

Windows 7 on a USB

February 9, 2012

Windows 7 USB/DVD Download Tool

With the prevalence of large storage USB flash drives, we can create a Windows 7 installation USB drive instead of a DVD. Having a small USB operating system installation tool is convenient since the DVD disk becomes scratched and hard to read after repeated use. On a Search Engine, type “Windows 7 USB DVD download tool” and go to the Microsoft web site.



The screenshot shows the Microsoft Store page for the Windows 7 USB/DVD Download Tool. The page features a navigation menu on the left with categories like Office, Windows, Xbox 360, Computers, Software, PC gaming, Accessories, Windows Phone, Answer Desk, Student, Small business, and Developer. The main content area includes a breadcrumb trail (HOME > HELP > WINDOWS 7 USB / DVD DOWNLOAD TOOL), the product title, and a navigation bar with links for Overview, Installation, Usage, FAQ, and Troubleshooting. The Overview section provides instructions on how to use the tool, including a note about copying the ISO file to a USB flash drive or DVD. The footer contains links for Wish List, Store Locations, Account (Sign in), a shopping cart icon, and a Checkout button.

Microsoft Store

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HOME > HELP > WINDOWS 7 USB / DVD DOWNLOAD TOOL

Windows 7 USB/DVD download tool

Overview Installation Usage FAQ Troubleshooting

OVERVIEW

When you choose to download most software from the Microsoft Store, you have the option of using Download Manager or downloading from your browser. However, when you purchase Microsoft Windows 7 from Microsoft Store, you have an additional choice to make: whether to download a collection of compressed files or to download an ISO file. An ISO file combines all the Windows 7 installation files into a single uncompressed file.

If you choose to download an ISO file (so that you can create a bootable file from a DVD or USB flash drive), copy your Windows 7 ISO file onto your media and, run the Windows 7 USB/DVD Download Tool. After you do this, you can install Windows 7 onto your computer directly from the USB flash drive or DVD.

NOTE: When you download the ISO file, you *must* copy the file onto a USB flash drive or a DVD to install Windows 7. When you're ready to install Windows 7, insert the USB flash drive into your USB port or insert your DVD into your DVD drive, and then run Setup.exe from the root folder on the drive.

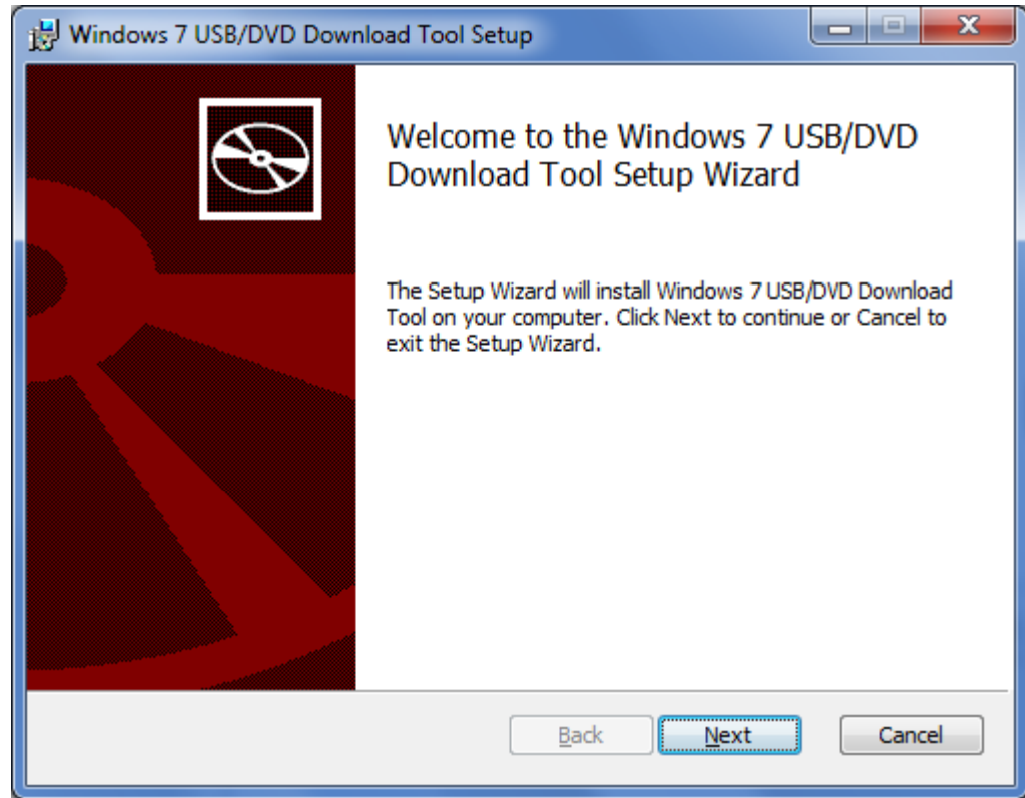
The advantage to following this process and creating bootable media is that it allows you to install Windows 7 without having to first run an existing operating system on your machine. If you change the boot order of drives in your computer's BIOS, you can run the Windows 7 installation directly from your USB flash drive or from a DVD when you first turn your computer on. (Please see the documentation for your computer for information about how to change the BIOS boot order of drives.)

