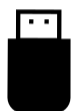


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Install Tails from Linux

You need



1 USB stick
Only for Tails!
8 GB minimum



Linux
any distribution



2 GB of RAM
64-bit



Smartphone
or printer
to follow the instructions



1 hour in total
1.9 GB to download
½ hour to install

[System requirements and recommended USB sticks](#)

Your steps



Download Tails



Verify your
download



Install Tails using
GNOME Disks



Restart on your
Tails USB stick



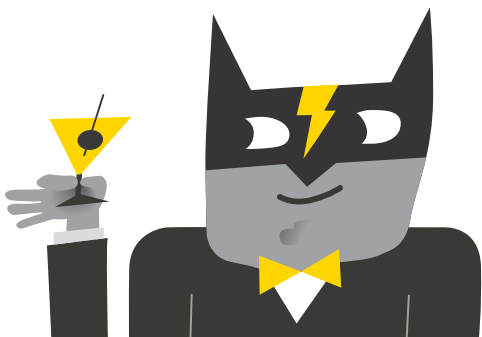
Welcome to Tails!

Warnings: Tails is safe but not magic!

Tails is safer than any regular operating system. But Tails, or any software or operating system, cannot protect you from everything—even if they pretend to.

The recommendations below will keep you even safer, especially if you are at high risk.

Protecting your identity when
using Tails



Limitations of the Tor network



Tails is designed to hide your identity.

But some of your activities could reveal your identity:

- Sharing files with metadata, such as date, time, location, and device information
- Using Tails for more than one purpose at a time

Protecting your identity

Tails uses the Tor network because it is the strongest and most popular network to protect from surveillance and censorship.

But Tor has limitations if you are concerned about:

- Hiding that you are using Tor and Tails
- Protecting your online communications from determined, skilled attackers

Limitations of Tor

Reducing risks when using untrusted computers



Tails can safely run on a computer that has a virus.

But Tails cannot always protect you when:

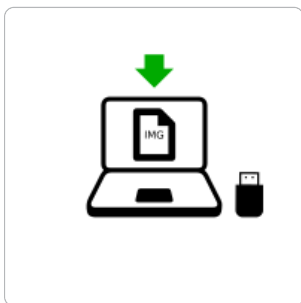
- Installing from an infected computer
- Running Tails on a computer with a compromised BIOS, firmware, or hardware

Using untrusted computers

Because you always have to adapt your digital security practices to your specific needs and threats, we encourage you to learn more by reading the following guides:

- [EFF: Surveillance Self-Defense](#)
- [Front Line Defenders: Security-in-a-Box](#)

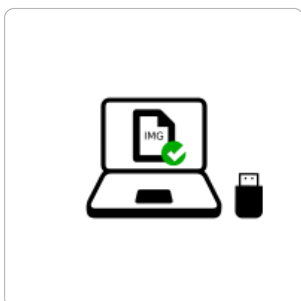
1/7 Download Tails



[Download Tails 7.7.3 USB image \(2.0 GB\)](#)

Save your download to your usual *Downloads* folder and not to the USB stick.

2/7 Verify your download

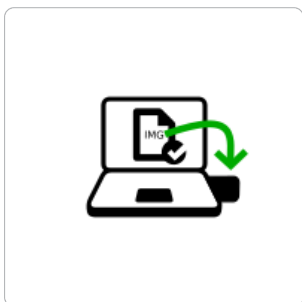


Verify your download to make sure that it is safe and was not corrupted during download.

Select your download to verify...

or verify using the [OpenPGP signature](#)

3/7 Install Tails using *GNOME Disks*



1. Install *GNOME Disks*.

- If you are using the GNOME desktop environment, *GNOME Disks* should be installed by default.
- Otherwise, install the `gnome-disk-utility` package using the usual installation method for your distribution.

You can also install Tails using the `dd` command from any Linux distribution as described in our instructions for [installing from Debian using the command line](#).

2. Open *GNOME Disks* (also called *Disks*).

For example, you can press the **Super** (⊞) key, then enter `disks` and select **Disks**.

The storage devices in the computer are listed in the left pane.

