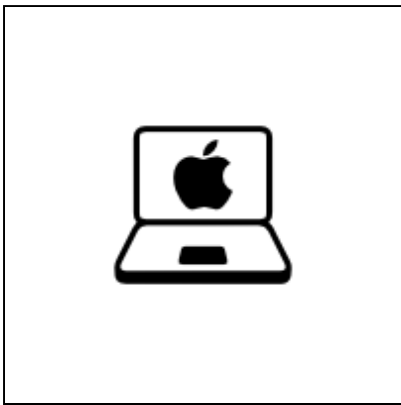


# Install from macOS

These instructions require:

- macOS 10.10 (Yosemite) or later



Start in macOS.

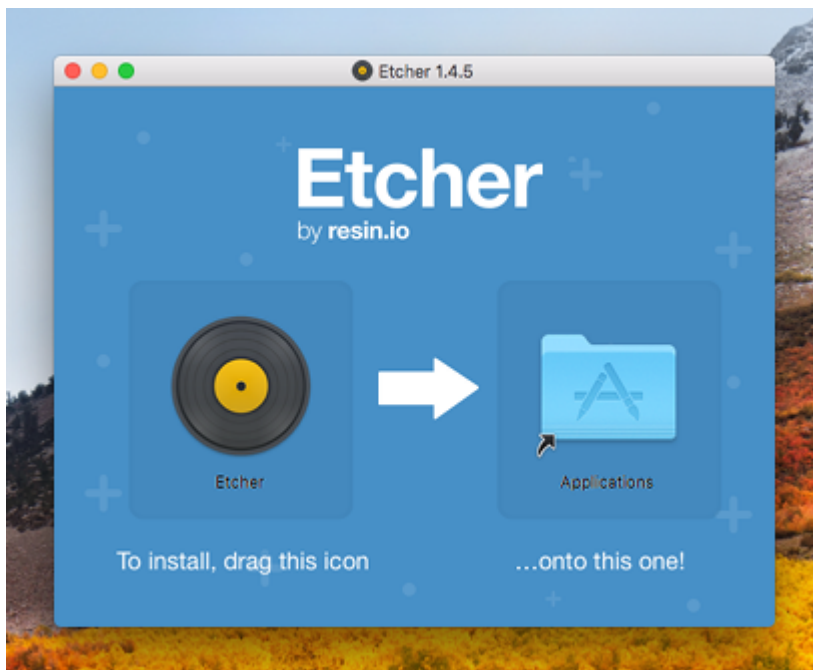
## 2/5 Install Tails using *Etcher*

### Install Etcher

1. Click on the following link to download *Etcher*:

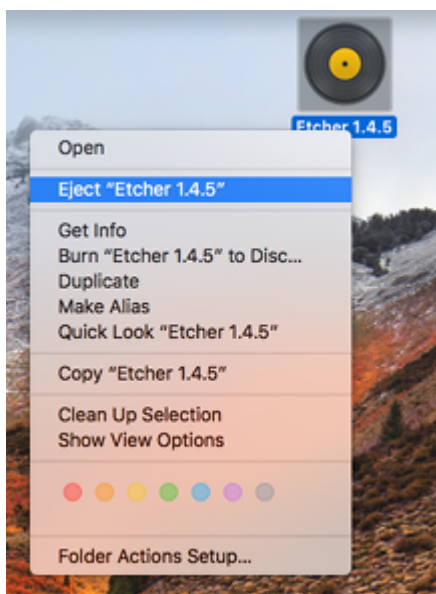
[Download Etcher for macOS \(https://tails.boum.org/etcher/Etcher.dmg\)](https://tails.boum.org/etcher/Etcher.dmg)

2. Open the *Etcher* download (DMG disk image).

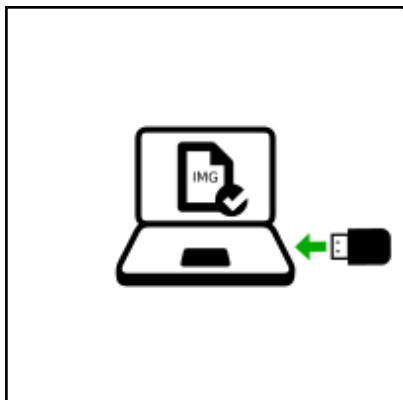


3. To install *Etcher*, drag the *Etcher* icon onto the **Applications** icon.
4. Close the installation window of *Etcher*.

