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Make a bootable Windows USB from Linux

Author: One Transistor Posted on: September 18, 2014 Updated on: June 25, 2017



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Ubuntu has already an application called **Startup Disk Creator**, but this can only be used to make Linux bootable USB drives. To make a Windows bootable USB there is an application called **WinUSB** (http://en.congelli.eu/prog_info_winusb.html) but it hasn't been updated for a while.

The following guide has been updated and works on any Linux distribution as long as it has GRUB and GParted installed and can make bootable USB for any Windows version newer than Vista: Windows Vista, Windows 7, Windows 8, Windows 8.1 and Windows 10. UEFI boot is only supported for Windows 7 x64 and newer.

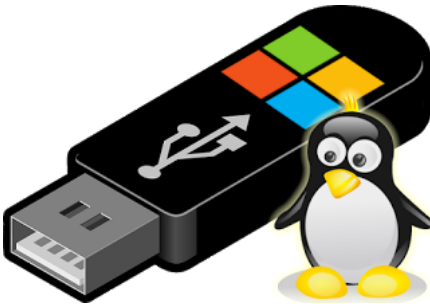
Before starting, let's mention that there are two types of boot methods. There is the MBR code type where the bootable executable is stored in a reserved section at the beginning of the storage device. And there is the EFI type, where the boot loader executable file is stored at a standard path in an FAT32 filesystem.

You must decide in advance what you will use. There are some variables for each boot type. **If you have no idea what to use, the most common setup that works with unmodified Windows sources, is msdos partition table with fat32 filesystem and flag the partition with boot .** In this way you will get both an MBR and UEFI bootable drive.

	Partition table	Filesystem	Partition flag
MBR bootable	msdos	ntfs / fat32	boot
UEFI bootable	msdos / gpt	fat32	boot / msftdata *

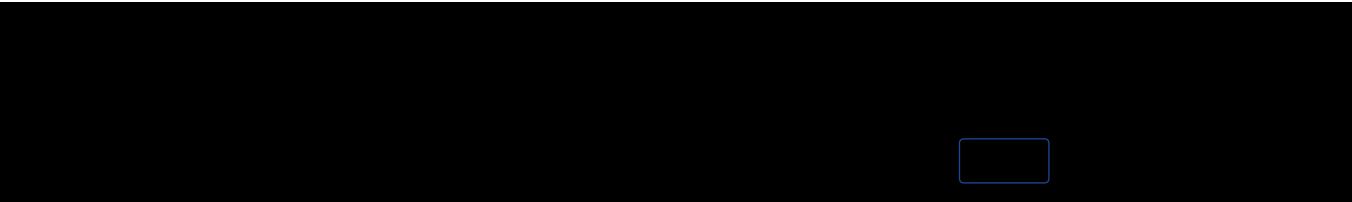
* msdos should be flagged with boot and gpt should be flagged with msftdata .

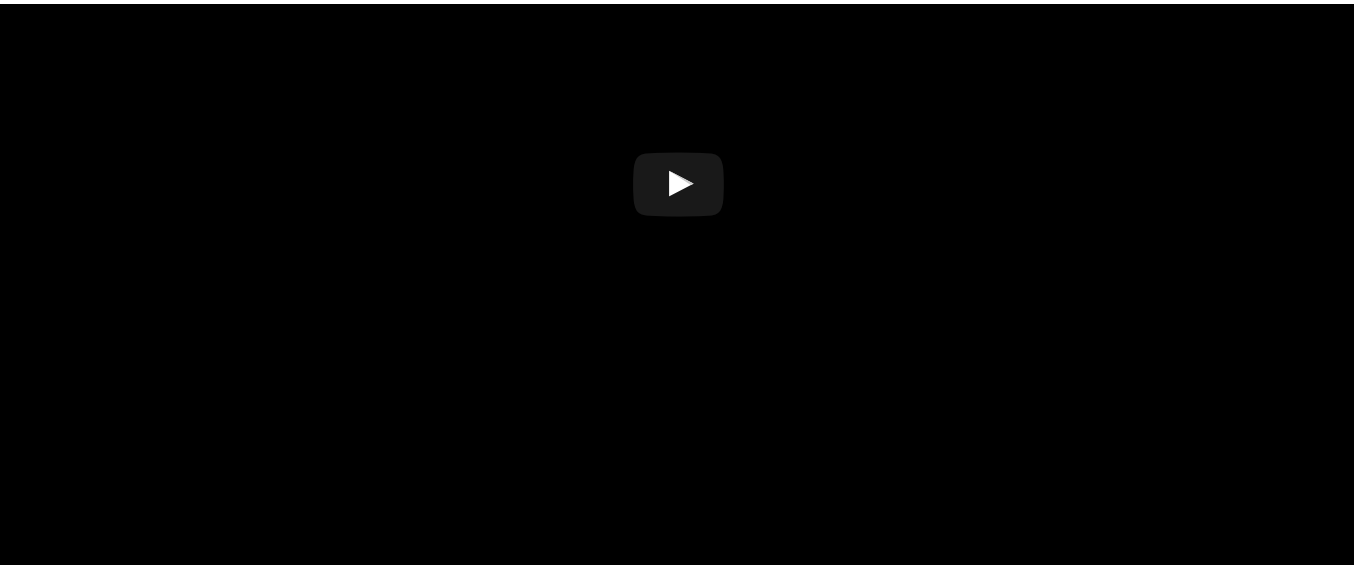
UEFI can only boot FAT32 drives! If you need to make an NTFS UEFI bootable flashdrive to remove the 4 GB maximum file size restriction of FAT32 see this: UEFI NTFS: Bootable Windows USB from Linux (<http://onetransistor.blogspot.com/2015/09/uefi-ntfs-bootable-windows-usb-linux.html>).



