



Fedora 43 Installation on the Framework Laptop 12

How to install Fedora 43 Linux on a Framework Laptop 12.

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INTRODUCTION

Once you have your Framework Laptop 12 set up following the [Quick Start Guide](#), you're ready to install your preferred OS. The Framework Laptop 12 is running some very recent hardware, and we've worked with the team at Fedora to improve support. Fedora 43 is one of the Linux distributions we recommend, as it has full hardware support with very little setup required, and it offers a great user experience overall.

One note on Fedora is that the distro follows a fairly aggressive update policy on new kernels. This means that if you have the most recent generation of hardware, there is a higher risk that a kernel update could have a driver regression. On older platforms, this is less of a risk. To avoid this risk altogether, you can use a more conservative distro like Ubuntu LTS.

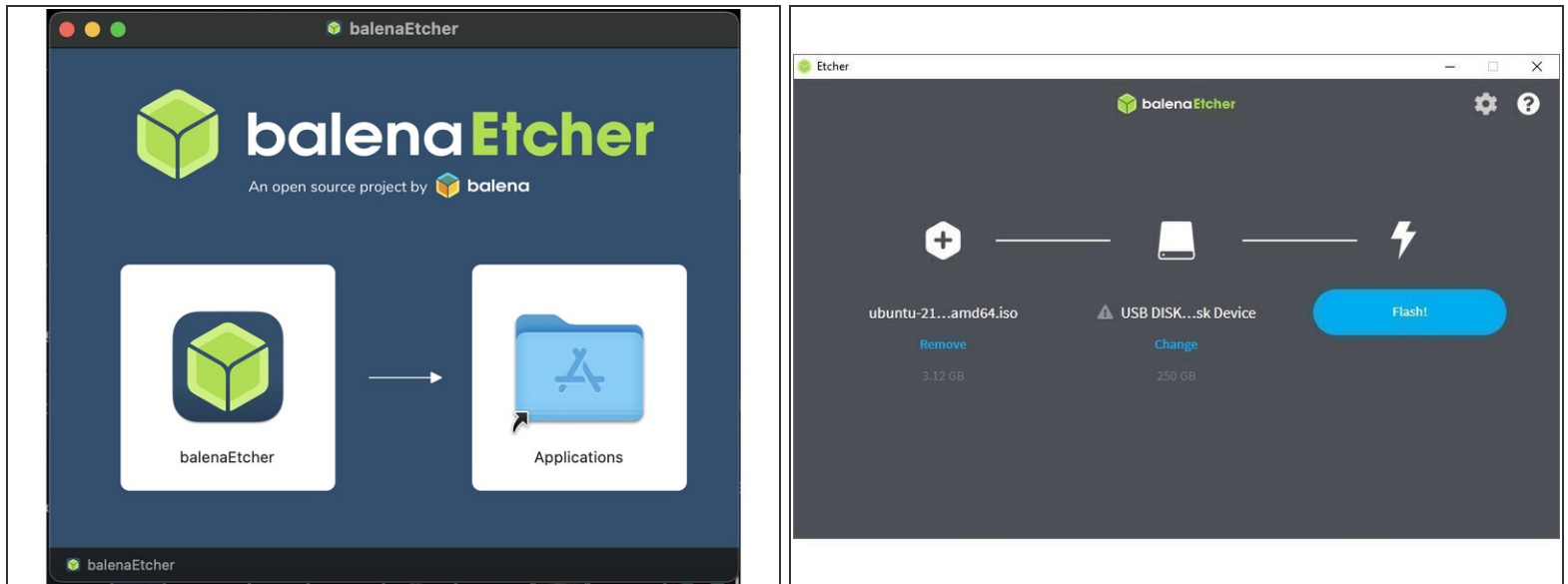
This is an [Officially Supported Linux Distribution](#). [Learn more here](#).



PARTS:

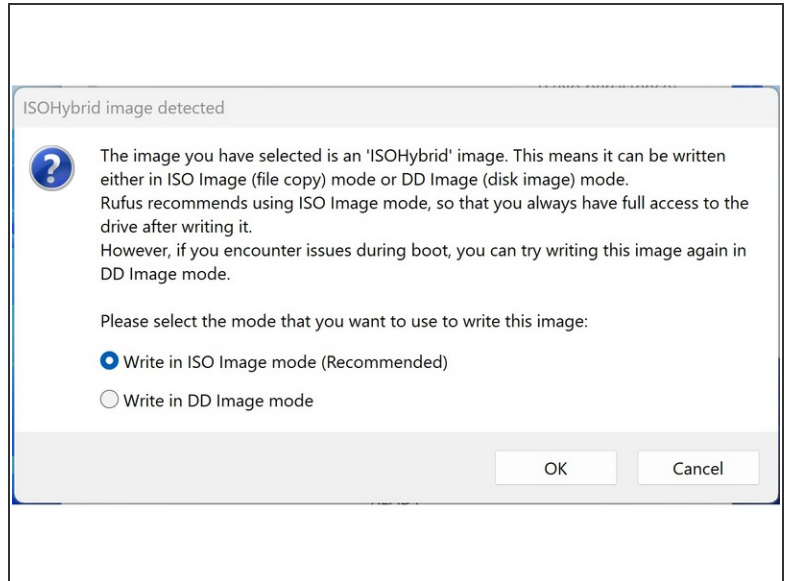
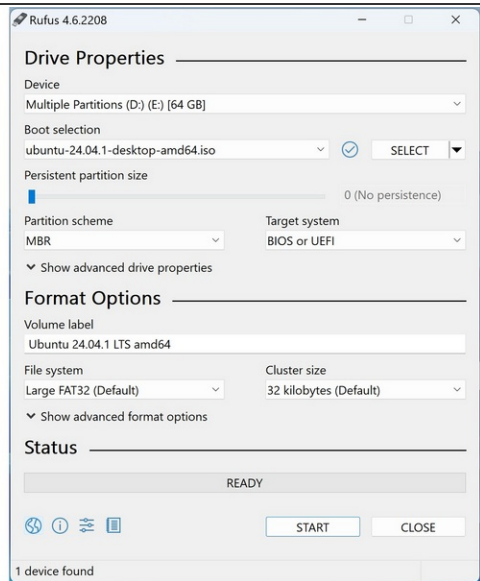
- [Storage Expansion Card](#) (1)
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Step 1 — (From macOS) Preparing USB Fedora Installation Media



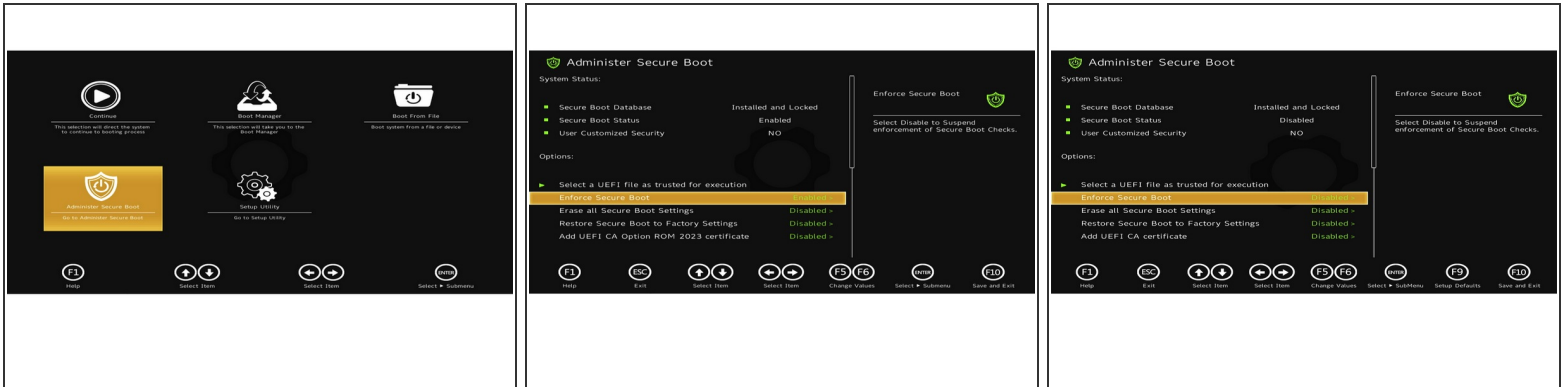
- First, [download the latest Fedora release](#) from the Fedora website. We'll go through the steps in this Guide assuming you have a simple installation scenario of a fresh install on a blank drive.
- New line.Download [balenaEtcher](#) as a tool to create the USB installer from the ISO. balenaEtcher is available for MacOS. Install it.
 - ⚠ **If upgrading from Fedora42**, we recommend backing up [your home directory](#) and doing a clean installation. If you decide you prefer to [upgrade from 42](#), make absolutely sure your 42 installation is fully up to date first.
 - ⚠ **Current Upgrade Bugs:** Additionally, there are some upgrade notes to be aware of. [Systems with WINE installed cannot be updated](#) and [Systems with <=1 GB /boot partition may see "need more space" error during system update](#). See links for workarounds. Clean installs will be the easiest path for some.
- Launch balenaEtcher. Insert your USB drive (8GB or larger). Click on "Flash from file" and select the Fedora iso that you downloaded. Click on "Select target" and choose your USB drive. Click "Flash" and wait a minute or two for it to complete.
- Once the USB drive creation is complete, you can close balenaEtcher and eject the USB drive from your OS.