Optionally, eject the *Etcher* disk image from the desktop.



## Install Tails



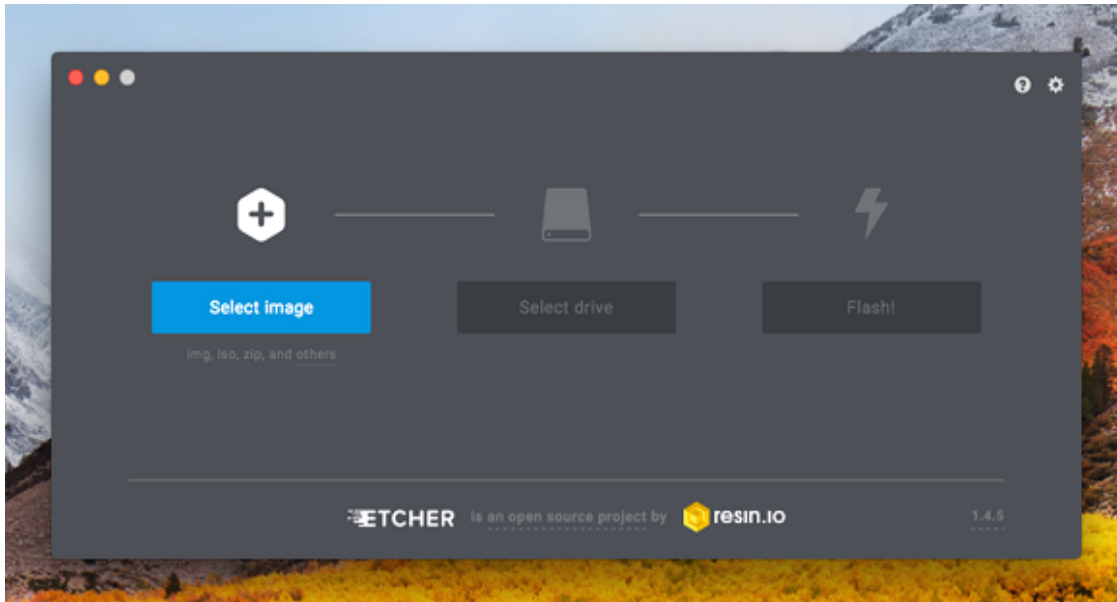
1. Plug in the USB stick on which you want to install Tails.

All the data on this USB stick will be lost.

2. Open *Finder* and choose *Etcher* in **Applications**.

At the security warning, confirm that you want to open *Etcher*.

*Etcher* starts.



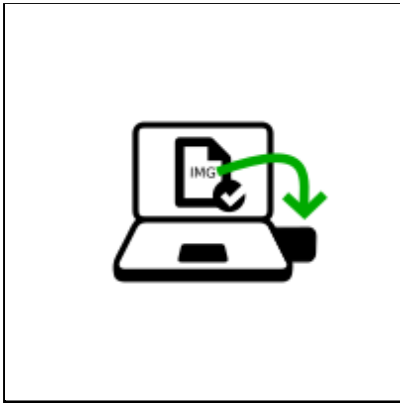
3. Click the **Select image** button.

Choose the USB image that you downloaded earlier.

Make sure that the USB image has an *.img* file extension.

If the image has an `.iso` file extension, it is not the correct image. Please go back to the [download step for installing from macOS](#) ([./usb-download.html](#)).

4. Etcher should automatically select your USB stick. Otherwise, click the **Change** link to choose a different USB stick.