([//2.bp.blogspot.com/-Fo5AF-Yz5SQ/VggY2cvjp9I/AAAAAAAAADHE/E3Kim7seEu0/s1600/usbboot.png](https://2.bp.blogspot.com/-Fo5AF-Yz5SQ/VggY2cvjp9I/AAAAAAAAADHE/E3Kim7seEu0/s1600/usbboot.png))

If you prefer, here is the video version of what is about to follow:

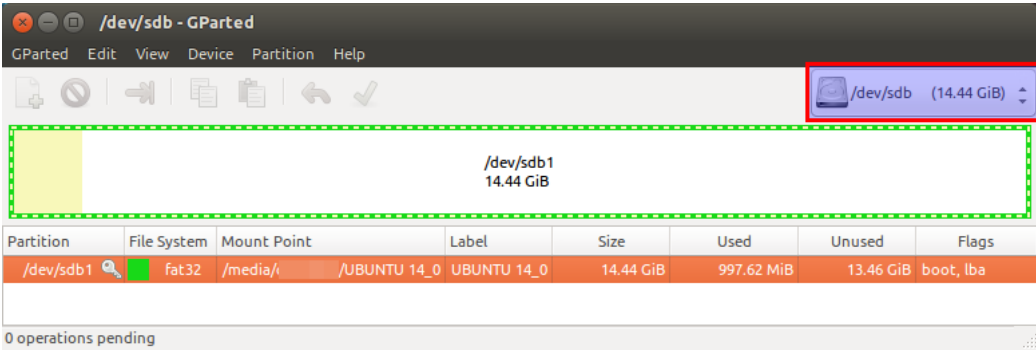




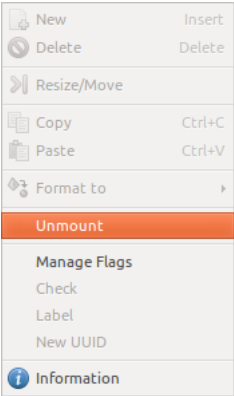
1. Format USB drive

This is the first step. GParted has a nice GUI and it is easy to use for this. So, plug in your USB flashdrive and start GParted (root permissions required). Select the USB drive and unmount it, otherwise you won't be able to format it.

Warning! Selecting the wrong device will result in data loss!

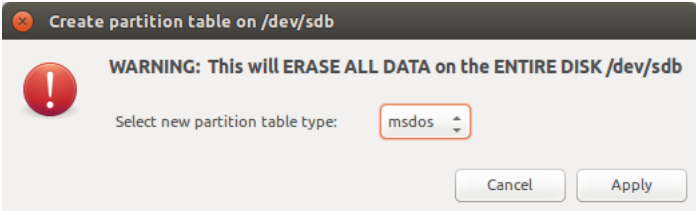


(//2.bp.blogspot.com/-eyp3LrTov8/VBrrLxP3iUI/AAAAAAAAABCK/oIEn-vigu8g/s1600/step01.png)
GParted main window. The first thing to do is select the USB drive.



