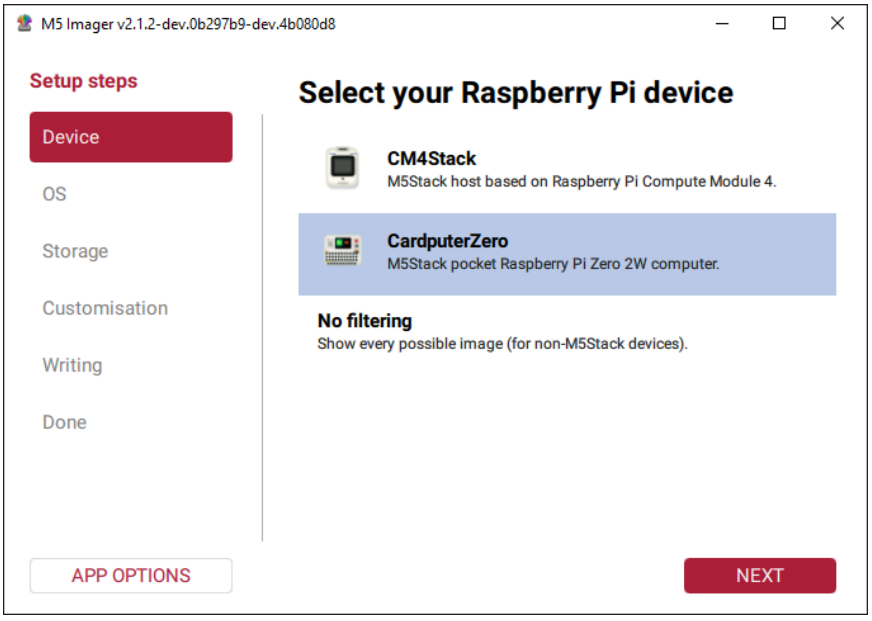
CardputerZero Image Burning Guide

1. Preparation

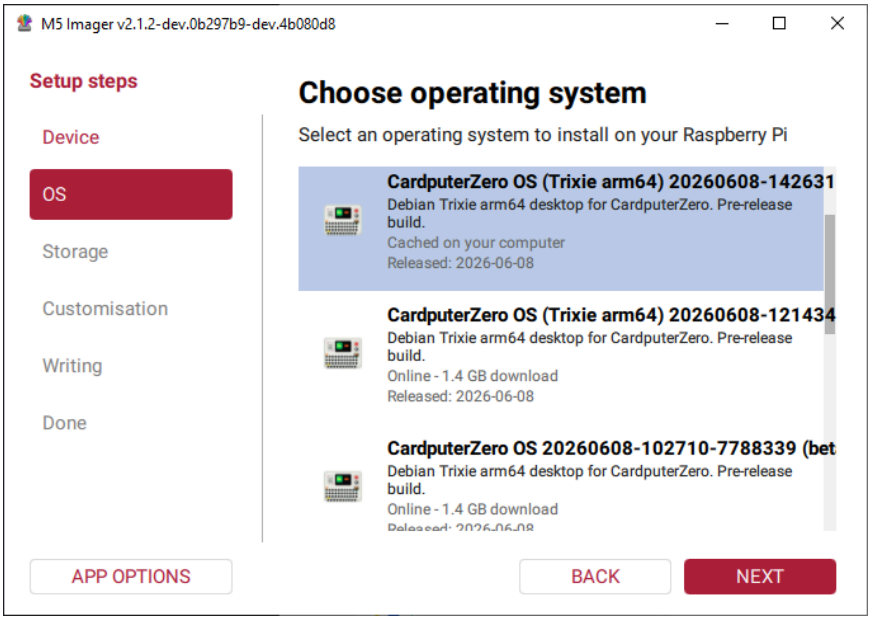
Visit M5 Imager - GitHub Releases and download the appropriate version of the M5 Imager burning tool for your operating system.