Wish List Store Locations Account (Sign in)  [Checkout >](#)

Download the program.

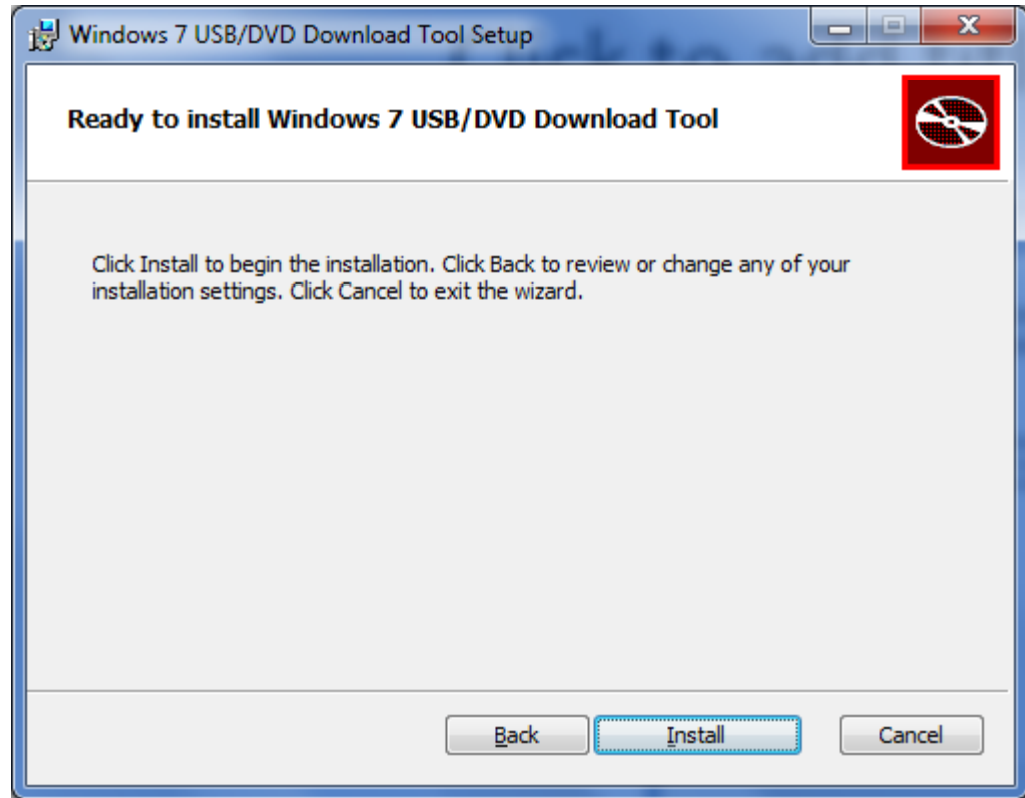
Setup Wizard

After downloading the Windows 7 USB/DVD Download Tool the setup wizard window will open. We choose the Next button to continue.



