



Bahir dar Institution of Technology

OS Assignment.

Dep.IS

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Submission date 06/05/2018E.C

A. Introduction to Manjaro Linux

Manjaro Linux is a free and open-source Linux operating system that is based on Arch Linux. It was first released in 2011 and has become popular because it combines power, flexibility, and ease of use.

Arch Linux is known for being very simple and lightweight, but it usually requires advanced Linux knowledge to install and maintain. Manjaro was created to solve this problem by keeping Arch's strengths while making the system much easier for everyday users.

One of Manjaro's key features is that it is a rolling release distribution. This means users do not need to reinstall the operating system or upgrade to a new version. Instead, the system receives continuous updates, allowing users to always have the latest software and features without major disruptions.

Manjaro also supports several desktop environments, such as:

Xfce (lightweight and fast)

KDE Plasma (modern and highly customizable)

GNOME (clean and user-friendly)

This variety allows users to choose an interface that best matches their preferences and hardware capabilities.

Reasons for Manjaro Linux

Manjaro Linux was created to make the power of Arch Linux accessible to a wider audience. The developers wanted to attract users who might find Arch Linux too complex or time-consuming to set up.

Key Reasons for Using Manjaro Linux

1. User-Friendly Experience

Manjaro provides:

- A graphical installer
- A pre-configured desktop environment

This makes it easy for beginners to install and use Linux without needing deep command-line knowledge.

2. Rolling Release Model

Manjaro continuously updates software instead of releasing new versions every few years.

This allows users to:

- Access the latest features
- Receive security updates regularly
- Avoid reinstalling the operating system

3. Community-Driven Development

Manjaro has a strong and active community that:

- Helps develop the system
- Creates documentation
- Provides user support

This makes troubleshooting easier and encourages collaboration among users.

4. Customization and Flexibility

Manjaro allows users to customize almost every part of the system.

It also provides access to the Arch User Repository (AUR), which contains thousands of additional software packages not found in standard repositories.

5. Performance and Stability

Although Manjaro is based on Arch Linux (which is very cutting-edge), Manjaro tests updates before releasing them.

This ensures:

- High performance
- Greater stability
- Compatibility with both new and older hardware

B. Objectives of Manjaro Linux

Manjaro Linux aims to be a balanced operating system that is powerful enough for experienced users while remaining accessible to beginners.

Virtual Installation Support

For users who want to install Manjaro in a virtual machine, the following tools are recommended:

- VMware Workstation
- Oracle VM VirtualBox

These tools are user-friendly, actively maintained, and offer good hardware support. Other options like KVM and Hyper-V are also available depending on the user's operating system and experience level.

Primary Objectives of Manjaro Linux

1. User-Friendliness

Manjaro focuses on ease of use by offering:

- Simple installation
- Ready-to-use desktop environments
- Minimal setup after installation
- This makes it ideal for users new to Linux.

2. Rolling Release Philosophy

Manjaro ensures the system is always up to date by:

Providing continuous updates

Eliminating the need for major system upgrades

This helps keep the system secure and modern.

3. Stability and Performance

Although Manjaro uses the latest software, it:

Tests updates before release

Prioritizes system reliability

This results in a stable yet modern operating system.

4. Customization and Flexibility

Users are encouraged to personalize their systems:

Choose software freely

Modify system appearance and behavior

Install applications from the AUR

5. Diverse Desktop Environments

Manjaro offers multiple official editions to suit different needs:

- Xfce for low-end systems
- KDE Plasma for advanced customization

- GNOME for simplicity and productivity

6. Community-Driven Development

Manjaro Linux is developed and maintained by a strong and active community of developers and users. This community contributes in many ways, such as:

- Developing new features
- Fixing bugs
- Providing technical support
- Creating documentation and tutorials

Community involvement improves the overall user experience because users can:

- Share knowledge and solutions
- Collaborate on projects
- Help new users learn and solve problems

This collaborative environment makes Manjaro more reliable and continuously improving.

7. Educational Resource

Manjaro Linux also acts as an educational platform for users who want to learn about:

- Linux operating systems
- Open-source software
- System administration and configuration

It provides:

- Well-written documentation
- Community guides and forums
- Access to Arch Linux documentation

These resources help users understand how Linux works behind the scenes, making Manjaro a valuable learning tool for students and beginners.

8. Accessibility

Manjaro focuses strongly on ease of use, which helps make Linux accessible to a wider audience. This includes:

- Simple graphical installer
- Pre-configured system settings
- User-friendly desktop environments

By reducing complexity, Manjaro allows people who previously found Linux confusing or intimidating to use it comfortably. This helps more users transition from other operating systems like Windows or macOS.

Summary of Manjaro Linux Objectives

The main objective of Manjaro Linux is to provide a powerful, flexible, and user-friendly operating system. It combines:

- The performance and control of Arch Linux
- Improved stability through tested updates
- Accessibility for beginners
- Strong community engagement

This balance makes Manjaro suitable for both new and experienced Linux users.

C. Requirements of Manjaro Linux

To run Manjaro Linux smoothly, certain hardware and software requirements must be met.

Hardware Requirements of Manjaro Linux

1. Minimum Requirements

These are the lowest system specifications needed to run Manjaro Linux:

• Processor

Manjaro requires an Intel or AMD 64-bit processor. This ensures compatibility with modern Linux software and better performance.

• RAM

A minimum of 2 GB of RAM is required.

- This allows the system to:
- Run basic applications
- Operate a desktop environment smoothly

Perform everyday tasks such as web browsing and file management

More RAM is recommended for better performance, especially when using heavier desktop environments like KDE or GNOME.

Storage Requirement

Manjaro Linux requires at least 20 GB of free disk space for installation.

This space is needed to store:

- The operating system files
- Installed applications
- System updates and logs

Having sufficient storage ensures the system runs smoothly without running out of space during updates.

Graphics Card Requirement

Manjaro requires a graphics card capable of supporting a minimum screen resolution of 1024×768.

This allows:

- Proper display of the installer
- Smooth functioning of the desktop environment
- Comfortable visual experience for users

Most modern and even older graphics cards meet this requirement.

Internet Connection

An internet connection is required for:

- Downloading software packages
- Installing updates
- Accessing additional applications from repositories

Although Manjaro can be installed offline, internet access greatly improves functionality and ensures the system stays up to date.

2. Recommended Requirements

Recommended requirements provide better performance and smoother operation, especially for modern desktop environments.

Processor

A dual-core 64-bit processor is recommended.

This improves multitasking performance and ensures faster application execution.

RAM

4 GB of RAM or more is recommended.

This allows:

- Smooth desktop performance
- Efficient multitasking

- Better experience with heavier environments like KDE Plasma or GNOME

Storage

30 GB or more of free disk space is recommended.

This gives users extra room for:

- Software installation
- Personal files
- System updates
- Graphics Card

A modern graphics card with OpenGL support is recommended.

This improves:

- Desktop animations
- Video playback
- Overall graphical performance

Internet Connection

An internet connection is recommended for:

- System updates
- Installing additional software
- Accessing the Arch User Repository (AUR)

Software Requirements of Manjaro Linux

Bootable Medium

A USB flash drive or DVD is required to install Manjaro Linux.

This bootable medium contains the installation files and allows the system to start the installer.

Supported File Systems

Manjaro supports several file systems during installation, including:

Ext4 (default and most commonly used)

Btrfs (advanced features like snapshots)

XFS (high-performance file system)

This flexibility allows users to choose a file system that best suits their needs.