5. Click **Flash**.

Enter your password if you are asked for it.

The installation takes a few minutes.

After installing Tails, *Etcher* verifies the installation.

6. Close *Etcher*.

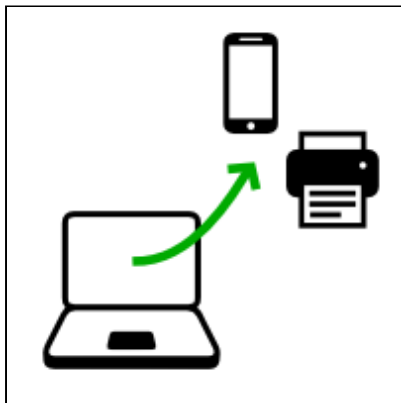
If a notification about the USB stick not being readable appears, click **Eject** to eject the USB stick.



Congratulations, you have installed Tails on your USB stick!

You will now restart your computer on this USB stick. But it might not work on your Mac model, so good luck!

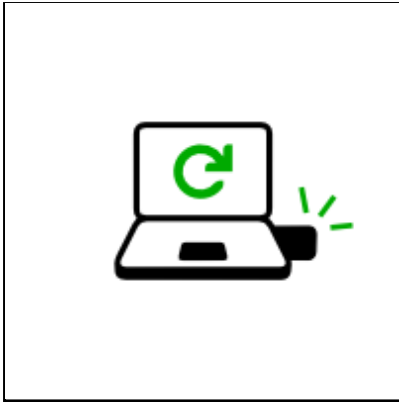
### 3/5 Open these instructions on another device



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.
-

## 4/5 Restart on Tails



1. Shut down the computer while leaving the USB stick plugged in.
2. Switch on the computer.

Immediately press-and-hold the **Option** key (**Alt** key) until a list of possible startup disks appears.



Choose the USB stick and press **Enter**. The USB stick appears as an external hard disk and might be labeled **EFI Boot** or **Windows** like in the following screenshot:





