

# lastdigit7

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## Boot ISO-Image from local hard drive with Grub2

Posted by [lastdigit7](#) on [January 13, 2014](#)

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Want to run a Live-CD or install an new operating system? If you're running out of dvd's to burn and don't have a usb drive around, booting a downloaded ISO-Image directly from the local hard drive is probably what you want to do. In this example, I will demonstrate how to boot into Linux Mint and Manjaro. You will need the bootloader Grub2 for it to work.

Place the ISO-Image in a folder on your hard drive. Any partition and folder can be used as long as it can be mounted by Grub. For the ease of use, I put the image directly in the root directory of the running linux system. Use administrator rights to gain write permission to root (sudo nautilus or sudo nemo).

```
/linuxmint-16-cinnamon-dvd-64bit.iso  
/manjaro-xfce-0.8.8-x86_64.iso
```

Now add the new boot menu entries to the Grub2 configuration file. Open following file with write permissions:

```
/etc/grub.d/40_custom
```

Append the following lines to the file while replacing #X with the number of the hard drive (starting at 0) and #Y with the number of the partition (starting at 1). Example: sda1=(hd0,1) or sdb2=(hd1,2). For Manjaro also replace the asterisks with the disk device name, e.g. sda1 or sdb2.

```
menuentry "Linux Mint 16" {
  set isofile="/linuxmint-16-cinnamon-dvd-64bit.iso"
  loopback loop (hd#X,#Y)$isofile
  linux (loop)/casper/vmlinuz.efi boot=casper iso-scan/filename=$isofile noprompt noeject
  initrd (loop)/casper/initrd.lz
}

menuentry "Manjaro 0.8.8" {
  set isofile="/manjaro-xfce-0.8.8-x86_64.iso"
  loopback loop (hd#X,#Y)$isofile
  linux (loop)/manjaro/boot/x86_64/manjaroiso img_dev=/dev/**** img_loop=$isofile
  misobasedir=manjaro misolabel=MJRO_086 nouveau.modeset=0 i915.modeset=1
  radeon.modeset=0
  initrd (loop)/manjaro/boot/x86_64/manjaro.img
}
```

Update Grub by running the command:

```
sudo update-grub
```

Reboot and choose the new menu entry in Grub to boot the corresponding ISO-image.

If you boot into a Live-CD and you want to install the OS, simply run the following code to unmount the iso device before starting the installer.

```
sudo umount -l -r -f /isodevice
```

**Hint:** If the booting of the Manjaro image reports an error and you are stuck in a bash, type in these commands to bypass the problem:

```
mount -o loop /img_dev/manjaro-xfce-0.8.8-x86_64.iso /bootmnt/
exit
```

Enjoy!

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