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r/buildapc • 2 yr. ago
Sylent_



Can't get Windows 11 to boot with bootable USB

Troubleshooting

I've been trying to use basically any information I can find online and I think I've somehow made it worse as my PC no longer even recognizes the USB stick.

Started up using windows media creation utility for windows 11, and the first time it actually recognized and ran the windows installer, I tried to install windows and followed the process, but it said at the end there was some issue with the drive not having all the files it needed.

So then I recreated the installation media to try and have one where the files worked, and then whenever my PC tried to boot the installation media it was just a black screen.

Then I found some guides on changing bios settings to get these things to work, and I followed them, changed all of the recommended bios settings to get things to work, and I think that just made things worse as my PC no longer recognizes my USB drive as a bootable device.

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ime1em • 2y ago

try resetting your bios to default settings, then try booting from the usb.

5

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Make sure you are using usb on the mobo directly, not front usb or anything fancy like a type c 20gbps port.

Ensure you have uefi booting enabled in your bios (may just have a setting for legacy only, which disables uefi booting)

Note that in disk management, if the usb was initialized as mbr its legacy, gpt is uefi.

These things aren't necessarily universally true but they fix usb booting issues 90% of the time for me.

Also look into ventoy so you can just copy iso files onto the drive.

 3  ...**themew2** • 2y ago

I would start by resetting your BIOS/clear CMOS back to defaults.

Then I would use the Windows 11 Media Creation Tool. (here <https://www.microsoft.com/software-download/windows11>)

Then try the process again.

Since you didn't mention the type of computer (built by you, pre-built, laptop...etc) when you get to the installation screen, select custom installation, format the drives that are visible and clear the partitions to start over clean.

 2  ...**curemymind** • 1y ago

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USB and extracted the contents of Windows 11 23H2 from the media creation tool I got from MS when I downloaded as an ISO. Placed the files in there and it boots :no_mouth:. I now have a bootable Windows 11 USB... what is this crap broken? So recap...

1. Have or download Windows 10 using the media creation tool ISO
2. Have or download Windows 10 using media creation tool ISO
3. Download Rufus <https://rufus.ie/downloads/> portable I used 4.4p
4. Create the bootable USB with Rufus using NTFS
5. DO NOT FORMAT - Just delete everything in the USB
6. Extract and copy the contents to the USB
7. Boot from the USB and now enjoy:sunglasses:?

Did this work for anyone else besides me:thinking_face_hmm:?. I now have a bootable USB with Windows 11... what is this crap broken? (note: this is #2 of me saying this)... I also used the NTFS format in rufus since the install.wim is larger than 4 GBs, and fat32 format doesn't like it.



Sylentt_ OP • 1y ago

Well turns out the issue I had was the USB was just too big for windows to recognize it as a boot device lol. I think it was like 64 gb or something



1 more reply



feet_with_mayonnaise • 2y ago

Do you have enough space on the USB stick?



Sylentt_ OP • 2y ago

Yes it's got 64gb of room lol



1 more reply



[deleted] • 2y ago

Used official media creation disk, and try disable CSM in your bios, it should be in the boot section in advanced mode. Then boot into bios again with usb plugged in, go back to boot section , find boot override, and select your usb stick. It should be named UEFI:yourusbname.



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If you have extra USB-stick, create a recovery drive. It's VERY easy and can save you from many headaches.

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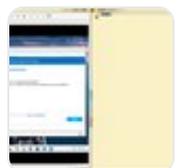
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Just a question, why do some people use Rufus except media creation tool?

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