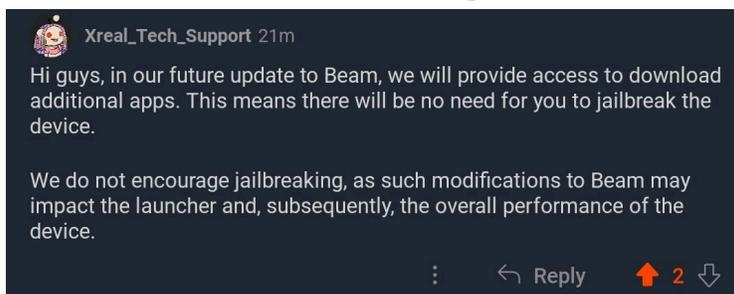


How to Jailbreak Xreal Beam

Note that all steps are AT YOUR OWN RISK and can cause problems such as soft locks and potentially bricking

Xreal's warning:



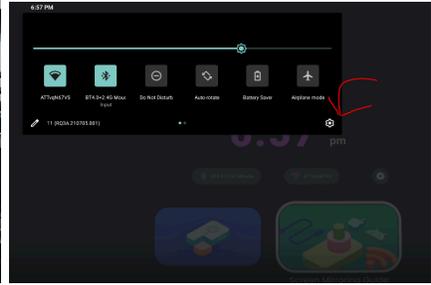
For a video presentation of this guide, watch Erik Hartley's (eminus) video:
<https://youtu.be/ogBSiZWxH38>

When you get the Beam, **DO NOT** connect to the internet during setup, do these steps first then connect to the internet. You will need a way to connect a usb keyboard and a mouse, anything that can plug into the type-c glasses port and give you a USB A port for a keyboard.

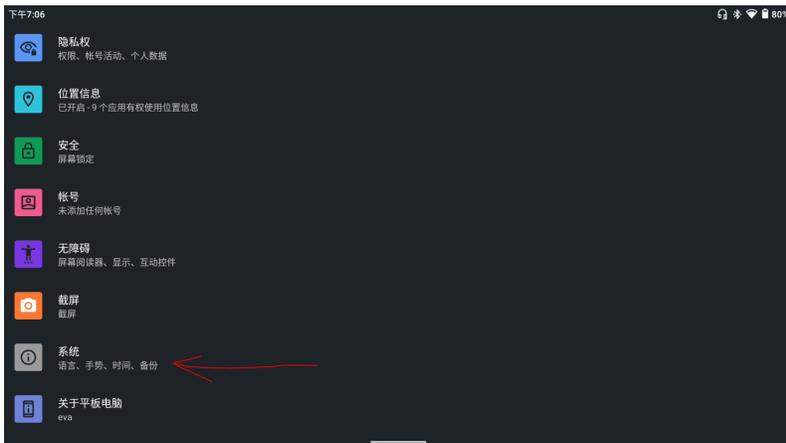
This Mokin Hub is the best option as it allows you to plug in a monitor, keyboard and mouse. (<https://www.amazon.com/dp/B074J79WWJ/>) Some alternatives are out there that could work but the video out from the HDMI ports don't always work, in particular my dongles/docks with power passthrough didn't work.

The Beam can only support video output for 1080p monitors and does not cooperate with multisync displays with higher resolutions. The following HDMI 1080p EDID Emulator can resolve this incompatibility. (<https://www.amazon.com/dp/B0B1T7P3CR/>) Please note: the Amazon listing has changed and includes different options. The one that works with the Xreal Beam is the "FHD 1920x1080" variant.

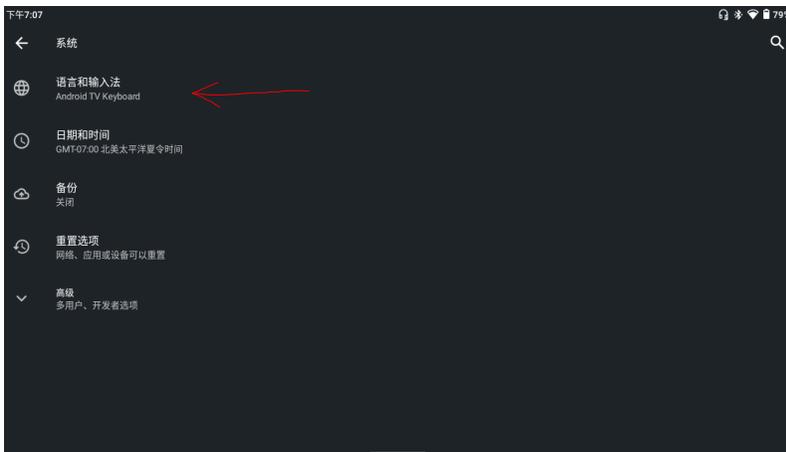
After plugging in a keyboard and mouse, it can be a bluetooth mouse, hit the Windows key + N to bring down the control menu then use the mouse to pull down the menu to access the settings cog.