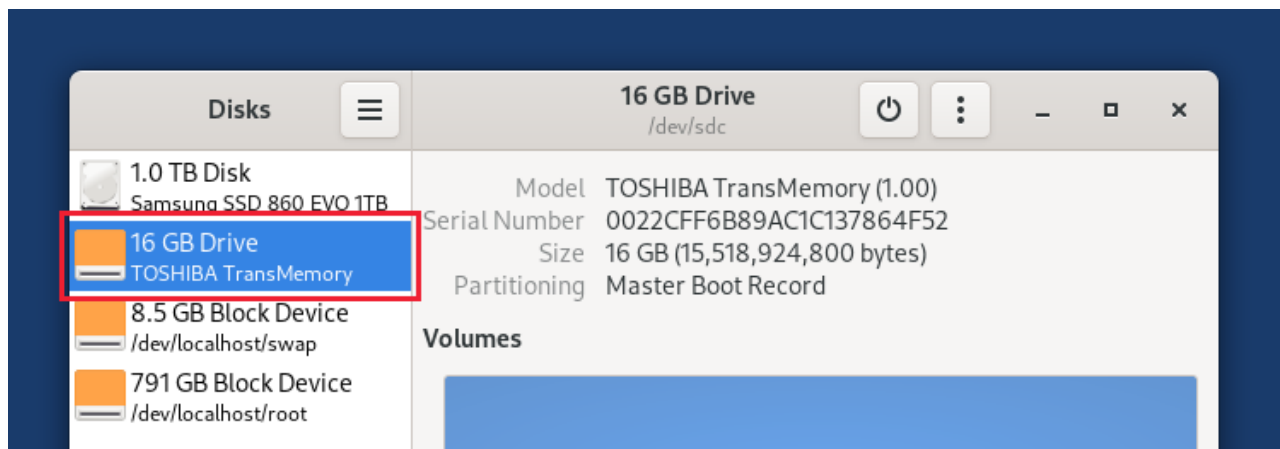



3. Plug in the USB stick on which you want to install Tails.

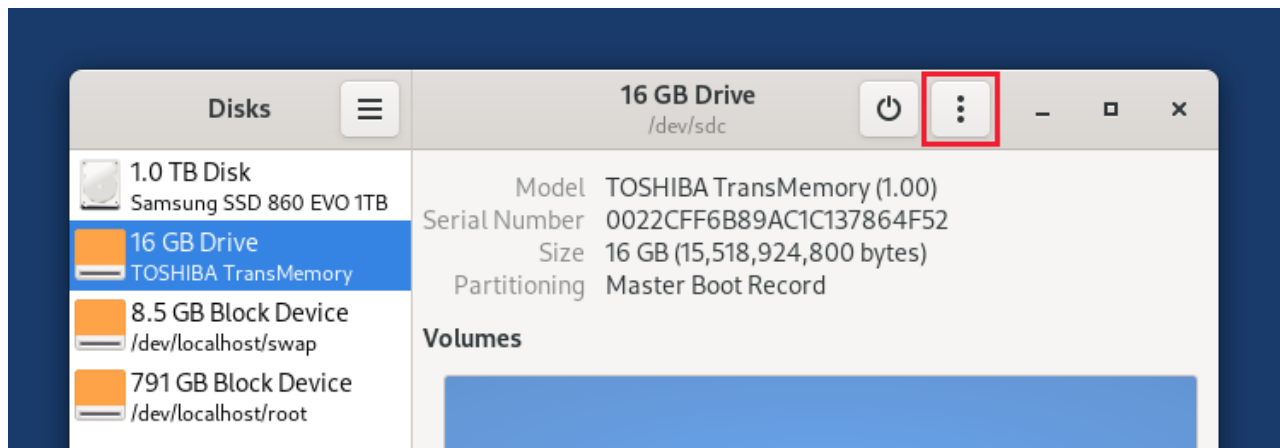
All the data on this USB stick will be lost.

Some data might still be recovered using advanced forensics tools.

A new drive appears in the list of storage devices. Select it.



4. Click on the  button in the title bar and choose **Restore Disk Image**.



5. In the **Restore Disk Image** dialog, click on the file selector button.

Choose the USB image that you downloaded earlier.

Make sure that the USB image is called *tails-amd64-7.7.3.img* and has an *.img* file extension.

If the image has an *.iso* file extension, it is the wrong image. Please go back to the [download step](#).

6. Click the **Start Restoring** button.

7. In the confirmation dialog click **Restore**.

Depending on your Linux distribution, you might be asked for your administration password.

The installation takes a few minutes.

8. After the installation is finished, select the  button.



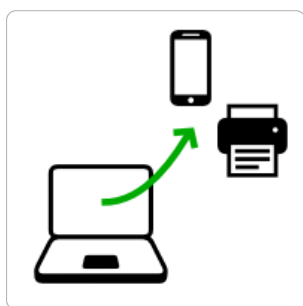
Well done!

You have installed Tails on your USB stick.

In the next step, you will make your computer start on this USB stick.

Tails might not work on your computer, so good luck!

4/7 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, you can either:

- Scan this QR code on your smartphone or tablet:





- Print these instructions on paper.
- Take note of the URL of this page:

```
https://tails.net/install/linux?back=1
```