(//4.bp.blogspot.com/-6jRxXfD-N6l/VBrrfsOoW1I/AAAAAAAAABCK/zDuLtU2-9E0/s1600/step02.png)
Right-click the USB drive partition and select Unmount

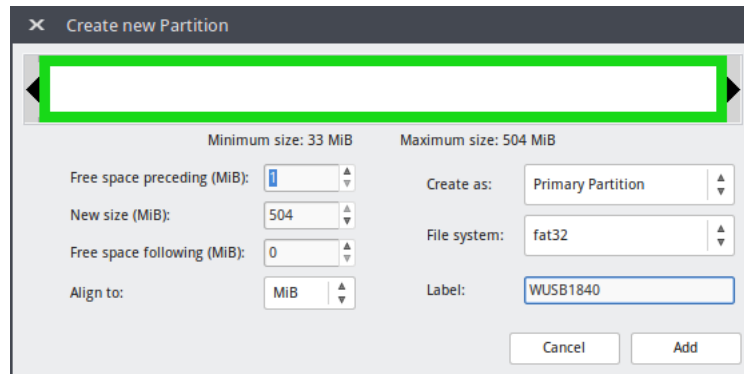
You must re-create the partition table by going to the Device menu then select Create Partition Table . Choose msdos (or gpt if you want an UEFI only bootable drive) and click Apply .



(//1.bp.blogspot.com/-SEwfy-B5yv8/VC2C7K66KXI/AAAAAAAAABCK/TFyqGltzDSM/s1600/001_Create%2Bpartition%2Btable%2Bon%2B-dev-sdb.png)
The Partition Table dialog.

Right click the unallocated space and select **New**. Make a primary NTFS or FAT32 partition and give it a label too. The label must be as strange as possible because the bootloader will identify the bootable partition by this and you should not use `windows` like I did in the video! If the filesystem is FAT32 use only uppercase letters. For example: `WUSB1840` would be a good label (`w` for Windows, `usb` for USB flash drive and `18:40` is the time I was writing this). Remember the label as you will need it later.

If you have a customized Windows with `install.wim` larger than 4 GB you should definitely go for NTFS. Otherwise, if you choose FAT32, you could get the flashdrive bootable from UEFI too.

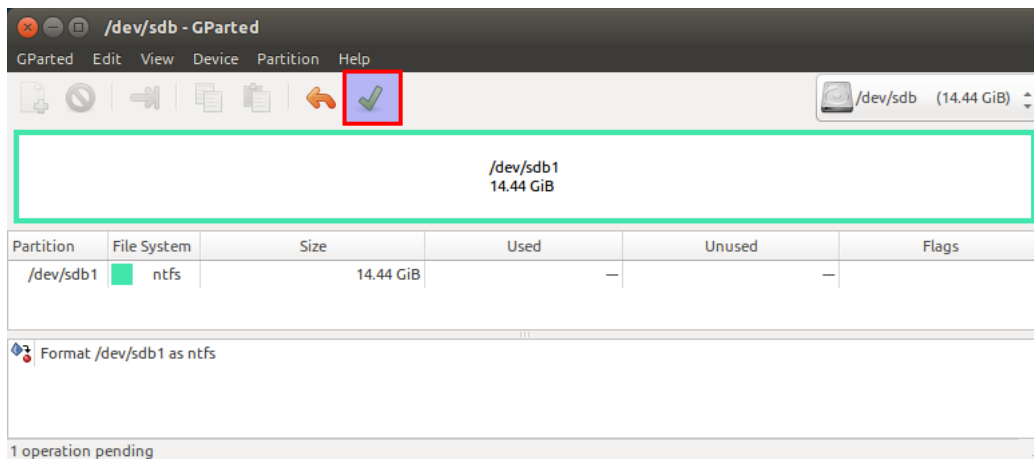


(//4.bp.blogspot.com/-KrvTy6EFJ4/VmHD-Ath0dI/AAAAAAD1I/SG6N6EVFHIQ/s1600/04-001.png)

New partition dialog

Apply all pending operation from **Edit** menu - **Apply all operations** or click the button on the main window.

Right click the partition and choose **Manage flags**. If you chose the `msdos` partition table tick `boot`. If you chose the `gpt` partition table, `msftdata` should already be checked.



(//1.bp.blogspot.com/-rWojGPDxfZE/VBrSINZCXsI/AAAAAABCK/AusPn8fot6Q/s1600/step04.png)

The Apply button from the main window of GParted

2. Copy Windows files

Quit GParted and use the file manager to copy all files from Windows ISO to USB stick. Mount the ISO using **Open with - Disk Image Mounter** (if you use Nautilus as a file manager). If that fails you can use **Furius ISO Mount** and loop-mount the ISO.

Select all files `ctrl+A` and **Copy** to USB drive which will be automatically mounted when you click on it at `/media/<username>/<drive_label>`.

