

GETTING STARTED WITH YOUR RASPBERRY PI - IMPORTANT INSTRUCTIONS

You now have your very own Raspberry Pi computer and I'm sure you can't wait to get started with it.

Unlike a regular PC, Raspberry Pi is supplied without an Operating System. There are just a few steps needed to start with your Pi, so just follow them here:

1. You need an **SD Card** that can be plugged into your Raspberry Pi. This card will store the Operating System and any files that you might choose to save when you use your computer. We recommend a minimum of 2GB for the Operating System. Larger is better.
2. Using your normal computer, go to www.element14.com/raspberrypi, and seek out the **Looking For An Operating System To Run On Your Raspberry Pi** section. Click the button called **"Download Center"**.
3. If you have an Operating System preference, please select and download it. If not, we recommend you get started with **Debian for ARM**.
4. The downloaded file may be **compressed** (for example, .zip, .tar, .gzip), and if it is, it will need to be decompressed before you can use it. You can use a free tool like **PeaZip** to decompress the file, available at www.peazip.org, in both Windows and Linux versions. The resulting file can be very large – usually several hundred MB.
5. When you have done this, you get a single file called an Image File, or **.img**. This is a snapshot of what needs to be written to the SD Card. It includes the special disk formatting that Linux uses instead of **FAT32** or **NTFS** for Windows.
6. Next, you need a tool to install the .img file to the SD Card. A popular tool is called **Win32DiskImager**, available at this address <https://launchpad.net/win32-image-writer>. Simply download this program file and follow the instructions to install it on your Windows computer. A Linux command line alternative is called **dd**.
7. Follow the instructions provided with **Win32DiskImager** or **dd** for writing the Operating System to your SD Card. This process will require the SD Card to be inserted into a SD Card slot on your computer, and for you to know where you saved the **.img** file on your computer. The write process itself should only take a few minutes.

Caution: make sure you select the correct device to write the Operating System to. Remove the card and reinstall it a couple of times, to make sure. Some tools will allow you to select your main computer hard drive - selecting this will result in data loss very quickly. Be careful!

8. **Win32DiskImager** or **dd** will tell you when this process has been completed and when it has, remove the SD Card. Now insert it into the SD

card slot of your Raspberry Pi. It is worth keeping the Operating System file on your computer for future rewrites to your SD Card, just in case.

9. Now, connect you Raspberry Pi to a normal keyboard and mouse via it's USB ports, a TV or computer monitor via its HDMI connector, to your network (if required) using an Ethernet cable to your local router, and finally either to a mobile phone charger with a Micro USB plug, or to another USB socket with a **USB Type A to Micro USB** lead.
10. The **small red indicator** will light up on the Raspberry Pi, indicating the main chip has started up, and then a **small green indicator** will begin to flash, indicating data is being read from/written to the SD Card. The TV/monitor (provided it's switched on of course) will begin to show the Linux boot sequence.
11. Finally, log in using the preset username and password for the Operating System you chose. For Debian, this is **pi** and **raspberrypi** respectively (in the latest version of the Debian OS. The pervious password was **suse**). Now you have full access to the Operating System. **N.B. When you type the password, you won't see the characters appearing - this is part of Linux security!**
12. For most Linux distributions with a graphics environment which doesn't start automatically, the **Graphical Environment** can usually be started with the command **startx**. If there is a need to override the system, use the command **sudo** before the normal linux command. For e.g. `sudo startx`

After that - its' up to you! Let us know what YOU do with your Pi.

Note on display:

- The Raspberry Pi will operate either with a TV with a HDMI interface using a HDMI-HDMI lead, or an older style TV with a SCART or phono Composite Video input, using a phono (usually coloured yellow) to SCART lead.
- For DVI computer monitors, it is possible to use either a HDMI-DVI lead, or a HDMI-HDMI cable together with a HDMI-DVI adaptor.