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How to run Windows on Steam Deck

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This tutorial is about the How to run Windows on Steam Deck. We will try our best so that you understand this guide. I hope you like this blog **How to run Windows on Steam Deck**. If your answer is yes then please do share after reading this.

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Check How to run Windows on Steam Deck

The Steam Deck shipped as a Linux machine, but Valve did not place any restrictions on downloading content, including new operating systems. After all, Valve's handheld is just a smaller PC. Since it's just another PC, you can install Windows on the Steam Deck in a variety of ways. While you are free to install Windows on the Steam Deck, you may run into some issues along the way.

Since the Windows drivers for Steam Deck are not finalized at this time, you may encounter issues such as speakers not working and possibly slower performance. However, running Windows on the Steam Deck will allow access to launchers like the Epic Games Store and services like Xbox Game Pass, which can be invaluable to certain gamers. Until the drivers are ready, you probably won't have the Windows experience you're used to on a desktop.

How to run Windows on Steam Deck

Install Windows on the Steam Deck SSD

- Create a Windows 10 or 11 installation drive.

  - To get started, you'll need to create a Windows installer on a USB drive. Go here to create one for the version of Windows you want to install. This is easiest to do from a standalone Windows based PC. Follow the instructions to create the installation media.

- With the power off, plug the USB drive into the Steam Deck.

  - If you have a USB Type-C flash drive, you can plug it directly into the Steam Deck port. Otherwise, you'll need a USB-C hub to do so.

- Press and hold the volume down button and power on the system to access the boot menu.

  - If you're using the Steam Deck controls, use the D-Pad to move to "EFU USB Device", then press A to select it.

- Steam Deck will start.

- The Windows installer will start. Yes, it is on the side.

  - If you're using a USB-C hub, you may want to connect a keyboard and mouse. The Steam Deck controls won't do anything here. That said, if you don't have a keyboard and mouse, the touch screen will still work.

- Choose your language and click or tap "Next".

- Click or tap "Install Now".

- Activate Windows. If you have a product key, you will be prompted to enter it there. There is a touch screen keyboard if you need it. If you don't have a key, choose "I don't have a product key."

- Choose your version of Windows, then click or tap "Next."

- Accept the terms and conditions to continue. Check the box and click or tap "Next". That is, assuming you agree. If it doesn't, stop now and go back to SteamOS.

- Choose a custom installation of Windows. Update installations only work on computers that already have a version of Windows.

- Delete partitions to make room for Windows.

  - When you go to install Windows, you will notice that the SSD is divided into eight partitions and you cannot install Windows on any of them. You will need to remove partitions to install Windows. We deleted partition 8, which was the largest of them.

  - If you don't feel comfortable deleting the partitions on your SSD, you might consider installing Windows on an SD card and booting from there, or even stick with SteamOS. You can still roll back at this point without deleting any data.

- Select "Drive 0 Unallocated Space" and tap or click "Next".

- Windows will start to install.

- The Steam Deck will restart.

- Follow the Windows setup process. All instructions are on screen. You can use a keyboard and mouse or the touch screen again. Here, the D-Pad's up and down arrows work, as does the A button, but the screen is still on its side.

  - If you want to connect to the Internet, you will need an Ethernet to USB cable. At the time of this writing, Windows on the Steam Deck does not have working Wi-Fi drivers.

- The Windows desktop will appear. Note that it is still on its side. We will fix this shortly.

  - Because Windows drivers aren't finalized, we got an error saying "Looking for a display driver: Display, resolution, performance, and battery life may be reduced until a compatible driver has finished installing."

- Go to Start > Settings > System > Display

- Scroll down to Screen Orientation and choose "Landscape" to orient the screen in the correct direction.

Final words: How to run Windows on Steam Deck

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