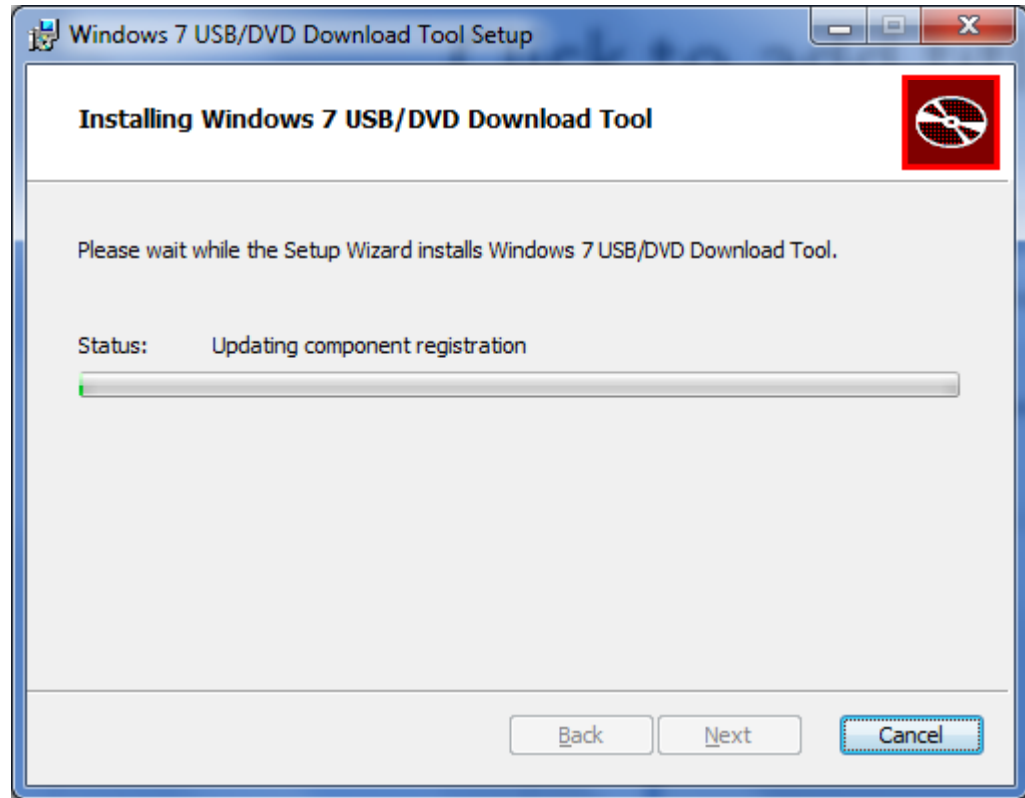
Ready to Install

We then click on the Install button to load the applicatin..