Step 2 — (From Windows) Preparing USB Fedora Installation Media



- First, [download the latest Fedora release](#) from the Fedora website. We'll go through the steps in this Guide assuming you have a simple installation scenario of a fresh install on a blank drive.
- Download [Rufus](#) as a tool to create the USB installer from the ISO - select the top download option from the link provided. Rufus is available for Windows. Install it.
- ⚠ **If upgrading from Fedora 42**, we recommend backing up [your home directory](#) and doing a clean installation. If you decide you prefer to [upgrade from 42](#), make absolutely sure your 42 installation is fully up to date first.
- ⚠ **Current Upgrade Bugs:** Additionally, there are some upgrade notes to be aware of. [Systems with WINE installed cannot be updated](#) and [Systems with <=1 GB /boot partition may see "need more space" error during system update](#). See links for workarounds. Clean installs will be the easiest path for some.
- ⚠ If you are removing Windows to install Linux, you may run into the "Device is Active" error. [This will provide you with guidance](#) to overcome this error.
- Launch Rufus. Insert your USB drive (8GB or larger). Click on "Flash from file" and select the Fedora iso that you downloaded. Click on "SELECT" and choose your USB drive. Click "START" and wait a minute or two for it to complete.

Step 3 — Secure Boot



- Secure Boot is optional: Enabling secure boot is completely optional and not necessary for normal operation, it's a personal choice - but there are trade offs to be aware of. Follow this link if you wish to enable it before installing Fedora. [More about secure boot here](#).
- ❗ If you have decided to disable secure boot. You will do so by booting into the BIOS menu:
 - Power on, then tap F2 rapidly at the Framework splash screen
 - Select Administer Secure Boot tile on the screen. Press enter.
 - Go to Enforce Secure Boot, it will show as Enabled. Click the enter key, arrow it to Disabled. Press F10 key to save and reboot.
- ⚠ **IMPORTANT:** If you're planning on booting with Windows at all, do not disable it.
- ☑ Should you wish to enable it later in the future, repeat the above steps but select Enable this time.

