

(../..../index.en.html)

**English** DE (./INDEX.DE.HTML) FA (./INDEX.FA.HTML)

Installation Assistant

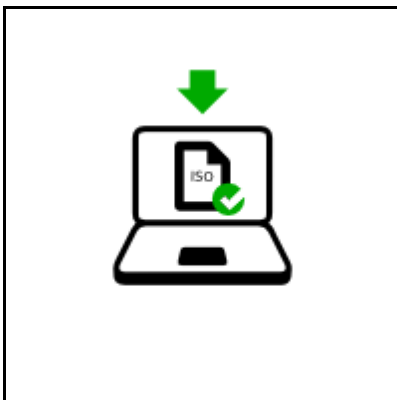
FR (./INDEX.FR.HTML) PT (./INDEX.PT.HTML)

# Installing Tails on a USB stick from Ubuntu



Start in Ubuntu.

## 1/6. Download and verify the Tails ISO image



In this step you will download Tails as an ISO image: a single file containing the whole operating system. For your security, it is very important to also verify your download. We propose you two techniques to do this verification automatically.

We detected that you are running Firefox or Tor Browser.

You can download the ISO image via our Firefox add-on. The add-on verifies your download automatically.

Install Firefox add-on No restart  
(<https://addons.mozilla.org/firefox/download>)

or Download and verify via BitTorrent

## 2/6. Install *Tails Installer*

In this step, you will install *Tails Installer*, a program designed specifically for installing Tails. *Tails Installer* is available in:

- Ubuntu 14.04 (Trusty) or later in a PPA (*Personal Package Archive*)

To know your version of Ubuntu, open *System Settings* and click on **Details**.

1. Make sure that you are connected to the Internet.
2. Start *Ubuntu Software Center*.

3. Choose **Edit ▶ Software Sources...**
4. In the **Software & Updates** dialog, make sure that the *universe* repository (labelled **Community-maintained free and open source software**) is selected.
5. Open the **Other Software** tab, and click on the **Add...** button.
6. In the **APT line** field, specify `ppa:tails-team/tails-installer` and click the **Add Source** button.
7. A new software source named `https://ppa.launchpad.net/tails-team/tails-installer/ubuntu` appears in the list of sources.
8. Close the **Software & Updates** dialog.
9. In the main windows of *Ubuntu Software Center*, search for `tails-installer`.

If no package named `tails-installer` can be found, you might have to reload the cache of *Ubuntu Software Center*, to do so you can either:

- Execute `sudo update-apt-xapian-index` in a terminal.
- Restart Ubuntu.

10. Select `tails-installer` in the list of packages and click **Install**.
11. After `tails-installer` is installed, close *Ubuntu Software Center*.

## 3/6. Install Tails

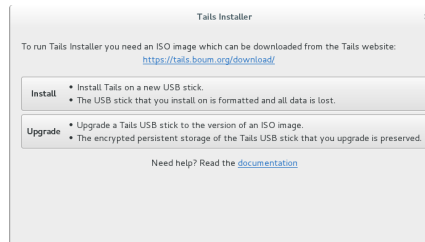
In this step, you will install Tails on a USB stick using *Tails Installer*.

All the data on this USB stick will be lost.

1. Plug the USB stick in the computer.
2. Start *Tails Installer*.



3. Click on the **Install** button.



4. Click **Browse** and choose the ISO image that you downloaded earlier.

Choose your USB stick in the **Target Device** drop-down list.

5. To start the installation, click on the **Install Tails** button.
6. Read the warning message in the pop-up window. Click **Yes** to confirm.

The installation takes a few minutes. At the end of the installation, you are asked for your administration password.

The progress bar usually freezes for some time around 95 percent while synchronizing data on disk.

7. Close *Tails Installer*.

## 4/6. Open these instructions on another device

In the next step, you will shut down the computer. To be able to follow the rest of the instructions afterwards, we recommend you either:

- Open this page on your smartphone, tablet, or another computer (recommended).



- Print the rest of the instructions on paper.
- Take note of the URL of this page to

be able to come back later:

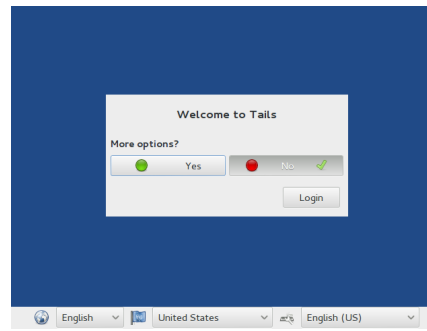
<https://tails.boum.org/install/debian/usb/> (<https://tails.boum.org/install/debian/usb/>)

1. Shut down the computer while leaving the USB stick plugged in.
2. Switch on the computer.
3. If the computer starts on Tails, the **Boot Tails** menu appears. Choose **Live** and press **Enter**.