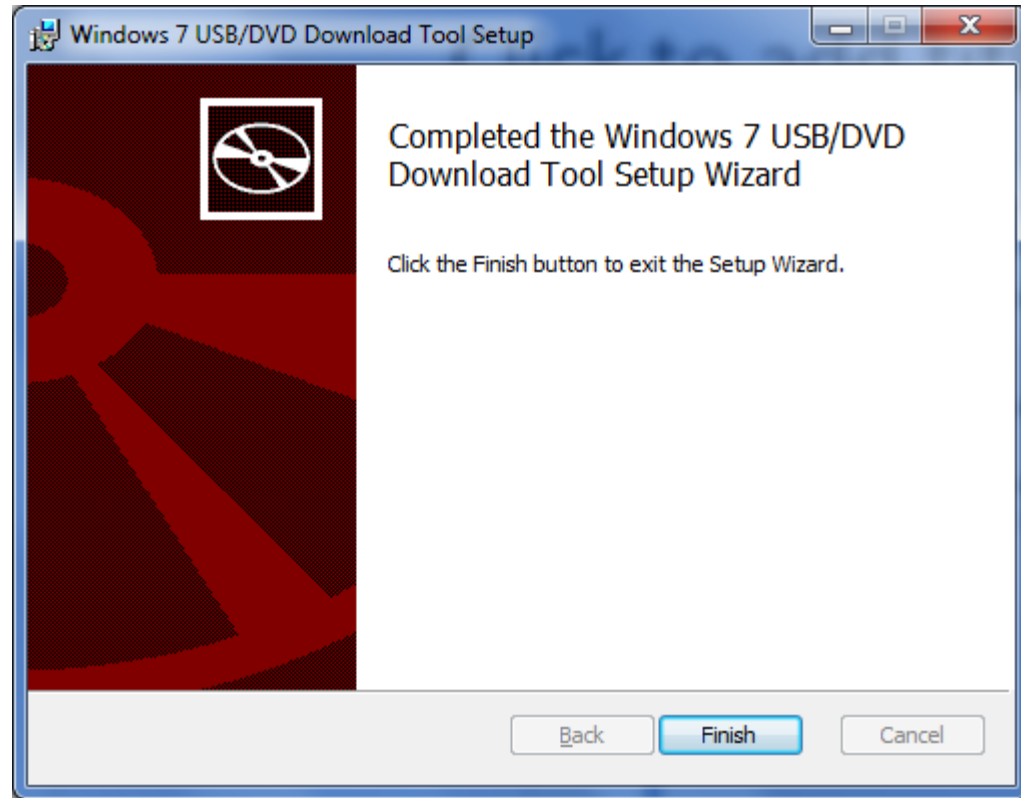
Installing the Application

It will take several moments to load the application.



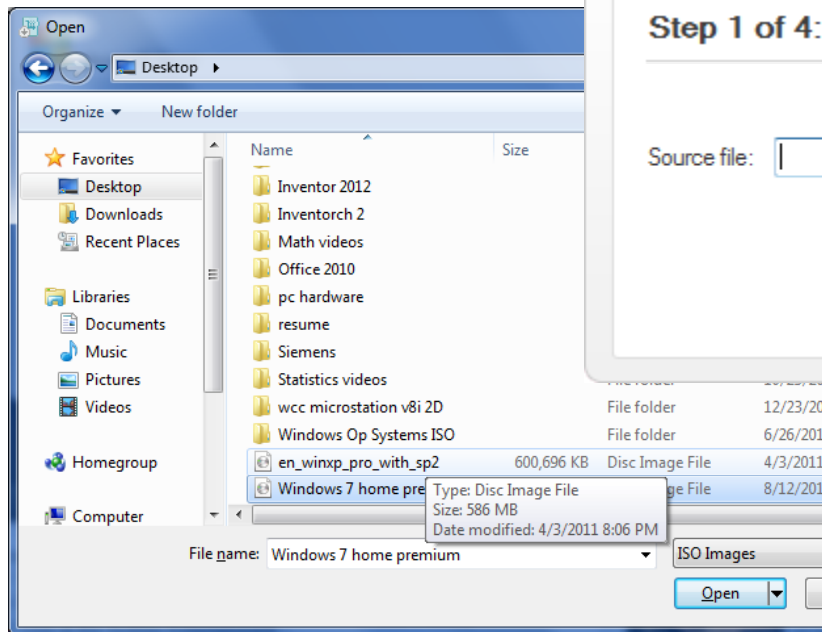
Installation Complete

We should click on the Finish button to end the loading process.

