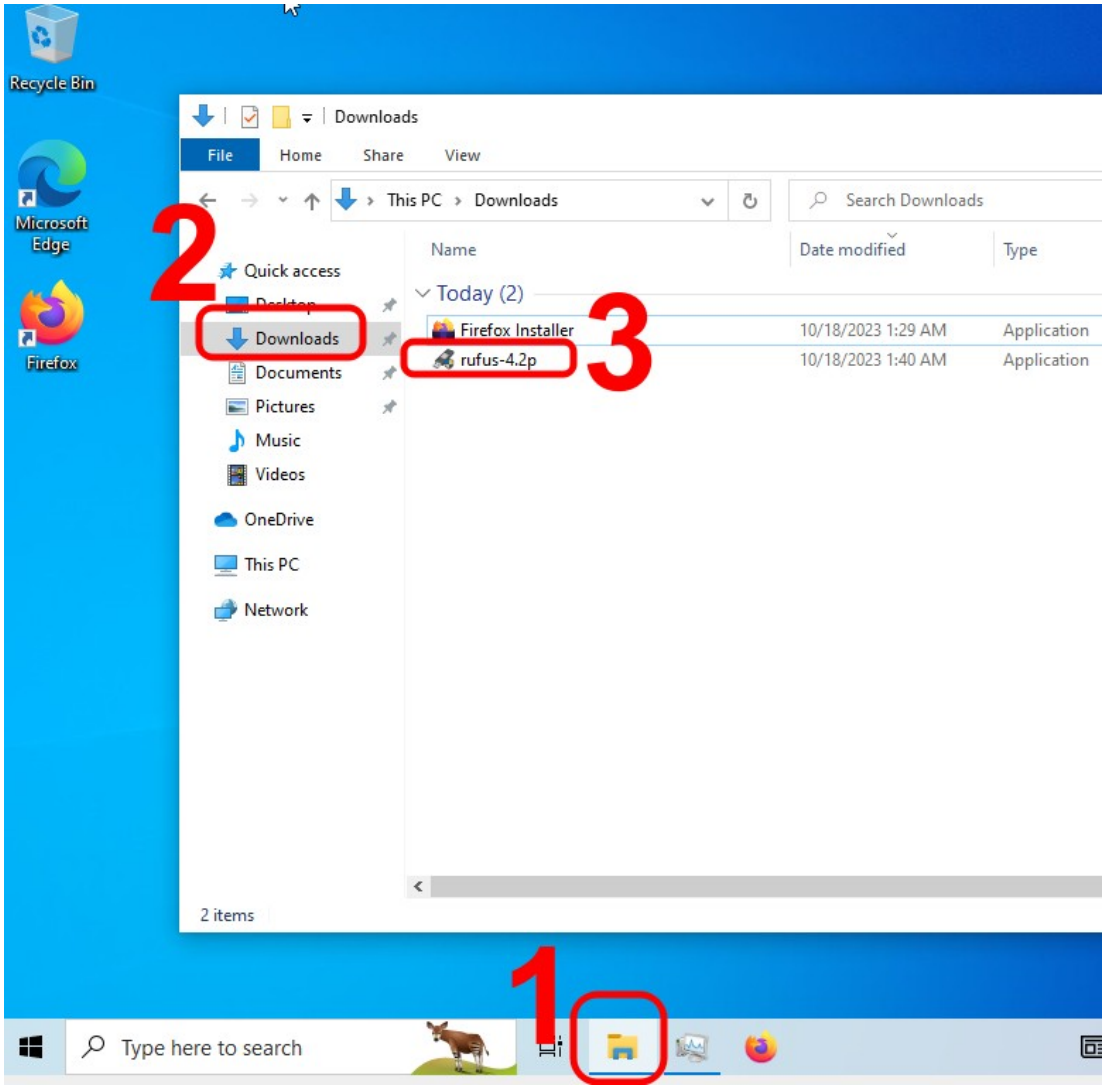
Once it is downloaded, you may see (below):




When download completes, close browser. We don't need it anymore until we download the Ubuntu ISO.



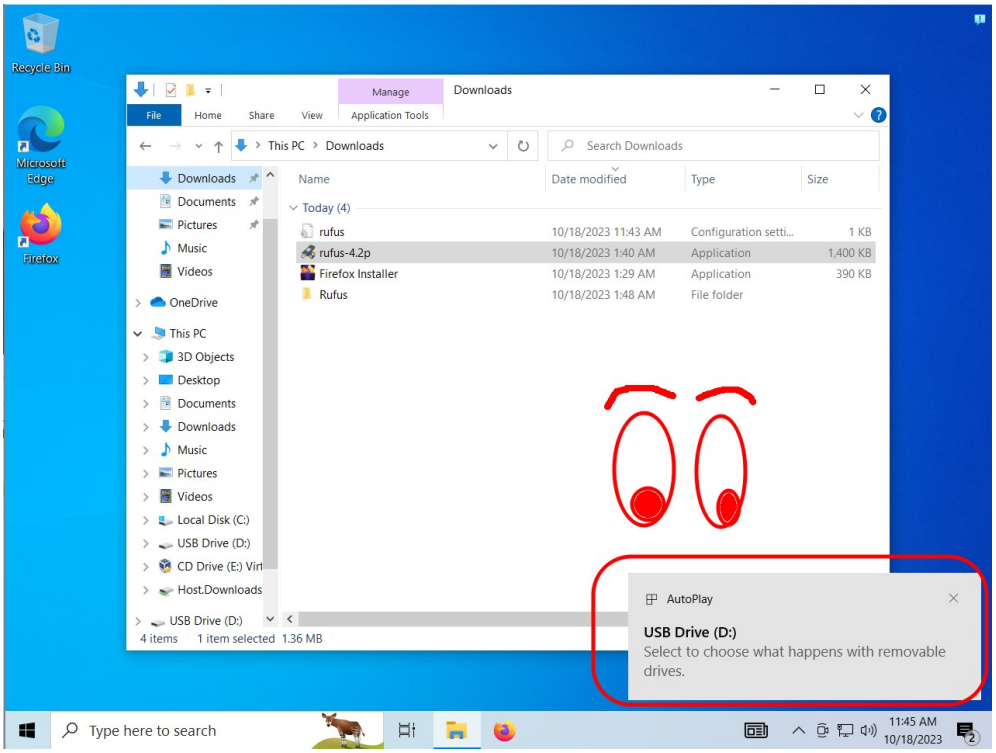
Open your File Explorer, and click “Downloads” in the left-side navigation area.