Package Manager

Manjaro uses Pacman, the default package manager for Arch-based systems.

Pacman is responsible for:

- Installing software
- Updating the system
- Managing dependencies

It is fast, efficient, and reliable.

Desktop Environments

Manjaro offers several official desktop environments:

XFCE

Lightweight

Fast and stable

Ideal for older or low-end systems

KDE Plasma

Feature-rich

Highly customizable

Suitable for modern systems and advanced users

GNOME

Modern and visually appealing

Simple and clean interface

Focused on productivity

Users can choose the desktop environment that best fits their preferences and hardware.

Hardware Compatibility Notes

Manjaro is designed to work on a wide range of hardware, including older machines.

However, performance may vary depending on:

- Processor speed
- Amount of RAM
- Graphics hardware

For the best experience, users should match their desktop environment with their hardware capabilities.

Official Resources Recommendation

It is always recommended to:

- Visit the official Manjaro website
- Check Manjaro forums

These sources provide:

- The latest hardware compatibility information
- Updated system requirements
- Edition-specific recommendations

D. Installation Process of Manjaro Linux

Installing Manjaro Linux is a simple and user-friendly process, especially compared to Arch Linux.

Prerequisites

1. Backup Your Data

Before installing Manjaro, users should backup all important data.

This prevents data loss in case of:

- Disk formatting
- Installation errors

2. Download Manjaro ISO

Users must download the Manjaro ISO file from the official website:

<https://manjaro.org/download/>

The ISO file contains the installation image for the chosen edition:

- **XFCE**
- **KDE Plasma**
- **GNOME**

3. Create a Bootable USB Drive

A bootable USB drive can be created using tools such as:

- Rufus (Windows)
- Etcher (Windows, Linux, macOS)

- dd command (Linux)

This step prepares the USB drive to start the Manjaro installer.

Installation Steps

1. Boot from USB

Insert the bootable USB drive into the computer

Restart the system

Enter BIOS/UEFI settings by pressing keys such as:

- F2
- F10
- Delete
- Esc

Set the USB drive as the first boot device

Save changes and exit BIOS/UEFI

This allows the system to boot from the USB drive instead of the existing operating system.

2. Select Manjaro Live Environment

After booting from the USB:

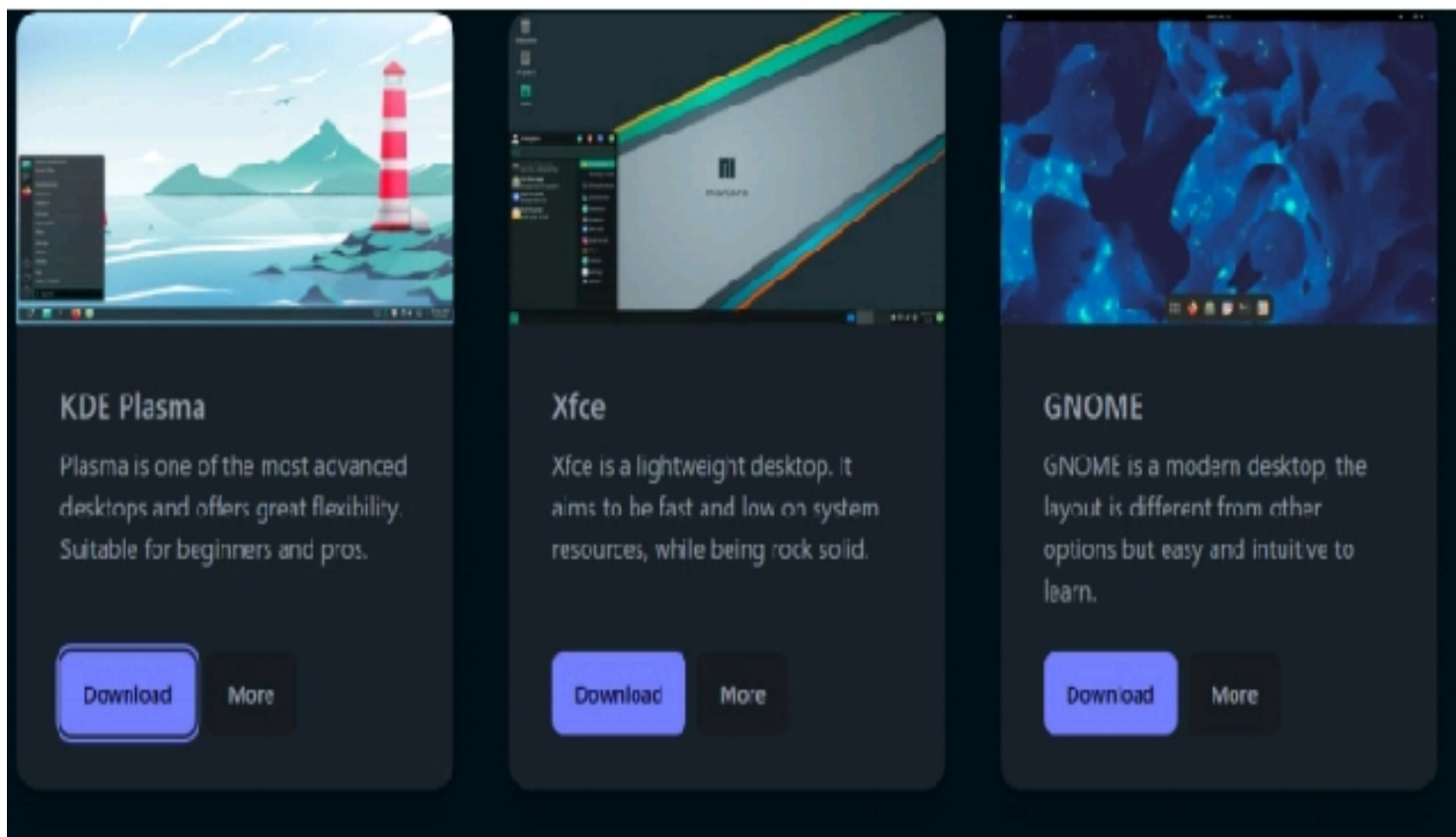
The Manjaro welcome screen appears

Users can choose to:

Run Manjaro in live mode to test it without installing

Proceed directly to the installation process

Live mode helps users check hardware compatibility before installing the operating system.



After download the iOS file we going to run it on virtualbox .This step is the boot configuration stage of Manjaro installation. It lets you select the appropriate drivers and settings so Manjaro can start properly in live mode and prepare for installation.

Displays the current system time.

tz = UTC – Time zone setting (can be changed later).

keytable = us – Keyboard layout.

lang = en_US – Language setting.Next image show it..



3. Start the Installer

After Manjaro has successfully booted into Live Mode, the operating system runs directly from the USB drive without making any changes to your computer.

