

# Create a bootable copy of the OS X Mountain Lion installer

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Because OS X Mountain Lion is downloadable software, it does not include a physical installer, typically a bootable DVD or USB drive. For most Mac users, installing Mac OS X on a removable media (DVD or flash drive) when installing cleanly on the boot drive is a must.

This tutorial guides you through the process of creating the OS X Mountain Lion installer on DVD or USB.

Although Apple ended support for OS X Mountain Lion in August 2016, it is still available for purchase at the Apple Store. Purchasing will generate the download code for you to import into the Mac App Store when downloading the software.

## How to create OS X Mountain Lion installer on DVD or USB

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## What you need



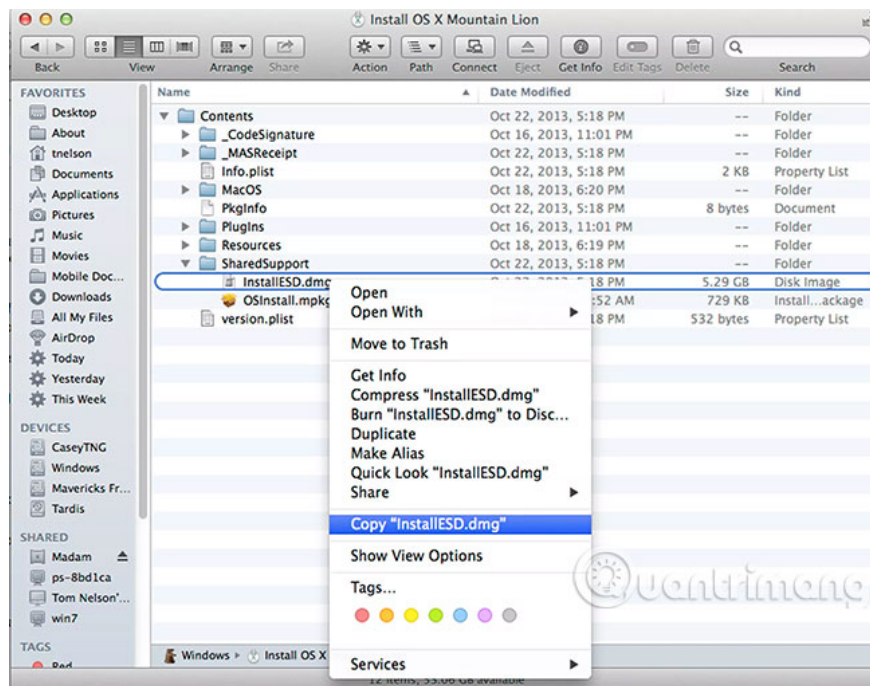
You need a dual layer DVD (DVD with double sided recording) and a disc or USB drive. DVD dual layer has two layers, increasing the available recording space to about 8.5GB. The OS X Mountain Lion installer is just too big a thing to match the standard DVD. DVD dual layer is available wherever standard DVDs are sold. If your Mac doesn't have an integrated SuperDrive, use an external DVD burning tool.

You can also use a USB flash drive with at least 5GB capacity (8GB and 16GB are available sizes) as a bootable medium.

Download a copy of OS X Mountain Lion that you must purchase at Apple Store online and download it from the Mac App Store. It is saved in the Applications folder on the Mac. This file is called **Install OS X Mountain Lion**.

You must create a bootable copy of the installer before you install Mountain Lion, because the setup process will delete the files you need to create a bootable copy of the installer.

## **Locate the installation of Mountain Lion image**



The installation of Mountain Lion that you need to create a bootable DVD or USB drive is contained in the **Install OS X Mountain Lion** file that you downloaded from the Mac App Store.

