

# Recommendations for Installing a New OS

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## Before You Begin ...

- Make certain to safely back up / preserve your personal files (e.g., Documents, Pictures, Photos, Music, etc.)
- Read instructions beforehand to get an idea of what you will be doing.
- Take your time and work carefully.
- Doing a new installation from scratch sounds intimidating, but it should go smoothly if you follow the advice above.
- If you run into problems, you can always ask for help in the PCLOS Forum.

## If You're Interested in LXQt and Your Current System is Years-Old ...

- Rather than trying to install the "task-lxqt" package via Synaptic (and adding another DE choice to your existing system),
- I would recommend doing a fresh / clean installation of LXQt.
- IMHO, this will be much "cleaner" than adding another layer to your current LXDE installation.
- This way, you will not have any LXDE system components possibly interfering with your new LXQt installation.

## Download the LXQt Community Edition

From NLUUG's website:

<http://ftp.nluug.nl/pub/os/Linux/distr/pclinuxos/pclinuxos/live-cd/community/>

Daniel's most recent remaster is "lxqt-2022.04.iso" (2 GB).

- Temporarily save this download to your "Downloads" folder.

## Check the md5 Sum

- Do **not** skip this step. You want to make sure that you have a valid, uncorrupted download of the .iso file

Look for: [community-pclinuxos64-lxqt-2022.04.md5sum](#)

Download the .md5sum checkfile for that .iso and save it to your computer (e.g., in the Downloads folder).

- Right-click on that .md5sum link and choose the option "Save Link As ..."
- Save this file to your Downloads folder.
- Open a Terminal and check by typing this command. (*Sample output included below*):

```
david@david-Latitude-E4300:~$ cd /home/david/Downloads
```

(Instead of "/david/", type <*yourusername*> )

```
david@david-Latitude-E4300:~/Downloads$ ls  
'2021 Undergraduate Commencement Program - Abridged.pdf'  
[ ... snip ... ]  
community-pclinuxos64-lxqt-2022.04.iso  
community-pclinuxos64-lxqt-2022.04.md5sum  
[ ... snip ... ]
```

```
david@david-Latitude-E4300:~/Downloads$ md5sum community-pclinuxos64-lxqt-2022.04.iso
```

[ Output was ]:  
7b0b97fa97d17005006ed08242f78e8a community-pclinuxos64-lxqt-2022.04.iso

- Open the .md5sum file with a simple text editor (Leafpad, Mousepad, FeatherPad, etc.)
- Copy the md5sum output from your Terminal, and
- Paste it into that open text file.
- Carefully check the "fingerprint" strings to make sure that they match.
- If everything matches, you have a good, uncorrupted .iso download and can proceed to the next step.

## Copy / Burn the .iso File to a USB Thumb Drive

- Instead of burning the .iso to a blank DVD (to use as an installation medium),
- I recommend using a USB thumb drive (at least 4 GB capacity)

There are two different tools / utilities that you can use to copy the .iso file, in such a way that the USB thumb drive will be bootable:

- ddCopy , or,
- the "dd" command issued via a Terminal

### ddCopy

- The "ddCopy" tool is GUI-based and easier to use. You can install it via Synaptic.

### dd Command

- "dd" is a command-line tool. It also works well but you need to be careful when using it (due to the possibility of it accidentally erasing the wrong destination drive, if you type an incorrect 'target').
- If you choose to use "dd", type this command as **root (/) user**:

```
dd bs=4M if=community-pclinuxos64-1xqt-2022.04.iso of=/dev/sdX status=progress && sync
```

"if" means 'input file'  
"of" means 'output file'

Special device - pendrive - **/dev/sdX** - without any number .

- If you use dd and need to identify your pendrive's designation, there are a couple of different ways to do it via the Terminal. ([Sample output included below](#)).
- Plug your pendrive into a USB port and mount it, if LXDE does not auto-mount it:
- Then, type:

```
[david@localhost ~]$ df -h
Filesystem  Size  Used Avail Use% Mounted on
/dev/root    28G  13G  14G  49% /
/dev          7.6G  1.0M  7.6G  1% /dev
none         7.6G   0    7.6G  0% /dev/shm
/dev/sda1    619M  280K  619M  1% /boot/EFI
/dev/sda4    415G  29G  387G  7% /home
```

none	7.6G	12K	7.6G	1%	/var/run/user/500
/dev/sdb1	15G	7.8G	7.2G	53%	/media/Lexar

(In the example above, my pendrive is " /dev/sdb1 ")

Or, another option is to become root (/) user in the Terminal,<sup>1</sup> and then type the " mount " command:

```
[root@localhost ~]# mount
/dev/sda2 on / type ext4 (rw)
none on /proc type proc (rw)
none on /dev/pts type devpts (rw)
/dev/sda1 on /boot/EFI type vfat (rw)
/dev/sda4 on /home type ext4 (rw)
none on /proc/sys/fs/binfmt_misc type binfmt_misc (rw)
gvfsd-fuse on /var/run/user/500/gvfs type fuse.gvfsd-fuse (rw,nosuid,nodev,user=david)
/dev/sda4 on /run/timeshift/backup type ext4 (rw)
/dev/sdb1 on /media/Lexar type vfat
(rw,nodev,nosuid,uid=500,gid=500,shortname=mixed,utf8=1,showexec,flush,uhelper=udisks2)
```

- **Note:** Both ddCopy and dd will completely erase any existing files on your USB thumb drive. So, it is best to use a thumb drive which you will specifically dedicate to storing your PCLinuxOS .iso file.
- Advantages: You will have a dedicated LXQt Install USB on hand / at the ready, in case you need to reinstall. Thumb drives are inexpensive now, so this does not involve spending much money.

## For More Details

More detailed instructions are available in the PCLinuxOS Knowledge Base:

[http://pclinuxoshelp.com/index.php/Ways\\_to\\_get\\_PCLinuxOS](http://pclinuxoshelp.com/index.php/Ways_to_get_PCLinuxOS)

## Install PCLinuxOS from Your USB Thumb Drive

### Two Partitioning Options

- This is a somewhat complicated step, so I will not cover it in detail.
- The main option to consider is:
- Whether you want to use the installer's auto-format feature ("Erase and use entire disk"), or,
- Whether you want to use Custom Disk Partitioning. (This will allow you to use your existing partitions [although this will overwrite / erase the data currently there])

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1 To become root user, first type: \$ su - (Be sure to include the single hyphen " - "). Then you will be prompted to type your root password.

## **Detailed Instructions from the PCLOS Knowledge Base**

Please see the more complete instructions are available here:

[http://pclinuxoshelp.com/index.php/Installing\\_PCLinuxOS](http://pclinuxoshelp.com/index.php/Installing_PCLinuxOS)

PCLinuxOS Knowledge Base. "Installing PCLinuxOS."