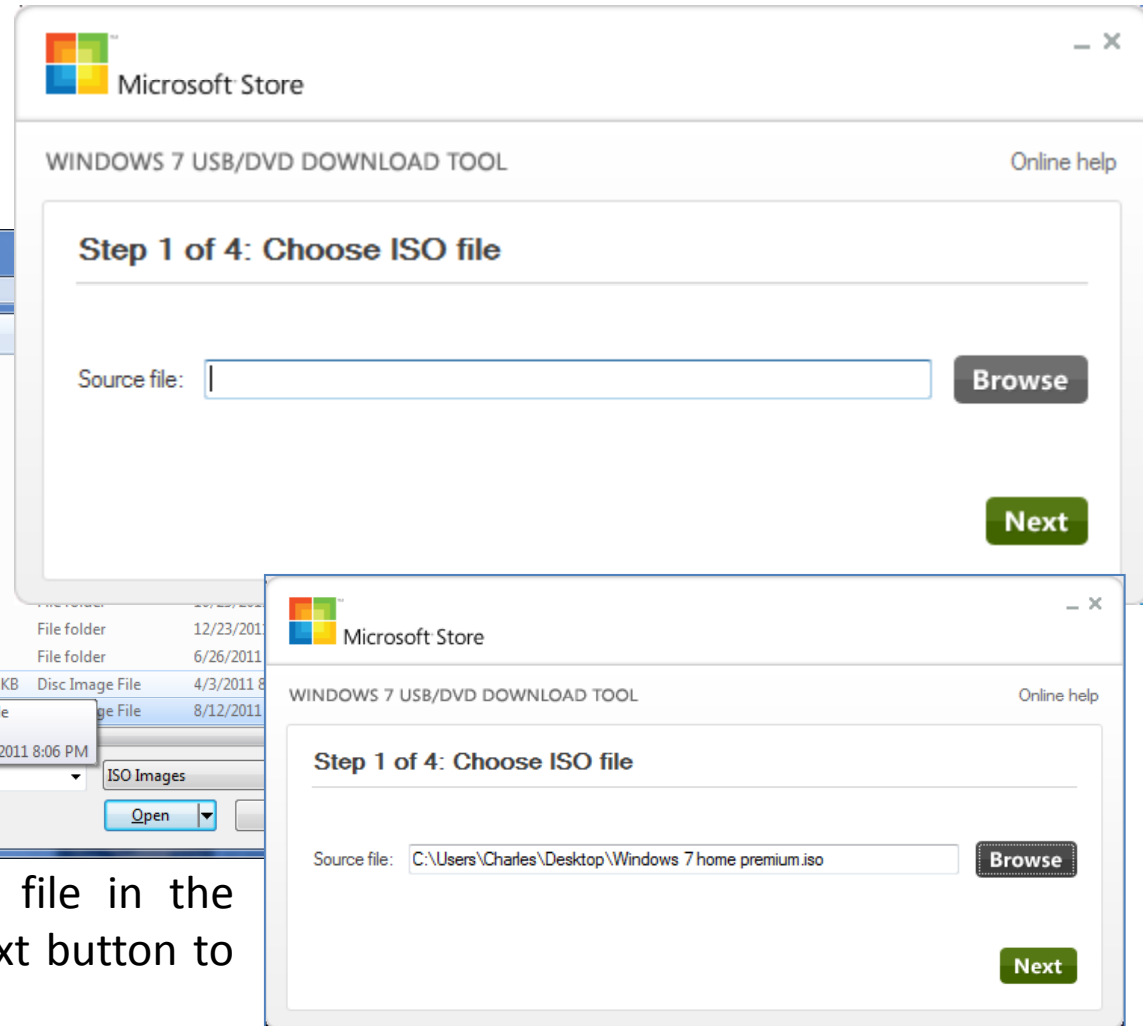


Choose the ISO File

We now should browse for the Windows ISO file. We locate it and pick the Open button.