“Rufus” is the tool we will use to create the USB Ubuntu stick.

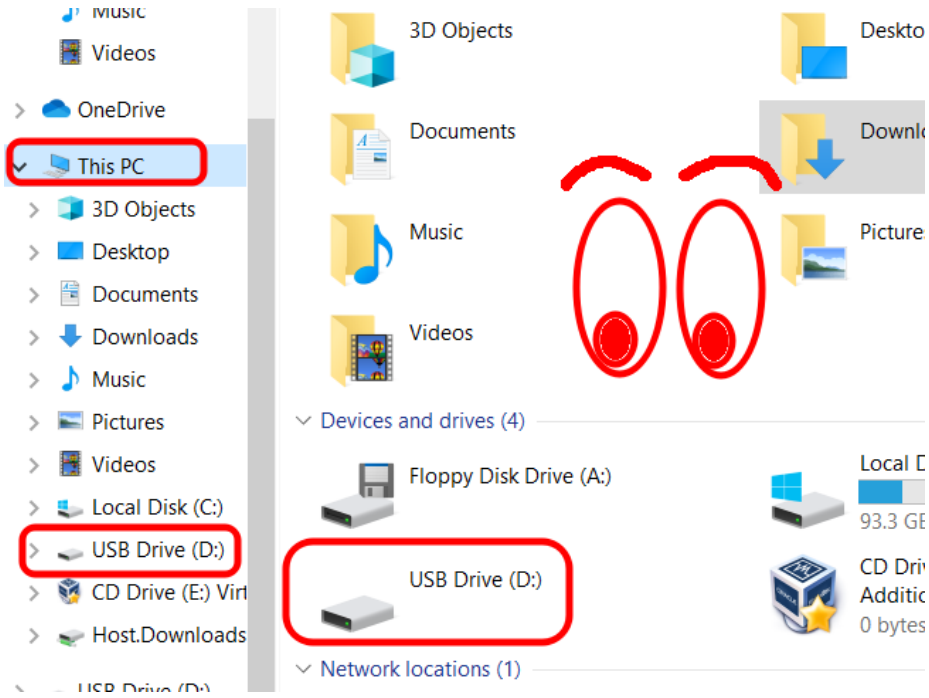
Back to this in a moment but first, the USB stick.

Next, insert the USB stick and see that Windows “sees” it.



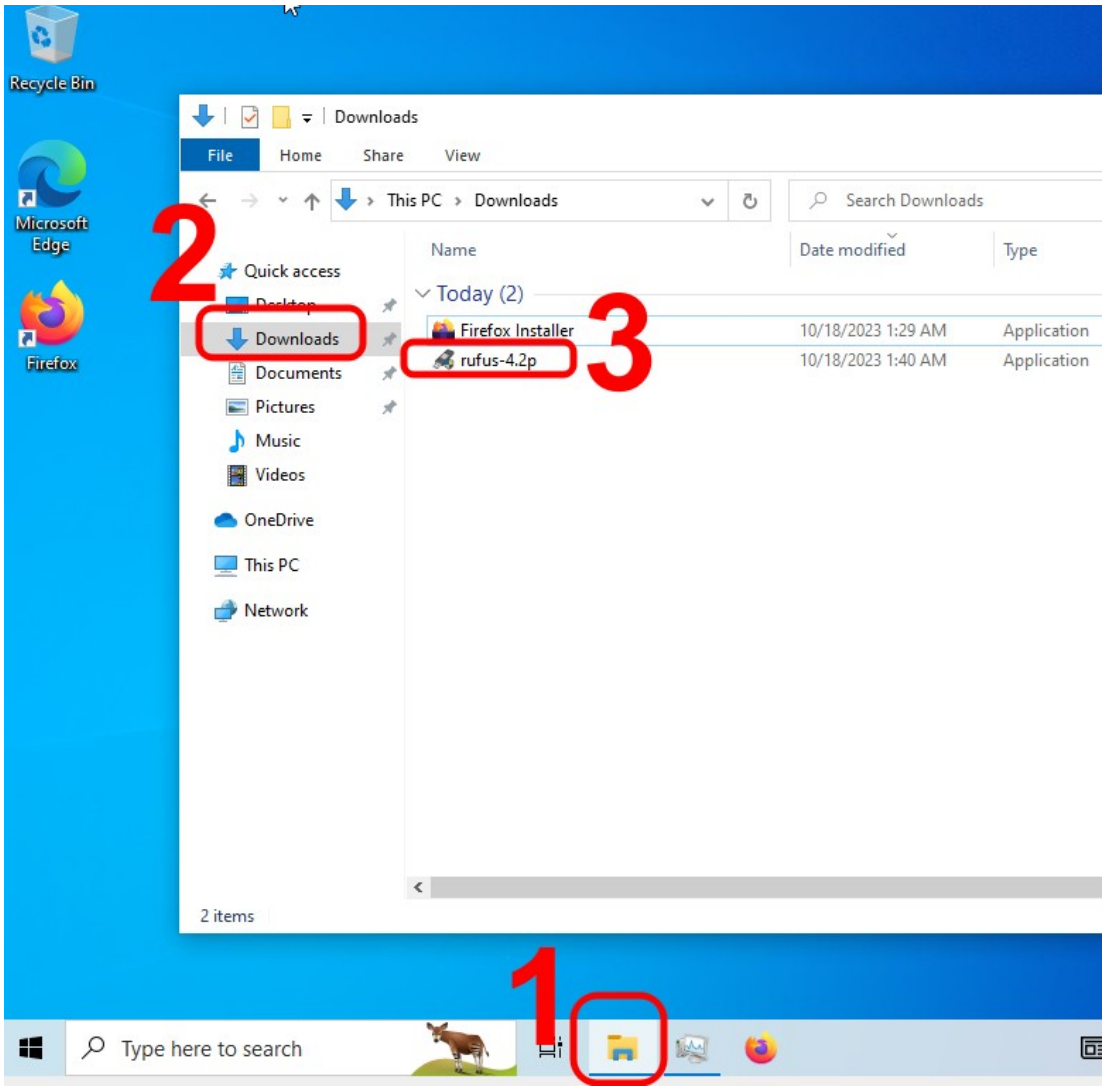
Now, click “My Computer” or “This PC” until File Explorer shows all the drives.  Hopefully you see that it shows the USB stick.