3. If the computer starts on Tails, the *Boot Loader Menu* appears and Tails starts automatically after 4 seconds.

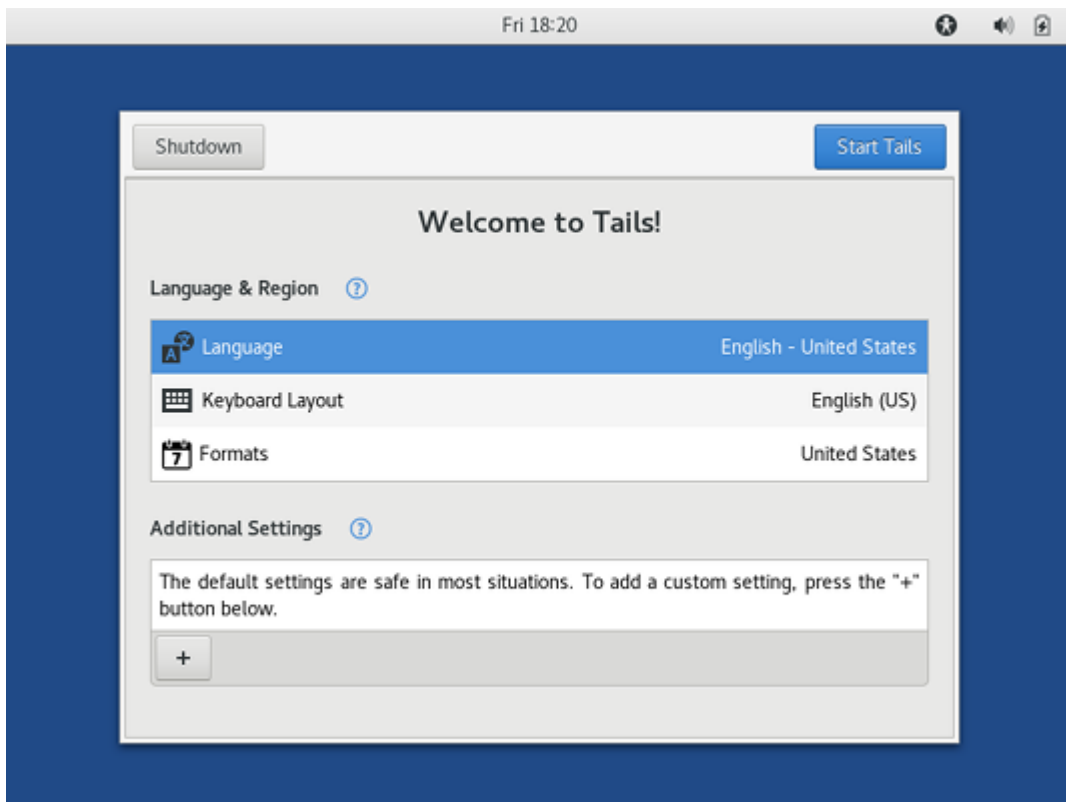


If your computer fails to start on the USB stick, then it might currently be impossible to start Tails on your Mac model.

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

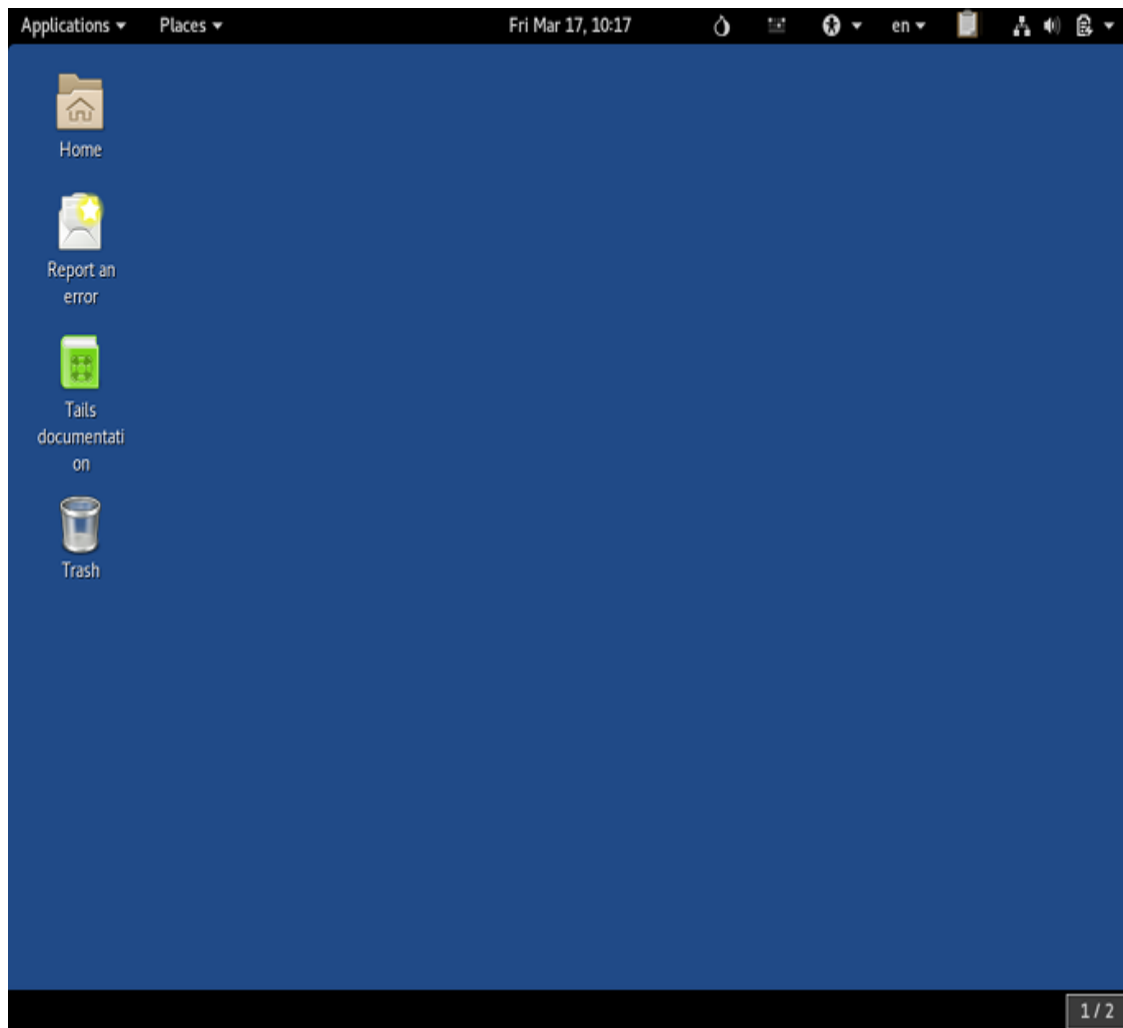
If the computer display the error message **Error starting GDM with your graphics card**, refer to our [list of known issues with graphics cards \(.../support/known\\_issues/graphics.html\)](http://support.known_issues/graphics.html).