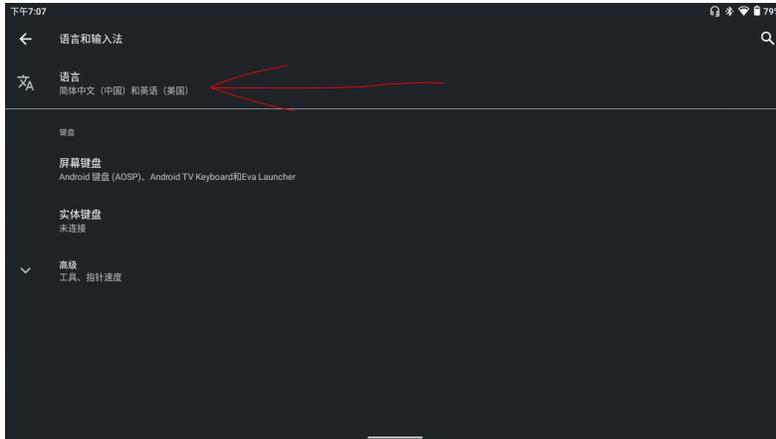
You'll notice that everything is in Mandarin, so the next step is to change the language. Now scroll down until you get to the gray icon with the exclamation point in it and click it. (System)



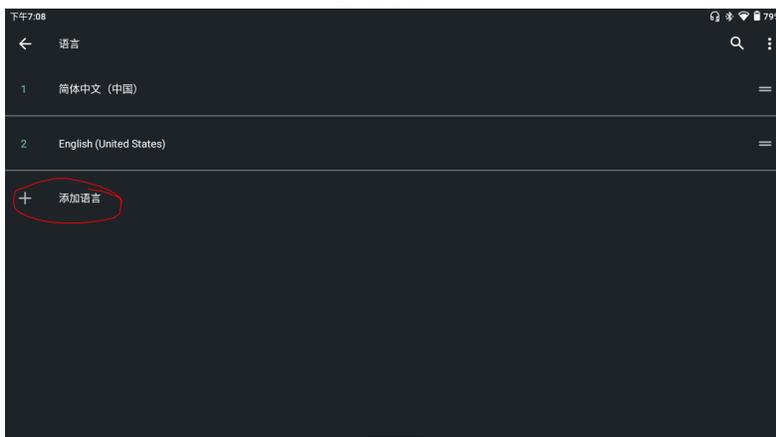
At the top of the next page, click the button with the globe. (Languages & input)



On top of the next page, click the top text. (Languages)



On the bottom of the next page, press the button with a plus. (Add a language)

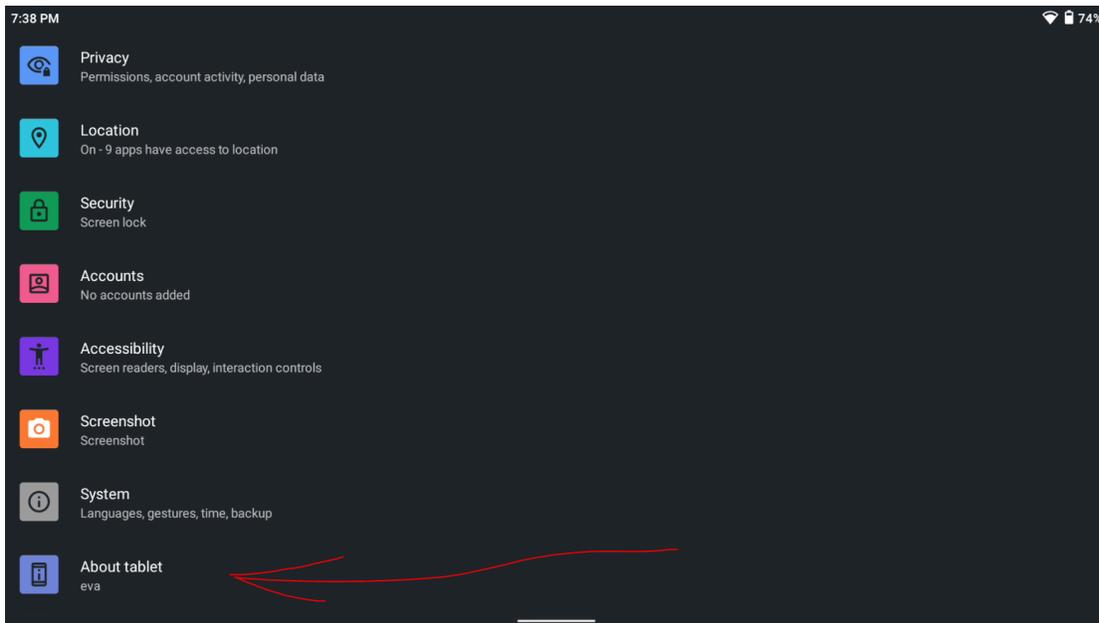


Scroll down until you find English and click it and pick your preferred version of english. Next, on the right side find the 2 small horizontal lines for English. Click and drag it up to prioritize English. Now '1' will be English and '2' will be Mandarin. Click the back button, the smaller button under the navigation buttons on the Beam, and your device menus should now be in English. Some of you that are familiar with android will know how to activate debugging over wifi and side load that way, but for the rest of us the guide will continue until we get an Android TV UI through the device itself.