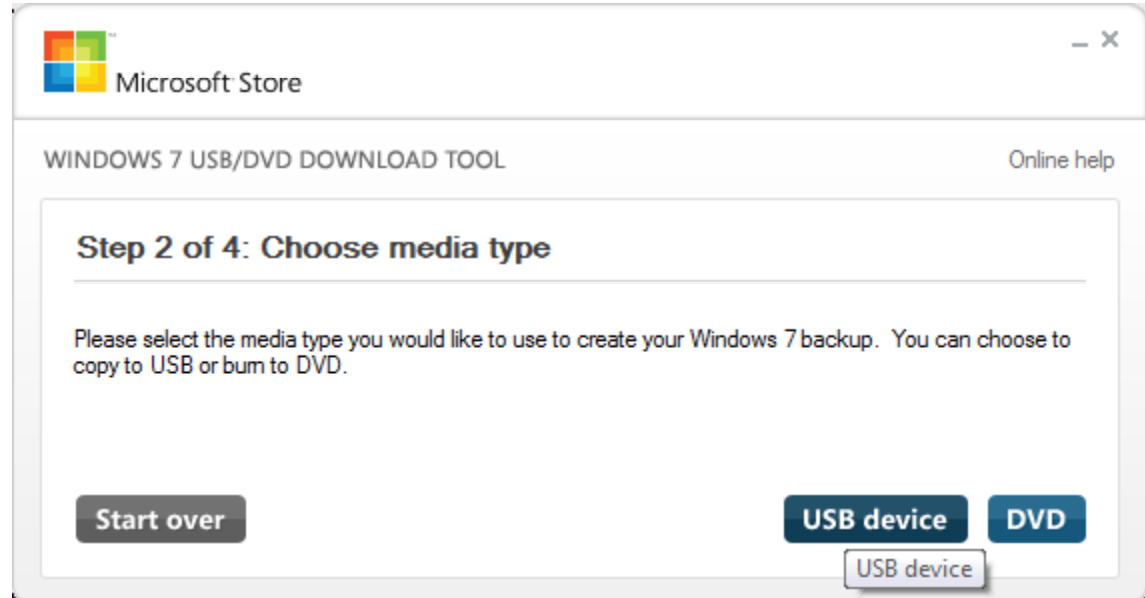


When we see the source file in the textbox, we choose the Next button to advance.



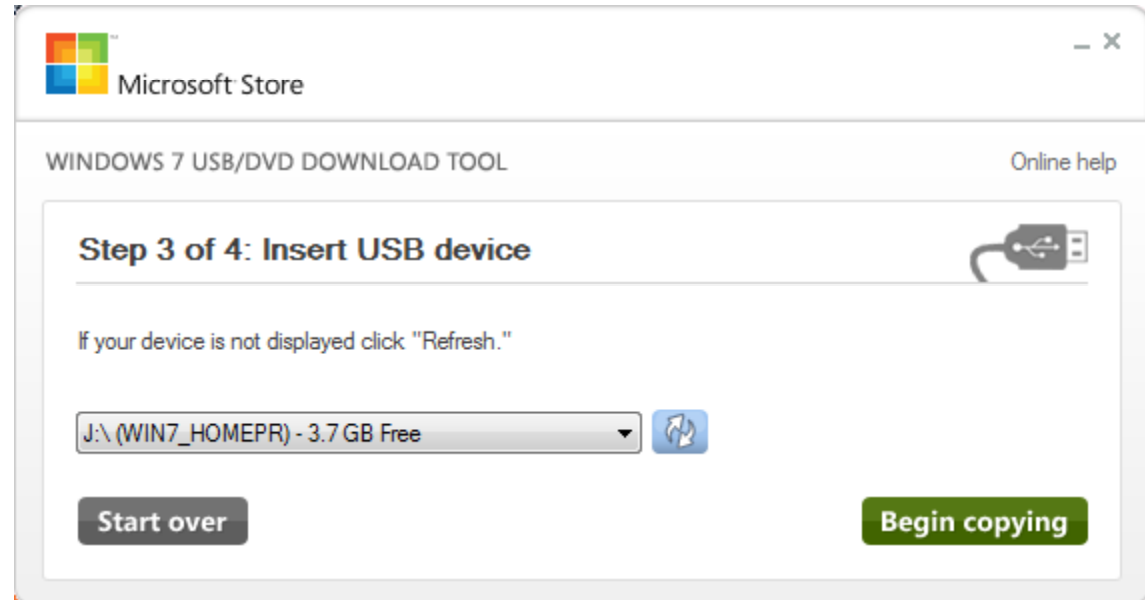
Choose Media Type

We select the USB device button to identify the USB Flash drive where we want to install the Windows 7 operating system.



