

# KBDFans Original firmware/flashing guide

(yes, you *might* have to flash it manually) 😬

⚠️ Please verify the PCB or **you could brick/break your PCB** ⚠️. Not sure? Click below!

[👁️KBDFans guide to identifying the correct firmware for your keyboard](#)

**OPTIONAL** USB bootloader flashing guide: [Here](#) (🍏 For macOS specific one, [click here](#).)

👁️ **For those who do not want to read:**

[MechMerlin's VIA video guide](#)

[MechMerlin's Flashing guide](#) \* Skip the MCU & qmk.fm section

**Before we start the flashing process** (flashing process: [skip to page 2](#))

## Step 0

**! ALWAYS test your PCB before starting the assembly.** This will save you so much time and would avoid the warranty nullification. Yes, you can use tweezers, as seen in this [how to test a PCB](#) link.

## Step 1

Download the VIA or Vial application

- Via for Windows, install [via-2.0.5-win.exe](#)
- Via for Mac, install [via-2.0.5-mac.dmg](#)
- Vial for Windows/Mac <https://get.vial.today/download/>

## Step 2

📄 **Install the program.** If you see the pop-up message saying the program could be harmful, please skip it and install anyway. VIA/Vial is a trustable program, and you can install it!

## Step 3

🚀 Launch the program. KBDFans board would come pre-flashed with VIA/Vial compatible firmware already! So when you plug the keyboard in, the program should detect your board automatically. \*If you are having issues with your keyboard, skip to next step\*

Once the board is detected, try testing the matrix at the **Key Tester** tab. If the board works fine, you are good to go! Start mapping your board and enjoy your new keeb!

😬 **If, for some reason, VIA/Vial is not detecting your board** or the board does not react to your VIA/Vial key mapping; please continue to follow this guide.

## Steps to flashing the PCB

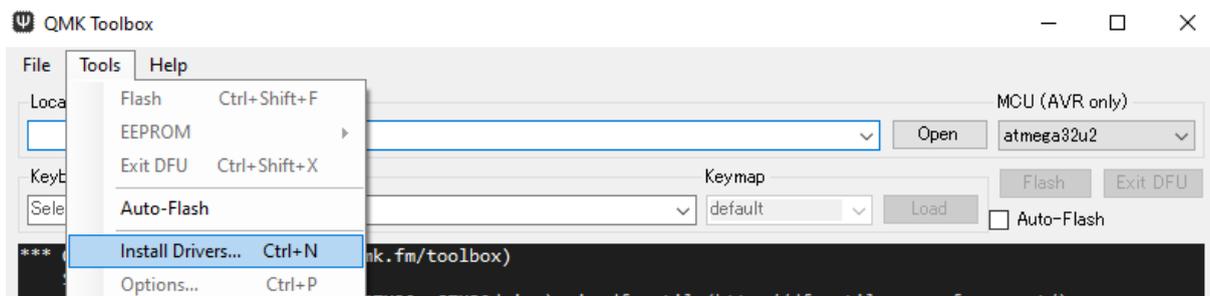
For your best experience with flashing, please 🙏 [flash the PCB outside the case](#) to eliminate any other possible issues. Also connect the USB directly to the computer when flashing. Please 🙏 [avoid using a USB hub or a USB extension cable](#) for this process.

### Step 1

Download the latest **QMK Toolbox** from: <https://tinyurl.com/yqujc8hz>  
(Version 0.2.2 or newer)

```
*** QMK Toolbox 0.1.1 (https://qmk.fm/toolbox)
Supported bootloaders:
```

- For Windows, install **qmk\_toolbox.exe** (or the `_install.exe` works too)
  - [Install the drivers and reboot your computer](#). To install the drivers, go to Tools and click **Install Drivers**



- For Mac OS, install **QMK.Toolbox.pkg** (no need to install drivers like seen above, just a Windows thing)

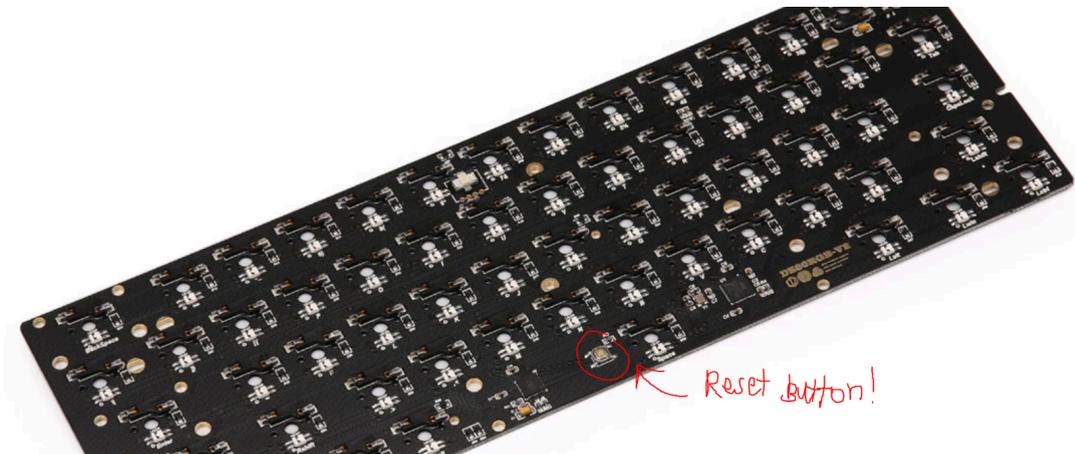
### Step 2

After restarting your computer, launch QMK Toolbox. **DO NOT** touch or select any file just yet. Proceed to step 3.

### Step 3

With the QMK Toolbox running, **reset your PCB** by either:

- Hold **ESC** While Plugging in the USB cable to the computer, **OR IF THAT DOESN'T WORK**
- Press the reset button underside of your PCB (see figure 1)



**Figure 1:** Example PCB

### Step 4

Normally, the following should happen;

- A **Yellow Text** appears in the Toolbox indicating the board has entered bootloader mode. Proceed to Step 5

```
*** DFU device connected: Atmel Corp. ATmega32U4 (03EB:2FF4:0000)
```

**OR**

```
*** LUFA Mass Storage device connected (USBSTOR): Compatible USB storage device USB Mass Storage Device (03EB:2045:0001)
```

#### **Quick note for HEX file devices:**

- If you see the following **NO DRIVERS**, make sure you are using the latest qmk toolbox, and go into settings and reinstall the drivers. Then reboot your computer.

```
*** Atmel DFU device connected (NO DRIVER): ATm32U4DFU (03EB:2FF4:0000)
```

### Step 5

Find the appropriate firmware for your PCB in the link below

 [KBDfans firmware listing](#)