5/7 Restart on your Tails USB stick



Make the computer start on the USB stick

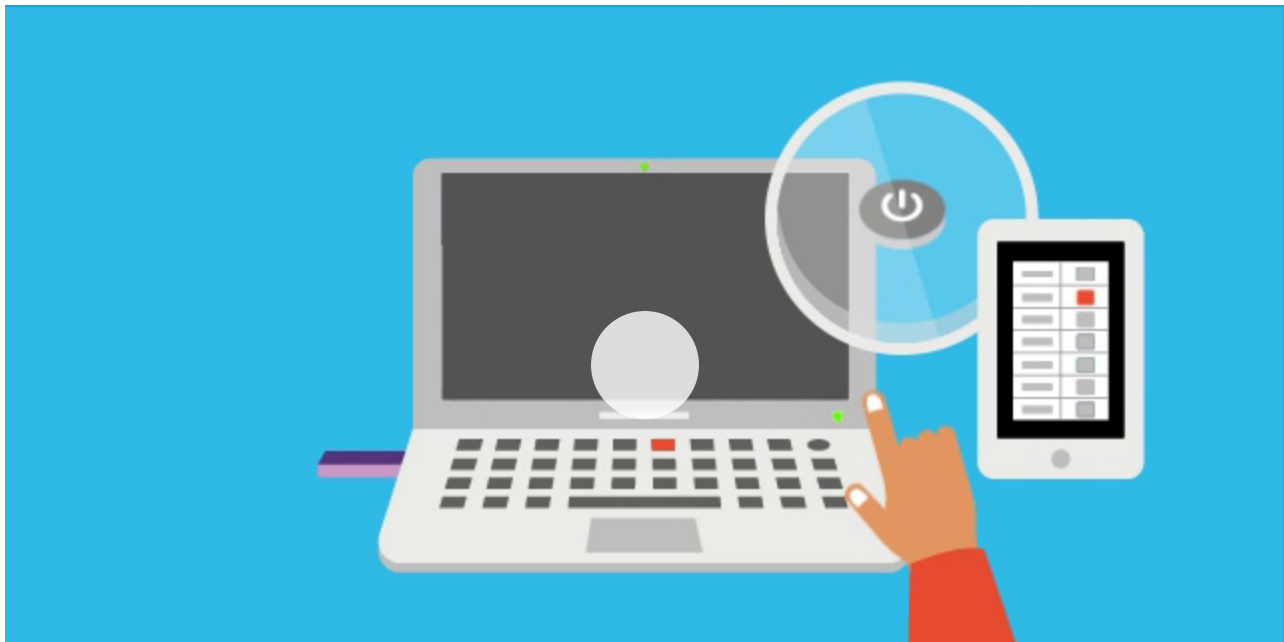
Most computers do not start automatically on the Tails USB stick, but you can press a Boot Menu key to display a list of possible devices to start from.

If Windows is also installed on the computer, you can refer instead to the [instructions on starting Tails from Windows](#). Starting Tails from Windows is easier than using the Boot Menu key.

The following screenshot is an example of a Boot Menu:



This animation summarizes how to use the Boot Menu key to start on the USB stick:



0:00 / 0:43

The following instructions explain in detail how to use the Boot Menu key to start on the USB stick:

1. Shut down the computer while leaving the USB stick plugged in.
2. Identify the possible Boot Menu keys for the computer depending on the computer manufacturer in the following list:

Manufacturer	Key
--------------	-----

Acer	F12, F9, F2, Esc
Apple	Option
Asus	Esc
Clevo	F7
Dell	F12
Fujitsu	F12, Esc
HP	F9
Huawei	F12
Intel	F10
Lenovo	F12, <u>Novo</u>
MSI	F11
Samsung	Esc, F12, F2
Sony	F11, Esc, F10
Toshiba	F12
Others...	F12, Esc

On many computers, a message is displayed very briefly when switching on that also explains how to get to the Boot Menu or edit the BIOS settings.

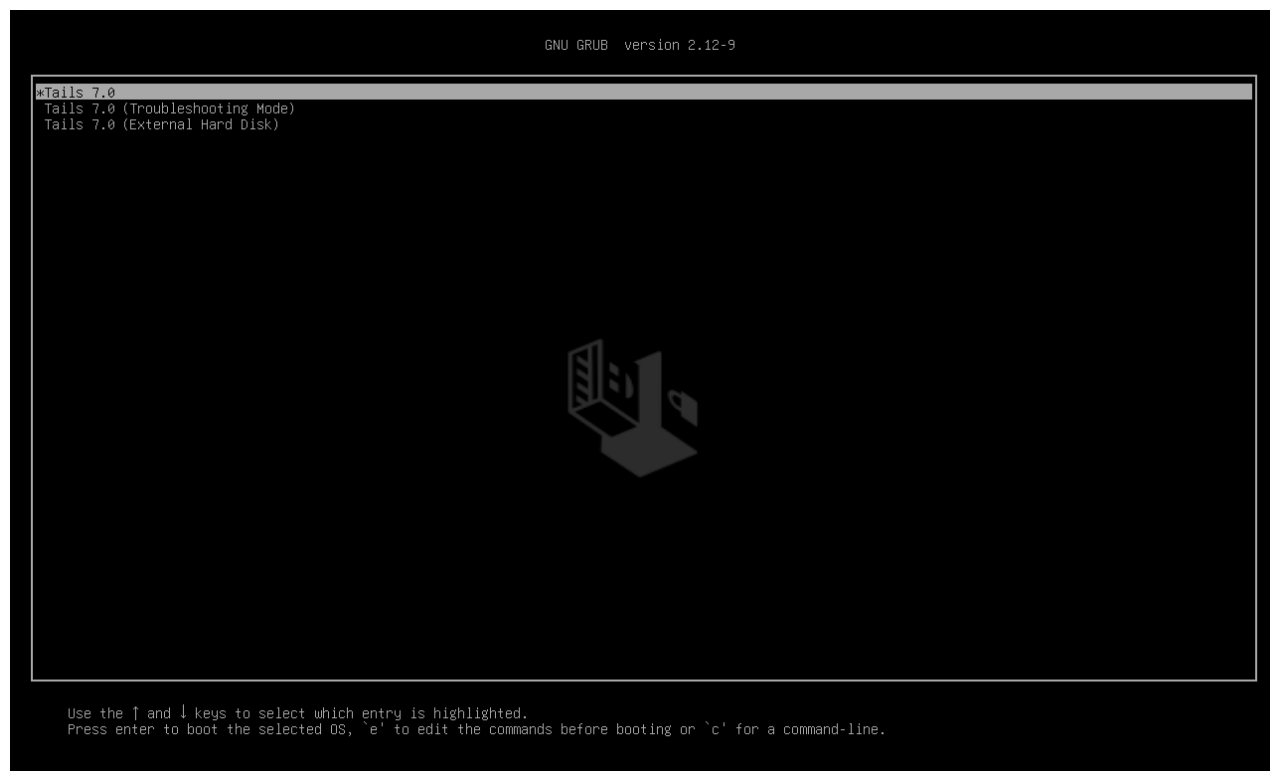
3. Switch on the computer.