2. Burning and Configuration

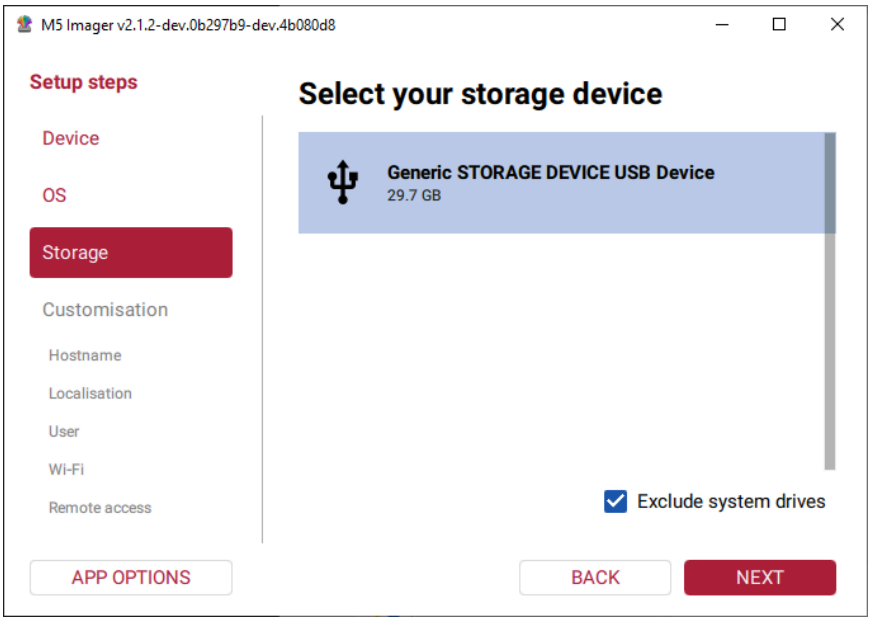
1. Open the M5 Imager burning tool. Select `CardputerZero` from the device list, then click `NEXT`.



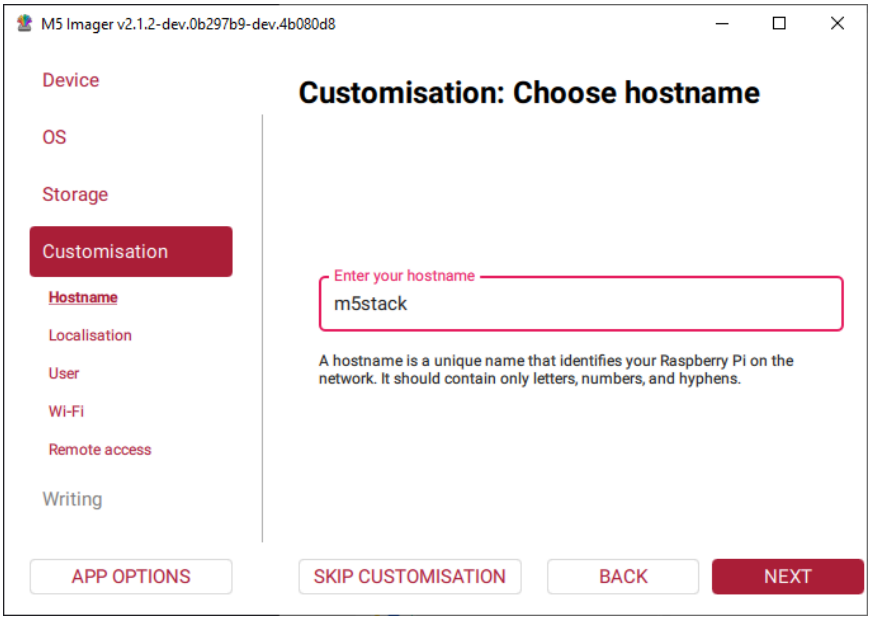
2. Insert the microSD card into the card reader and connect it to the computer. After the system detects the storage device, select the image version you want to burn.