If it does NOT, there’s a problem.  Maybe try another USB stick.

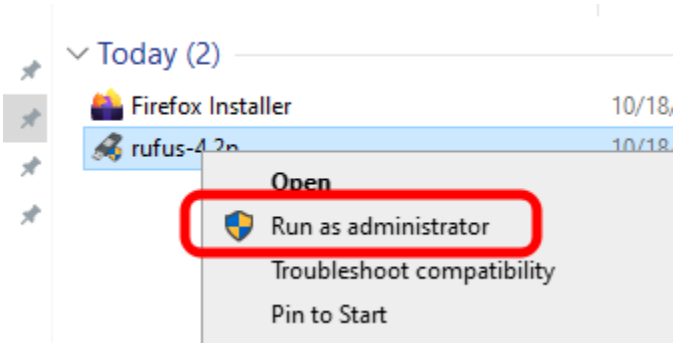



If you DO see it, leave it inserted.

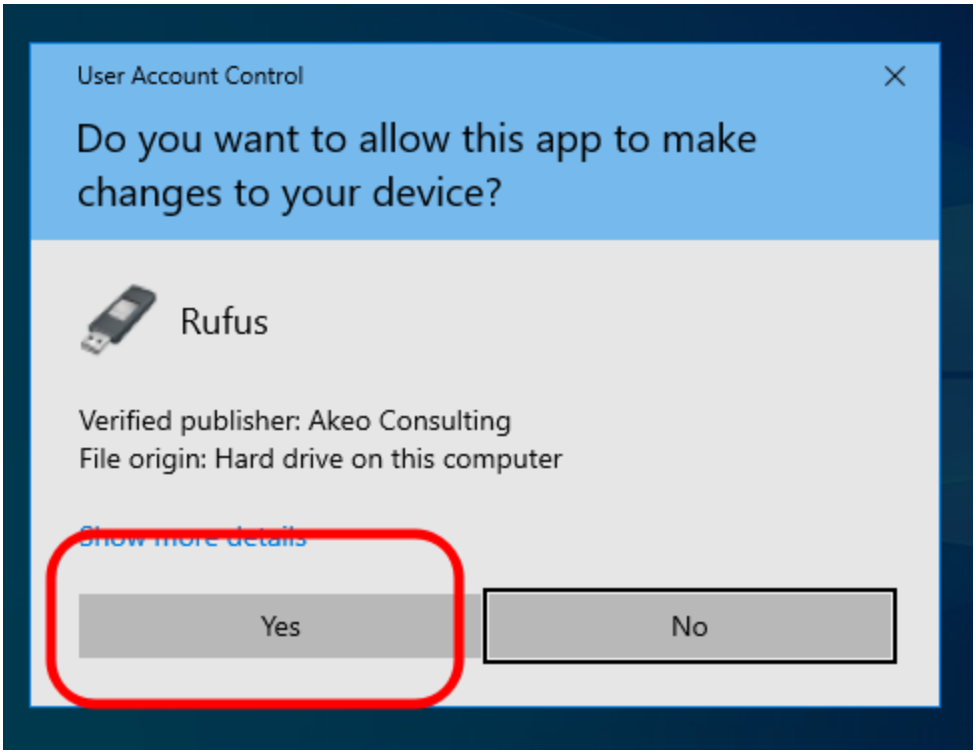
Ok, we can go back to the “Downloads” area of File Explorer.