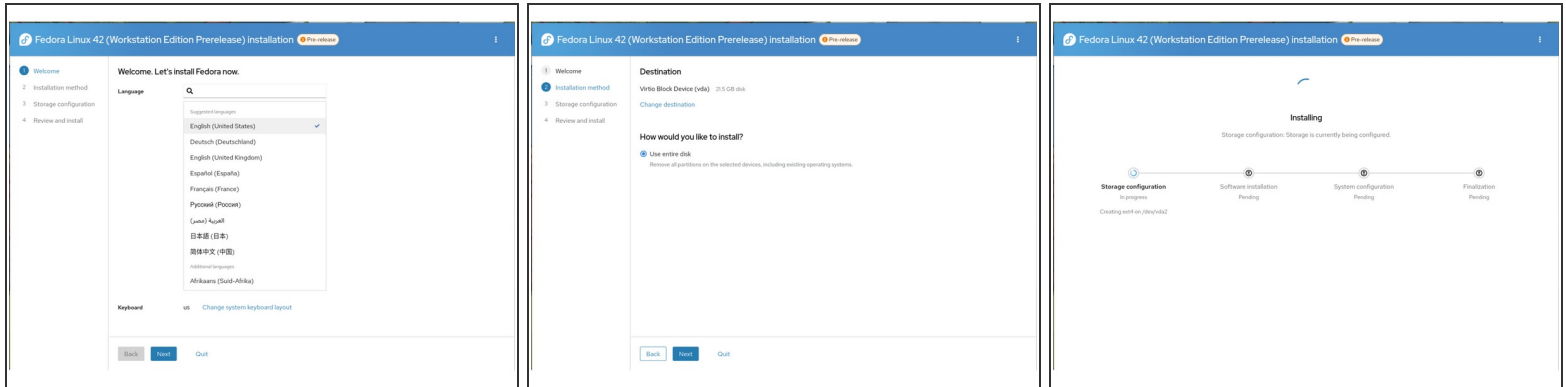
Step 4 — Booting to Live Fedora USB



⚠ Once you have reviewed the previous step, continue

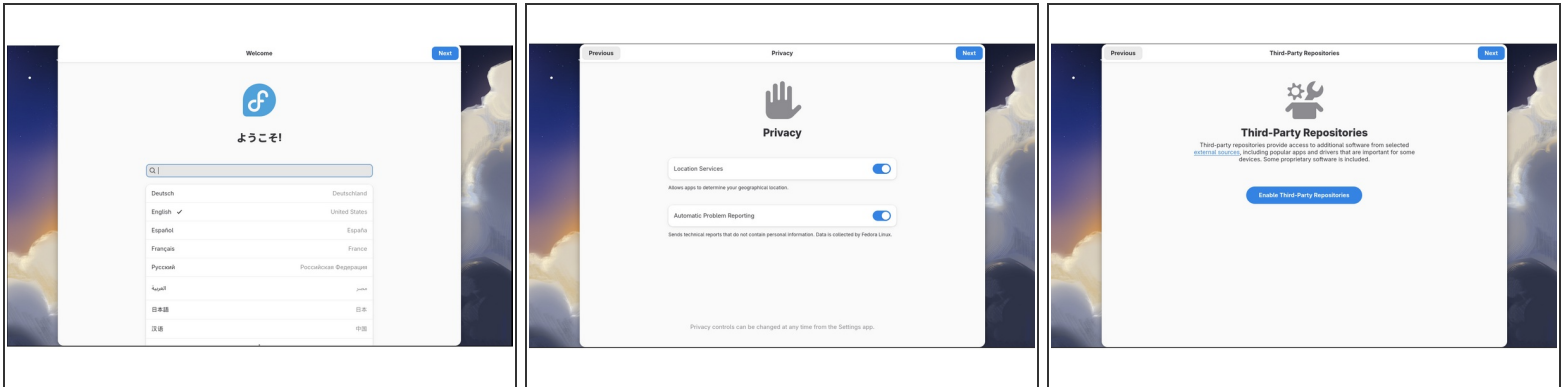
- Insert the USB drive into your powered off Framework Laptop 12, and then power on. If you have an existing OS installed on the Storage drive in your laptop, immediately after the power light comes on begin rapidly tapping (continuously) the F12 key - you must begin tapping well before you see the Framework logo.
- Select the USB drive. Press the enter key.
- Next select Start Fedora Workstation-Live 43. Hit the enter key.
- After a few seconds, you're in! If you just want to try Fedora out, you can click on the Try Fedora button and browse through the live USB version of it without touching the internal storage drive. If you do want to install Fedora to the internal storage drive, go on to the next step.

Step 5 — Installing Fedora to a drive



- Select the keyboard language you'd like to use. On the next screen, click on the Installation Destination button to choose the disk. Note that you can install Fedora onto a USB drive or a Storage Expansion Card as an alternative to installing it onto your internal drive.
 - ❗ If there is an OS already installed on the target drive, you'll need to follow the guided steps in the installer to resize partitions or delete the existing partitions. This is out of scope of this guide, but Fedora has very detailed documentation: <https://docs.fedoraproject.org/en-US/qui...>
- ⚠ Important for non-US keyboard users! Please [open this link in a new tab](#) and read carefully.
- Click Finish Installation and then reboot into your new Fedora install!
 - ❗ The installer will close the window, but not reboot. You can click on the power icon in the top right, click Power Off / Log Out, and click Restart.
 - ❗ Looking for **hibernate support** (save state to disk, powers off) - [open this guide in a new tab](#). Once completed, return to step 5, the fingerprint reader section.