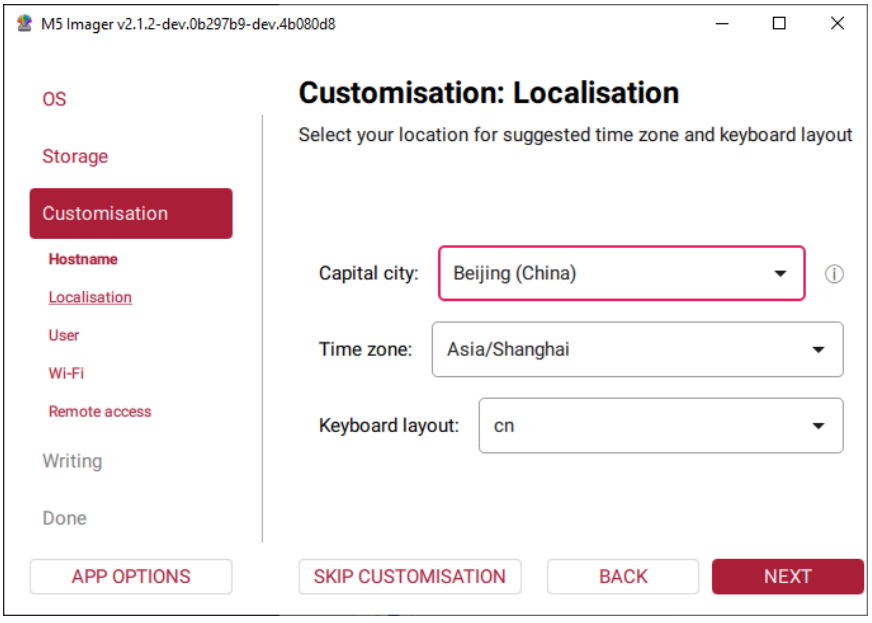


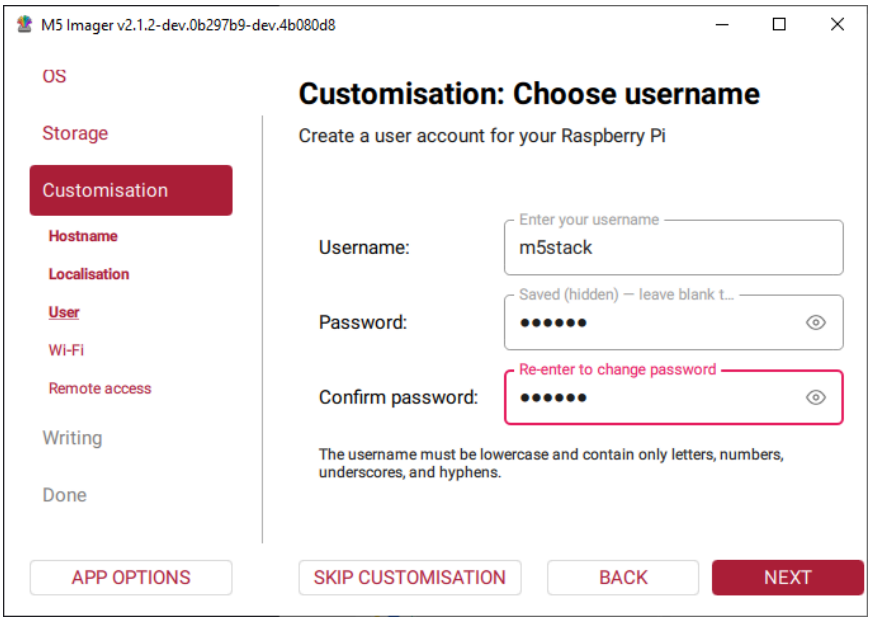
3. Select the target storage device. Please confirm that the selected device is correct to avoid accidentally erasing data on other storage media.