After the copy process is finished, look in the USB root folder for the `boot` directory. If it is uppercase, rename it to lowercase.

3. Make it bootable

If you used NTFS filesystem and MSDOS table, only method A is available. If you used FAT32 and MSDOS table, you can apply method A, B or both. If you used GPT partition table, only method B should be followed.

A. MBR bootable

GRUB will be used for that. Open a Terminal and run:

```
sudo grub-install --target=i386-pc --boot-directory="/media/<username>/<drive_label>/boot" /dev/sdX
```

Replace:

- `/media/<username>/<drive_label>` with the path where USB drive is mounted;
- `/dev/sdX` with the USB drive, not the partition (e.g. `/dev/sdb`)

Warning! Selecting the wrong device (`/dev/sdX`) may result in bootloader corruption of the running operating system!

Wait for it to finish. If everything is OK, you should see:

```
Installing for i386-pc platform.
Installation finished. No error reported.
```

Now, create a text file and write the following in it:

```
default=1
timeout=15
color_normal=light-cyan/dark-gray
menu_color_normal=black/light-cyan
menu_color_highlight=white/black

menuentry "Start Windows Installation" {
    insmod ntfs
    insmod search_label
    search --no-floppy --set=root --label <USB_drive_label> --hint hd0,msdos1
    ntldr /bootmgr
    boot
}

menuentry "Boot from the first hard drive" {
    insmod ntfs
    insmod chain
    insmod part_msdos
    insmod part_gpt
    set root=(hd1)
    chainloader +1
    boot
}
```

Replace `<USB_drive_label>` with the label from step 1 (you can place it between quotes if it contains a space, although it is not recommended to use spaces in drive label). Save the file as `grub.cfg` and put it on the USB drive in the `boot/grub` folder.

That's it. The USB drive is now bootable from **BIOS** and can be used to install Windows on your PC. The first time you boot from it in MBR BIOS or CSM mode select `Start Windows Installation`.

B. UEFI bootable

Not all Windows versions are supported. Windows 7 on 64 bits, Windows 8 and newer versions should work.

After the copy process is finished, look in the USB root folder for the `efi/boot` directory. If there's a `bootx64.efi` or `bootia32.efi` file there, then you're done. You can boot from your USB in UEFI mode.

If the OS you are making a bootable USB for is **Windows 7**, browse the `efi/microsoft` folder and copy the entire `boot` folder from this path one level up in the `efi` folder. Merge folders if `boot` already exists.

Here is what to do **if you don't have the `bootx64.efi` file** in `efi/boot` folder. Browse the mounted Windows ISO image into the `sources` folder. Open `install.wim` (or `install.esd`) with your archive manager (you will need `7z` installed). Go to the path `./1/Windows/Boot/EFI` and extract the file `bootmgfw.efi` anywhere you want. Rename it to `bootx64.efi` and put it on the USB drive, in the `efi/boot` folder. If you can't find `bootmgfw.efi` in `install.wim` then you probably have a 32 bit Windows ISO or other types of images (recovery disks, upgrade versions).

You can now boot from your USB in UEFI mode.

Errors

1. `modinfo.sh` doesn't exist

```
grub-install: error: /usr/lib/grub/i386-pc/modinfo.sh doesn't exist. Please specify --target or --directory.
```

Install the `grub-pc-bin` package with `sudo apt install grub-pc-bin` and run the `grub-install` command again.

2. Embedding errors

If you get embedding errors (something like `filesystem 'x' does not support embedding` or `Embedding is not possible`), be sure you are installing GRUB to USB device and **not** USB partition. Most likely you typed `/dev/sdb1` instead of `/dev/sdb` (`sdb` is just an example here). If it still doesn't work, try zeroing the USB drive (at least some sectors at beginning) or use a different USB flash drive.

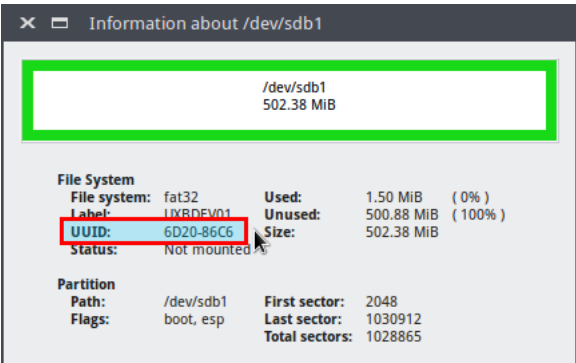
3. Blocklists

Sometimes, GRUB will not want to install on some flash drives. Try to force it by adding `--force` argument to the `grub-install` command.

