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# HOW TO MAKE YOUR OWN PALADIN LTS (VERSION 9 OR HIGHER) USB with PERSISTENCE

# MODE





# How to Make Your Own PALADIN LTS (Version 9 or Higher) USB with Persistence Mode

#### **IMPORTANT:**

This guide explains how to create a PALADIN LTS Version 9 (or higher) USB with Persistence Mode. Persistence Mode allows you to save settings, updates, and files between reboots — turning your PALADIN USB into a powerful, portable forensic toolkit.

#### What You Will Need:

- A USB drive (at least 16GB or larger recommended)
- The PALADIN LTS ISO (Download from <a href="mailto:sumuri.com/product/paladin-lts/">sumuri.com/product/paladin-lts/</a>)
- A Windows PC
- Rufus software (Download free from rufus.ie)

#### Why Use Persistence Mode?

Persistence Mode allows you to:

- Save custom settings (e.g., Autopsy configurations, network settings)
- Retain downloaded tools and updates
- Maintain logs, case notes, and reports between reboots
- Save valuable setup time by eliminating the need to reconfigure PALADIN each use

Without Persistence Mode, all changes would be lost after every reboot.



### Step-by-Step Instructions:

	0	Organization Type * What type of organization are you?				
(Januar)	~	Law Enforcement	•			
PALADI		Name Your Price ( \$ )				
		Keep PALADIN Going (and Your Inbox Happy) We offer PALADIN at low or no cost because we believe forensic professionals shouldn't have to choose between great tools and lunch. All we ask in return? Let us send you the occasional email. We're not here to spam you into submission. Our emails include real value—like forensic tips, biog articles worth reading, training opportunities, and the occasional product update that might just make your day easier.				
And And And And And And And And		If it ever gets to be too much (we get it, inboxes are sacred), you can unsubscribe anytime. No drama, no hard feelings, no "are you sure you want to leave us?" guilt- trips. Thanks for helping us keep PALADIN available—and for being part of a community that makes digital forensics just a little more awesome.				

#### 1. Download PALADIN LTS

- Visit https://sumuri.com/product/paladin-lts/.
- Add PALADIN LTS to your cart and complete the donation process.
- After purchase, download the PALADIN LTS ISO file.

#### **IMPORTANT CONSIDERATIONS:**

Creating a bootable USB will erase all existing data on the target drive. Ensure you have backed up any necessary files from the USB drive before proceeding. The size of the persistent storage you allocate will impact how many changes and how much data you can save on the USB. While persistent mode is highly beneficial, it is still recommended to back up critical case data to a separate, secure storage medium regularly.

For the process of writing the PALADIN ISO image to your USB drive, BalenaEtcher is the recommended utility. While various tools are available for creating bootable media, the reliability and success rate of the etching process can differ significantly based on the software employed. BalenaEtcher is favored due to its consistent performance, user-friendly interface, and integrated validation feature, which collectively contribute to a higher likelihood of producing a correctly functioning bootable drive. Users opting for alternative etching tools should be aware that their experience and the successful creation of the bootable media may vary.



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	🖺 Flash from file		Select target			
	Ø Flash from URL					
	🗗 Clone drive					

#### Method 1: Using BalenaEtcher (Recommended)

- 1.) Download and install BalenaEtcher https://etcher.balena.io/
- 2.) **Open BalenaEtcher and insert USB:** launch the BalenaEtcher application. Insert your USB drive into an available USB port on your Windows or Mac computer.
- 3.) Select the PALADIN LTS ISO: in the BalenaEtcher window, click the button that says "Flash from file" or "Select image". A file browser will open. Navigate to the location where you saved the PALADIN LTS ISO file, select it, and click "Open".
- 4.) Select the Target USB Drive: BalenaEtcher should automatically detect connected USB drives. Click on "Select target". From the list of available drives, carefully select your USB drive. It is extremely important to verify that you should have selected the correct drive to avoid accidentally erasing data from another storage device.
- 5.) **Start the Flashing Process:** Once the ISO image and the target USB are selected, the "Flash!" button will become active. Click "Flash!". BalenaEtcher may request administrative privileges to perform the write operation; grant these permissions.
- 6.) Wait for Flashing and Validation: BalenaEtcher will now write the ISO image to the USB drive. A progress bat will indicate the status. After the flashing is complete, Etcher will typically perform a validation step to ensure the data was written correctly. Wait for the process to finish.



7.) **Flashing Complete:** Once the process is finished, BalenaEtcher will indicate that the flash is complete. You can now close BalenaEtcher and safely remove the USB drive from your computer.