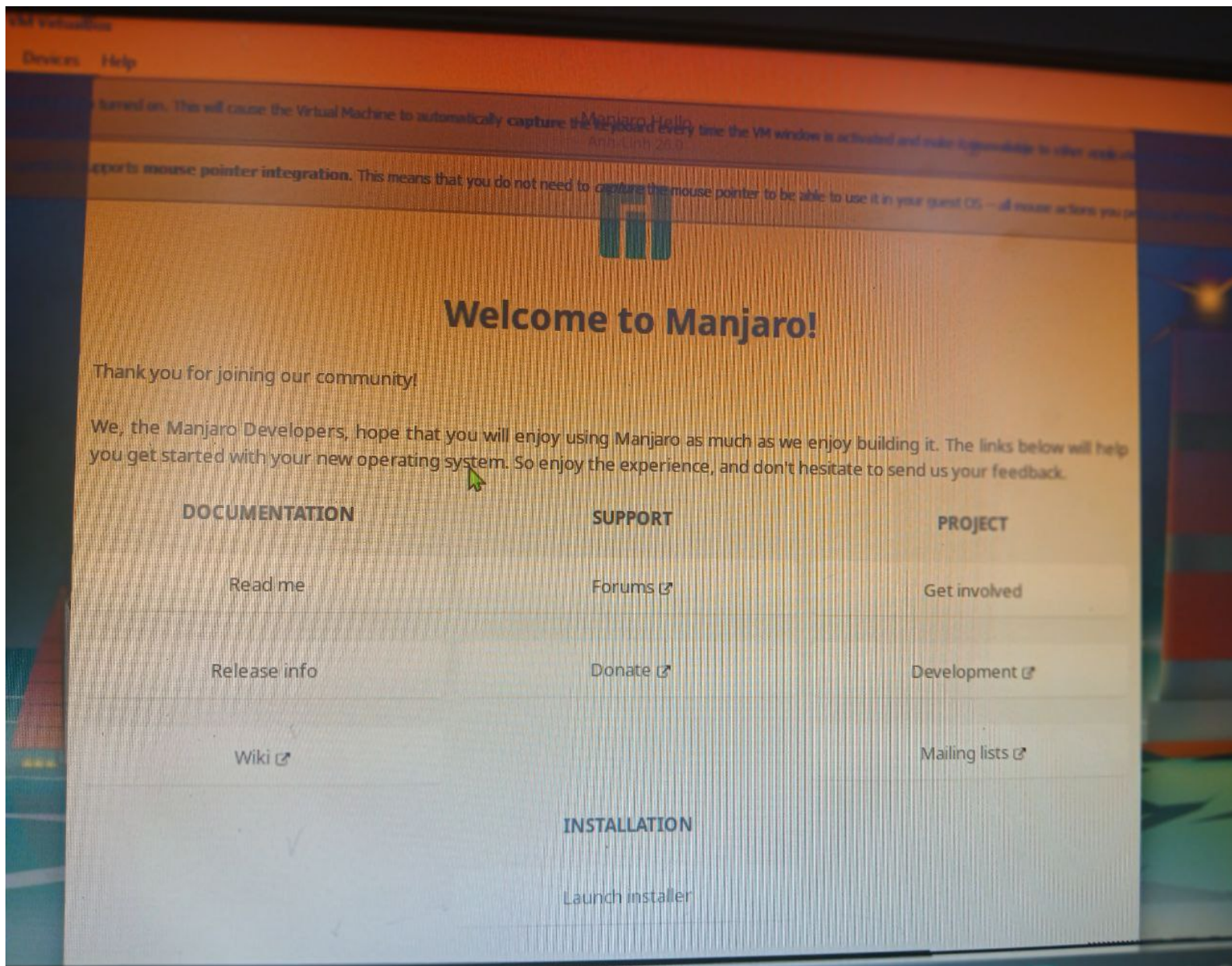
On the desktop, you will see an icon labeled “Install Manjaro”.

Click on this “Install Manjaro” icon to begin the installation process.

Once clicked, the Manjaro graphical installer (Calamares) will launch. This installer guides the user step by step through the installation, including:

- Language selection
- Time zone configuration
- Keyboard layout
- Disk partitioning
- User account creation

To launch the installer.



4. Choose Language

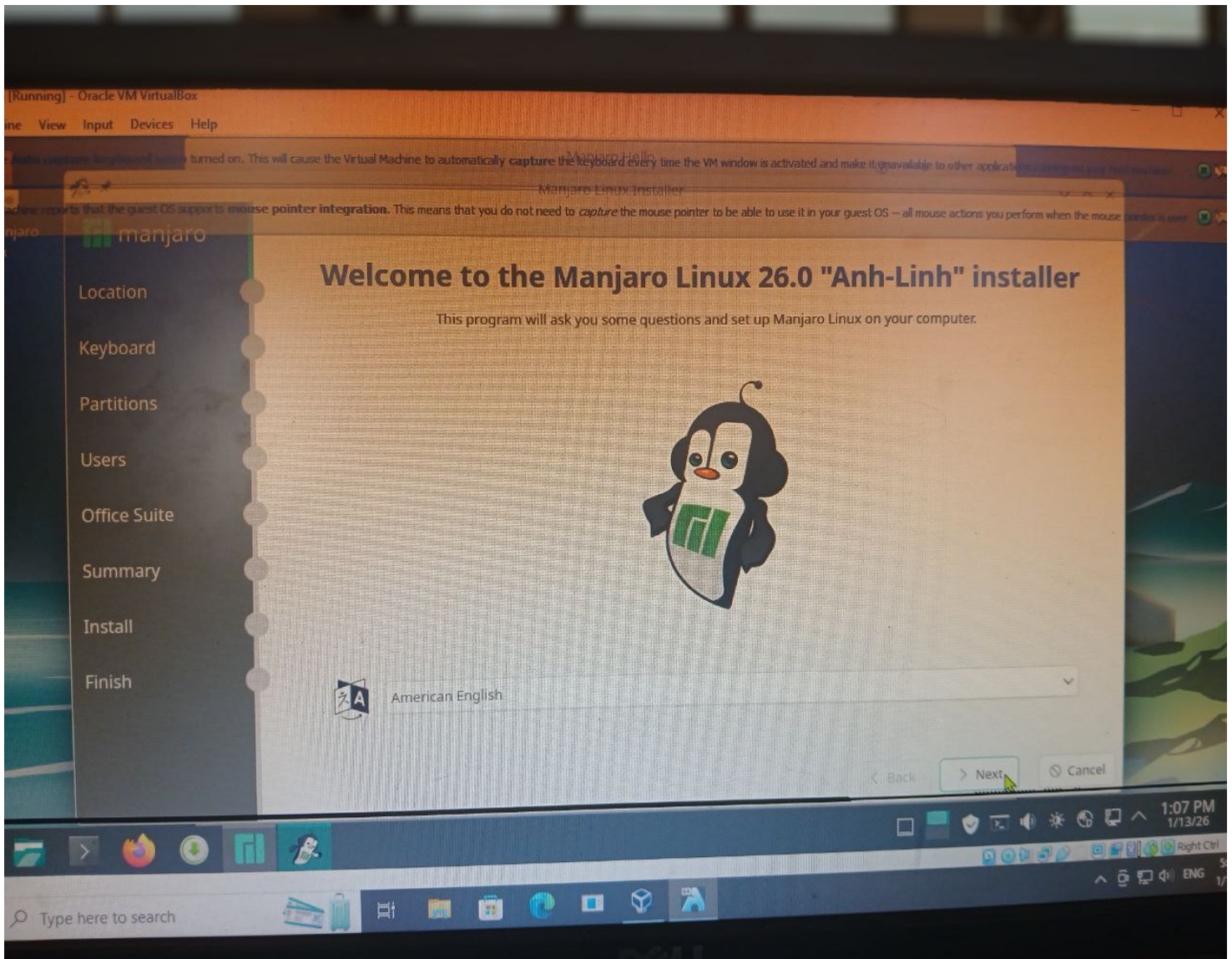
At this step of the installer:

Select your preferred language from the list provided.