4. Alternate root partition selection

The root partition selection may fail if your USB flash drive partition has the same label as one of the partitions on the target computer. The best way of setting the root partition is by UUID.

Launch again GParted and select the USB flashdrive. Right click the partition and select `Information`. Note the UUID field.



(//4.bp.blogspot.com/-b1QChOY8a1c/VmHNqsHoasI/AAAAAAAAAD1Y/Ox5lpUSgcng/s1600/04-002.png)
Partition UUID

In grub.cfg, replace the line:

```
search --no-floppy --set=root --label <USB_drive_label> --hint hd0,msdos1
```

with:

```
insmod search_fs_uuid
search --no-floppy --fs-uuid --set root <drive_UUID>
```

where you will replace <drive_UUID> with the UUID you got from GParted.

Still getting **errors**? If you want an useful answer, please post a comment with the **complete** grub-install command and the error message.

Links

- Grub2/Installing. (https://help.ubuntu.com/community/Grub2/Installing) Ubuntu Documentation, Community Help Wiki.
- Installing GRUB using grub-install. (https://www.gnu.org/software/grub/manual/html_node/Installing-GRUB-using-grub_002dinstall.html) GNU GRUB Manual 2.00
- search (https://www.gnu.org/software/grub/manual/html_node/search.html) command. GNU GRUB Manual 2.00
- GRUB bootloader - Full tutorial. (http://www.dedoimedo.com/computers/grub.html) Dedoimedo.com
- Curtis Gedak. GParted Manual. (http://gparted.org/display-doc.php?name=help-manual)
- Manjaro Wiki. Some basics of MBR v/s GPT and BIOS v/s UEFI (https://wiki.manjaro.org/index.php?title=Some_basics_of_MBR_v/s_GPT_and_BIOS_v/s_UEFI)
- Manjaro Wiki. UEFI - Install Guide (https://wiki.manjaro.org/index.php?title=UEFI_-_Install_Guide#Switching_from_BIOS_to_UEFI)
- eightforums.com. How to Create a Bootable UEFI USB Flash Drive for Installing Windows 7, Windows 8, or Windows 8.1 (http://www.eightforums.com/tutorials/15458-uefi-bootable-usb-flash-drive-create-windows.html)
- Rod Smith. A BIOS to UEFI Transformation (http://www.rodsbooks.com/bios2uefi/)
- Daniel B (http://superuser.com/users/219095) and duDE (http://superuser.com/users/192966) answers on *Do (USB) drives need a master boot record to boot in UEFI mode?* (http://superuser.com/q/823378/334004) available at SuperUser.com (CC-BY-SA 3.0)
- Thomas Krenn. Creating Windows UEFI Boot-Stick in Windows (http://www.thomas-krenn.com/en/wiki/Creating_Windows_UEFI_Boot-Stick_in_Windows)
- Wikipedia. UEFI Booting (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Unified_Extensible_Firmware_Interface#UEFIBOOT)
- Wikipedia. UEFI System Partition (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/EFI_System_partition)
- Jonathan de Boyne Pollard. The EFI boot process (http://homepage.ntlworld.com/jonathan.deboynepollard/FGA/efi-boot-process.html)
- TheNetZ (http://askubuntu.com/users/116407). Answer on Can I use Ubuntu to write a Windows 7 ISO to USB? (http://askubuntu.com/a/363630/269282) on Askubuntu.com (CC-BY-SA 3.0)

Tags: [Boot \(https://onetransistor.blogspot.ie/search/label/Boot\)](https://onetransistor.blogspot.ie/search/label/Boot) [Linux \(https://onetransistor.blogspot.ie/search/label/Linux\)](https://onetransistor.blogspot.ie/search/label/Linux)



(http://www.banggood.com/Wholesale-Computer-and-Networking-c-155.html?

utm_campaign=PCNetwork&utm_content=Klaus&p=DT05143463113201601H&bid=34040&utm_design=57)

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110 Comments One Transistor

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Name



Inx2 · 3 years ago

To make this how-to work for me, I had to change the **grub.cfg** file, otherwise I only had the boot option: *Boot from the first hard drive*.

I changed the second menu entry in my grub.cfg to the following:

```
menuentry "Start Windows Installation" {
    insmod ntfs
    insmod search_fs_uuid
    insmod chain
    search --no-floppy --fs-uuid --set root <drive_UUID>
    chainloader +1
    boot
}
```

Note the additional **insmod** commands and the move of the UUID to the end of the line.