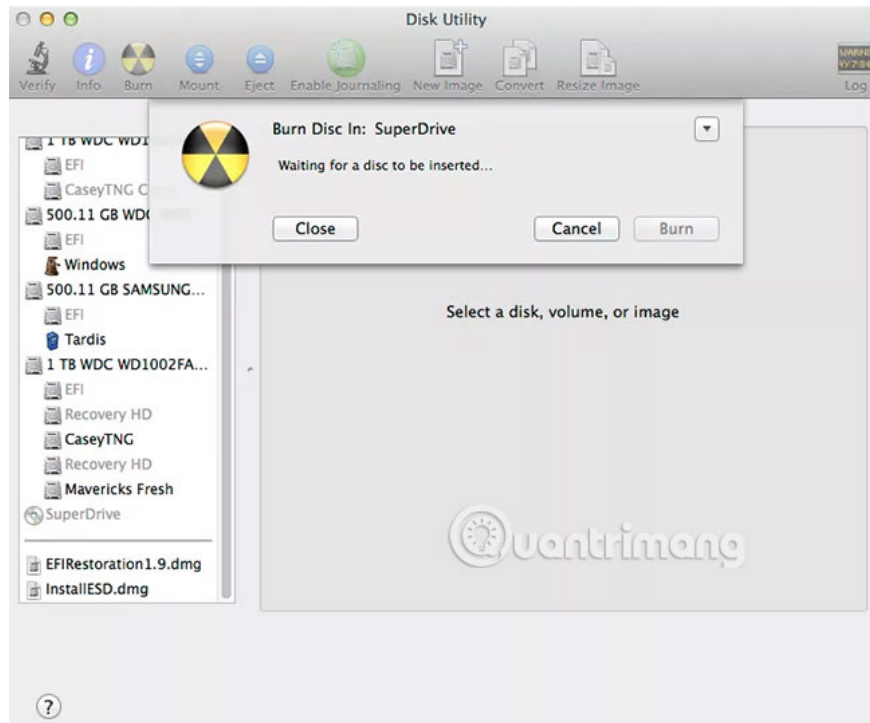
Because the image is contained in the downloaded file, copy it to the desktop to create an image that can be booted as easily as possible.

1. Open the Finder window and go to the **Applications** folder (/ **Applications**).
2. Scroll through the list of files and find the file called **Install OS X Mountain Lion** .
3. Right-click the **Install OS X Mountain Lion** file and select **Show Package Contents** from the pop-up menu.
4. Open the **Contents** folder and then open the **SharedSupport** folder . You will see a file called **InstallESD.dmg**.
5. Right-click the **InstallESD.dmg** file and select **Copy InstallESD.dmg** from the pop-up menu.
6. Close the Finder window and return to the desktop.
7. Right-click an empty area on the desktop and select **Paste Item** from the pop-up menu.

Pasting an item into the desktop takes some time, so be patient.

When the process is finished, you have a copy of the InstallESD.dmg file that you need to create a bootable copy on the desktop.

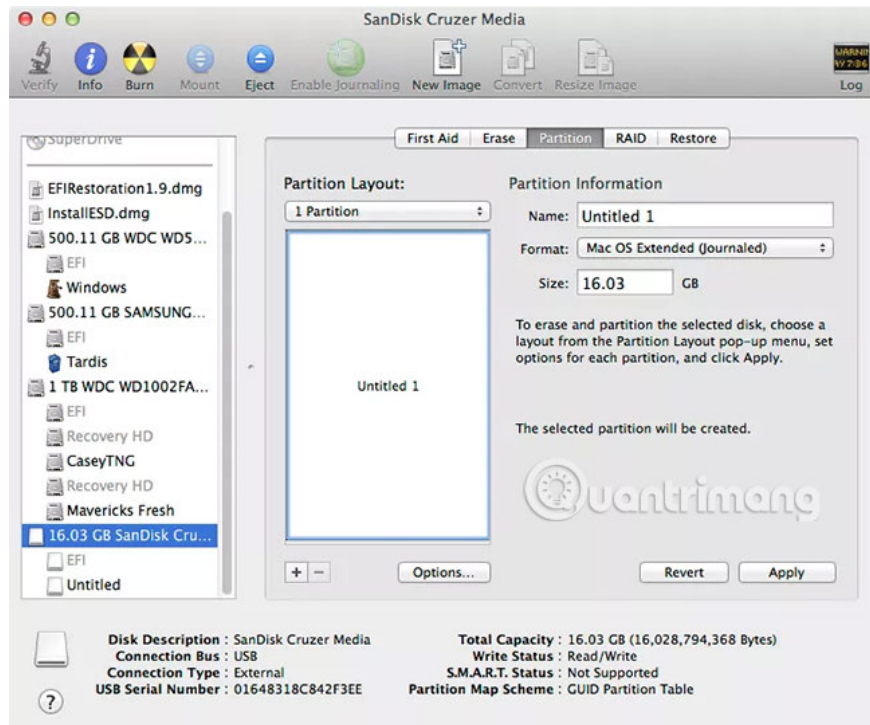
## **Burn the bootable DVD of the Lion X Mountain Lion installer**