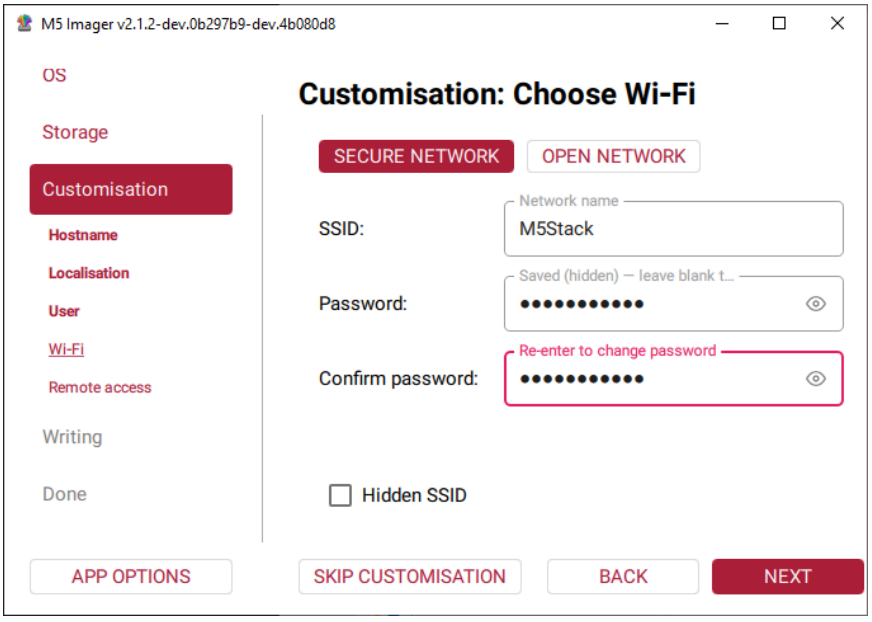


4. Configure the username, password, and Wi-Fi connection information as needed.

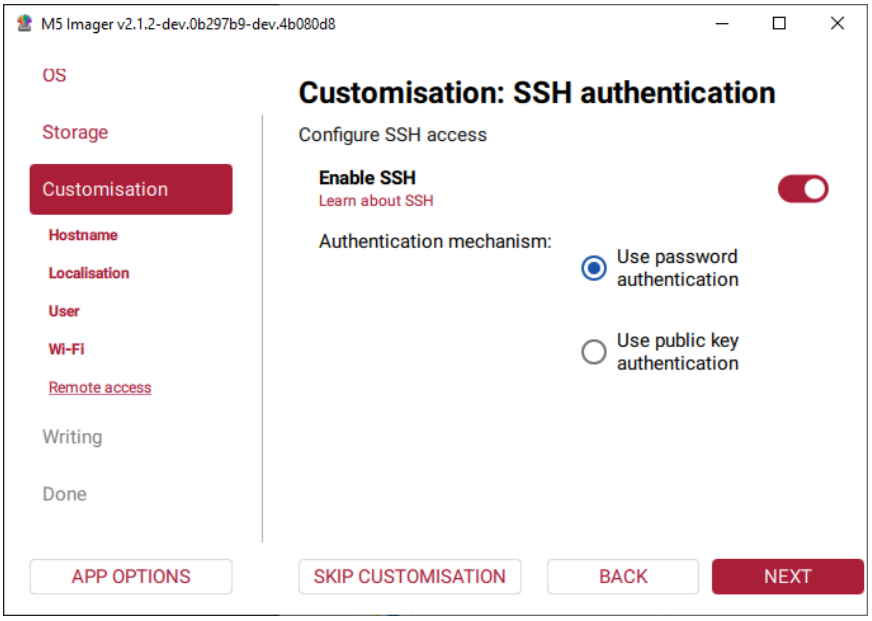




