

USB mass storage boot for Raspberry Pi 2B v1.2, 3A+, 3B, CM3 (only)

Raspberry Pi 3B+ and CM+ support USB mass storage boot out of the box.
Raspberry Pi 4's boot code is stored in [EEPROM](#) and can be updated. Support for mass storage boot will be added in a future update.

Legend:

username@host~\$ Terminal Command Prompt

commands This signifies commands you are to type in the Terminal following the prompt.

FIRST!

To ensure the working SD card is up to date --

Open a Terminal by clicking on the Icon in the top MENU bar. See Figure 1.

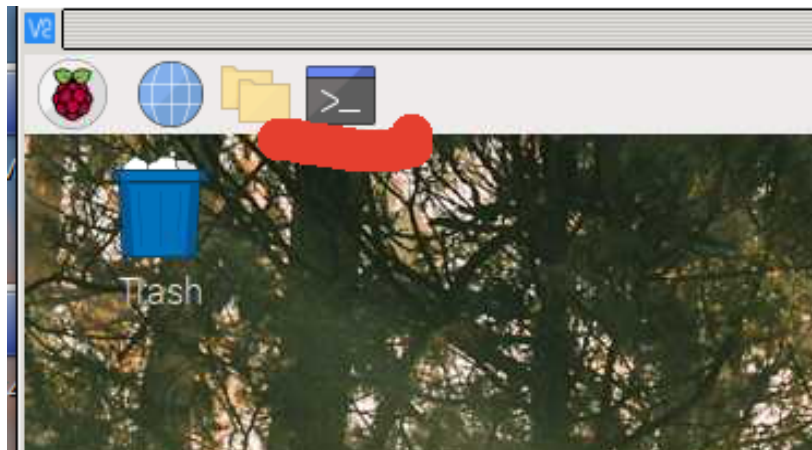


Figure 1.

Next:

Enter the following commands at the command line in Terminal and press Enter after each command:

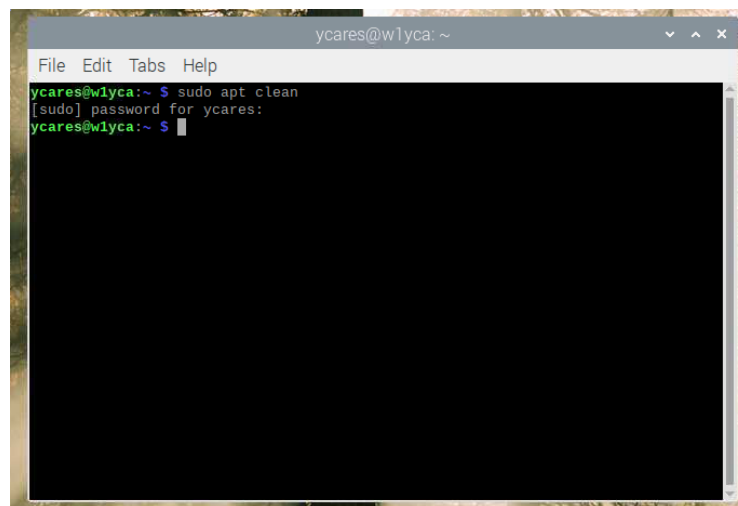
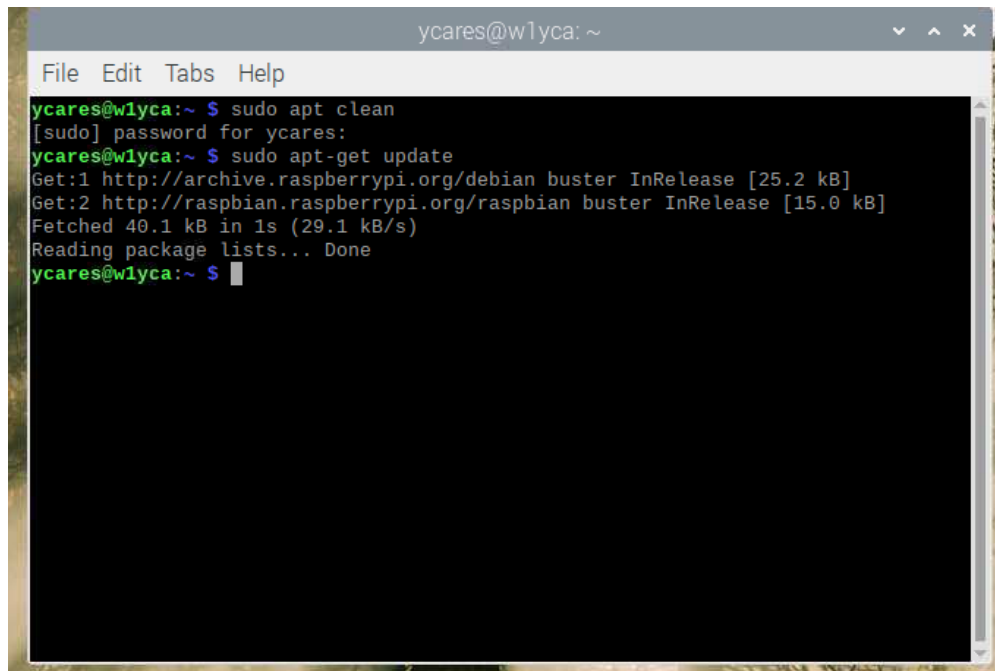


Figure 2.

sudo apt-get clean You will be asked for your password... -enter it. See Figure 2, above.