With the Mountain Lion InstallESD.dmg file copied to the desktop, you're ready to burn the installer bootable DVD.

1. Insert a blank DVD disc into the Mac's optical drive.
2. If a message asks you what to do with the blank DVD, click the **Ignore** button . If the Mac is set to automatically launch an application related to DVD, when you insert the DVD, exit the application.
3. Launch Disk Utility, located in / **Applications** / **Utilities**.
4. Click the **Burn** icon , located in the top right corner of the Disk Utility window.
5. Select the **InstallESD.dmg** file you copied to the desktop.
6. Click the **Burn** button .
7. Put a blank DVD in the Mac's optical drive and click the **Burn** button again to create a bootable DVD containing OS X Mountain Lion.
8. When the burn is complete, remove the DVD, add the label and store the DVD in a safe location.

## **Copy the installer Lion X Mountain Lion to the USB can boot**



If you can't burn DVDs, you can use a bootable USB drive. Create a bootable copy of Mountain Lion on a hard drive. All you need is the **InstallESD.dmg** file that you copied to the desktop and flash drive.

## Delete and format USB

1. Insert the USB into the USB port of the Mac.
2. Launch Disk Utility, located in / **Applications / Utilities**.
3. In the Disk Utility window open, scroll through the list of devices in the left panel and select your USB device. It can be listed with multiple volume names. Do not select the volume name. Instead, choose the top-level name, usually the device's name, such as **16GB SanDisk Ultra** .
4. Click the **Partition** tab .
5. From the **Partition Layout** drop-down menu , select **1 Partition** .
6. Click the **Options** button .
7. Make sure that the **GUID Partition Table** is selected from the list of available partition schemes. Click OK. All data on the USB will be deleted.
8. Click the **Apply** button .
9. Disk Utility requires you to confirm that you want to partition the USB device. Click the **Partition** button .

USB device deleted and partition. When that process is complete, the flash drive is ready for you to copy the InstallESD.dmg file.

## Copy the InstallESD.dmg file to the flash drive

1. Make sure the USB device is selected in the device list in Disk Utility. Do not select the volume name but select the device name
2. Click the **Restore** tab .
3. Drag the **InstallESD.dmg** item from the device list into the **Source** field . It will be near the bottom of Disk Utility's device list. You may need to scroll down to find it.
4. Drag the volume name of the USB device from the device list to the **Destination** field .
5. Some versions of Disk Utility may include a box labeled **Erase Destination**. If you fall into this situation, make sure this box is selected.
6. Click **Restore**.
7. Disk Utility asks you to confirm that you want to perform a restore, delete all information on the destination drive. Click **Erase**.
8. If Disk Utility requires an admin password, provide the information and click **OK**.

Disk Utility copies InstallESD.dmg data to USB device. When the process is complete, you will have a bootable copy of the OS X Mountain Lion installer ready to use.

Hope you are succesful.

You finished reading the article "**Create a bootable copy of the OS X Mountain Lion installer**" edited by the [TipsMake](#) team. We hope this article has provided you with many useful tech tips and tricks. You can search for similar articles on tips and guides. Thank you for reading and for following us regularly.