Sources:

[https://www.gnu.org/software/...](https://www.gnu.org/software/grub/)
<https://wiki.archlinux.org/...>

2 ^ | v · Reply · Share >



Te Seng Thai · 17 days ago

The best tutorial for ubuntu user who want to make a bootable usb flash for windows iso. Thanks you so much!

1 ^ | v · Reply · Share >



Anonymous · 3 years ago

An alternative for *Disk Image Mounter*:

```
mkdir /tmp/mountpoint
mount -o loop /tmp/Windows.iso /tmp/mountpoint
```

1 ^ | v · Reply · Share >



wellygee · 2 months ago

Was my life saver - I installed Windows 10 on ubuntu 16.04 lts

^ | v · Reply · Share >



Arjun Chandran · 2 months ago

Or you can simply use WinUSB installer

Source: <https://forums.arctotal.com...>

^ | v · Reply · Share >



Dnowuser · 3 months ago

After I completed everything, during windows installation all the hard drive partitions say windows can't be installed on it. when I load drivers, it says that no signed drivers were found. How do I get past this?

^ | v · Reply · Share >



Rohit → Dnowuser · 2 months ago

During windows installation .Just when it starts press Shift+F10. Now write diskpart and hit enter.

After that another command prompt application will open with diskpart . Type - list disk and hit enter. Now you can see two drives. one which is your computer's hard drive and the other which is your pendrive's. select the drive which is your computer's hard disk(in most cases it is disk 0). know the appropriate drive name and then type - select disk (number of the hard drive) eg select disk 0. and then hit enter. now your hard drive is selected.

Before the next step, if you are going to install only windows OS and deleting any previous OS ,backup any data that you have on your hard drive other wise it will get deleted in the next step. so please be careful and only go to next if you have backed up your data and you are going to install windows os with no other OS. once you have installed windows OS .then u can obviously side load any other OS. So coming to the next step.

before following next , know whether your boot uses MBR OR GPT partition. if you have UEFI and want to install Windows 8 or later. Then i think it

you have UEFI and want to install windows 8 or later. then I think it should be GPT. if not then google it and then follow the next step.

[see more](#)

^ | v • Reply • Share >



Citrus Juice • 3 months ago

Hi! all is fine, the only thing is that i dont know how to install i dont know how to do an partition or if i can do it for the win10 installation. Please help :c and sorry for my newbie english

^ | v • Reply • Share >



Austin Pierce • 4 months ago

What command is it to make it actually boot from the USB? I followed all the steps and when I restart my computer the Kali Linux boot screen is still there and no other options.

^ | v • Reply • Share >



Cornelius Mod → Austin Pierce • 4 months ago

You have to set the USB drive as first boot device in BIOS. If you already done that and it still doesn't boot, then the USB drive is not bootable.

^ | v • Reply • Share >



Austin Pierce → Cornelius • 4 months ago

Can you give me the instructions on how to do that in command line? I have Kali Linux

^ | v • Reply • Share >



Cornelius Mod → Austin Pierce • 4 months ago

You can't do that in the command line. Read your motherboard/notebook manual to see how to enter BIOS and change boot device priority.

^ | v • Reply • Share >



Austin Pierce → Cornelius • 4 months ago

i got the Windows 8 start up screen but it said No device drivers were found

^ | v • Reply • Share >



Jack Erbes • 4 months ago

I am getting ready to install Mint 18.1 to a Linux only hard drive (not dual boot) and am not sure that if I follow the process here I will be able to choose between a windows related or linux related *.iso file when I boot from the pen drive (8GB SanDisk Cruzer USB drive). In the past I used a Live USB drive made from info on the Penguin pages here:

[https://www.pendrivelinux.c...](https://www.pendrivelinux.com/)

Would like to try your process if it will handle either Windows and/or Linux installs.

Thanks for any help!

Jack

^ | v • Reply • Share >



Cornelius Mod → Jack Erbes • 4 months ago

This method does not boot an ISO image. It allows you to boot Windows files extracted from ISO. You could however add an extra entry to GRUB that will boot a Linux ISO.

^ | v • Reply • Share >



Jack Erbes → Cornelius • 4 months ago

OK, and thanks for the quick reply. The ISO image I would use is the Mint 18.1 installation ISO, so I would make all the partitioning and booting decisions from the Mint install and expect to have a bootable Mint install when that finishes and I re-boot the system. Would that still happen if I used this method?

Jack

^ | v • Reply • Share >



Cornelius Mod → Jack Erbes • 4 months ago

If you want to make a bootable Mint USB, you should use Startup Disk Creator or dd. This guide is for Windows but it can work for Linux too if you use the correct boot configuration in grub.cfg.