This language will be used for:

- The installer
- System menus
- Default system messages

After selecting the language, click “Next” to continue.



5. Select Region (Time Zone)

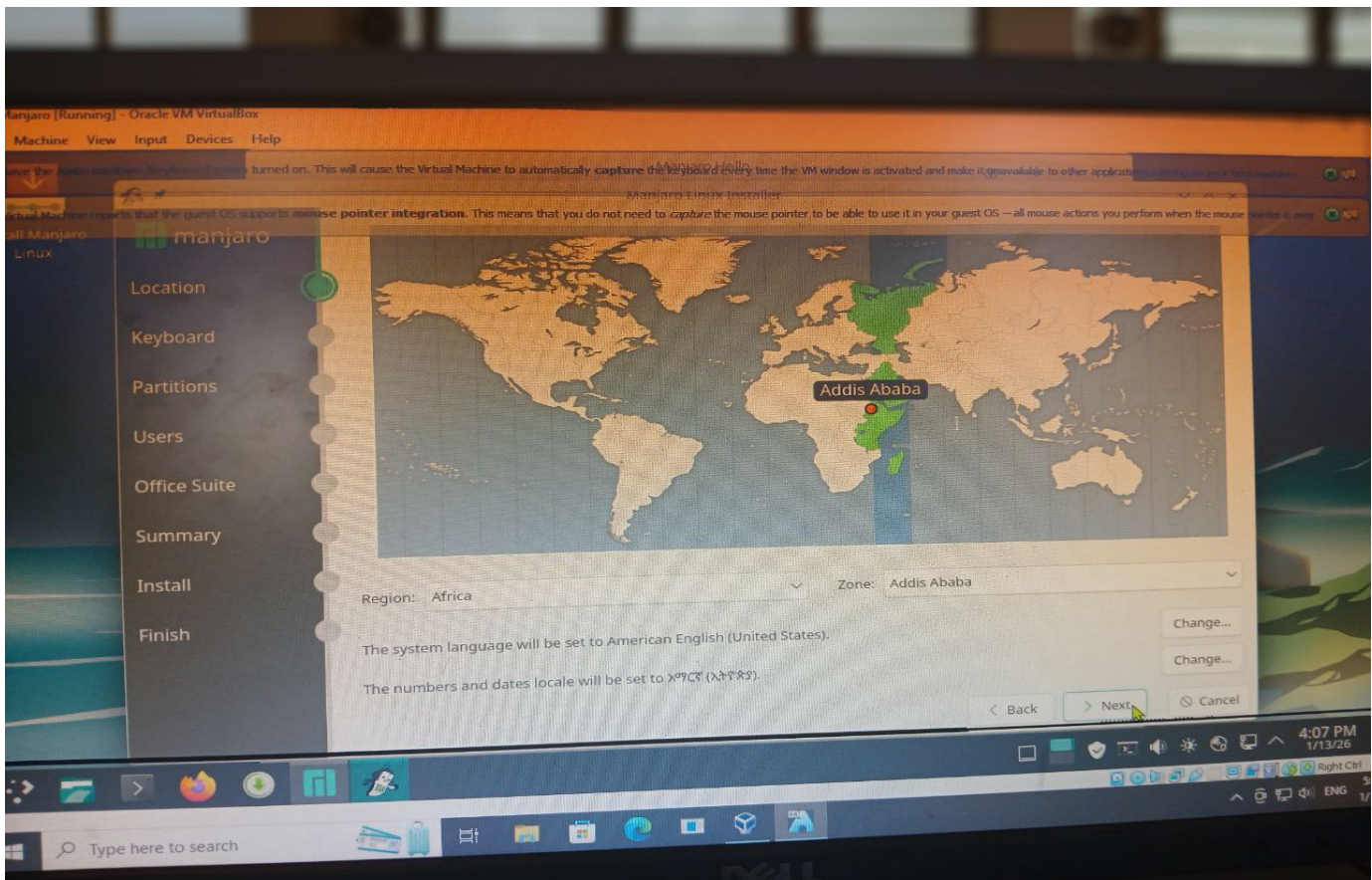
In this step:

Choose your geographical region and time zone.

This ensures:

- Correct system time and date
- Proper time synchronization
- Accurate regional settings

After selecting the region and time zone, click “Next.”



6. Keyboard Layout

Here you:

Select the keyboard layout that matches your physical keyboard (for example, US, UK, or other regional layouts).

You can test the keyboard input to ensure correct key mapping.

Once confirmed, click “Next.”

7. Partitioning

This step determines how Manjaro will be installed on your storage drive.

Available Partitioning Options

- **Erase Disk**

Deletes all existing data on the selected disk.

Automatically creates the required partitions.

Best for users who want Manjaro as the only operating system.

- **Manual Partitioning**

Designed for advanced users.

Allows custom partition creation (e.g., root, home, swap).

Provides full control over disk layout.

- **Install Alongside Existing OS**

Allows dual-booting with another operating system (such as Windows).

Manjaro installs without removing the existing OS.

After choosing the desired option, click “Next.”

8. User Setup

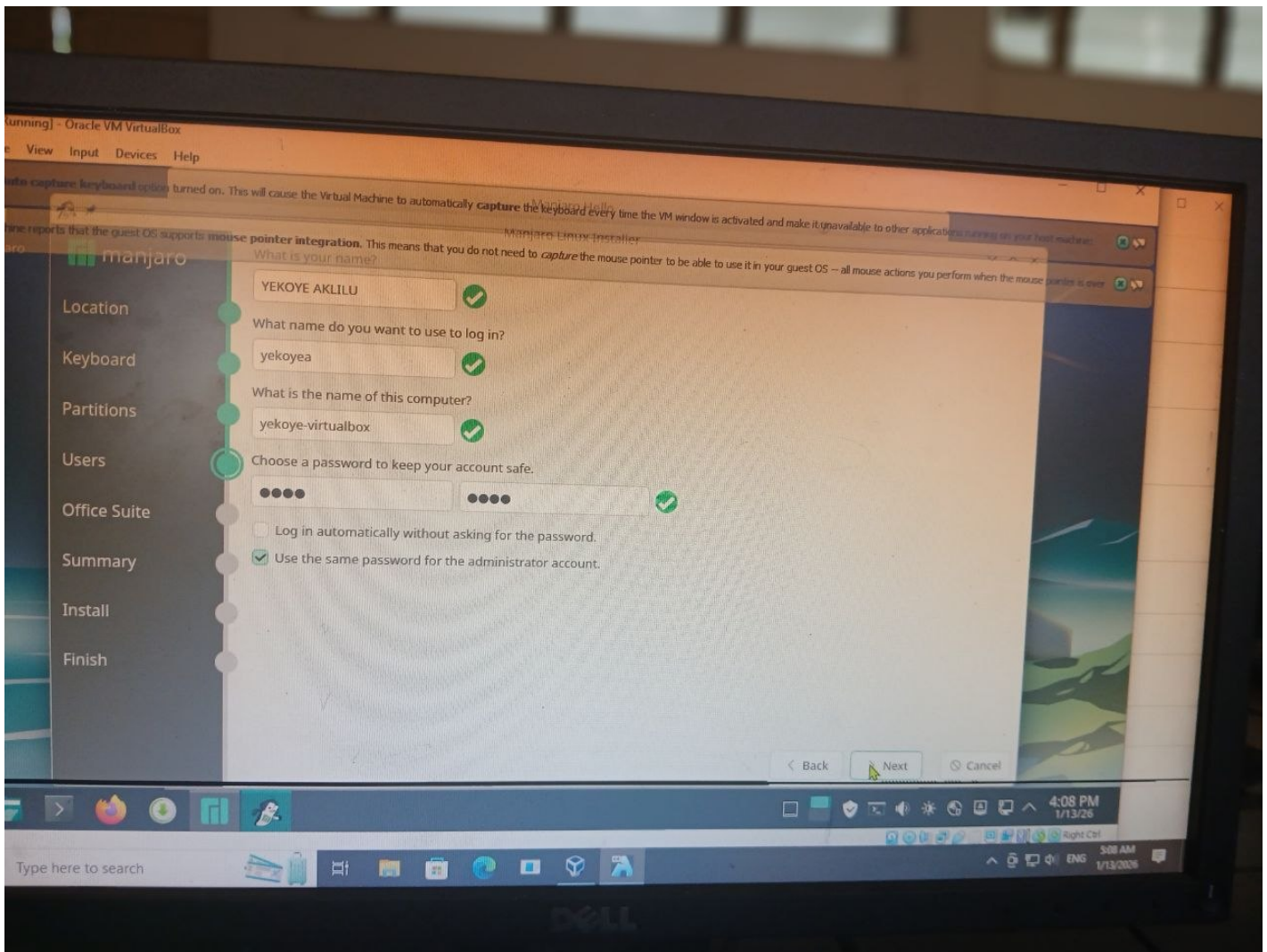
In this step, you enter your personal and system information, including:

Full Name

Username

Computer name

Password (and confirmation)



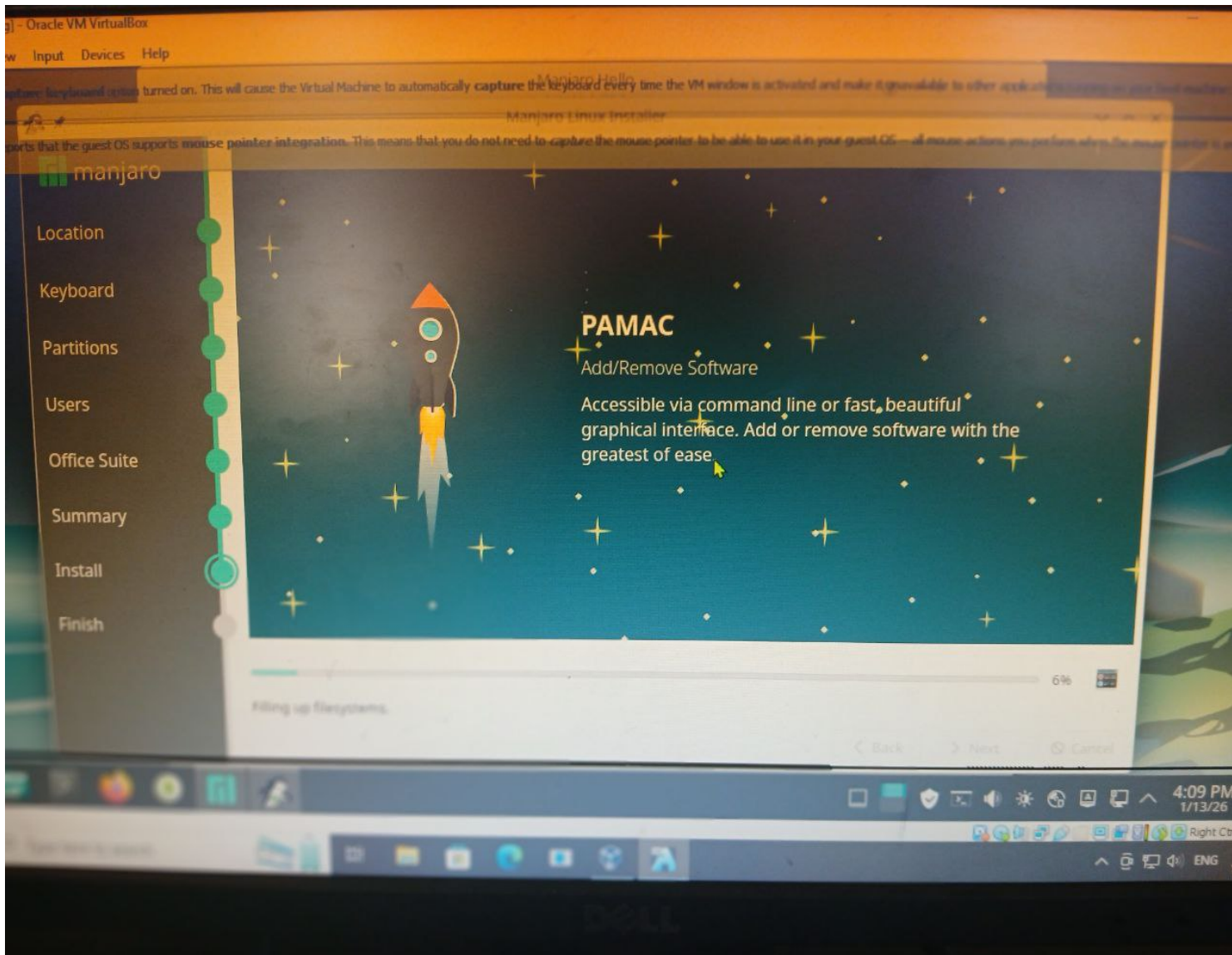
Whether to use the same password for administrator (root) access

This information is used to create your user account and secure the system.

Installation Process

After confirming all settings:

The installer begins copying files and configuring the system.



