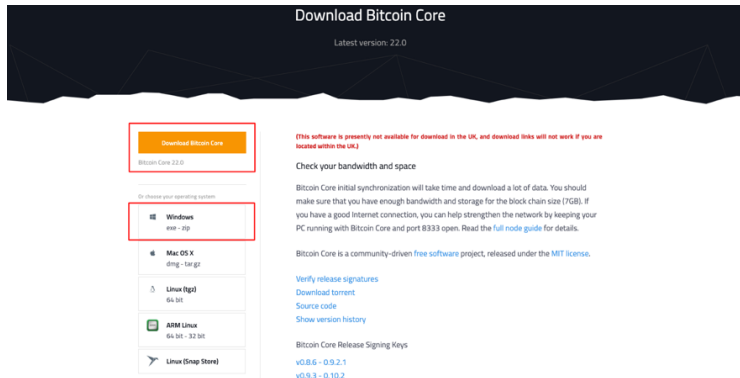# Set up your Bitcoin full node using Bitcoin-Core
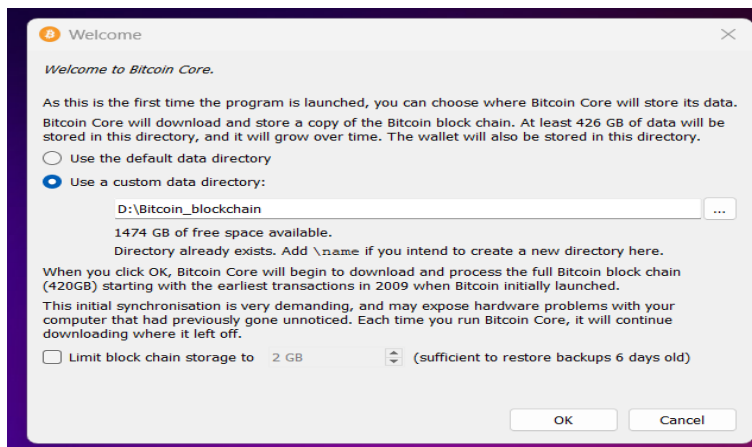
This document provides instructions for downloading and syncing the Bitcoin blockchain to an external hard drive.

Steps to setup a Full Node and download the Bitcoin Blockchain Data using Bitcoin Core.

- Navigate to https://bitcoin.org/en/download and download Bitcoin Core suitable for your OS.

- Launch the setup installer once the download is complete
- Start the Bitcoin Core application after completing the setup installation
- Create a directory "Bitcoin_blockchain" in the external hard drive. Copy the path of this directory.
- On starting the application, Bitcoin Core will ask to set up a data directory location for storing the Bitcoin Blockchain data.
- To download the full blockchain data, as shown in the below figure, select – "Use a custom data directory" option and give the path of the "Bitcoin_blockchain" directory in your hard drive and click "OK".

- You are all set!! Bitcoin Core starts to download and sync the Bitcoin data into to the hard drive You will be able to see the dashboard as shown below with status of synchronization.

Bitcoin Core

File Settings Window Help

Overview Send Receive Transactions

Recent transactions may not yet be visible, and therefore your wallet's balance might be incorrect. This information will be correct once your wallet has finished synchronizing with the bitcoin network, as detailed below. **Attempting to spend bitcoins that are affected by not-yet-displayed transactions will not be accepted by the network.**

Number of blocks left	1850
Last block time	Mon Feb 20 03:48:02 2023
Progress	99.68%
Progress increase per hour	0.02%
Estimated time left until synced	19 hours

Hide

Synchronizing with network... 12 days behind BTC