How to run the emulator on the Raspberry Pi 4

For years, Raspberry Pi fans have been running game emulation platforms like RetroPie, Recalbox and Lakka. However, when the Raspberry Pi 4 came out, none of these platforms officially supported new hardware, and users had to look for beta versions or alternatives that didn't work very well.

However, the situation has improved, but has not been completely solved. Below, **TipsMake.com** will show you two ways to run the emulator on Raspberry Pi 4 right now.

Run Lakka on Raspberry Pi 4

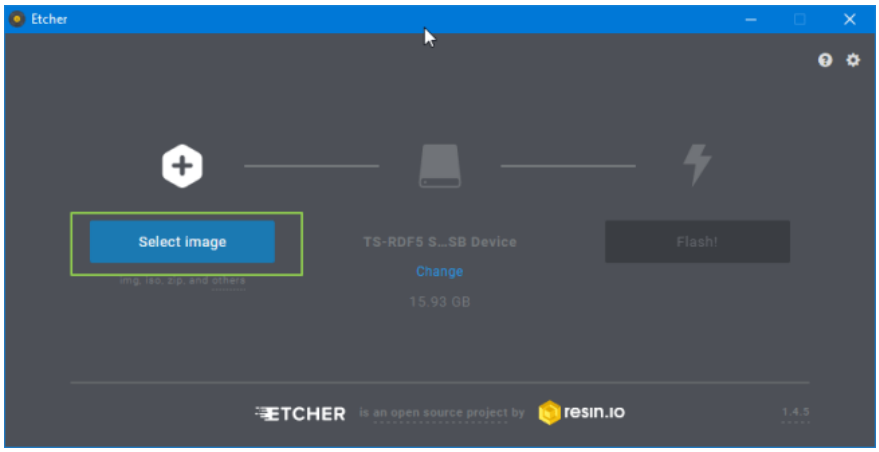
While Retropie is by far the most popular choice because of its attractive user interface (UI), Lakka is the first platform to have a non-beta version that supports the Raspberry Pi 4. Lakka has strong performance , but don't offer as many options or have as much support as a competitor.

1. Insert a microSD memory card (at least 16GB) into the PC.

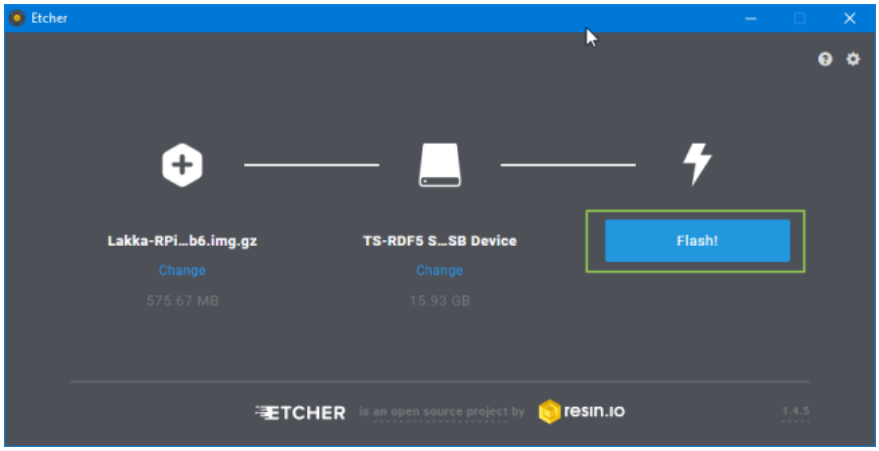
2. Download the latest version of Lakka for Raspberry Pi. Note that it is currently labeled as Pi 2/3 but still works for 4. Find the latest file with the **.img.gz** file **extension.**