(continued)

`sudo apt-get update` If you are up-to-date, then then you will see Figure 3, below:



```
ycares@wlyca:~ $ sudo apt clean
[sudo] password for ycares:
ycares@wlyca:~ $ sudo apt-get update
Get:1 http://archive.raspberrypi.org/debian buster InRelease [25.2 kB]
Get:2 http://raspbian.raspberrypi.org/raspbian buster InRelease [15.0 kB]
Fetched 40.1 kB in 1s (29.1 kB/s)
Reading package lists... Done
ycares@wlyca:~ $
```

Figure 3.

If the Raspian OS is not up to date, you will see many lines scroll-by as the program updates. A command prompt will return when complete.

Continue entering the following commands: You may be asked to confirm if you wish to continue, answer in the affirmative: **Y**

`sudo apt-get autoremove`

`sudo apt-get upgrade` *(this may take a few minutes, be patient)*

`sudo apt-get dist-upgrade` *(this may take a few minutes)*

`sudo reboot now`

Assuming no errors, and reboot has completed, the next step is to make a backup of the SD card to a USB memory stick by the following:

1. Insert a new USB memory stick which has been partitioned and formatted as **EXT4** into the Rpi USB Port

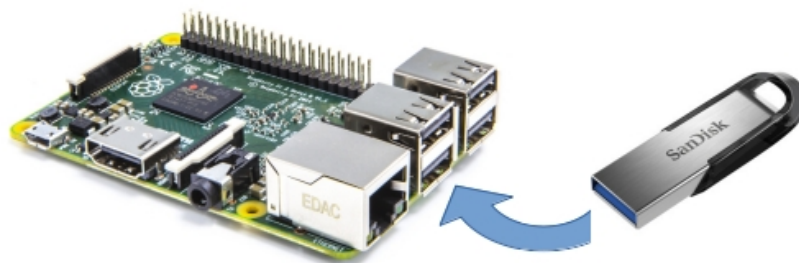
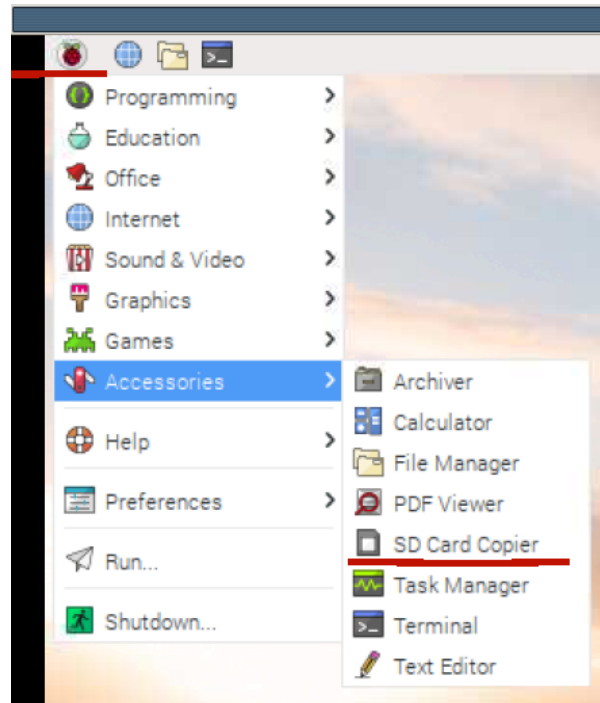


Figure 4.

(continued)

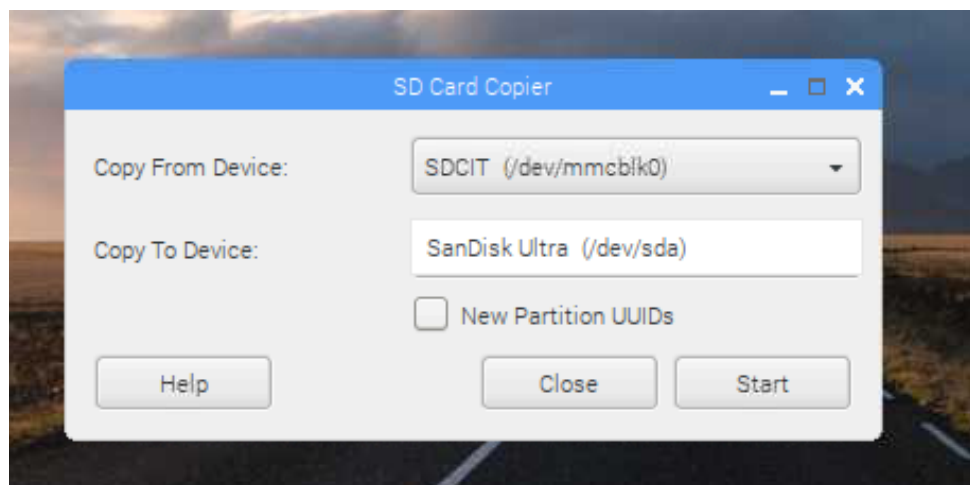
2. Select the menu **Raspberry icon**, then select **Accessories**, then select **SD Card Copier**. See Figure 5, below:

Figure 5.