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



5. In *Tails Greeter*, select your language and keyboard layout in the **Language & Region** section. Click **Start Tails**.
6. After 15–30 seconds, the Tails desktop appears.

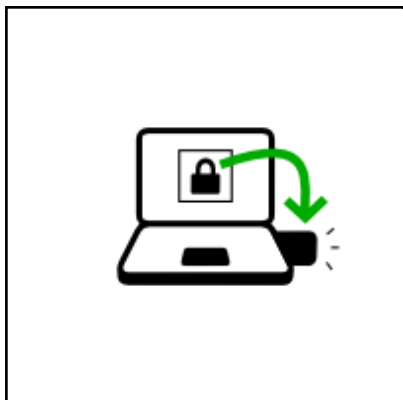




Yay, you managed to start Tails on your computer!

If you want to save some of your documents and configuration in an encrypted storage on your Tails USB stick, follow our instructions until the end. Otherwise, have a look at our [final recommendations](#) ([./usb.html#recommendations](#)).

5/5 Create an encrypted persistent storage (optional)



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

- Personal files
- Some settings
- Additional software
- 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, doing so might compromise the security provided by Tails.

For example, image thumbnails might be created and saved by the other operating system. Or, the contents of files might be indexed by the other operating system.

Other operating systems should probably not be trusted to handle

sensitive information or leave no trace.

## Create the persistent storage

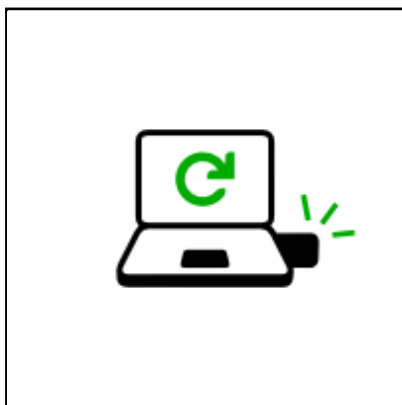
1. Choose **Applications** ► **Tails** ► **Configure persistent volume**.
2. Specify a passphrase of your choice in both the **Passphrase** and **Verify Passphrase** text boxes.

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.
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.