Immediately press several times the first possible Boot Menu key identified in step 2.

4. If the computer starts on another operating system or returns an error message, shut down the computer again and repeat step 3 for all the possible Boot Menu keys identified in step 2.

If a Boot Menu with a list of devices appears, select your USB stick and press **Enter**.

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



Troubleshoot Tails not starting

- If none of the possible Boot Menu keys from the previous technique work, refer to the [troubleshooting instructions about Tails not starting at all](#).
- If the Boot Menu appears, but your USB stick is not listed in the Boot Menu:
 1. Wait 2–3 minutes and try again. Some USB sticks need some rest after installing.
 2. Try all other USB ports on the computer. Some USB ports cannot be used to start from.
- If your USB stick is listed in the Boot Menu, but the Boot Loader doesn't appear:
 1. Make sure that you have [verified your download](#).

2. Try to [install again](#) on the same USB stick.
3. Try to install on a different USB stick.
4. Try to use the same USB stick to start on a different computer.

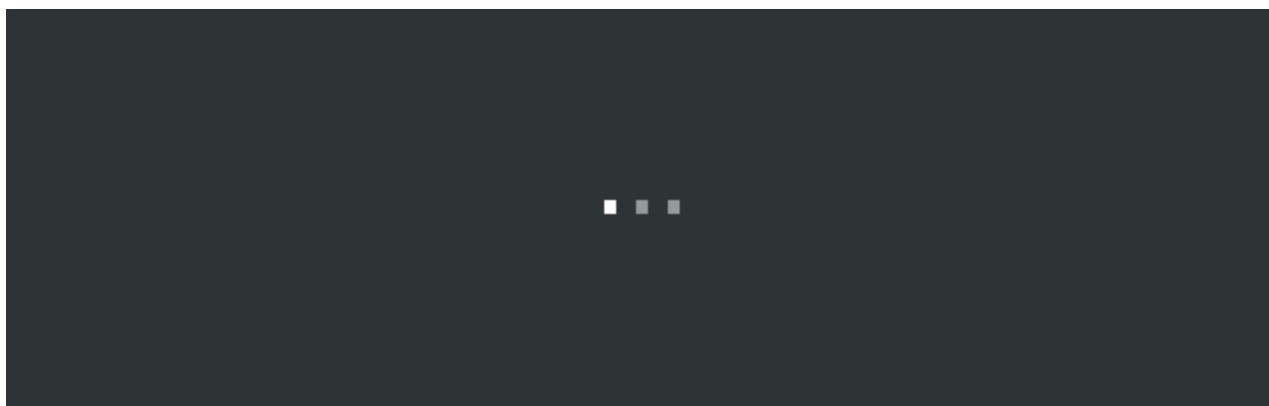
If your computer still does not display the Boot Loader, it might currently be impossible to start Tails on your computer.

- If the Boot Loader appears, but Tails fails to start after the Boot Loader, refer to [the troubleshooting section about Tails not starting after the Boot Loader](#).

6/7 Welcome to Tails!