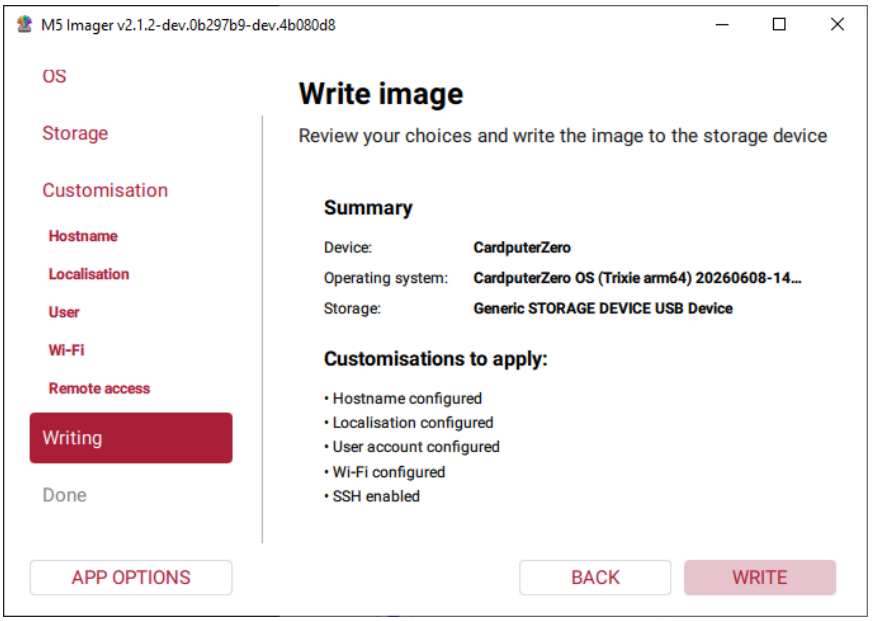


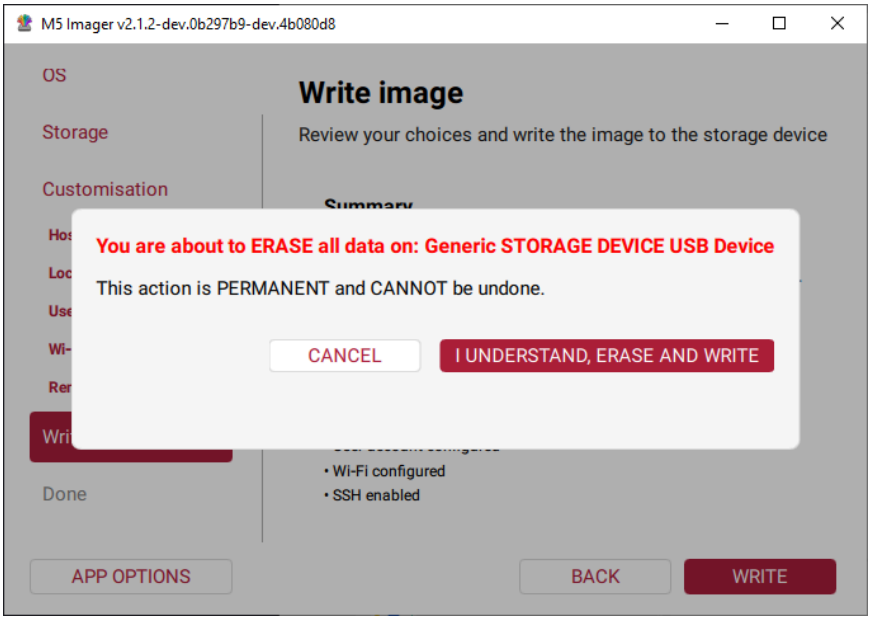


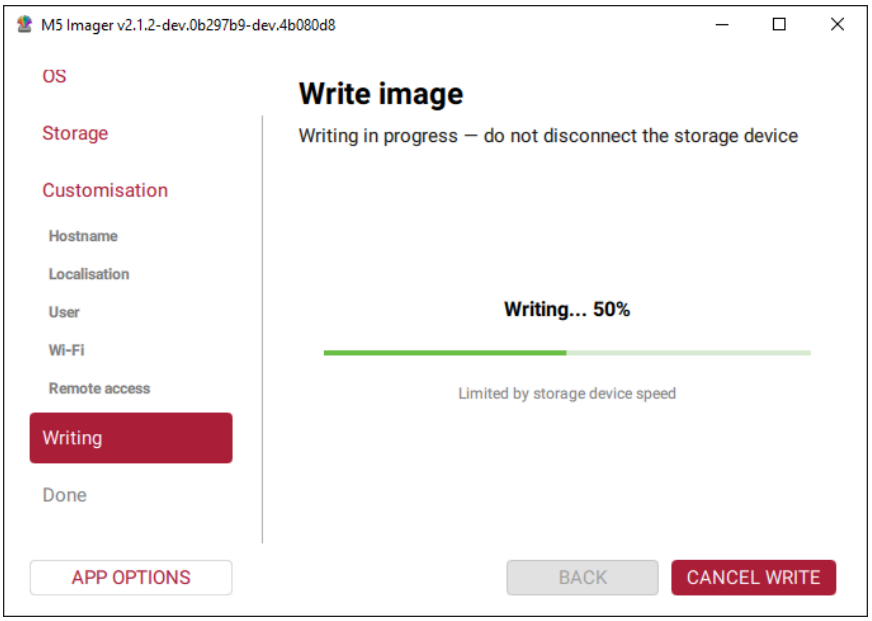
5. If you need to log in to the device remotely, you can enable SSH connectivity.