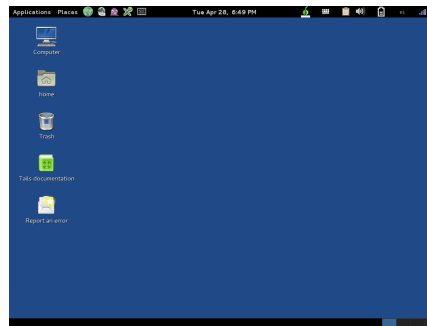
Most computers do not start on Tails by default. If it does you are lucky. Otherwise, if the computer starts on Ubuntu, refer to the troubleshooting section about [Tails not starting at all](#).

4. After 30–60 seconds, another screen called *Tails Greeter* appears.



If the computer stops responding or displays error messages before getting to *Tails Greeter*, refer to the troubleshooting section about Tails not starting entirely.

5. In *Tails Greeter*, select your preferred language in the drop-down list on the bottom left of the screen. Click **Login**.
6. After 15–30 seconds, the Tails desktop appears.



## 5/6. Create an encrypted persistent storage (optional)

You can optionally create an *encrypted persistent storage* in the remaining free space on the Tails USB stick to store any of the following:

- Your personal files and working documents
- Some of your settings
- Your encryption keys

The data in the encrypted persistent storage:

- Remains available across separate working sessions.
- Is encrypted using a passphrase of your choice.

The encrypted persistent storage is not hidden. An attacker in possession of the USB stick can know whether it has an encrypted persistent storage. Take into consideration that you can be forced or tricked to give out its passphrase.

It is possible to open the encrypted persistent storage from other operating systems, but it might break your security. Other operating systems should probably not be trusted to handle sensitive information or leave no trace.



## Create the persistent storage

1. Choose **Applications** ▶ **Tails** ▶ **Configure persistent volume**.
2. Specify a passphrase of your choice in both the **Passphrase** and **Verify Passphrase** text boxes.

We recommend choosing a long passphrase made of five to seven random words. [Learn more.](https://theintercept.com/2015/03/26/passphrases-can-memorize-attackers-cant-guess/)  
(<https://theintercept.com/2015/03/26/passphrases-can-memorize-attackers-cant-guess/>)

3. Click on the **Create** button.
4. Wait for the creation to finish.

If you close the assistant before the creation finishes, you might not be able to start Tails from this USB stick anymore.

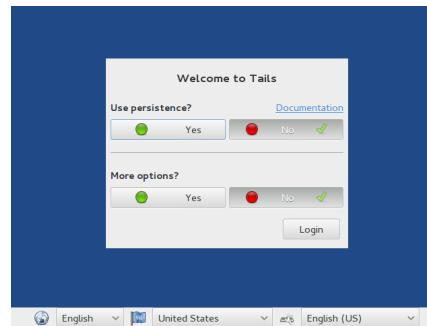
5. The assistant shows a list of the possible persistence features. Each feature corresponds to a set of files or settings to be saved in the encrypted persistent storage.

We recommend you to only activate the **Personal Data** persistence feature for the time being. You can activate more features later on according to your needs.

6. Click **Save**.

## Restart and activate the persistent storage

1. Shut down the computer and restart on the Tails USB stick.
2. In *Tails Greeter*:



- Select your preferred language in the drop-down list on the bottom left of the screen.
  - In the **Use persistence?** section, choose **Yes** to activate the encrypted persistent storage for the current working session.
  - Enter the passphrase of the persistent volume in the **Passphrase** text box.
  - Click **Login**.
3. After 15-30 seconds, the Tails desktop appears.
  4. You can now save your personal files and working documents in the **Persistent** folder. To open the **Persistent** folder choose **Places ▶ Persistent**.



You now have a working  
Tails, congrats!

## FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS



Tails does not protect  
you from everything!  
Have a look at our  
**warnings** ([../..../doc/about  
/warning/index.en.html](#)).



If you face any  
problem, use the  
**Report an error**  
launcher on the Tails  
desktop or visit our  
**support pages** ([../..  
/..../support/index.en.html](#)).

We hope you enjoy using  
Tails :)