^ | v • Reply • Share >



cearp • 5 months ago

I followed the instructions and everything went as stated except for the part that described a possible error with the grub install. I got the error about modinfo.sh not being found and tried the fix to install grub-pc-bin.

My system, Ubuntu 16.10, says grub-pc-bin is already the latest so nothing was installed. Should I try the grub install with the --force?

^ | v • Reply • Share >



Cornelius Mod → cearlp • 5 months ago

Did you write correctly `--target=i386-pc`? You should try to omit this argument, if the error persists.

^ | v • Reply • Share >

**Michel Jacobs** • 5 months ago

I tried several tips to install a Windows 7 iso via USB , this one works! Thank you for a good explanation!

^ | v • Reply • Share >

**Rodney Cedrick** • 5 months ago

This is what I get while trying to install grub.

```
ricky@ricky-pc:~$ grub-install --target=i386-pc --boot-directory=/media/ricky/32gb/boot /dev/sdb
Installing for i386-pc platform.
grub-install: error: failed to get canonical path of '/media/ricky/32gb/boot/grub'.
```

please help.

^ | v • Reply • Share >

**Dean Davis** → Rodney Cedrick • 2 months ago

Did you find a solution for this?

^ | v • Reply • Share >

**Сергей Юрич** • 5 months ago

thanks, for help

^ | v • Reply • Share >

**Jonathan Rubio** • 5 months ago

hello, i am getting an error, when doing the grub portion, that i see no one else is getting and not sure where to go from here.

```
Unrecognized option '--target=i386-pc'
Usage: grub-install [OPTION] install_device
Install GRUB on your drive.
```

^ | v • Reply • Share >

**Cornelius** Mod → Jonathan Rubio • 5 months ago

Run the command without that option.

^ | v • Reply • Share >

**Jonathan Rubio** → Cornelius • 5 months ago

Tried it already before asking. It just throws other errors at me. I'll keep trying, thought maybe it was something simple that you had heard of before. I am trying to make a uefi only bootable usb to fix a win 8.1 computer and only have my Ubuntu box to do it with. I've got the 8.1 computer at least trying to boot the drive but it throws a boot error and says it's missing boot data or there are errors in the boot file.

^ | v • Reply • Share >

**Cornelius** Mod → Jonathan Rubio • 5 months ago

If UEFI is what you want, then why you need GRUB? Just format to FAT32 and copy Windows files to USB drive. See the second paragraph in section 3B. UEFI Bootable.

^ | v • Reply • Share >

**Jonathan Rubio** → Cornelius • 5 months ago

I tried it that first way, the first time, since it was giving me the error about missing boot data, I assumed it needed to be done. I've tried to disable secure boot as well as disable uefi in the bios but still, no go.

^ | v • Reply • Share >

**Cornelius** Mod → Jonathan Rubio • 5 months ago

You should not disable UEFI in BIOS.

^ | v • Reply • Share >

**Jonathan Rubio** → Cornelius • 5 months ago

I only did as a method to try. That's all. Already re-enabled and put the keys back on for secure boot. I'm gonna find access to a Windows machine today and try to just make a cd or USB stick and see if that works. I bought this pc and of course it has a password protected account. I'm trying to just refresh Windows back to the very beginning so I can use it. I haven't had a windows machine since maybe 2006 or so, I've been on Ubuntu and mint since then so I have nothing windows based to make this work smoother. Had windows not gone all uefi and crap, this would have been much easier. Anywho, thanks for your help, I can see how this is supposed to work and where it has helped so many. Maybe I just have a unique issue.

^ | v • Reply • Share >

**Patafke** • 5 months ago

Jeahr man,
first time it runs smooth and fast. You're cool man ;)

^ | v • Reply • Share >

**Evon** • 6 months ago

Thanks so much for this works like a charm. I created another partition and put Acronis in it and edited the grub.cfg as follows:


```

default=1
timeout=15
color_normal=light-cyan/dark-gray
menu_color_normal=black/light-cyan
menu_color_highlight=white/black

menuentry "Start Windows Installation" {
    insmod ntfs
    insmod search_label
    search --no-floppy --set=root --label WINUSB--hint hd0,msdos1
    ntldr /bootmgr
    boot
}

menuentry "Acronis 2014" {
    insmod ntfs
    insmod search_label
    search --no-floppy --set=root --label ACRONIS--hint hd0,msdos1
    ntldr /bootmgr
    boot
}

menuentry "Boot from the first hard drive" {
    insmod ntfs
    insmod chain
    insmod part_msdos
    insmod part_gpt
    set root=(hd1)
    chainloader +1
    boot
}

```

The second menu item is not showing. Can you please me know if I'm doing something wrong.