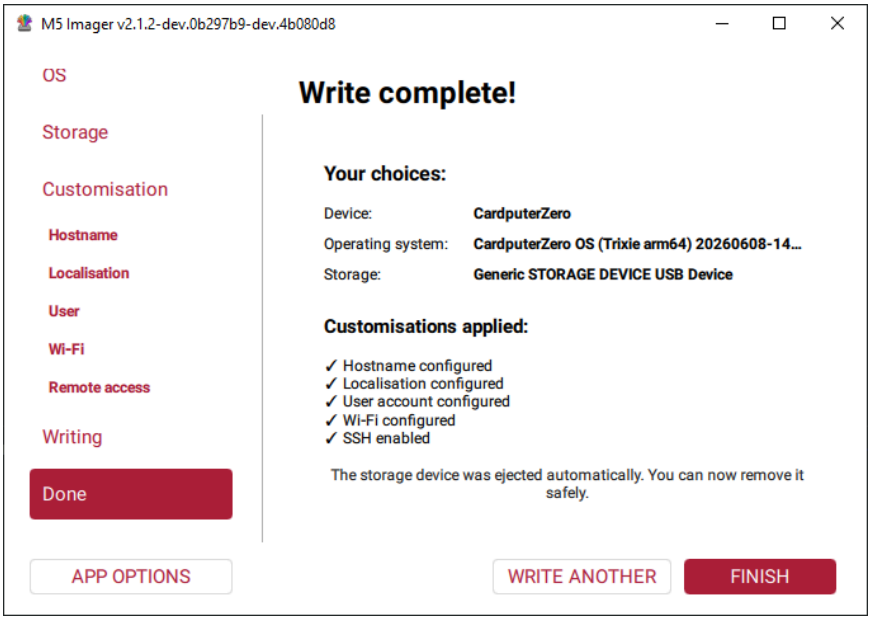


6. After confirming that the configuration is correct, start burning and wait for the process to complete.


M5 Imager v2.1.2-dev.0b297b9-dev.4b080d8
OS
Storage
Customisation
Hostname
Localisation
User
Wi-Fi
Remote access
Writing
Done
Write image
Review your choices and write the image to the storage device
Summary
Device: CardputerZero
Operating system: CardputerZero OS (Trixie arm64) 20260608-14...
Storage: Generic STORAGE DEVICE USB Device
Customisations to apply:
• Hostname configured
• Localisation configured
• User account configured
• Wi-Fi configured
• SSH enabled
APP OPTIONS
BACK
WRITE


M5 Imager v2.1.2-dev.0b297b9-dev.4b080d8
OS
Storage
Customisation
Done
Write image
Review your choices and write the image to the storage device
You are about to ERASE all data on: Generic STORAGE DEVICE USB Device
This action is PERMANENT and CANNOT be undone.
CANCEL
I UNDERSTAND, ERASE AND WRITE
• Wi-Fi configured
• SSH enabled
APP OPTIONS
BACK
WRITE





Burning via USB Interface (Not Recommended)

> **Burning Speed**
>
> Burning through the USB interface is relatively slow, and usbboot may have compatibility issues on some computers. To improve burning efficiency, it is strongly recommended to use a card reader connected to the computer for burning.

Rpiboot

Install Rpiboot. This tool allows a CardputerZero with a microSD card inserted and connected to the computer to be recognized as a disk device. You can then use M5Image to flash the system image. Because some versions may have compatibility issues, refer to the version number and `commit` information provided below, and download and use the corresponding usbboot version.

For Windows

- Download and install the rpiboot program.

For Linux / MacOS

- On Linux systems, you need to compile the rpiboot tool from source.

```
# For Linux
# sudo apt install git libusb-1.0-0-dev pkg-config
# For MacOS
brew install libusb
brew install pkg-config
git clone https://github.com/raspberrypi/usbboot
cd usbboot
git checkout 61c482663c9b2a61ee86ba491f131ba4ca90e4ea
make
sudo ./rpiboot
```

1. Insert the microSD card into the device, then switch the USB interface selector to the left to enable the USB Type-C port on the right side of the device.
2. Use the USB Type-C port on the right side of the device to connect it to the computer, then open the `rpiboot` program and wait for detection.

> **Improve Transfer Speed**
>
> Run `./rpiboot -d mass-storage-gadget64` from the `usbboot` directory to start `rpiboot` and increase the transfer speed when flashing via USB.

```
./rpiboot -d mass-storage-gadget64
```

3. Press and hold the device's Boot button.
4. While continuing to hold the Boot button, switch the power switch to `ON`, then release the button after holding it for more than 5 seconds.
5. After `rpiboot` successfully detects and connects to the device, the computer will recognize the corresponding storage device.