1. After the Boot Menu, a loading screen appears.

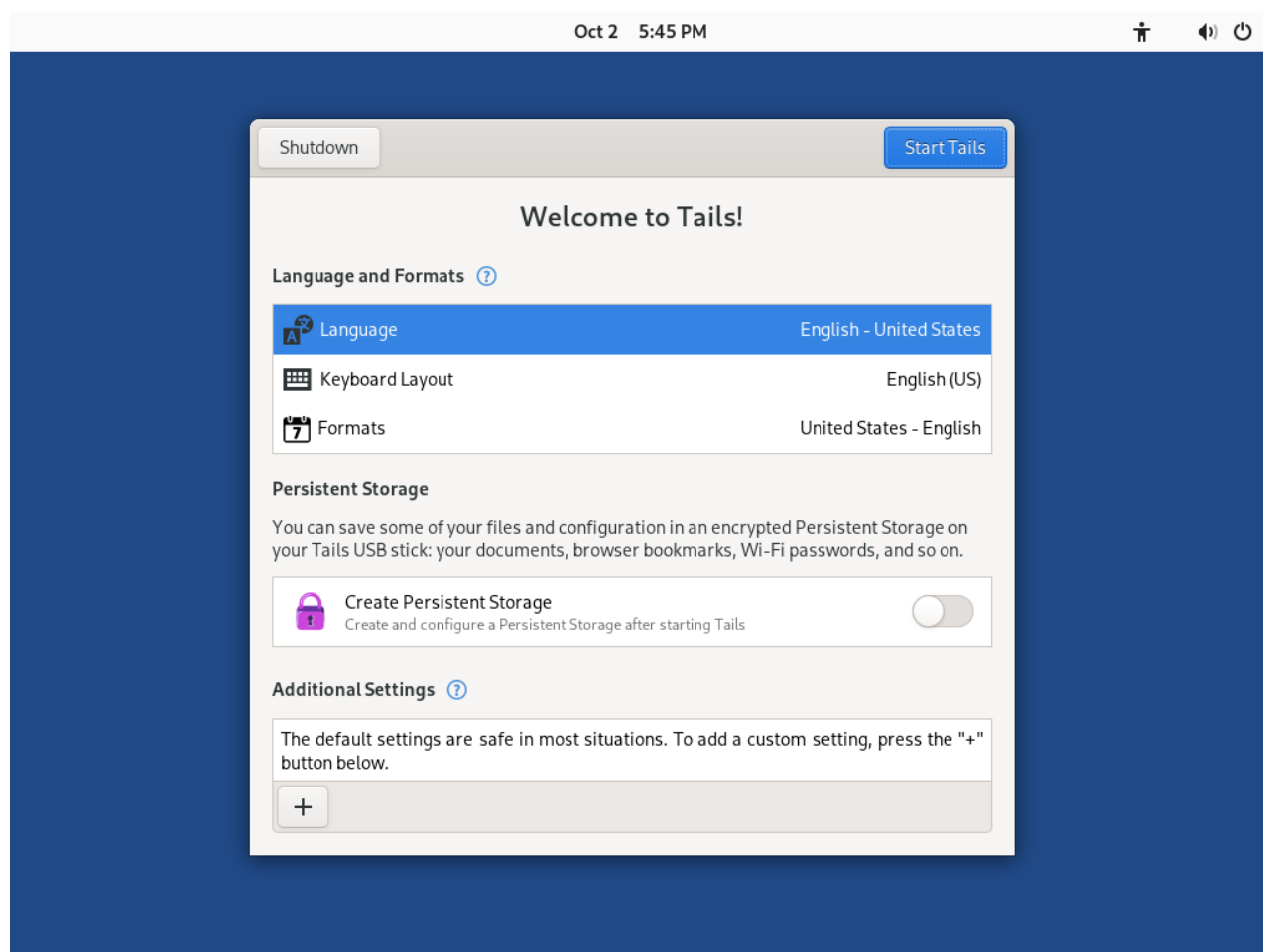


2. One to two minutes after the Boot Loader and the loading screen, the Welcome Screen appears.

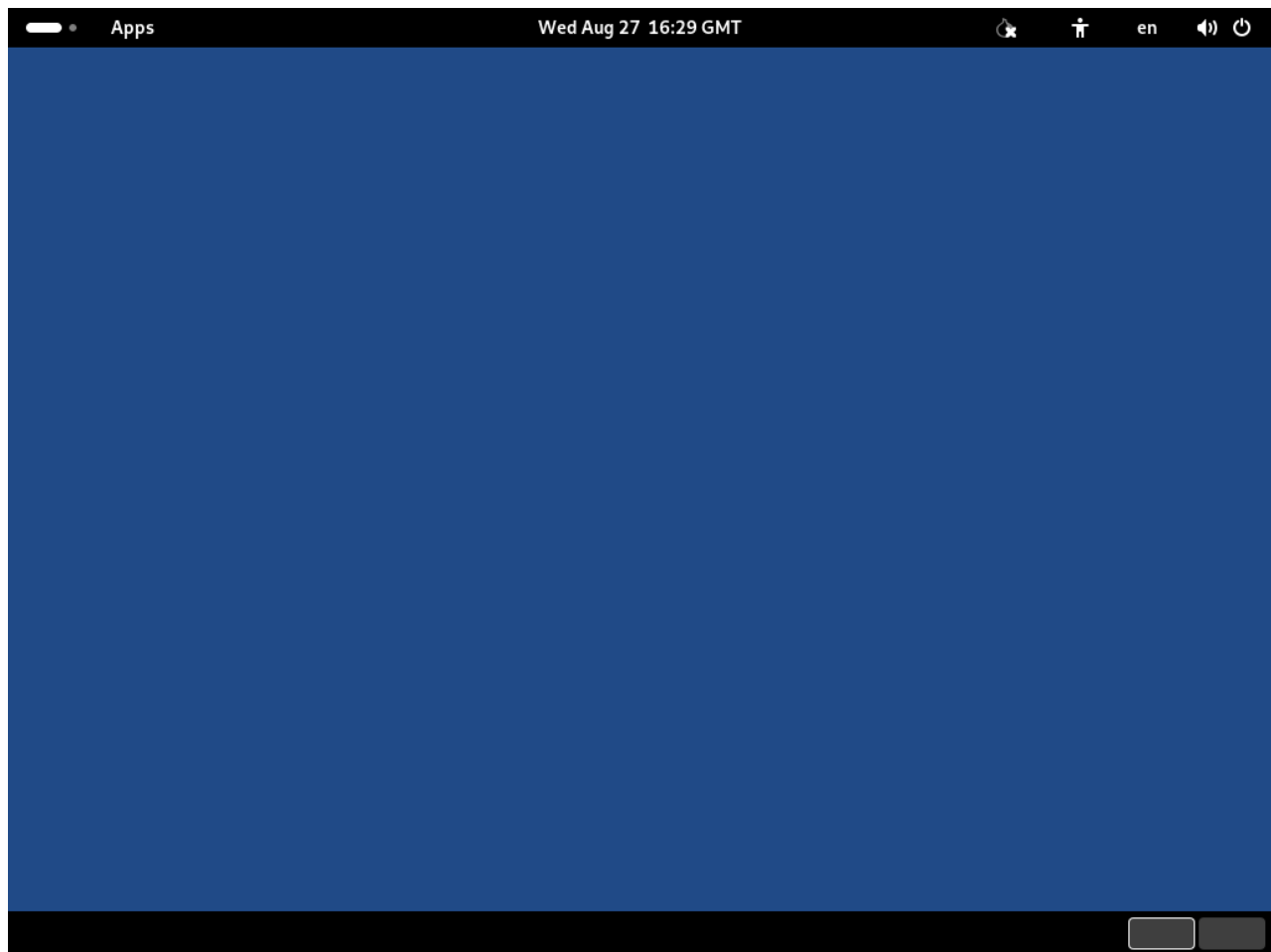
If the following message about partitioning errors appears in the Welcome Screen, please start again from step 2: [Verify your download](#).