Thanks

^ | v • Reply • Share >



Cornelius Mod → Evon • 6 months ago

The line

```
search --no-floppy --set=root --label ACRONIS--hint hd0,msdos1
```

should be

```
search --no-floppy --set=root --label ACRONIS --hint hd0,msdos2
```

if Acronis is on the 2nd partition (note also the space before **--hint**). I don't know about Acronis, but I don't think it uses **bootmgr** to boot, so the command:

```
ntldr /bootmgr
```

may not be able to boot it.

^ | v • Reply • Share >



Evon → Cornelius • 6 months ago

Thanks for the reply. Unfortunately, adding the space didn't work. I think it's so weird that the line option isn't even showing up.

^ | v • Reply • Share >



Cornelius Mod → Evon • 6 months ago

There's probably some syntax error in that **menuentry**, but I can't find it.

^ | v • Reply • Share >



Wendel • 6 months ago

The USB boots properly, but what how should I install Windows 7 correctly? There are UBUNTU partitions. Should I delete them and install?

^ | v • Reply • Share >



Cornelius Mod → Wendel • 6 months ago

If all partitions are of Linux type (ext3, ext4) you can't install Windows without formatting one of them. Data on those partitions will be lost, so make backups. It's recommended to install Windows on the first partition of the hard drive, if that's possible.

^ | v • Reply • Share >



dx486 • 6 months ago

It worked. Thank you.

^ | v • Reply • Share >



iam_ss • 7 months ago

It's awesome. Works flawlessly. Thanks alot sir!

^ | v • Reply • Share >



Chasphere • 7 months ago

I'm trying to use this tutorial to boot the windows Recovery Console (I think also known as the Rescue CD). When I boot from the USB stick, I get the "/bootmgr not found" error in GRUB. Can this tutorial be adapted for my case?

^ | v • Reply • Share >



Cornelius Mod → ChaSphere • 7 months ago

I don't know if it will boot. I suggest you try to use NTFS and boot with **chainloader +1** command.

^ | v • Reply • Share >

**ChaSphere** → Cornelius · 7 months ago

In the end I just booted a Windows 7 installer ISO. Thanks for the reply though.

^ | v · Reply · Share >

**parallax** · 8 months ago

Hi, I created the USB, all went good. But when I boot into it and select Start Windows installation, it gives two errors :

file /bootmgr not found

you need to load the kernel first

What could be wrong?

^ | v · Reply · Share >

**Ган-Оч Энхболд** → parallax · 2 months ago

rename BOOTMGR -> bootmgr lowercase, worked for me

^ | v · Reply · Share >

**ChaSphere** → parallax · 7 months ago

Are you trying to install XP? I got similar errors with XP. After trying the manual method, winUSB, and unetbootin, all of which gave errors, I tried Windows 7 instead, and it worked. I think XP just isn't very USB friendly.

^ | v · Reply · Share >

**Cornelius** Mod → ChaSphere · 7 months ago

You are right. You can't boot Windows XP using the method described here. I haven't found (yet) a method for making bootable XP USB from Linux.

^ | v · Reply · Share >

**Cornelius** Mod → parallax · 8 months ago

Did you mount Windows ISO and copy files to the root of the USB drive?

^ | v · Reply · Share >

**parallax** → Cornelius · 8 months ago

Yeah. I formatted the USB to NTFS, flagged as boot (msdos table) . Mounted the ISO, copied all the files to the USB, installed grub and put in the grub.cfg.

^ | v · Reply · Share >

**rubuntu** · 8 months ago

hi

still stuck on sudo grub-install by method A.

try using --force still the same.

error message:

cannot open directory 'media/rubuntu/REZL/boot/grub/i386-pc' : No such file or directory

mine is thinkpad x220. flash drive formatted in msdos and filetype is fat32

^ | v · Reply · Share >

**Cornelius** Mod → rubuntu · 8 months ago

i386-pc directory should be created by the **grub-install** command. Do you have root permissions? You should try only the **grub-install** command with any other USB drive.

^ | v · Reply · Share >

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puchasanyasi — I'm sorry for not updating. Indeed, Method A worked.

The difference is, you don't need to remove efi/microsoft/boot directory.

Just copy boot ...

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Simon — Looks like briss is the only tool that preserves internal links in the PDF document. And it is easy to use. No install, no dependencies.

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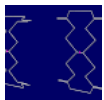
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