#### Instructions for using Rufus

#### 2. Download and Open Rufus

Download					
Latest releases:					
Link	Туре	Platform	Size	Date	
rufus-4.7.exe	Standard	Windows x64	1.6 MB	2025.04.09	
rufus-4.7p.exe	Portable	Windows x64	1.6 MB	2025.04.09	
rufus-4.7_x86.exe	Standard	Windows x86	1.6 MB	2025.04.09	
rufus-4.7_arm64.exe	Standard	Windows ARM64	5.3 MB	2025.04.09	

- Go to https://rufus.ie/ and download the latest version of Rufus.
- Insert your USB drive into your Windows PC.
- Open Rufus.

#### 3. Set Up Your PALADIN USB with Persistence

🖋 Rufus 4.6.2208 (Portable)	- 0	$\times$			
Drive Properties					
Drive Properties —					
PRUSAI3MK3S (E:) [16 GB]		~			
Boot selection					
PALADIN_9.iso	V 🔗 SELECT				
Persistent partition size					
1	0 (No persistence)				
Partition scheme	Target system				
GPT ~	UEFI (non CSM)				
Volume label Paladin 9.0.0 LTS amd64 2025.03	Churton size				
NITES	(1096 bytes (Default)				
<ul> <li>Show advanced format options</li> <li>Status</li> </ul>					
REA	DY				
S) (i) ‡ II	START CLOSE				



Inside Rufus:

- Device: Select your USB drive.
- Boot Selection: Choose Disk or ISO image, then click Select and pick your downloaded PALADIN LTS ISO file.
- **Persistent Partition Size:** Choose how much space you want to reserve for saving files and settings (example: 8GB for a 16GB drive).
- Partition Scheme: Set to GPT.
- File System: Set to NTFS (IMPORTANT: PALADIN's root file is larger than 4GB, which FAT32 cannot handle).
- Leave all other settings at default.
- Click **Start** and confirm any prompts.

## 3A. (Optional but Recommended) Format the Persistent Volume as "writable"

PALADIN TOOLBOX v9.0.0							
<b>b</b>							
Imager	Device	Model	FileSystem	Label	Size	Mount Path	Bitlock
	/dev/	Samsung SSD 990 PRO 1TB			931.51GB		No
Image Converter	/dev/	Samsung SSD 990 PRO 1TB	vfat		1.05GB		No
Find	/dev/	Samsung SSD 990 PRO 1TB	ext4		930.46GB		No
Unallocated	/dev/	Samsung SSD 990 PRO 1TB			931.51GB		No
	/dev/	Samsung SSD 990 PRO 1TB			897.35GB		No
Disk Manager	/dev/	Samsung SSD 990 PRO 1TB		swap	34.16GB		No
Network Share	/dev/sda	PSSD T7			1863.02GB		No
Packup and Destage	/dev/sda1	PSSD T7	ext4	writable	1863.01GB		No
Backup and Rescore	/dev/sdb	Туре-С			119.51GB		No
Logical Imager	/dev/sdb1	Туре-С	exfat	PALADIN	69.48GB		No
	/dev/sdb2	Fo	rmat		ХРМВ		No
	/dev/sdb3				GB		No
		Label writable					
		FS Type EXT4			-		
	Format Cancel						
					_		
	•						•
		Refresh Mount-R M	ount-RW Uni	Mount	Verify Fo	ormat Wip	be
	Task Logs	System Logs Marify M	ina				
	Task Logs	system Logs venity w	ipe				
Sumuri LLC, USA							
PALADIN							



After creating your PALADIN USB with persistence using Rufus, you can optionally format the persistent volume for improved compatibility and performance:

- 1. Boot into PALADIN using the USB you just created.
- 2. Open the **PALADIN Toolbox** and select **Disk Manager**.
- 3. Locate the persistent partition you created during Rufus setup.
  - It is usually formatted as **ext4** and may be unnamed or have a generic label.
- 4. Format the persistent partition again as **ext4** (if needed), and **label** it exactly as: **writable** (all lowercase)
- 5. Apply and confirm the changes.

#### Why Label It "writable"?

Labeling the partition as **writable** ensures that Persistence Mode correctly recognizes and mounts the volume as a cache area, allowing you to save settings, logs, updates, downloaded tools, and case files between reboots.

#### Important Tip:

Always double-check that you are formatting the correct partition to avoid losing any important data.

#### To Boot PALADIN in Persistence Mode:

- Insert the PALADIN USB into the computer you want to use.
- Enter the computer's Boot Menu (typically by pressing F12, F2, ESC, or DEL at startup – varies by manufacturer).
- Select the USB drive as the boot device.
- When prompted, select **Persistence Mode** to launch PALADIN.

You can now save settings, update tools, create case files — and everything will persist between boots!



## **Tips for Best Performance:**

- Allow up to **3–5 minutes** for the first boot into Persistence Mode (especially if you reserved a large persistence space).
- Always safely eject the USB drive after use to protect your persistent data.
- Regularly back up important case data saved on your USB.



## Contact Us

For more information about PALADIN feel free to reach out to us directly at any time.

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