Errors were detected in the partitioning of your Tails USB stick.

If the error persists, reinstall Tails on one of our [recommended USB sticks](#).



3. In the Welcome Screen, select your language and keyboard layout in the **Language and Formats** section. Click **Start Tails**.
4. After 15–30 seconds, the Tails desktop appears.



You made it!

You managed to start Tails on your computer!

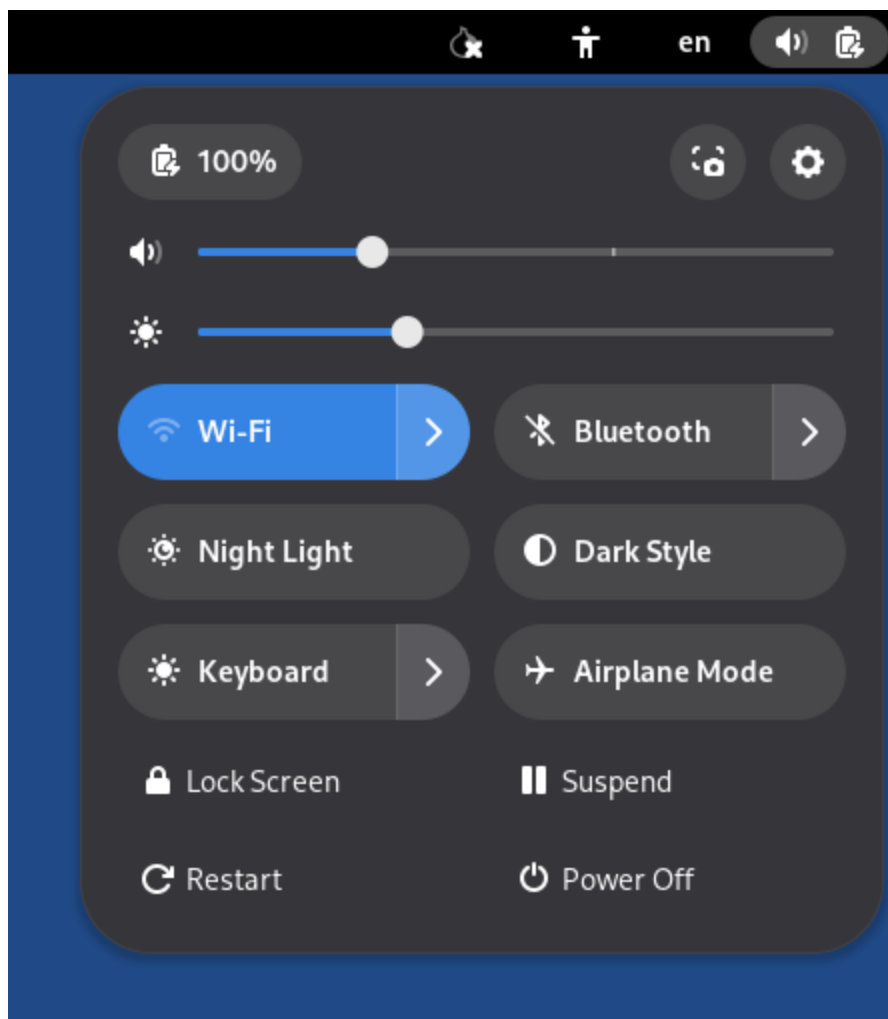
Congratulations on staying safe :)

To continue discovering Tails, read our [documentation](#).