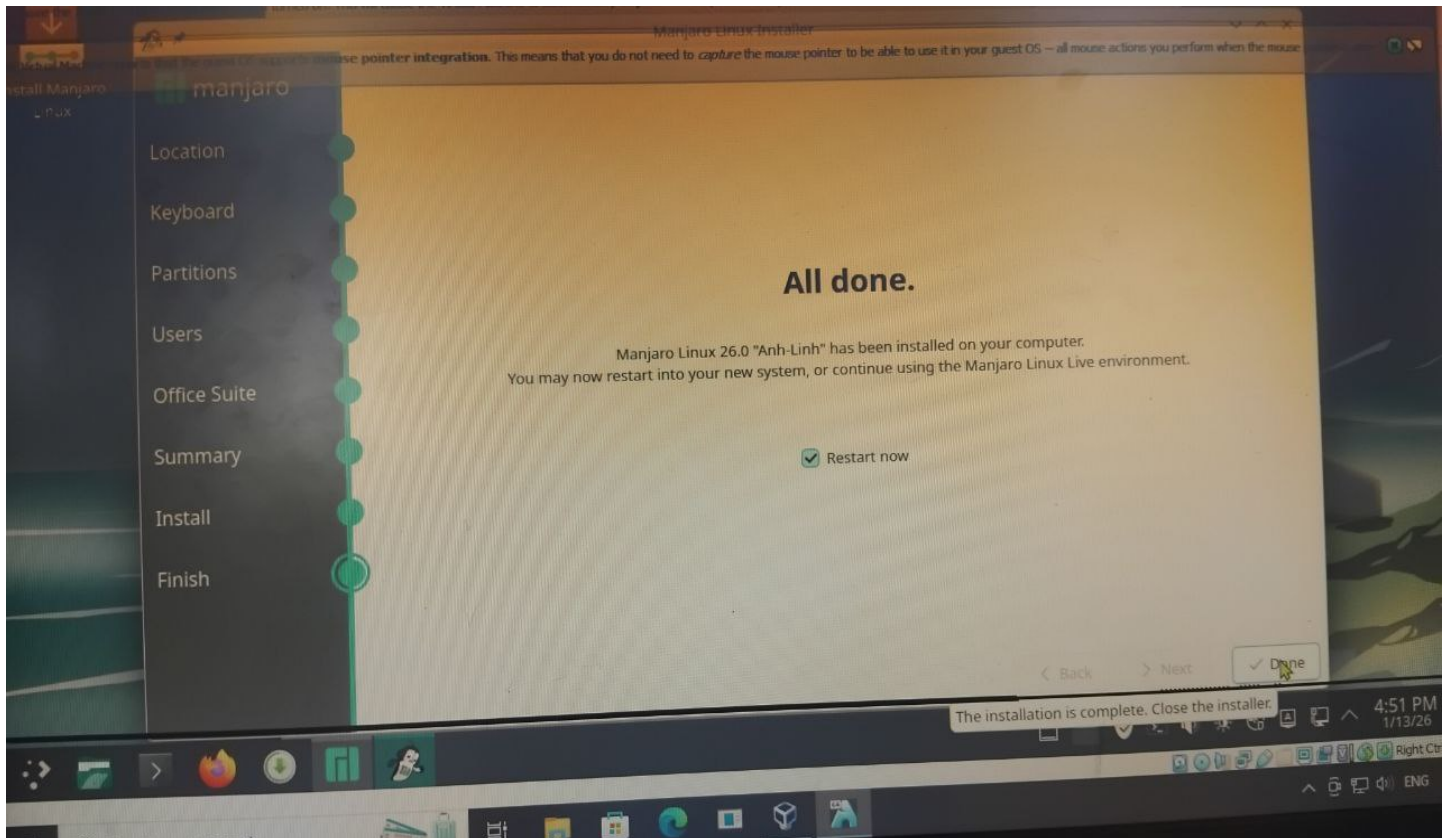
This process may take several minutes, depending on:

System performance

Storage speed

No user action is required during this time—just wait for the installation to finish.

9. Finish Installation



Once the installation is complete:

You will be prompted to reboot the system.

Remove the USB drive when instructed.

Press Enter to restart the computer.

This ensures the system boots from the newly installed Manjaro Linux.

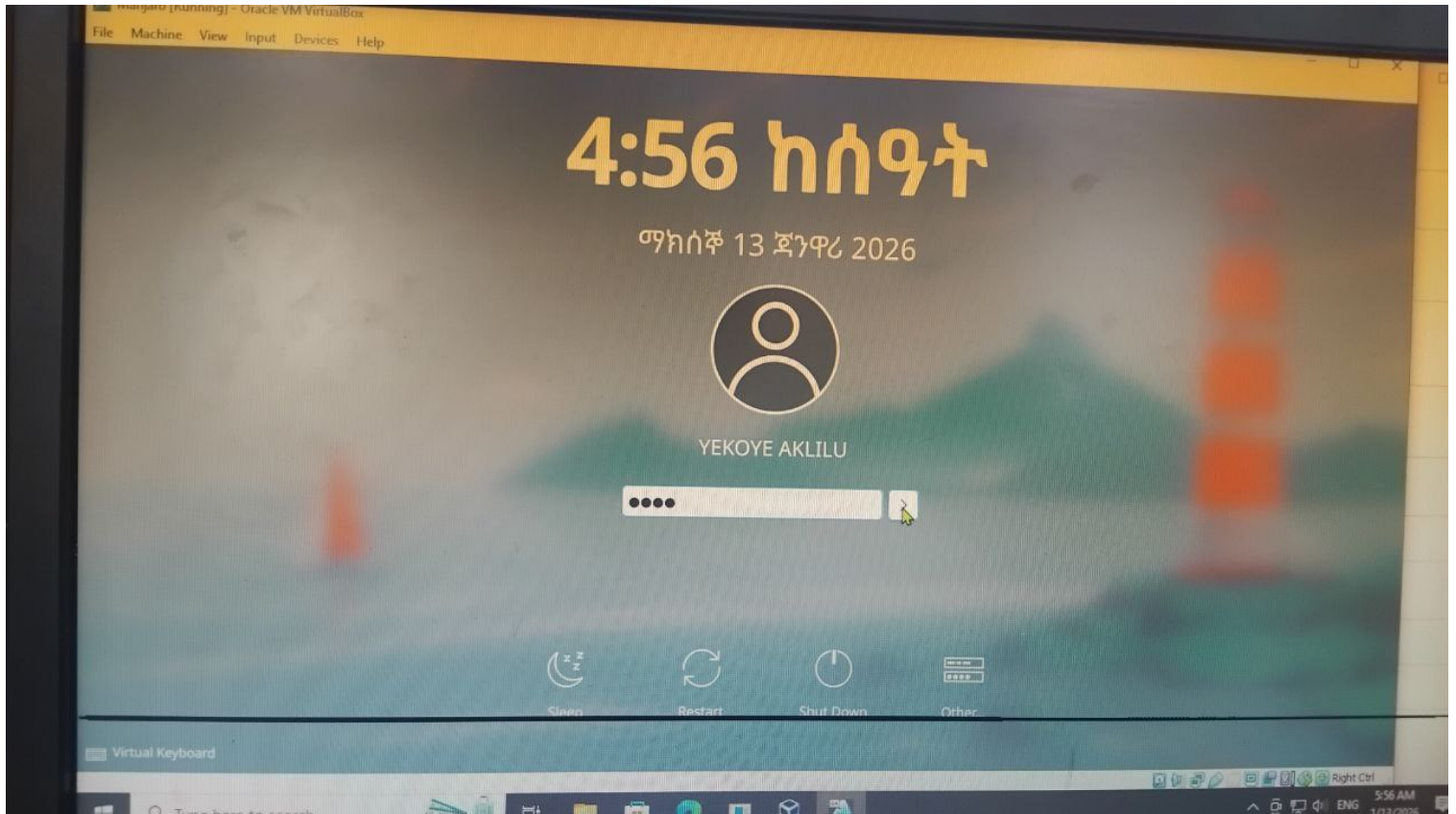
10,First Boot

After rebooting:

The Manjaro login screen appears.

Log in using the username and password you created during installation.

You are now ready to use Manjaro Linux.