3. Launch Etcher on PC. Download and install Etcher if you haven't already.

4. Click **Select Image** and select the file you just downloaded.



Click on Select Image
5. Click **Flash.**



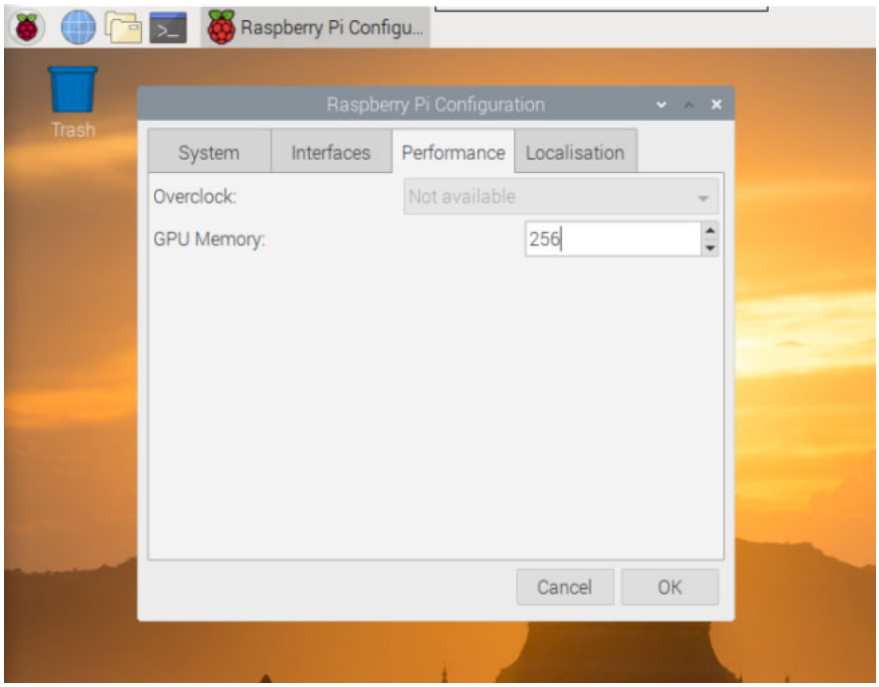
Click on Flash
Once you've finished recording the microSD memory card, you can put it into your Raspberry Pi 4 and boot.

Install RetroPie on Raspberry Pi 4

To install RetroPie on Pi 4, you will not need to do too much work, but be patient. Installation will take 1 or 2 hours.

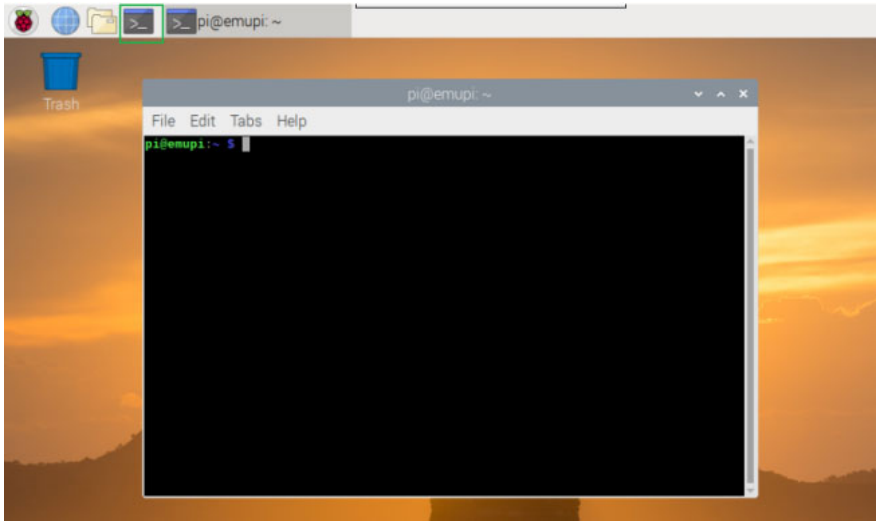
1. Install the latest version of Raspbian Buster on Pi 4, if you haven't already done so and boot into this operating system. We recommend that you install the lite version, not included with the preloaded Windows X. If you don't know how to install Raspbian, see the article: How to set up the Raspberry Pi for the first time for more details .

