Appendix: Flashing Raspberry Pi OS to NVMe SSD (No PC Required)

If you don't have a PCIe-to-USB adapter, you can flash the OS directly to the NVMe SSD from the Pi itself. **Steps**

- 1 1. Flash Raspberry Pi OS Lite (64-bit) to a microSD card and boot your Pi 5 from it.
- 2 2. Make sure the NVMe SSD is connected via the official PCIe HAT.
- 3. Run: lsblk or sudo fdisk -l to identify your SSD (e.g., /dev/sda).
- 4 4. Install Raspberry Pi Imager: sudo apt install rpi-imager
- 5 S. Run rpi-imager and choose Raspberry Pi OS 64-bit. Select your NVMe SSD as the target storage.
- 6 6. Alternatively, you can manually download and flash the image using dd:

Manual flashing with dd:

```
wget https://downloads.raspberrypi.com/raspios_lite_arm64_latest
unzip raspios_lite_arm64_latest
sudo dd if=your_image.img of=/dev/sda bs=4M status=progress
sync
```

- 7. When done, power off the Pi: sudo poweroff
- 8. Remove the SD card and boot directly from the SSD!