Post-Installation Steps

1. Update System

After logging in:

Open the terminal

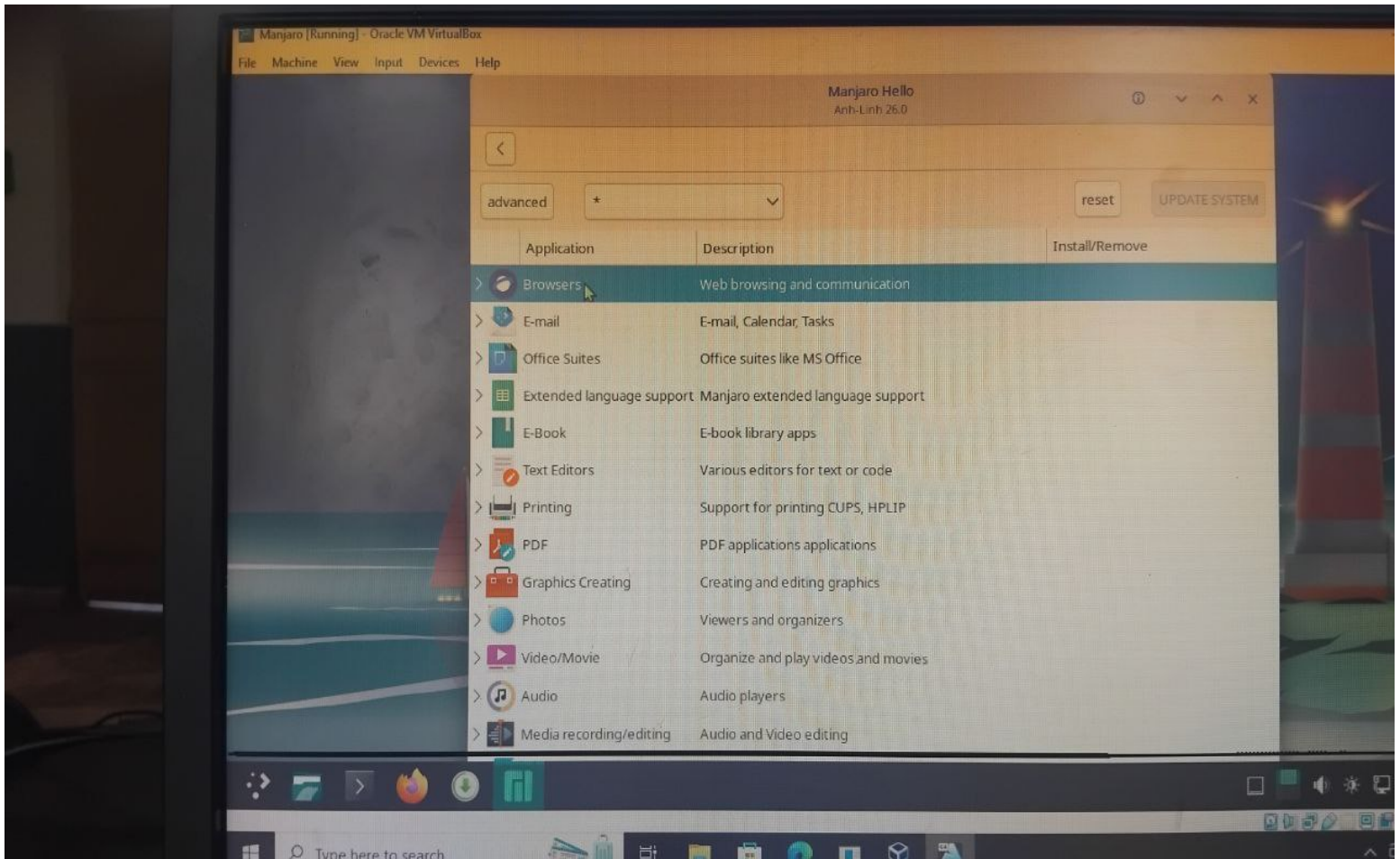
Run the command:

This command:

Updates all installed packages

Ensures the system is secure and up to date

2. Install Additional Software



You can install extra software using:

Add/Remove Software (graphical tool)

Pacman commands in the terminal

This allows you to customize your system based on your needs.

3. Customize Your Desktop Environment

Finally, you can personalize your system by:

Changing system settings

Installing themes and icons

Adding extensions or widgets

This helps create a comfortable and productive working environment.

Fully Functional Manjaro Linux Installation

Once all installation steps are completed and the system boots successfully into the Manjaro desktop, the system is considered a fully functional Manjaro Linux installation. At this stage:

The operating system is ready for daily use

Users can install applications, update the system, and customize the desktop

Hardware and system resources are properly configured

E. Common Installation Issues in Manjaro Linux

Although Manjaro Linux is generally easy to install, some users may face issues during or after installation. These problems usually relate to boot settings or hardware compatibility.

1. Boot Issues

Problem:

The system does not boot from the USB drive or installation media.

This can happen due to:

Incorrect USB creation

USB boot option disabled in BIOS/UEFI

Incorrect boot priority settings

Solution:

Recreate the bootable USB using reliable tools like Rufus or Etcher

Enter BIOS/UEFI settings

Ensure USB booting is enabled

Set the USB drive as the first boot device

Save changes and restart the system

These steps ensure the system recognizes and boots from the installation media.

2. Driver Issues

Problem:

Hardware compatibility problems, especially with graphics drivers such as:

NVIDIA

AMD

This may cause:

Black screen after installation

Display issues

System failing to boot properly

Solution:

Access the GRUB boot menu during startup

Select “Advanced options”

Boot using a different kernel or recovery mode

Once logged in, install appropriate drivers using the Manjaro Settings Manager

Manjaro provides both open-source and proprietary drivers, making it easier to resolve compatibility issues after installation.

3. Network Connectivity Problems

Problem

During installation, users may face difficulties connecting to:

- Wi-Fi
- Ethernet (wired network)

This can prevent downloading updates or packages during installation.

Solution

Ensure the network adapter is detected by the system.

In the live environment, use the Network Manager to connect to Wi-Fi.

For Ethernet connections:

- Check that the cable is properly connected
- Try using a different Ethernet port if available

These steps help establish a stable network connection.

4. Language and Locale Issues

Problem

Sometimes the selected language or regional settings may not apply correctly after installation.

Solution

Carefully select the correct language during the installation process.

If issues remain, language and locale settings can be adjusted after installation using system settings.

5. Insufficient System Resources

Problem

The installation may fail due to:

- Insufficient RAM
- Insufficient disk space

Solution

Verify that your system meets the minimum hardware requirements for Manjaro.

Free up disk space if necessary.

Close unnecessary programs to free RAM before installation.

6. Post-Installation Boot Issues

Problem

The system may fail to boot after installation is complete.

Solution

Boot again using the Manjaro live USB

Open the terminal

Reinstall or repair the GRUB bootloader

Commands such as:

```
sudo grub-install
```

```
sudo update-grub
```

can help fix boot-related problems.

Tips for a Smooth Installation

Backup Data

Always back up important data before installing a new operating system to prevent data loss.

Check Compatibility

Research hardware compatibility, especially for:

- Graphics cards
- Wi-Fi adapters

This reduces the chance of driver issues.

Use Live Session

Test Manjaro in live mode before installing to ensure:

Hardware works properly

System performance meets expectations

Follow Documentation

Refer to official Manjaro documentation and forums for accurate troubleshooting information.

G. File System Support in Manjaro Linux

Manjaro supports multiple file systems, each suited for different needs.

Factors Affecting File System Choice

Use Case: Desktop, server, or SSD usage

Performance Requirements: Different workloads need different performance

Features Needed: Snapshots, data integrity, or flexibility

Stability vs Features: Some users prefer proven stability, others advanced features

1. Ext4 (Fourth Extended File System)

Support

Default file system in Manjaro and many Linux distributions

Advantages

Stability and reliability: Well-tested and trusted

Performance: Handles large files efficiently

Features:

Journaling (prevents data corruption)

Extents (better disk space management)

Use Case

Ideal for general-purpose desktops and servers

2. Btrfs (B-tree File System)

Support

Supported but not default in Manjaro

Advantages

Snapshots: Easily restore previous system states

Dynamic resizing: Resize file systems without downtime

Data integrity: Uses checksums to detect and fix errors

Use Case

Suitable for users who want advanced features and system snapshots

3. XFS

Support

Fully supported in Manjaro

Advantages

Scalability: Handles very large files and file systems

Performance: Excellent for parallel input/output operations

Use Case

Best for enterprise systems and data-heavy applications

4. F2FS (Flash-Friendly File System)

Support

Supported in Manjaro, especially for flash storage

Advantages

Optimized for SSDs and flash memory

Efficient space management

Reduces write amplification, extending SSD lifespan

Use Case

Ideal for SSDs and mobile devices

File System Summary

Ext4: Best for stability and general use

Btrfs & XFS: Advanced features for specific needs

F2FS: Optimized for flash-based storage

The best choice depends on user needs and hardware.

