

Install Porteus



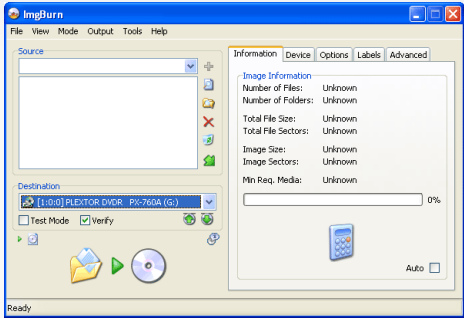
Porteus comes in the form of an ISO image file. An ISO image is an 'image' of what should be on a CD/DVD. You have a number of options in terms of what to do with an ISO image ... you can:

- ☞ Burn the ISO image to CD/DVD
- ☞ Mount it as a file system to get access to the files
- ☞ Boot directly from the ISO file
- ☞ Unpack the ISO file

Burning an ISO file to disk

Most CD/DVD creation software has a function to 'burn an image to disk'. Please be aware that this is not the same as simply burning a file to disk or creating a 'data disk'. The end result should not be a disk that contains the file called filename.iso. The end result should be a disk that contains two folders, one called 'boot' and one called 'porteus'.

If your current burning doesn't contain the function to '*burn an image to disk*' then you can use some freely available software such as [imgburn](#).



Mount the ISO file

Windows users can download a free program called [wincdemu](#). This will allow you simply double click an ISO file afterwhich it will become mounted as another drive on your system. From there you can access the files inside the ISO file. Linux users can use the following command to mount the ISO file on a loopback device.

```
mkdir /mnt/loop
mount -o loop /path/to/file.iso /mnt/loop
```

You can boot directly from an ISO file. Some systems such as '[pendrivelinux](#)' allow you to boot multiple linux operating systems directly from an image file.

Unpack the ISO file using archival software

Some archival software such as 7zip will allow you to unpack the ISO file giving you access to the files inside. You just download and install [7zip](#), then right click on the ISO file and look in the 7zip menu for the option to extract the files.



What do i do with the files i extracted from the ISO file?

Installing Porteus onto a USB device is a simple procedure. Inside the ISO are two populated folders. One called boot and one called slax. Just move the two folders (and their contents) onto the target device. After this you need to run a script inside the boot folder called bootinst.bat (windows) or bootinst.sh (linux).

Running the boot script from windows:

After plugging in your USB device take note of which drive letter it is assigned. For now we will assume it is F:

Open a command prompt as administrator and type:

```
f:
cd boot
start bootinst.bat
```

Follow the prompt and make a backup of your MBR, then make sure that the drive letter F: is the one that will have the new boot sector written to. Once finished your USB device is now capable of being booted from.

Running the boot script from linux:

After plugging in your USB device take note of the device path it is assigned. If a window automatically pops up when you plug the device in then click to open the device. This will mount the USB device and you can see its path by opening a console and typing: *mount*

If the device is not mounted then you can open a console and type: *fdisk -l* to get the path, and then: *mount /dev/sdb1* (assuming sdb1 is the correct path given from fdisk)

All that is needed now is to change into the boot directory and run the bootinst.sh script.

```
cd /mnt/sdb1/boot
./bootinst.sh
```

Follow the prompts and be certain that the /dev/sdb1 partition is the one that will have the boot sector written to. After that your USB should be bootable.

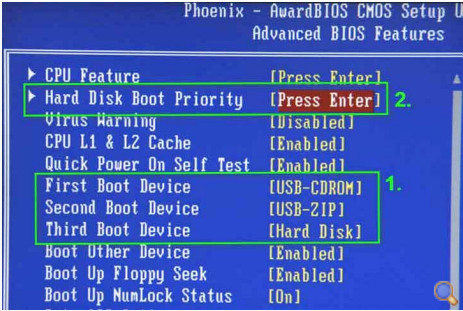
Making sure your BIOS is set to boot from USB

To enter the BIOS of your machine you will need to tap a magic key during the start of the boot procedure of your computer. The exact button varies from machine to machine but i usually one of the following: F1, F2, F12 Esc

Once inside the BIOS you should look for the 'boot order' option and set the USB device at the top of the list. While inside the BIOS the legend for using the keyboard is at the bottom of the screen. Once you have changed your boot order press F10 to save the changes and exit. Be sure that your USB device is plugged in when you go into your BIOS as some systems will only show the USB option when a USB device is present.

Most machines also have another key to press during boot which allows you to choose which device to boot from without entering into

the BIOS. While this is very handy, at some stage you will probably want to change the BIOS setting so you don't have to keep pressing this button at every boot. be aware if your machine contains sensitive data and is used by other people that leaving the BIOS setting to boot from USB presents a security risk. Others can also plug in a USB device and boot to their own OS and access the hard drive information.



NO BOOT FROM USB IN BIOS?

Don't panic just yet, you may still be able to boot from your USB device. The latest release contains a boot loader called plop. This means you can plug in you USB device aswell as a slax CD. When the boot option comes up, you click the plop boot manager and select to boot from your USB.

FOR MORE INSTALLATION INFORMATION PLEASE SEE THE DOCUMENTATION AREA HERE.

- Login
- Register