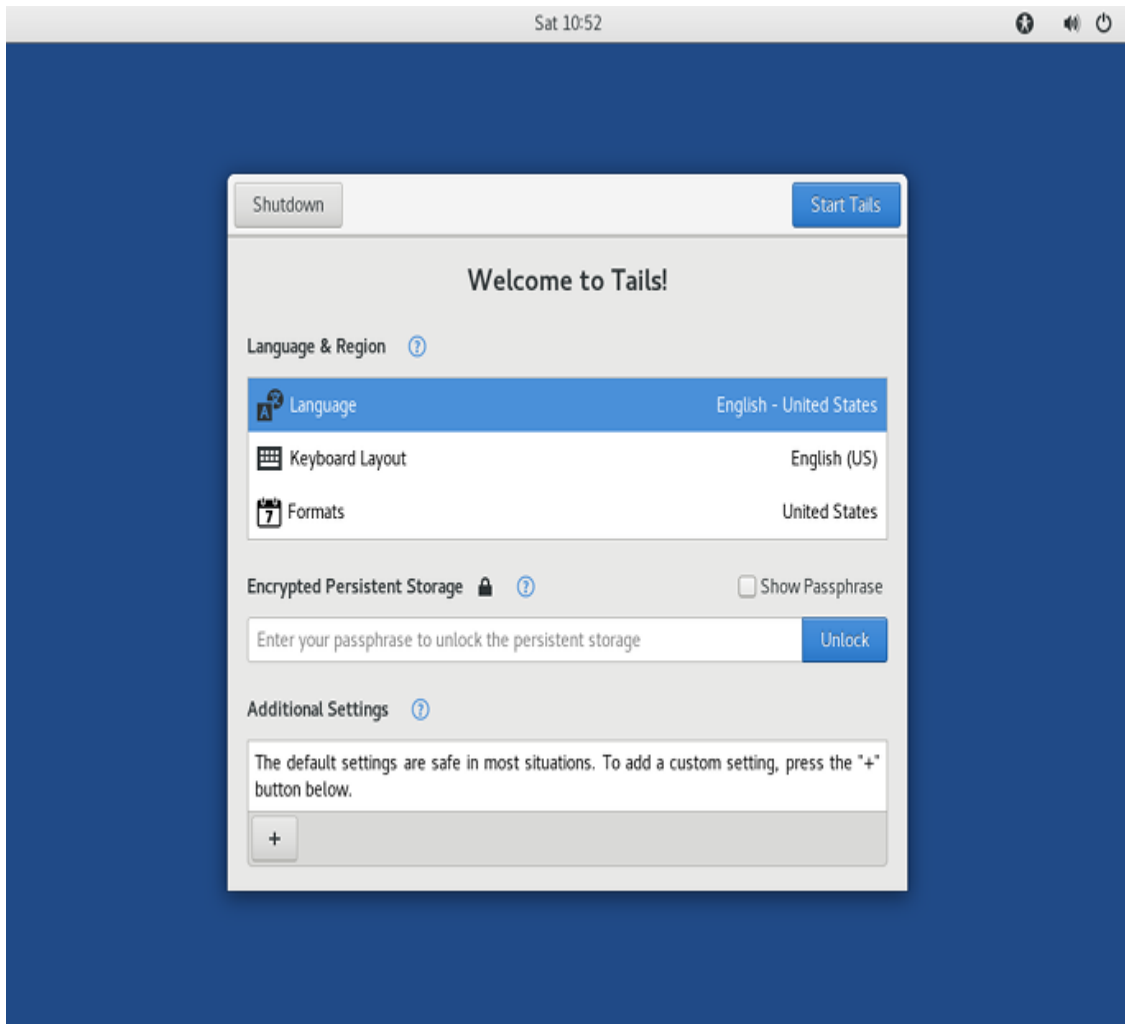
We recommend you to only activate the **Personal Data** persistence feature for the time being. You can activate more features later on according to your needs.

6. Click **Save**.



## Restart and activate the persistent storage

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



- Select your language and keyboard layout in the **Language & Region** section.
  - In the **Encrypted Persistent Storage** section, enter your passphrase and click **Unlock** to activate the encrypted persistent storage for the current working session.
  - Click **Start Tails**.
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 complete Tails, congrats!

#### FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS



Tails does not protect you from everything! Have a look at our [warnings \(../doc/about/warning.html\)](http://../doc/about/warning.html).



If you face any problem, use the Report an error launcher on the Tails desktop or visit our [support pages \(../support.html\)](http://../support.html).

We hope you enjoy using Tails :)