7/7 Test your Wi-Fi

Problems with Wi-Fi are unfortunately quite common in Tails and Linux in general. To test if your Wi-Fi interface works in Tails:

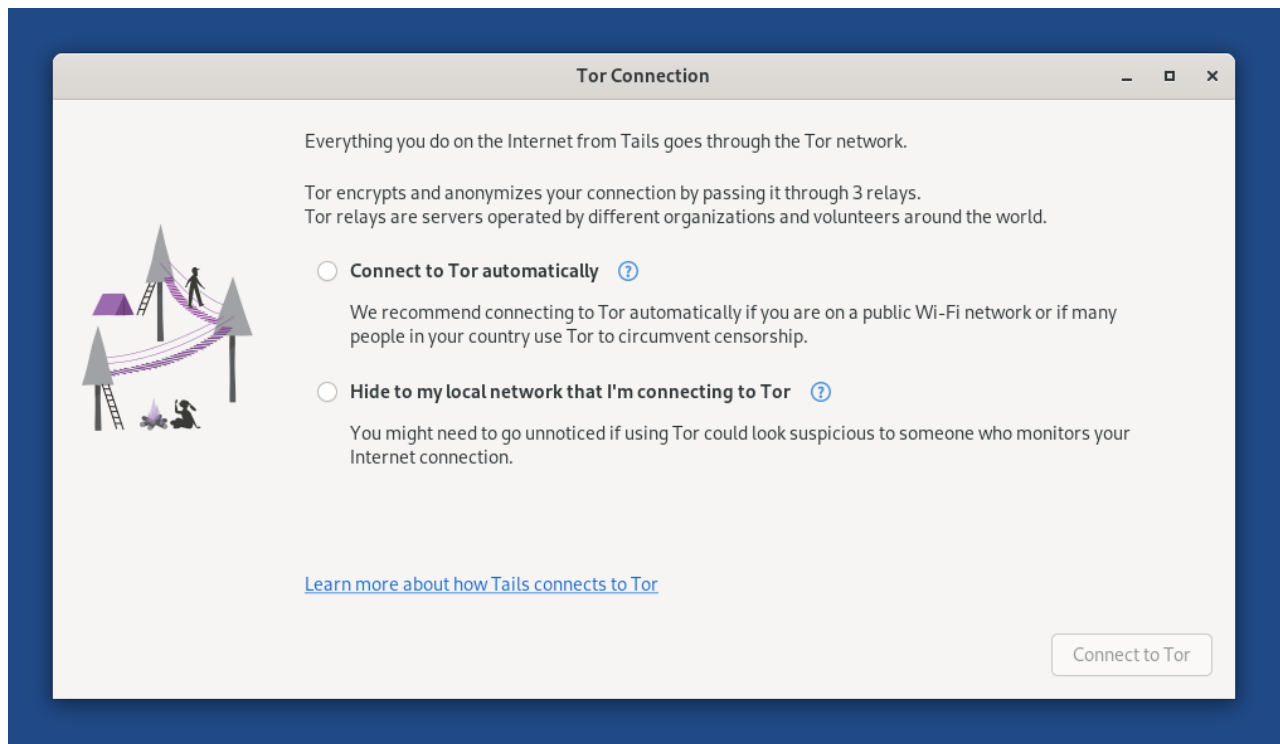
1. Open the system menu in the top-right corner:



2. Click > on the right of the **Wi-Fi** button.

A list of available Wi-Fi networks appears below the **Wi-Fi** button.

3. After establishing a connection to a local network, the *Tor Connection* assistant appears to help you connect to the Tor network.