2. Set the Raspberry Pi 4 GPU memory to 256MB. At the Command Prompt / Terminal window, you do that by entering **raspi-config** , then selecting **Advanced Options> Memory Split** and entering **256.** If you have X Windows, you do this by navigating to **Preferences> Raspberry Pi Configuration** , click the **Performance** tab , change the number to **256** and click **OK.** In both cases, you need to reboot later.



Set the GPU memory of Raspberry Pi 4 to 256MB

3. Launch a Terminal window on Raspberry Pi 4 if you haven't already booted into the Command Prompt. In X Windows, you can get there by clicking on the icon **Terminal** or press `CTRL`+ `ALT`+ `T`.



Launch a Terminal window on Raspberry Pi 4

4. Download the Retropie installation file by typing:

```
sudo git clone --depth=1 https://github.com/RetroPie/RetroPie-Setup.git
```

If you have a good Internet connection, this will only take a few seconds.

5. Enter **cd RetroPie-Setup** to enter the setup directory.

```
cd RetroPie-Setup
```

6. Enter **git fetch && git checkout fkms_rpi4** to get the appropriate FKMS version of RetroPie (version works with Pi 4).

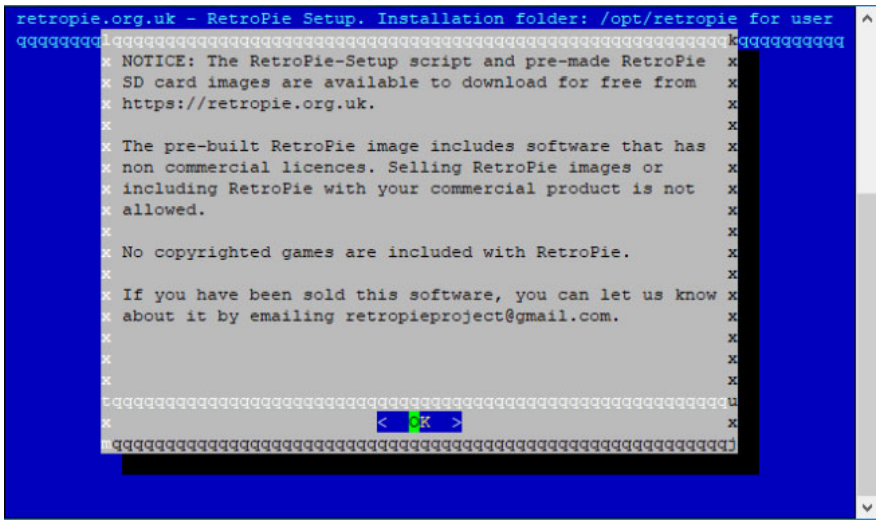
```
git fetch && git checkout fkms_rpi4
```

7. Execute the setup script by typing:

```
sudo ./retropie_setup.sh
```

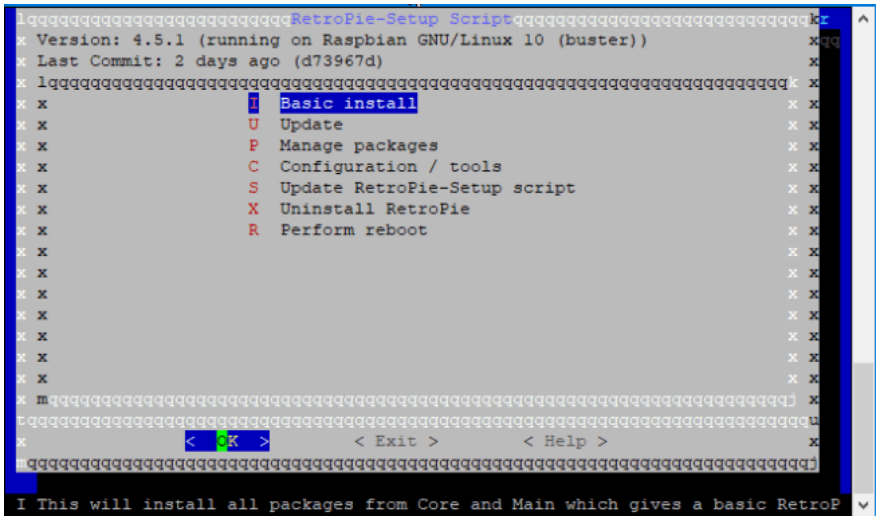
This process will take a few, so maybe come back later. When you return, you will see a blue screen with a menu on it.