Step 6 — Welcome to Fedora Screen - Setting Up



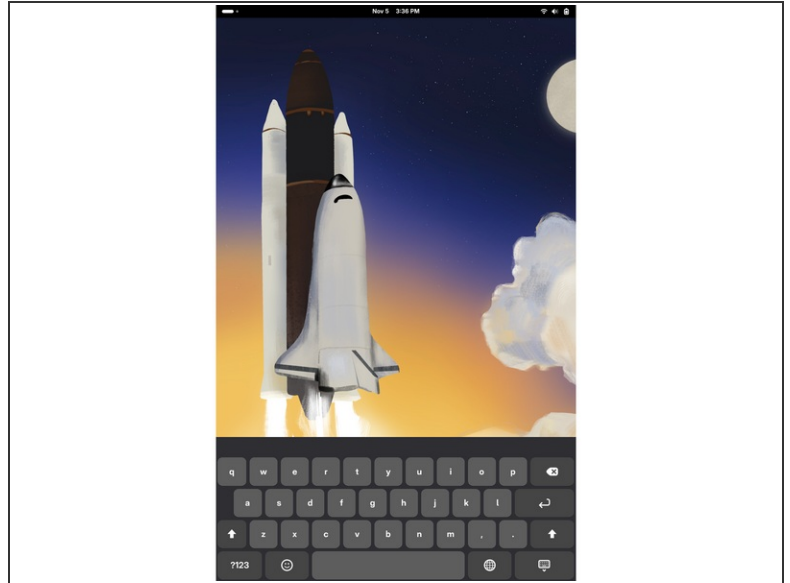
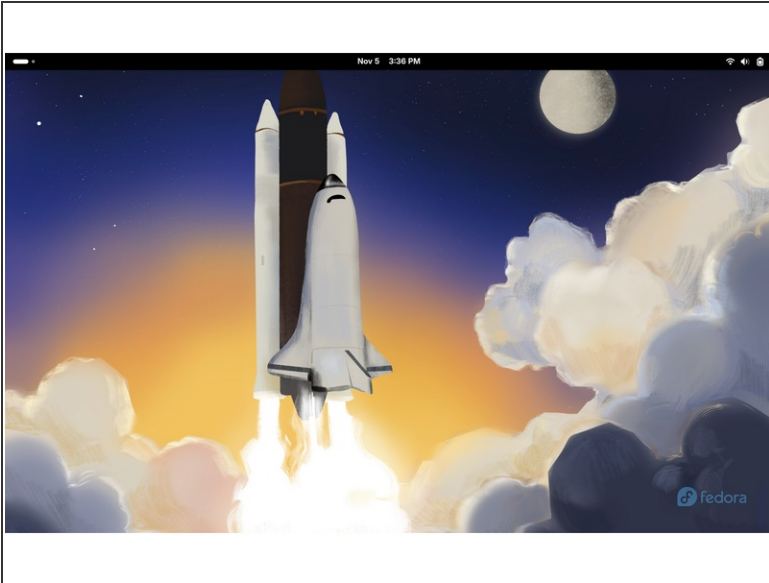
- Click on preferred language, again for your preferred keyboard. This begins the process of completing the initial setup of your Fedora installation.
- Connect to Wi-Fi or Skip. If you wish not to connect to wireless just yet, you can skip this and return to connecting to Wi-Fi later on.
- Choose your Privacy settings. Here you can decide if you would like to allow Location Services using Mozilla Location Service or not.
- Click on Enable Third-Party Repositories. Unless you have a specific reason for not doing so, it's recommended that these repositories are enabled for access to additional drivers and applications.
- Setup your user account. And then your user password.

Step 7 — Touchpad Settings



- ✦ To configure the touchpad to meet your needs:
 - Go to Settings>Mouse and Touchpad.
 - Select the Touchpad tile/button at the top of displayed window.
 - There you can control Touchpad while typing behavior, pointer speed, secondary click options, tap to click, scrolling method, and scroll direction.

Step 8 — Completing Setup



- We're almost done. Please follow the links to your Framework Laptop 12.
- [Click here](#) for the completion guide for Framework Laptop 12.
- ① **Using Tablet Mode.** Simply fold back the screen into tablet mode. It's that easy. On screen keyboard appears when you enter any text fields like application search, text editing, etc.
- ① Our recommendations for [Optimizing Fedora Battery Life](#). This includes **important** [expansion card behavior](#). Need richer sound? We have collected suitable [Easy Effects profiles to help](#).

Step 9 — Recommended: Updating to the latest firmware



- How to check the BIOS version. Go to and click upper left corner where you see the horizontal line, search terminal and launch it. Please [follow this link](#) to copy and paste the code into your terminal, then press enter.
 - The output will tell you which Framework Laptop 12 you have and also which BIOS version you're using.
- ⚠ Framework Laptop 12 BIOS and Driver Releases (13th Gen Intel Core), [click here for the latest firmware](#).
- ⚠ **IMPORTANT:** Per the instructions above, we do NOT recommend updating BIOS and firmware using various GUIs. We recommend using fwupdmgr as provided in the step above. Using GUIs can potentially create issues that would not be present using fwupdmgr directly.

Step 10 — Fedora Troubleshooting



- Expecting different touchpad behavior? [The touchpad help guide](#) is here.
- Need help? Please visit our [troubleshooting guide](#) first.
- If you need additional help, feel free to visit our [active support community](#).

Step 11 — Additional Troubleshooting



⚠ Added Sept 2025 - KDE Plasma users: We have seen a flickering issue for anyone using KDE Plasma by some customers. While it is still being investigated, it appears to be alleviated by: opening System Settings > Display > Adaptive Sync and set it to Never — flickering stops.

Enjoy using Fedora on your Framework Laptop 12!