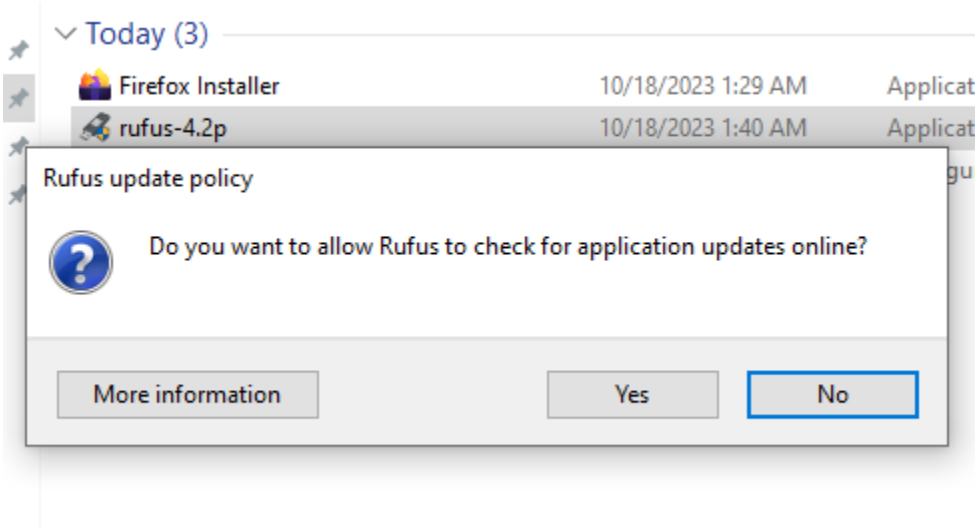

Right-click on rufus-4.2p, run as Administrator




Click “Yes”




Since we just downloaded the very latest release of Rufus, you can answer “No” here.



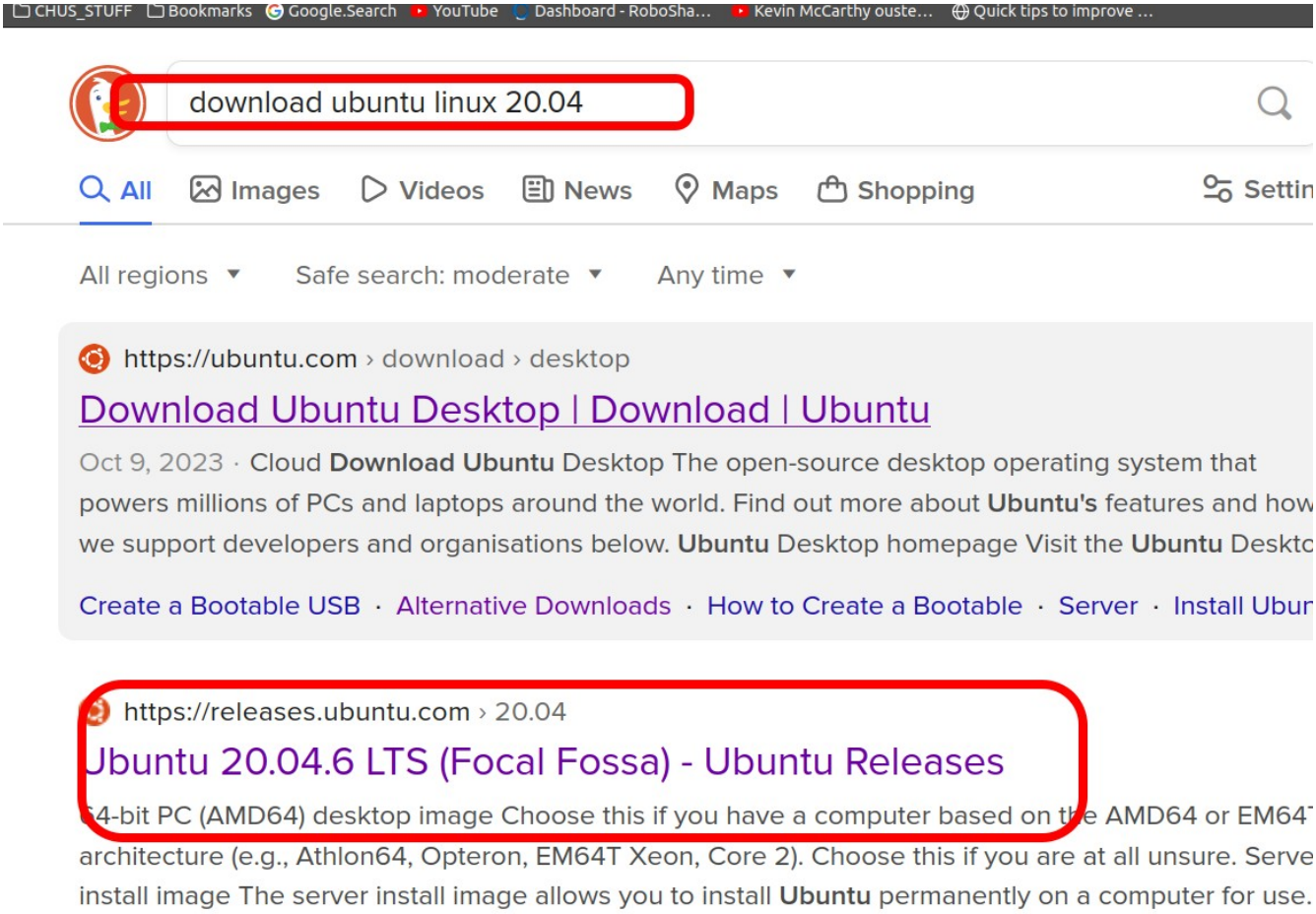

Once Rufus starts, we need to fill in some boxes.