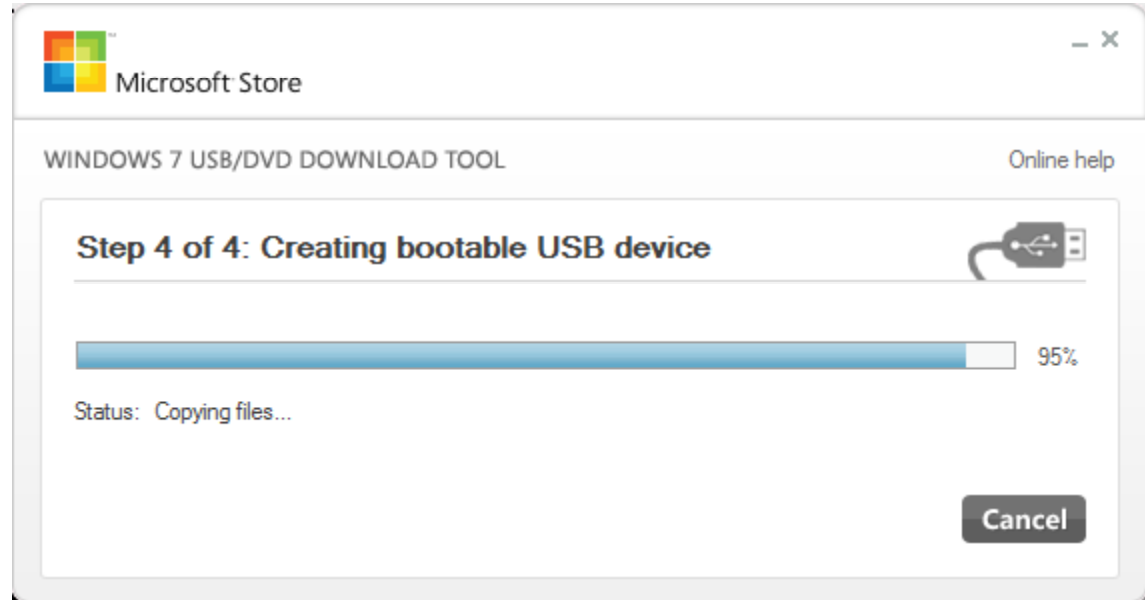
Insert the USB Device

We insert the USB Flash drive and pick the drive letter from the list box. We had formatted the USB drive and named the flash drive WIN7_HOMEPR for the Windows 7 Home Premium operating system.



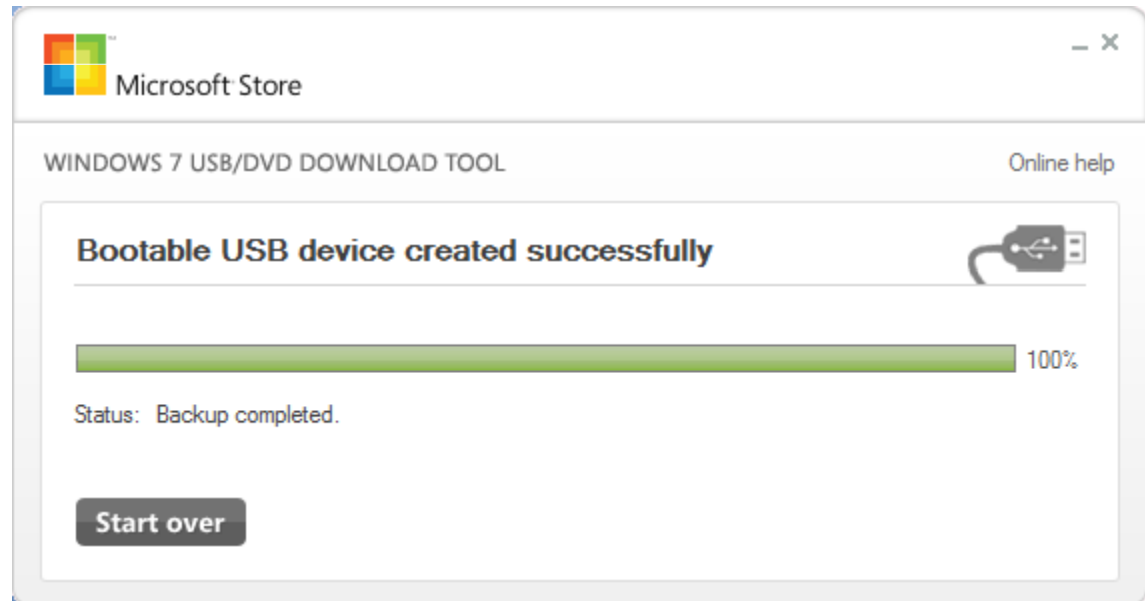
Creating the Bootable USB Device

It will take several minutes to create a bootable Windows 7 bootable USB flash drive.



Created Successfully

Eventually, the process will be complete and we can use the bootable USB flash drive to load Windows 7 Home Premium to a computer. We closed the window by selecting the X in the upper right corner.



Checking the USB Drive

We can view the files on the bootable USB flash drive and we can see the typical folders and files found on a Windows 7 installation disk. When we want to install Windows 7 with the flash drive, we enter the computer's BIOS setup and change the boot sequence to USB device first.

