

phone has sd card but cant download apps



How to Install Apps Onto Your SD Card (No Root)

Introduction: How to Install Apps Onto Your SD Card (No Root)

Have you ever ran low on memory space on your android and had to delete some apps? With a computer and a micro SD card you don't have to worry about running out of space on your phone any more! You don't even need to root your phone! After this, your phone will automatically install apps to your external memory.

note - this works on both Windows and Mac OS.

Android Phone (duh) a micro usb cable a computer.

Step 1: Getting Ready to Change Installation Location.

1. Get the Google Android SDK - Unzip the file and place the folder onto your desktop or anywhere that can be easily accessed. - find the platform tools folder (default, it should be : adt-bundle/sdk)
2. Find cmd/terminal (for mac) - (for mac users) go to [System Preferences > Keyboard > Keyboard Shortcuts > Service s] and then check the box [New Terminal At Folder]
3. Go onto your Android phone and select USB debugging - Go to [System settings > Developer Options] and select USB Debugging (if the option is grayed out, unplug your phone first)

Step 2: Using Adb.

1. Windows - Open the folder called " platform-tools" - shift+right-click anywhere inside the folder and choose [Open Command Window Here]
- Mac - right-click the folder called "platform-tools" and choose [New Terminal At Folder]
2. Enter in the following.

For Windows : adb devices adb shell pm set-install-location 2 adb shell pm get-install-location.

For Mac : (note - there is a period before the slashes) ./adb devices ./adb shell pm set-install-location 2 ./adb shell pm get-install-location.

3. Check if you did it right - if you did it right, the last output should say: 2 [external]

If you did it right, CONGRATS! Your phone will now install your apps to your SD Card by default! Have fun now!

Step 3: More Info.

CAUTION Some apps will not continue to function properly if located on your SD Card.

Moving Apps [System Settings > Applications > Manage Applications] and select the app your want to move and press move.

Update* The "Move to Usb Storage" option was only available on older android firmwares, sorry for the confusion.

8 People Made This Project!

Did you make this project? Share it with us!

Recommendations.

On a Stick Speed Challenge.

Pets Challenge.

Stone, Concrete, Cement Challenge.

365 Comments.

The command must be written as follows: adb devices adb shell pm setInstallLocation 2.

Just as it appears, no spaces, include caps where noted.

Hope this helps!

thanks..

Thanks for breaking my phone i cant install small apps now.

Reply 4 years ago.

This comes with the territory. every developer or weekend modder knows this by experience. So you can thank yourself. Every good modder has broken at least one or two phones.. You should have known you didn't know how to reverse it and stopped there. Every good forum even states a warning for noobs like you. No hate but come on modding a phone is no joke.P.S anyone reading this post make a ADB backup.
<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=0vq100CzcF4>.

Reply 4 years ago.

This was 2 years ago, why did you even comment? At the time I had reversed the process and gotten into to work again so yes I did know how to reverse it, you don't have to jump to con conclusions that quick. Really no need to call me a noob at the time I just wanted to get it working but my phone didn't seem to work with it. I've learned more about Android in the past few years. And with the comment all I wanted to do is warn other people that it might not work and get the same result as I had and no were does it state that . Also this whole process never even worked, I was unable to install smaller apps and apps still didn't install on my sd card directly.

Reply 4 years ago.

this tutorial has no such warning. no need to get so judgemental of a 'noob'. such a comment is unhelpful.

How to move apps to an SD card on Android.

In this guide, you'll learn how to move apps to your SD card, so that you can free up storage and get the very most from your storage space.

Managing storage space has become easier with the help of cloud services, streaming, and smartphones getting more internal memory. Regardless, it's often a matter of time before you find yourself looking around for apps to delete so that you can make space for more files and apps. Many of you may own budget devices, which usually make sacrifices in the storage department. You might also enjoy games, and these apps are known to use up a significant amount of storage.

The good news is that if your device comes with expandable storage, you'll be able to move apps to an SD card. Additionally, you can turn your microSD card into internal storage. This will effectively make it possible to move apps to your SD card, as well as all other data you may have on your phone. We'll show you how to do both, so let's get to it.