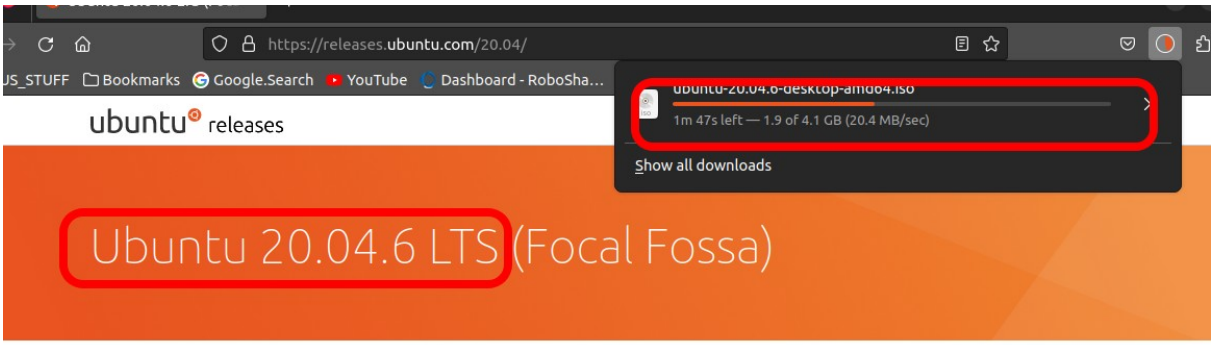
1 – Rufus should have already “seen” the inserted USB stick. If it does not – there is a problem.  Try another USB stick.

2 – The next thing is to tell Rufus about the Ubuntu Linux we are going to install onto the USB stick.

*(I purposely waited until now to go through the steps of obtaining Ubuntu because if you had troubles before this, no point in downloading Ubuntu.)*

We are going to pause here with Rufus and go download Ubuntu.






## Select an image

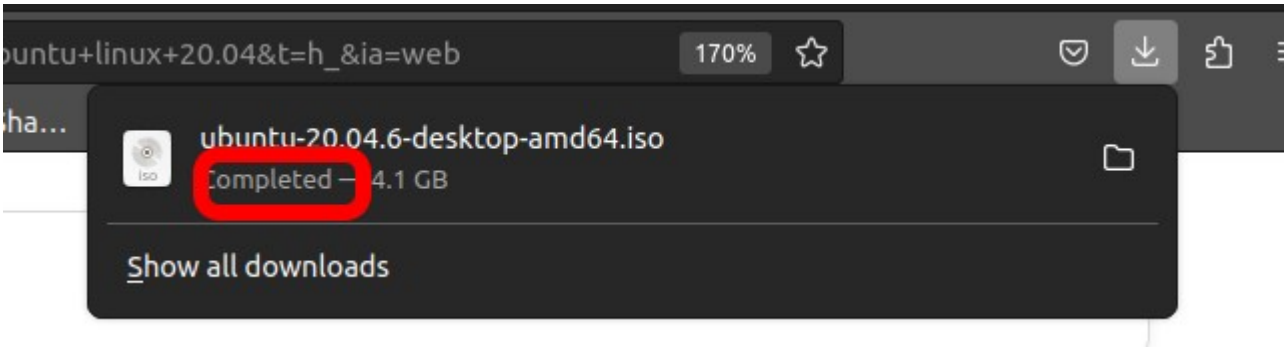
Ubuntu is distributed on three types of images described below.

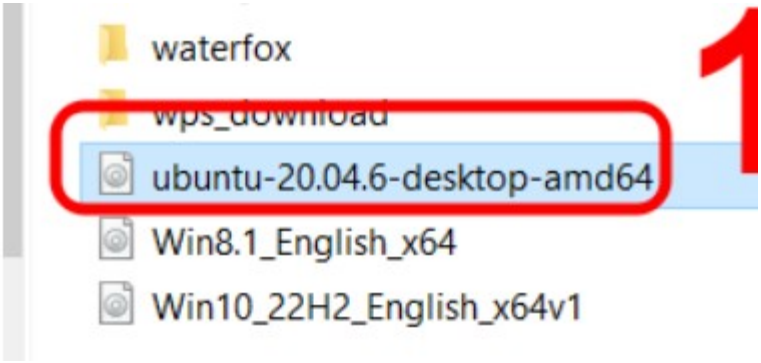
### Desktop image

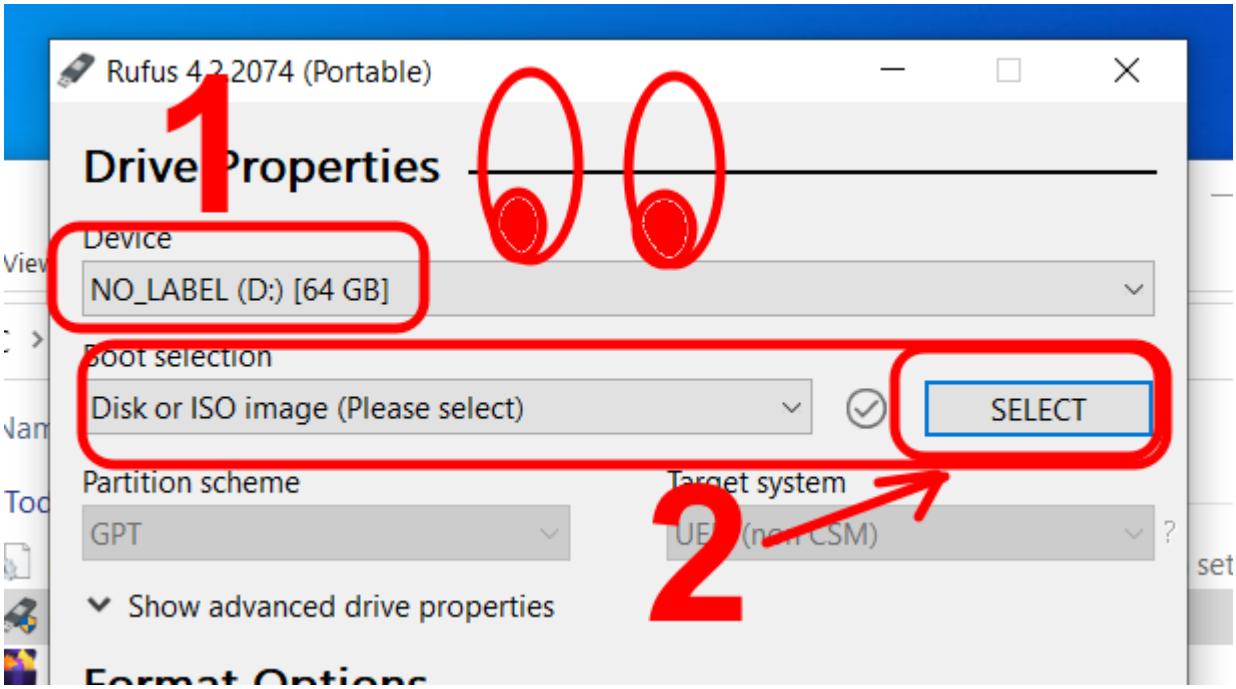
The desktop image allows you to try Ubuntu without changing your computer at all, and at your option to install it permanently later. This type of image is what most people will want to use. You will need at least 1024MiB of RAM to install from this image.

