Preseed Linux USB Create

To create an Auto-Install USB Stock with Mint 21.2 or later, use the following steps.

1. Download latest Linux Mint iso file https://www.linuxmint.com/edition.php?id=305
2. Insert USB stick, check with dmesg | tail to identify the usb device
3. Delete/Create FAT32 partition

   ```
   su -
   fdisk /dev/xxx
   ```

   create type c (Win95 FAT32 LBA) partition
   See for details:
   https://askubuntu.com/questions/1064278/how-to-create-win95-fat32-lba-partition-type-on-32-gb-usb

4. create vfat filesystem on new partition

   ```
   mkfs.vfat /dev/xxx1
   ```

5. mount disk

   ```
   mount /dev/xxx1 /mnt
   ```

6. rename usb stick label if necessary/desired

   ```
   mlabel -i /dev/xxx1 -s ::"CST_MINT212"
   ```

7. mount iso and copy iso content directly to usb stick partition. Ensure hidden files/directories are copied as well.
8. copy custom_install directory to usb stick root
9. copy custom preseed files to usb stick preseed directory
10. edit /boot/grub/grub.cfg and add to end:

    ```
    menuentry "Install Custom Linux Mint 21.2 Cinnamon 64-bit" {
        set gfxpayload=keep
        linux    /casper/vmlinuz  file=/cdrom/preseed/mint_allinone.seed
    boot=casper debian-installer/locale=en keyboard-
    configuration/layoutcode=en_GB console-setup/layoutcode=en_GB
    automatic-ubiquity quiet splash --
        initrd    /casper/initrd.lz
    }
    ```

11. add syslinux.cfg to root with content:

    ```
    default vesamenu.c32
    timeout 100

    menu background splash.png
    menu title Welcome to Linux Mint Cinnamon 64-bit
    ```

```
menu color screen   37;40      #80ffffff #00000000 std
MENU COLOR border       30;44   #40ffffff #a0000000 std
MENU COLOR title        1;36;44 #ffffffff #a0000000 std
MENU COLOR sel          7;37;40 #e0ffffff #20ffffff all
MENU COLOR unsel        37;44   #50ffffff #a0000000 std
MENU COLOR help         37;40   #c0ffffff #a0000000 std
MENU COLOR timeout_msg  37;40   #80ffffff #00000000 std
MENU COLOR timeout      1;37;40 #c0ffffff #00000000 std
MENU COLOR msg07        37;40   #90ffffff #a0000000 std
MENU COLOR tabmsg       31;40   #ffDEDEDE #00000000 std
MENU WIDTH 78
MENU MARGIN 15
MENU ROWS 7
MENU VSHIFT 10
MENU TABMSGROW 12
MENU CMDLINEROW 12
MENU HELPMSGROW 16
MENU HELPMSGENDROW 29


label custom
menu label Automated installation (Everything in one partition)
(syslinux)
kernel casper/vmlinuz
append  file=/cdrom/preseed/mint_allinone.seed boot=casper
initrd=/casper/initrd.lz debian-installer/locale=en keyboard-
configuration/layoutcode=en_GB console-setup/layoutcode=en_GB
automatic-ubiquity quiet splash --
label live
  menu label Start Linux Mint
  kernel /casper/vmlinuz
  append  file=/cdrom/preseed/linuxmint.seed boot=casper
initrd=/casper/initrd.lz quiet splash -- persistent
menu default
label xforcevesa
  menu label Start in compatibility mode
  kernel /casper/vmlinuz
  append  file=/cdrom/preseed/linuxmint.seed boot=casper
initrd=/casper/initrd.lz noapic noacpi nosplash irqpoll nomodeset --
label oem
  menu label OEM install (for manufacturers)
  kernel /casper/vmlinuz
  append  file=/cdrom/preseed/linuxmint.seed oem-config/enable=true
only-ubiquity boot=casper initrd=/casper/initrd.lz quiet splash --
label check
  menu label Integrity check
  kernel /casper/vmlinuz
  append  boot=casper integrity-check initrd=/casper/initrd.lz quiet
splash --
label hdt
  menu label Hardware Detection
```

```
  kernel hdt.c32
label local
  menu label Boot from local drive
  COM32 chain.c32
  APPEND hd0
label memtest
  menu label Memory test
  kernel /casper/memtest
```

12. add mint_allinone.seed file to preseed folder. Example:

```
### Set language and keyboard layout
d-i debian-installer/locale string en_GB.UTF-8
d-i keyboard-configuration/xkb-keymap select gb
d-i keyboard-configuration/layoutcode string gb
d-i keyboard-configuration/modelcode string pc105
d-i console-setup/layoutcode string en_GB
d-i console-setup/ask_detect boolean false

### Timezone and NTP
d-i time/zone string Europe/London
d-i clock-setup/ntp boolean true

### Mirror settings
d-i mirror/country string GB

### Enable extras.ubuntu.com.
d-i apt-setup/extras boolean true

### Disable nonfree multimedia codecs
ubiquity ubiquity/use_nonfree boolean false

### Avoid EFI warning if bios set or allowed to use legacy BIOS boot as
well
d-i partman-efi/non_efi_system true

### Partitioning
d-i partman-auto/method string lvm
d-i partman-auto/choose_recipe select atomic
partman-basicfilesystems partman-basicfilesystems/no_mount_point
boolean false
d-i partman-basicfilesystem/no_swap boolean false
d-i partman-lvm/device_remove_lvm boolean true
d-i partman-md/device_remove_md boolean true
d-i partman-lvm/confirm boolean true
d-i partman-partitioning/confirm_write_new_label boolean true
d-i partman/choose_partition select finish
d-i partman/confirm boolean true
d-i partman/confirm_nooverwrite boolean true
d-i grub-installer/only_debian boolean true
d-i grub-installer/bootdev string /dev/sda
```

```
d-i partman-crypto/passphrase password
d-i partman-crypto/passphrase-again password

### allow root account
d-i passwd/root-login boolean true

### Root password
d-i passwd/root-password password rootpassword
d-i passwd/root-password-again password rootpassword

### To create a normal user account.
d-i passwd/user-fullname string XXXFULLNAMEXXX
d-i passwd/username string XXXUSERNAMEXXX

### Normal user's password, either in clear text or encrypted using a
crypt(3) hash. i.e mkpasswd -m sha-512
d-i passwd/user-password-crypted password XXXUSERPASSWORDXXX

### The installer will warn about weak passwords. If you are sure you
know what you're doing and want to override it, uncomment this.
d-i user-setup/allow-password-weak boolean true

### setup groups for user
d-i passwd/user-default-groups string audio cdrom video dip plugdev
lpadmin sambashare

### set Hostname
d-i netcfg/get_hostname string XXXPCHOSTNAMEXXX

### Auto Login after first boot
d-i passwd/auto-login boolean true

### Trigger reboot
ubiquity ubiquity/reboot boolean true


### Custom Commands
ubiquity ubiquity/success_command string \
  cp /cdrom/auto_install/auto* /target/root/ ;\
  cp -a /cdrom/auto_install/config-files /target/root/config-files ;\
  cp -a /cdrom/auto_install/scripts /target/root/scripts ;\
  cp -a /cdrom/auto_install/dpkg /target/root/dpkg ;\
  chroot /target /root/auto.sh
```

Finally, proceed with pre-config as per CUSTOM USB INSTALL instructions (to follow)

From:
http://wuff.dyndns.org/ - **Wulf's Various Things**

Permanent link:
http://wuff.dyndns.org/doku.php?id=linux:preseed-linux-usb

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