H. Advantages and Disadvantages of Manjaro Linux

Advantages

User-Friendly

Easy installation and pre-configured settings make it beginner-friendly.

Rolling Release Model

Continuous updates without reinstalling the OS.

Arch User Repository (AUR)

Access to a massive collection of community-maintained software.

Multiple Editions

XFCE, KDE Plasma, and GNOME allow user choice.

Strong Community Support

Active forums, documentation, and tutorials.

Performance

Fast and responsive due to Arch Linux base.

Hardware Detection

Automatic detection and driver installation simplify setup.

Disadvantages

Stability Concerns

Rolling updates may occasionally introduce bugs.

Learning Curve

Some Linux and terminal knowledge may be required.

Frequent Updates

Can overwhelm users if not managed carefully.

Limited Official Support

Relies more on community than corporate backing.

Potential Bloat

Some editions include many pre-installed apps.

Frequent Changes

Rapid updates may change system behavior unexpectedly.

I. Conclusion

Manjaro Linux provides an excellent balance between:

- User-friendliness
- Power and flexibility of Arch Linux

It works on a wide range of hardware, including older machines, though performance depends on system configuration.

- Users who prefer:
- Maximum stability
- Fixed release cycles
- may consider other distributions.

Manjaro remains a strong choice for users seeking a modern, flexible Linux system.

J. Future Outlook and Recommendations for Manjaro Linux

1. Emphasis on User Experience

Outlook

As Linux desktops become more competitive, Manjaro must:

- Improve installation experience
- Ensure smooth hardware compatibility
- Provide better documentation

Recommendations

- Further simplify installation
- Enhance graphical user interfaces
- Improve onboarding for new users
- Offer more intuitive system settings

This focus will help Manjaro attract and retain a broader audience.

1. Reducing the Learning Curve

Outlook

Although Manjaro is user-friendly compared to Arch Linux, new users may still face a learning curve, especially when dealing with:

- System configuration
- Terminal commands
- Rolling-release updates

Recommendation

Manjaro should:

- Improve beginner-friendly documentation
- Offer guided tutorials and onboarding tools
- Provide clearer system explanations

These improvements can help new users learn faster and use the system more confidently.

2. Continuous Hardware Support

Outlook

Hardware technology is evolving rapidly, especially with:

- ARM-based devices
- New graphics architectures
- Modern display servers

These changes create both challenges and opportunities for Linux distributions.

Recommendation

Manjaro should:

- Maintain frequent kernel updates
- Expand hardware compatibility
- Collaborate with hardware manufacturers

Focus on emerging technologies such as:

- Wayland
- New graphics drivers

This will help Manjaro remain compatible with modern and future hardware.

3. Community Engagement and Support

Outlook

Manjaro's greatest strength is its community-driven development model. Active user and contributor participation is essential for long-term growth and innovation.

Recommendation

To strengthen the community, Manjaro should:

Create regular feedback channels

Improve forums and communication platforms

Organize online events like:

- Workshops
- Meetups

Encouraging contributions from developers, designers, and documentation writers will create a more vibrant ecosystem.

4. Focus on Security and Privacy

Outlook

As cybersecurity threats increase, users are becoming more concerned about:

- Data protection
- Privacy
- System security

Distributions that prioritize security can gain user trust.

Recommendation

Manjaro should:

- Enable stronger default security settings
- Improve firewall configurations
- Support secure boot options
- Conduct regular security audits of packages

- Providing clear information about privacy tools and practices will increase transparency and user confidence.

5. Expand Software Availability and Support

Outlook

Users expect easy access to a wide variety of applications for:

- Productivity
- Development
- Entertainment

Software availability plays a major role in user satisfaction.

Recommendation

Manjaro should:

Continue expanding AUR support

Keep official repositories stable and secure

Work with developers to include popular applications in official repos

This simplifies installation and improves the overall experience.

6. Sustainability and Performance Optimization

Outlook

With increasing awareness of environmental sustainability, users want operating systems that:

- Use fewer resources
- Run efficiently on older or low-end hardware
- Recommendation

Manjaro should:

- Optimize performance across all editions
- Provide lightweight versions for low-end systems
- Improve efficiency without sacrificing usability or visual appeal

This makes Manjaro suitable for a broader range of users.

7. Diverse Desktop Environment Options

Outlook

Manjaro's support for multiple desktop environments is a key advantage, allowing users to choose interfaces that suit their preferences.

Recommendation

Manjaro should:

- Continue supporting multiple desktop environments
- Promote community-driven editions
- Regularly update and improve these environments

This flexibility keeps Manjaro attractive to different user groups.

Overall Future Outlook Summary

Manjaro Linux is well-positioned for continued growth in the Linux ecosystem. By focusing on:

- User experience
- Hardware support
- Community involvement
- Security and privacy
- Software availability
- Performance optimization
- Desktop diversity

Manjaro can strengthen its position as a leading Linux distribution and attract both new and experienced users.

Virtualization in Operating Systems

(What, Why, and How)

What is Virtualization?

Virtualization is a technology that allows multiple operating systems or applications to run simultaneously on a single physical machine.

It works by:

- Abstracting physical hardware (CPU, memory, storage)
- Creating virtual machines (VMs)

Each VM runs its own operating system and applications independently

Virtualization creates isolated environments that operate as if they were separate computers.

Why Virtualization is Used

1. Resource Optimization

Virtualization allows efficient use of hardware by:

Sharing CPU, RAM, and storage among multiple VMs

Reducing idle hardware resources

2. Flexibility and Scalability

Virtual environments can be:

- Easily created
- Migrated between systems
- Scaled up or down based on demand

This is especially useful for businesses and cloud environments.

3. Security

Each virtual machine is isolated, which means:

Issues in one VM do not affect others

Malware or crashes are contained

This improves system security.

4. Cost Reduction

Virtualization reduces costs by:

Consolidating multiple servers into one machine

Lowering hardware and maintenance expenses

How Virtualization Works

1. Hypervisor

A hypervisor (Virtual Machine Monitor – VMM) is a software layer that:

- Manages virtual machines
- Allocates hardware resources
- Controls communication between VMs and physical hardware

2. Virtualization Software

Tools such as:

- **VMware**
- **Oracle VirtualBox**

- **Microsoft Hyper-V**

allow users to create and manage virtual machines easily.

3. Hardware Virtualization

Modern CPUs include built-in virtualization support, such as:

- **Intel VT-x**
- **AMD-V**

These features improve VM performance and efficiency.

4. Operating System-Level Virtualization

This approach uses the host operating system to manage virtual environments, such as:

Docker containers

Containers are lightweight and share the host OS kernel while remaining isolated.

Virtualization Summary

Virtualization is a powerful technology that:

- Improves resource utilization
- Enhances security
- Reduces costs
- Increases flexibility
- It plays a critical role in:
 - Data centers
 - Cloud computing
 - Software development and testing environments