8. Click **OK** by clicking `Enter`and click **OK** again if prompted.



Click OK

9. Select **Basic Install** from the menu and click **OK.**

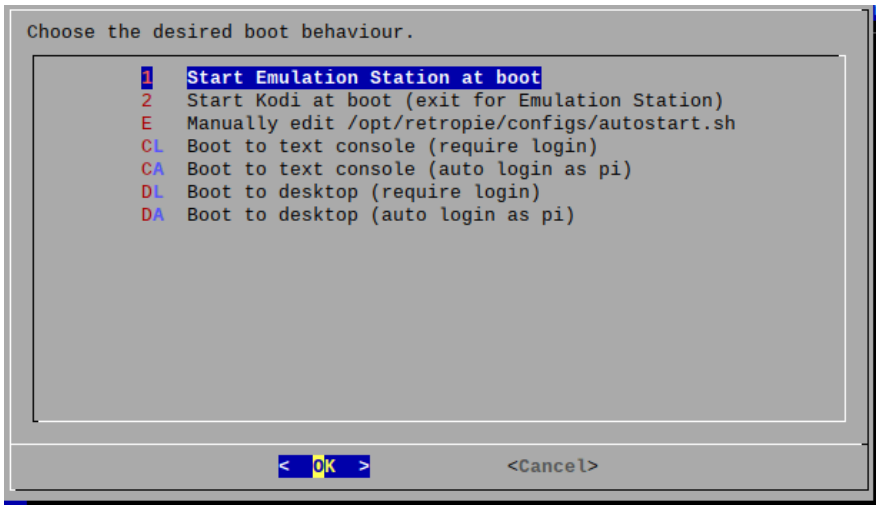


Select Basic Install

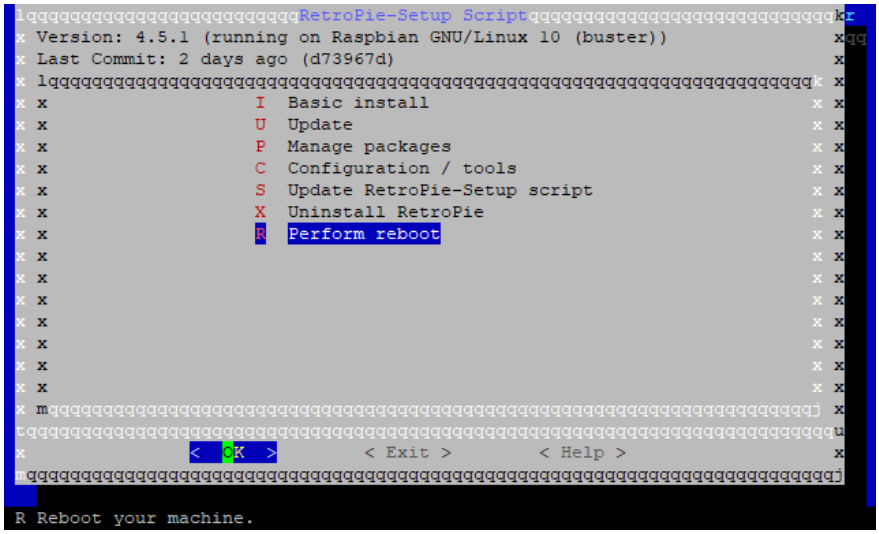
10. Click **Yes** when asked to confirm the installation.

Click Yes to confirm
Now the installation process will actually begin, taking at least 45 minutes or maybe longer.

11. Select **Configuration / tools> autostart> Start Emulation Station at boot** .



Select Configuration / tools> autostart> Start Emulation Station at boot
12. Select **Perform Reboot** and click **OK.** Confirm if prompted.



Select Perform Reboot
The Raspberry Pi will reboot.