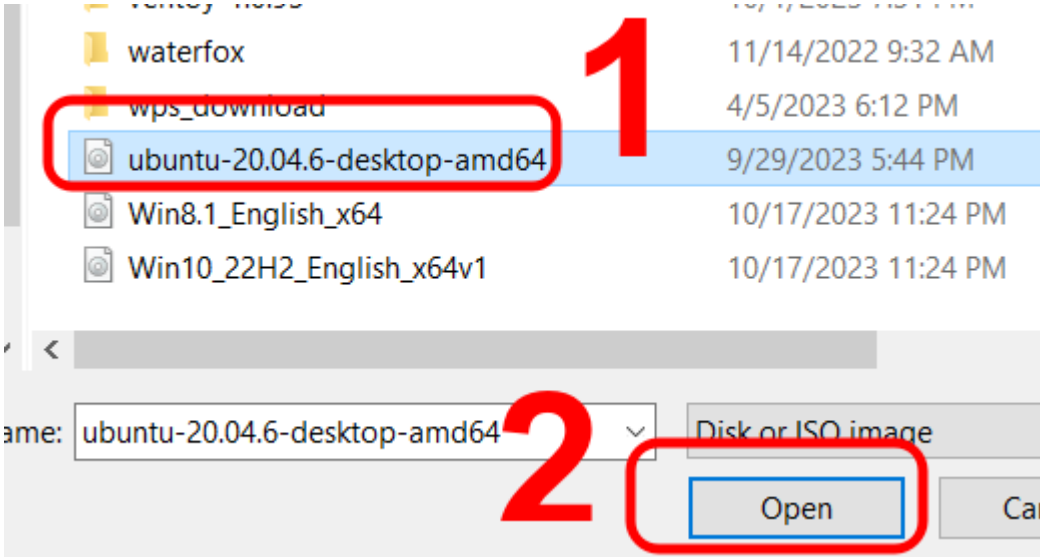
64-bit PC (AMD64) desktop image

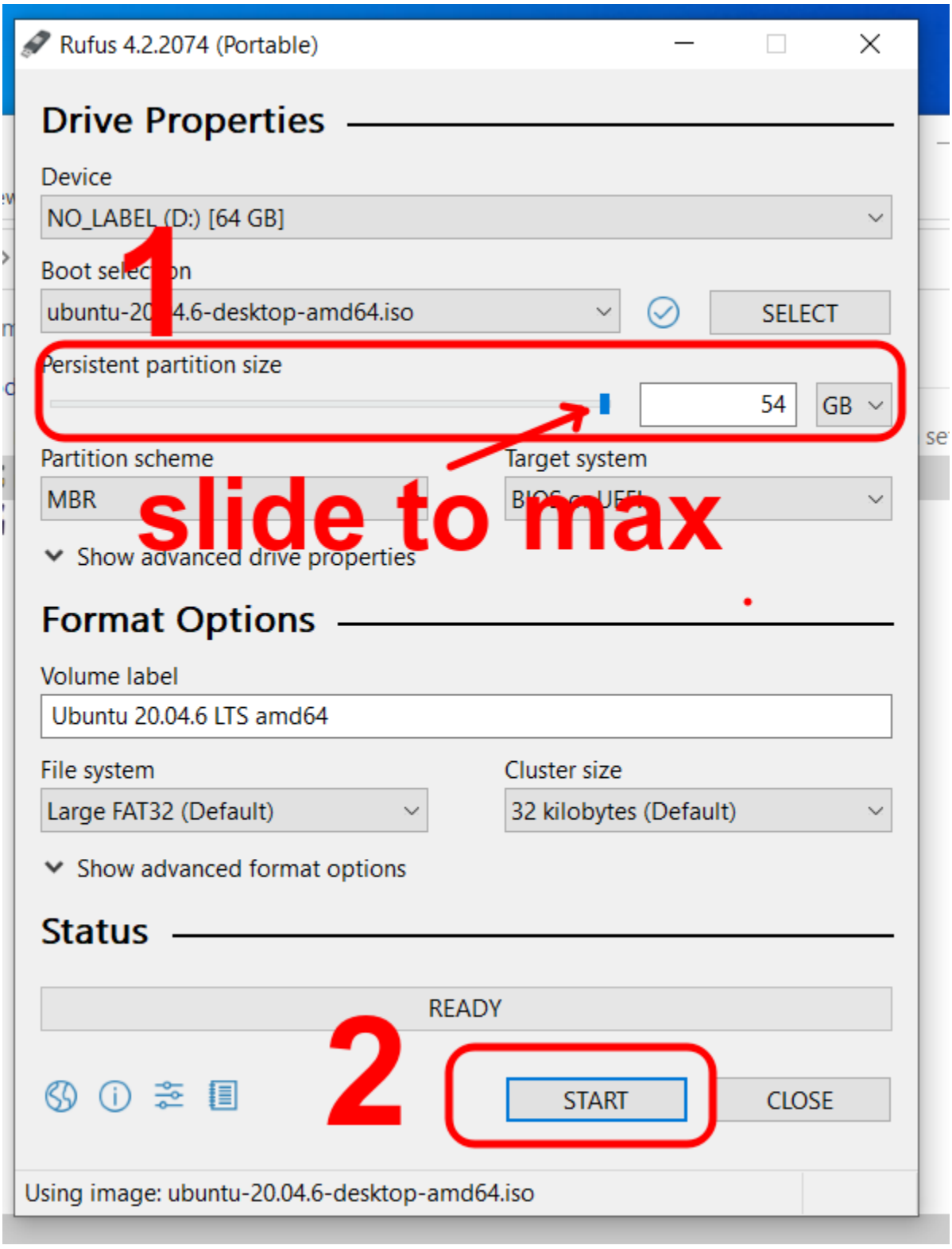
Choose this if you have a computer based on the AMD64 or EM64T architecture (e.g., Athlon64, Opteron, EM64T Xeon, Core 2). Choose this if you are at all unsure.