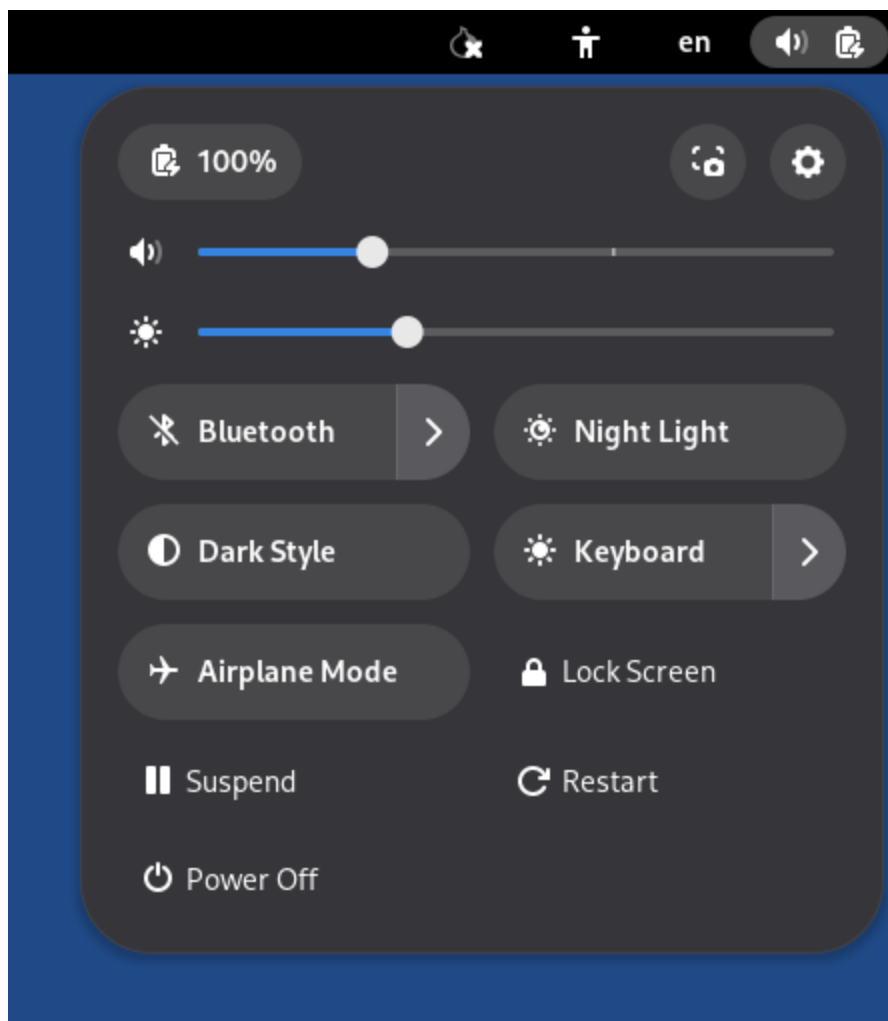


To learn more about the Tor network, go to [Connecting to the Tor network](#).

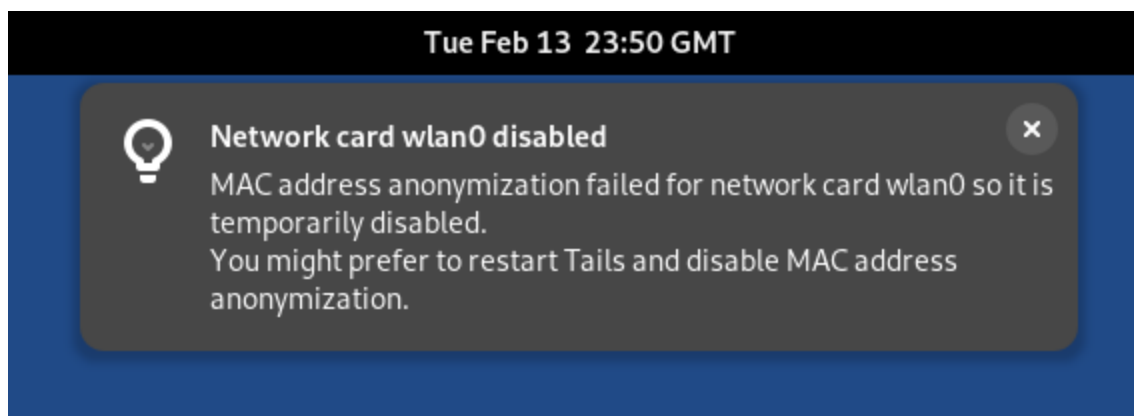
Troubleshooting Wi-Fi not working

If your Wi-Fi interface is not working, you might experience the following:

- There is no **Wi-Fi** menu in the system menu:



- There is a **Wi-Fi** menu in the system menu, but connecting to a Wi-Fi network fails.
- The interface is disabled because MAC address anonymization failed:



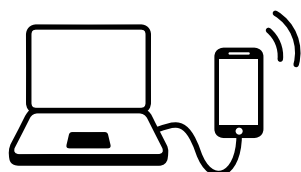
In this case, you can disable MAC address anonymization in the Welcome Screen. Doing so has security implications, so read carefully our [documentation about MAC address anonymization](#).

- The following notification appears:

Activation of network connection failed

To connect to the Internet, you can try to:

- Use an Ethernet cable instead of Wi-Fi if possible. Wired interfaces work much more reliably than Wi-Fi in Tails.
- Share the Wi-Fi or mobile data connection of your phone using a USB cable. Sharing a connection this way is called *USB tethering*.



See instructions for:

- [iPhones or iPads](#)

Only sharing mobile data works on iPhones and iPads; sharing Wi-Fi does not work.

- [Android](#)

Tails cannot hide the information that identifies your phone on the local network. If you connect your phone to a:

- **Wi-Fi network:** the network can see the MAC address of your phone.

This has security implications that we explain in our [documentation on MAC address anonymization](#). Some phones have a feature to hide the MAC address of the phone.

- **Mobile data network:** the network is able to know the identifier of your SIM card (IMSI) and the serial number of your phone (IMEI).

- Buy a USB Wi-Fi adapter that works in Tails:
 - Panda Wireless Ultra (\$25)

[Buy on Amazon](#)

- ThinkPenguin TPE-N150USB (\$64)

[Buy on ThinkPenguin](#)

- Check in our list of [known Wi-Fi issues](#) if there is a workaround to get your Wi-Fi interface to work in Tails.

English

Tails

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Tails is made by the [Tor Project](#).