3. You will be asked for your password... -enter it.
4. Choose Copy From Device, usually **(/dev/mmcblk0)**, or something similar, and choose Copy to Device, usually **(/dev/sda)** See Figure 6, below.

Figure 6.



5. Click **Start**. A lot of magic happens, and you will see a series of progress bars. When completed, Click **Close**. That's it – you have copied your RPi SD card to a memory stick.

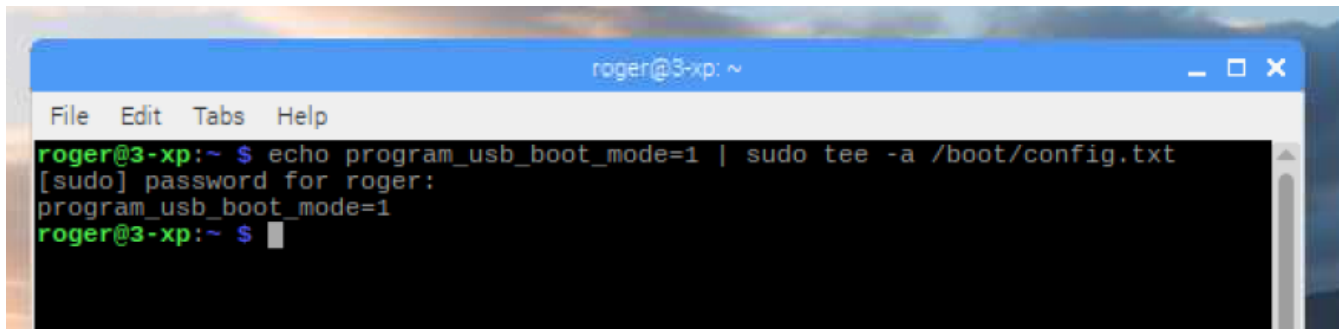
(continued)

Now we are going to tell the RPi to boot from the new memory stick.

Remove the memory stick, and Enter the following into a terminal...

```
echo program_usb_boot_mode=1 | sudo tee -a /boot/config.txt
```

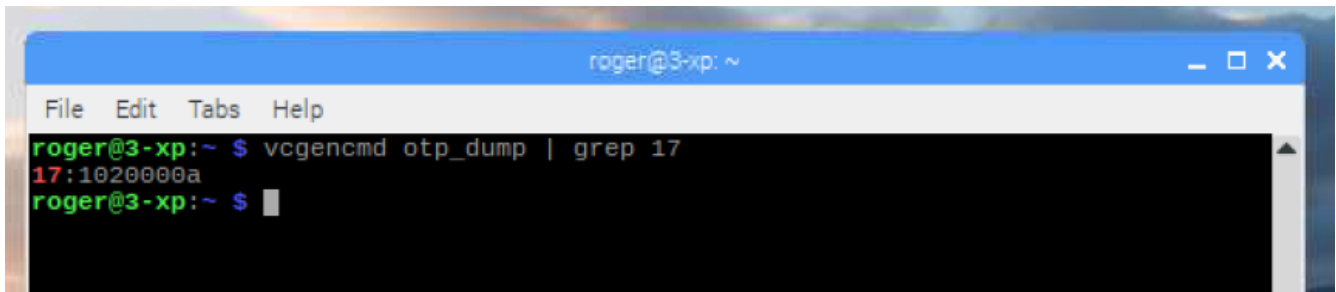
and press Enter. You will be asked for your password... -enter it.

A terminal window titled 'roger@3-xp: ~' with a menu bar (File, Edit, Tabs, Help). The terminal shows the command 'echo program_usb_boot_mode=1 | sudo tee -a /boot/config.txt' being entered. It prompts for a password, which is entered, and then shows the output 'program_usb_boot_mode=1'. The prompt returns to 'roger@3-xp: ~ \$'.

That's it! Now reboot: `sudo reboot now`

After the reboot, check that boot mode has been enabled with this command:

```
vcgencmd otp_dump | grep 17
```

A terminal window titled 'roger@3-xp: ~' with a menu bar (File, Edit, Tabs, Help). The terminal shows the command 'vcgencmd otp_dump | grep 17' being entered. It outputs '17:10200000a'. The prompt returns to 'roger@3-xp: ~ \$'.

Your results should be similar... SUCCESS!

Shut down the RPi with: `sudo shutdown -h now`

When the RPi has completely powered-down you may remove the SD Card and insert the memory stick.

You may now boot from the memory stick. Save your SD Card as a back-up.