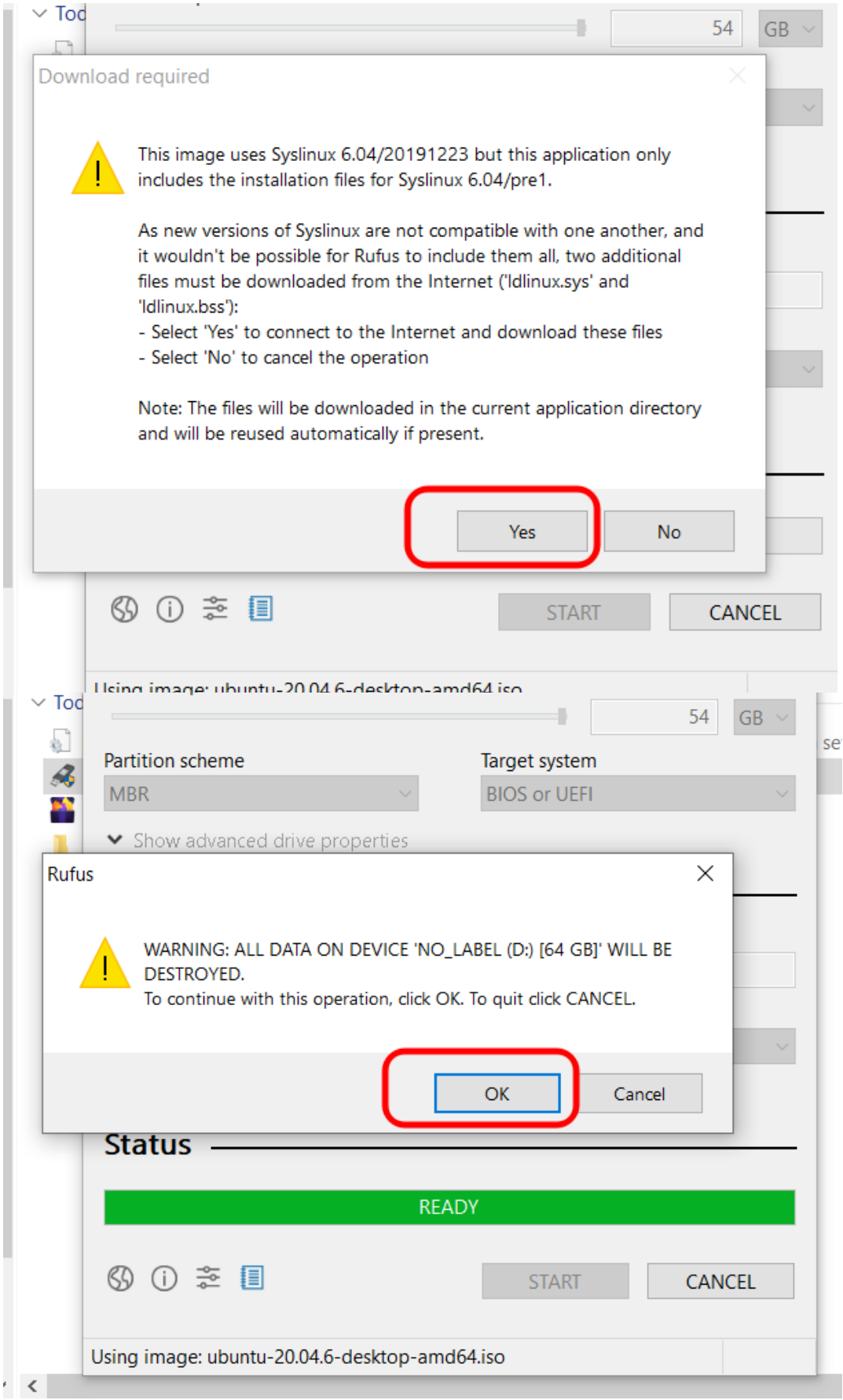


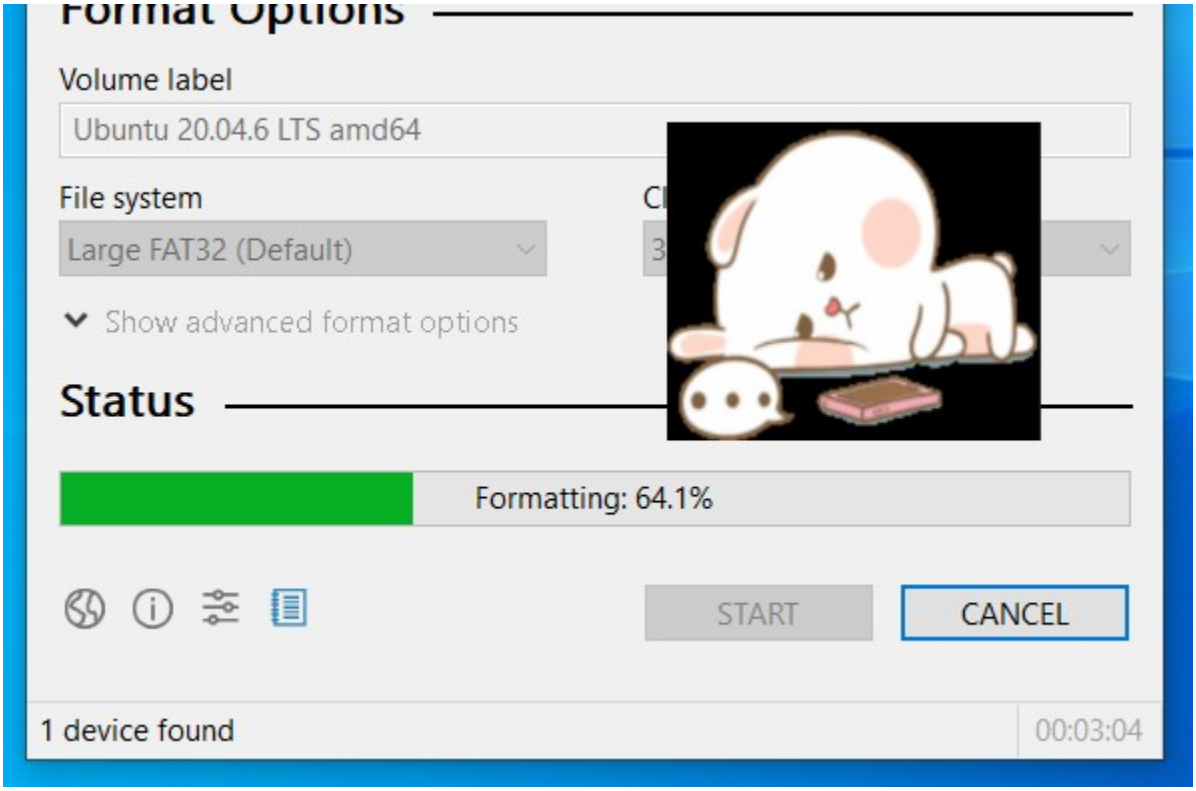




Rufus 4.2.2074 (Portable)
Drive Properties
1
Device
NO_LABEL (D:) [64 GB]
Boot selection
Disk or ISO image (Please select)
SELECT
2
Partition scheme
GPT
Target system
Show advanced drive properties


waterfox
11/14/2022 9:32 AM
4/5/2023 6:12 PM
ubuntu-20.04.6-desktop-amd64
9/29/2023 5:44 PM
1
Win8.1_English_x64
10/17/2023 11:24 PM
Win10_22H2_English_x64v1
10/17/2023 11:24 PM
ame:
ubuntu-20.04.6-desktop-amd64
Disk or ISO image
2
Open


Rufus 4.2.2074 (Portable)
Drive Properties
Device
NO_LABEL (D:) [64 GB]
1
Boot selection
ubuntu-20.04.6-desktop-amd64.iso
SELECT
Persistent partition size
54
GB
slide to max
Partition scheme
MBR
Target system
Show advanced drive properties
Format Options
Volume label
Ubuntu 20.04.6 LTS amd64
File system
Large FAT32 (Default)
Cluster size
32 kilobytes (Default)
Show advanced format options
Status
READY
2
START
CLOSE
Using image: ubuntu-20.04.6-desktop-amd64.iso


Download required
This image uses Syslinux 6.04/20191223 but this application only includes the installation files for Syslinux 6.04/pre1.
As new versions of Syslinux are not compatible with one another, and it wouldn't be possible for Rufus to include them all, two additional files must be downloaded from the Internet ('ldlinux.sys' and 'ldlinux.bss'):
- Select 'Yes' to connect to the Internet and download these files
- Select 'No' to cancel the operation
Note: The files will be downloaded in the current application directory and will be reused automatically if present.
Yes
No
54
GB
START
CANCEL
Partition scheme
MBR
Target system
BIOS or UEFI
Show advanced drive properties
Rufus
WARNING: ALL DATA ON DEVICE 'NO_LABEL (D:) [64 GB]' WILL BE DESTROYED.
To continue with this operation, click OK. To quit click CANCEL.
OK
Cancel
Status
READY
START
CANCEL
Using image: ubuntu-20.04.6-desktop-amd64.iso


Format Options
Volume label
Ubuntu 20.04.6 LTS amd64
File system
Large FAT32 (Default)
Show advanced format options
Status
Formatting: 64.1%
START
CANCEL
1 device found
00:03:04