Can no longer move apps to sd card on Samsung Galaxy Tab A (Android 7.1.1)

You're welcome but surely a six year old Android would pre-date version 6.0 and can't therefore offer the option of Internal or Portable Storage.

I know wre're up to v9 now and time flies at my age but I'd like to know which version your tablet runs.

pennsylvaniaairsoft.

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Saga Lout.

Olde English.

The OP didn't come back with more information and you needn't post in any thread that's seen a post in the last two weeks. Three months have gone by one this one.

Android 7.1.1 I want to move the Pandora app and downloaded music to my SD card.

Well moving only music and videos to the card is not the same as also moving an app. An app on the card will normally require the card be converted to be "Internal" rather than "External" storage. However, that change can mess with downloading direct to the card, since it no longer registers as a normal SD card ("External" storage).

If you leave the app on the phone itself, and leave the SD card as "External" storage, you can do this much easier.

If you want to just move files (photos, videos, music, etc.), not apps, to the SD card you can use the file manager app that is on the device, or if there isn't one you can download and install one to access and move the files. Sadly, they usually only let you move one or two at a time.

To move them all at once, or in large amounts, you can connect the phone to a computer via USB cord, then move the files over to an empty folder on the computer. Once there, and still connected via USB, you can then move or copy the files over to the SD card. Personally I would suggest leaving a copy on the computer as a back up.

Once that is done you should then go into the apps that you access the files through (like gallery, etc.) and change the apps individual settings to look for the files on the SD card. You may also want to change the settings in apps that you use to create new files (like the camera) to save new ones to the card rather than the phone.

Now if you are wanting to move apps to the card, that is a whole other story.

Why won't apps download on my microSD?

there are 2 ways to mount apps to sd, both require root permission option 1 mount the data and obb folder of certain big games to sd card using this software (advantage less setup required, but only links app data and obb file) <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.devasque.fmount>.

option 2 create a second partition on sd card and use this software to move all the apps to this partition (links the whole app and data to second partition, but requires more steps to configure and second partition will be invisible in windows based pc) <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.spazedog.mounts2sd> or <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.buak.Link2SD>.

i recommend to use option 1 as it is more stable, easy, does not need reformatting of memory card, full memory card remains visible to windows pc and do the job it designed to do.

if your phone isn't rooted then you can try this method to root your phone <http://www.legitinformation.com/root-or-unroot-your-android-on-the-go/> Note:- rooting can brick your phone thus do it at your own risk, no one else will be blamed for any mishappening.

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shahbaz200.

Honorable.

Could you please clear the name of your device? Want to know what chipset it uses.

DontEvenAskMeMyUsername.

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I don't mean to hijack someone's post, but I'm doing pretty much the same thing. That said, if I may ask, how do I make a copy of the "etc/vold.fstab" file? It's been a few years since I've mounted anything, so I thought I should ask first - break tablet seco. not! (BTW, I've been following you since my XP days when I was fiddling around with partitioning empty drives and installing Puppy and Ubuntu and learning a bit of EVERYthing. I'm a big fan.)

I'm working on a Visual Land Prestige Pro 7D tablet, I have ES and I am rooted, but I just need to be reminded. Is this a simple text file you are requesting or do you need something else? My file is in the "system" folder, ie, "/system/etc/vold.fstab" under 'device', as well as in "/etc/vold.fstab" under 'device'. Which would you prefer I copy? Thanks.

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My above method was for devices with Mediatek chips. You can check what your device is using by installing this app <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.Bfield.CpuIdentifier&hl=en> If you don't have Mediatek device you can still try it. But I recommend have a full backup (If system fails, you can restore it). If your default recovery don't have any backup option, install CWM recovery first: <http://www.androidtablets.net/threads/tut-how-to-install-cwm-or-twrp-recovery-on-the-visual-land-prestige-pro-7d.66015/>

It is highly recommended because if it fails, you can restore older files.