

Blockchain Technical Notes

Getting a Raspberry Pi image

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Phillip G. Bradford¹

SUMMARY

This document shows how to download a Raspberry Pi image. It also shows how to run a Raspberry Pi image using qemu-system-arm.

DETAILS

Each step in Part 2 works to get images of Raspberry Pis working on your machine. These steps discuss some technical details of virtual Raspberry Pis using QEMU.

All of these installations and downloads are at your own risk.

STEPS

Step 1 requires git to be installed. If you do not have it installed already, then please see the accompanying document: **Part 2 Windows Install GIT.pdf**

¹ University of Connecticut, Stamford, CT
USA, phillip.bradford@uconn.edu, phillip.g.bradford@gmail.com

Or go to: <https://github.com/git-guides/install-git>

STEP 1: CREATE FOLDERS ON YOUR WINDOWS MACHINE

On Windows these folders can be created using the **File Explorer** or a **Command Prompt (Terminal)**.

Our objective is to build the following folders

Folder	Commands
C:\users\your-id\workshop	cd . ; mkdir workshop
~/workshop/RPi1	git clone https://github.com/wonder-phil/RPi
~/workshop/RPi2	After images are in RPi1 then duplicate RPi1 to RPi2
~/workshop/code	git clone

Assuming your-id is your login-id on your Windows 10 machine, then here are the Terminal commands to create the folders:

Windows> cd

Windows> mkdir workshop

Windows> cd workshop

Windows> git clone https://github.com/wonder-phil/RPi

Windows> dir /a RPi

3.2M Jul 14 12:40 qemukernel

7.9K Jul 14 12:39 versatile-pb.dtb

These two files are in your workshop/RPi folder

The qemukernel file is the Raspberrian operating system.

The versatile-pb.dtb is a mother board emulated by QEMU. Technically these are ARM Versatile/PB (ARM926EJ-S). Others are available as well.

STEP 2: DOWNLOAD RASPBERRY PI IMG

<https://www.raspberrypi.org/software/operating-systems/>

Download Paspberry Pi OS Lite (438MB), 11-January-2021

Download **the Raspberry Pi OS Lite** image as shown below:

Raspberry Pi OS with desktop and recommended software

Release date: December 2nd 2020

Kernel version: 5.4

Size: 2,949MB

[Show SHA256 file integrity hash:](#)

[Release notes](#)

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Raspberry Pi OS with desktop

Release date: December 2nd 2020

Kernel version: 5.4

Size: 1,177MB

[Show SHA256 file integrity hash:](#)

[Release notes](#)

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Raspberry Pi OS Lite

Release date: December 2nd 2020

Kernel version: 5.4

Size: 438MB

[Show SHA256 file integrity hash:](#)

[Release notes](#)

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This comes down as a zip folder containing a single file. Unzip this folder getting the file:

2021-01-11-raspbios-buster-armhf-lite.img

Place this file in ~/workshop/RPi

Windows> cd ~/workshop/RPi

Windows> dir

1.7G Mar 3 07:56 2021-01-11-raspbios-buster-armhf-lite.img
3.2M Jul 14 12:40 qemukernel
7.9K Jul 14 12:39 versatile-pb.dtb

STEP 3: RUN A RASPBERRY PI QEMU VIRTUAL MACHINE

Windows> cd ~/workshop/RPi

Check the IMG file:

Windows> qemu-img info 2021-01-11-raspbios-buster-armhf-lite.img

image: 2021-01-11-raspbios-buster-armhf-lite.img
file format: raw
virtual size: 1.73 GiB (1858076672 bytes)
disk size: 1.73 GiB

Now convert the IMG file to a QCOW2 file:

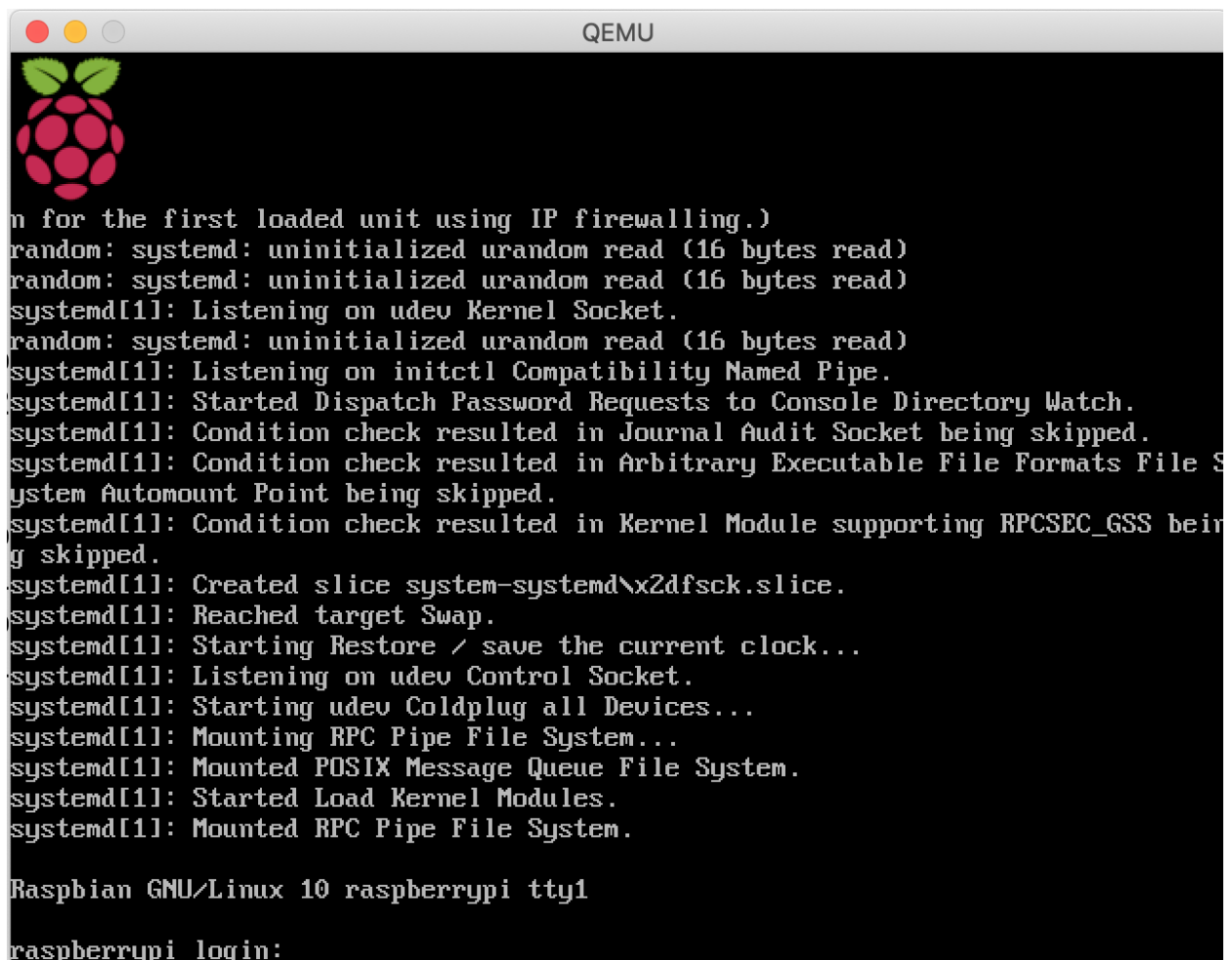
Windows> qemu-img convert -f raw -O qcow2 ^ 2021-01-11-raspbios-buster-armhf-lite.img 2021-01.qcow2

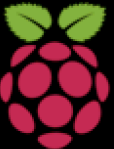
Windows> qemu-img resize 2021-01.qcow2 +2G

Windows>
qemu-system-arm -M versatilepb ^
-cpu arm1176 ^

```
-m 256 -hda "./2021-01.qcow2" ^  
-net nic -net user,hostfwd=tcp::5022-:22 ^  
-dtb "./versatile-pb.dtb" ^  
-kernel "./qemukernel" ^  
-append "root=/dev/sda2 panic=1 rootfstype=ext4 rw" -no-reboot ^
```

Then a new screen should pop up showing the Raspberry Pi instance booting:



```
QEMU  
  
n for the first loaded unit using IP firewalling.)  
random: systemd: uninitialized urandom read (16 bytes read)  
random: systemd: uninitialized urandom read (16 bytes read)  
systemd[1]: Listening on udev Kernel Socket.  
random: systemd: uninitialized urandom read (16 bytes read)  
systemd[1]: Listening on initctl Compatibility Named Pipe.  
systemd[1]: Started Dispatch Password Requests to Console Directory Watch.  
systemd[1]: Condition check resulted in Journal Audit Socket being skipped.  
systemd[1]: Condition check resulted in Arbitrary Executable File Formats File S  
ystem Automount Point being skipped.  
systemd[1]: Condition check resulted in Kernel Module supporting RPCSEC_GSS bein  
g skipped.  
systemd[1]: Created slice system-systemd\x2dfsck.slice.  
systemd[1]: Reached target Swap.  
systemd[1]: Starting Restore / save the current clock...  
systemd[1]: Listening on udev Control Socket.  
systemd[1]: Starting udev Coldplug all Devices...  
systemd[1]: Mounting RPC Pipe File System...  
systemd[1]: Mounted POSIX Message Queue File System.  
systemd[1]: Started Load Kernel Modules.  
systemd[1]: Mounted RPC Pipe File System.  
  
Raspbian GNU/Linux 10 raspberrypi tty1  
raspberrypi login:
```

raspberrypi login: **pi**
raspberrypi password: **raspberry**

You should change your password.

If your mouse cursor gets lost, then:



Control-Alt-G to release the mouse cursor

To shut down the Raspberry Pi gracefully, go to the Raspberry Pi's prompt and shut it down

Raspberrypi> sudo shutdown -h now

EXPLANATION OF THE QEMU-SYSTEM-ARM COMMAND

qemu-system-arm is the executable that we use from the QEMU binaries we downloaded earlier. This is what allows us to spin up the virtual machine.

-M versatilepb This names the machine type for QEMU.

-cpu arm1176 makes QEMU emulate the ARM1176 processor. This is the processor used by Raspberry Pis.

-m 256 sets QEMU to use 256MB memory for the emulated Raspberry Pi.

-hda "/2021-01.qcow2" sets QEMU to use the file image 2020-12.qcow2. Qcow2 is QEMU copy-on-write format.

-net nic -net user,hostfwd=tcp::5022-:22 The **-net nic** indicates there is a network interface card. The **"hostfwd=tcp::5022:22"** maps the host port 5022 to the raspberry pi's port 22 on the virtual machine. This allows ssh access.

-dtb "/versatile-pb.dtb" just maps the file we have saved in our folder to the **-M** flag we specified earlier.

-kernel "/qemukernel" This points QEMU to the Raspberry Pi Raspberrian kernel.

-append "root=/dev/sda2 panic=1 rootfstype=ext4 rw" these specifics are appended on to the boot command.

-no-reboot This tells QEMU to stop when the Raspberry Pi shuts down rather than rebooting on shutdown.