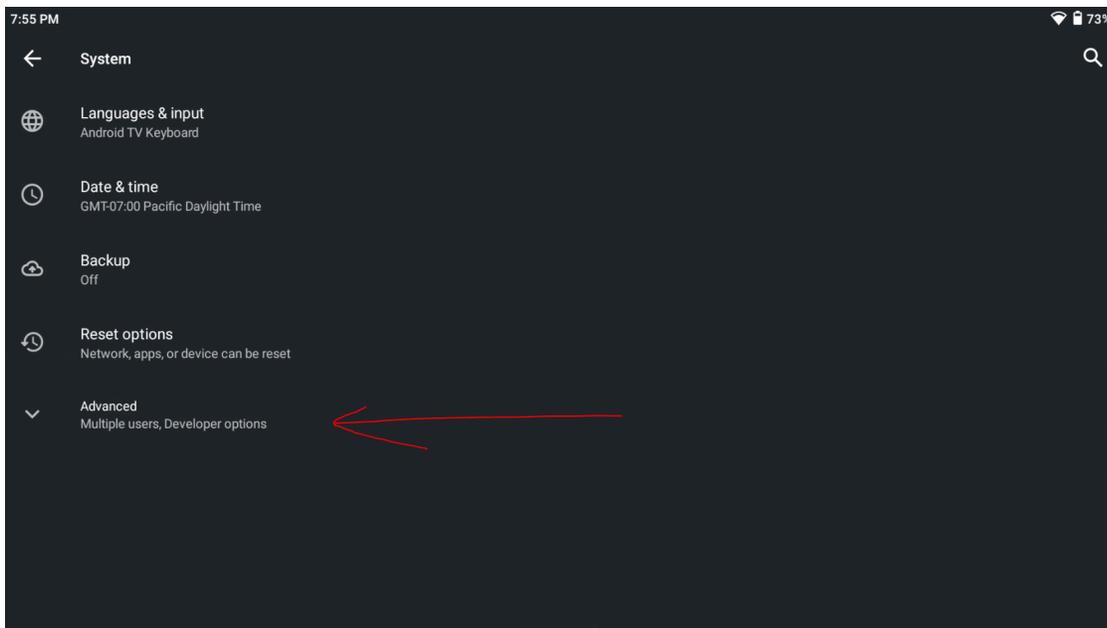
(Optional and Recommended) Turning on “Don't keep activities”

I recommend doing this step considering the low power nature of the Beam's processor.

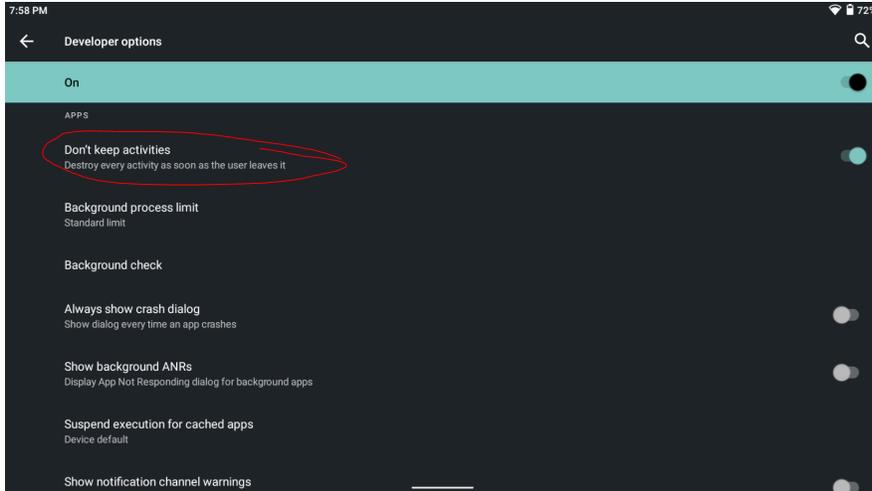
Scroll back down to “About Tablet” and click on it



At the bottom of that page click on 'Build number' 6 times to activate Dev mode. Note that a message will pop up in the middle stating that you have “x” more clicks to be a developer, don't stop clicking. After it says dev settings are unlocked, back out to the main settings and click 'System' then “Advanced” and finally “Developer options.”

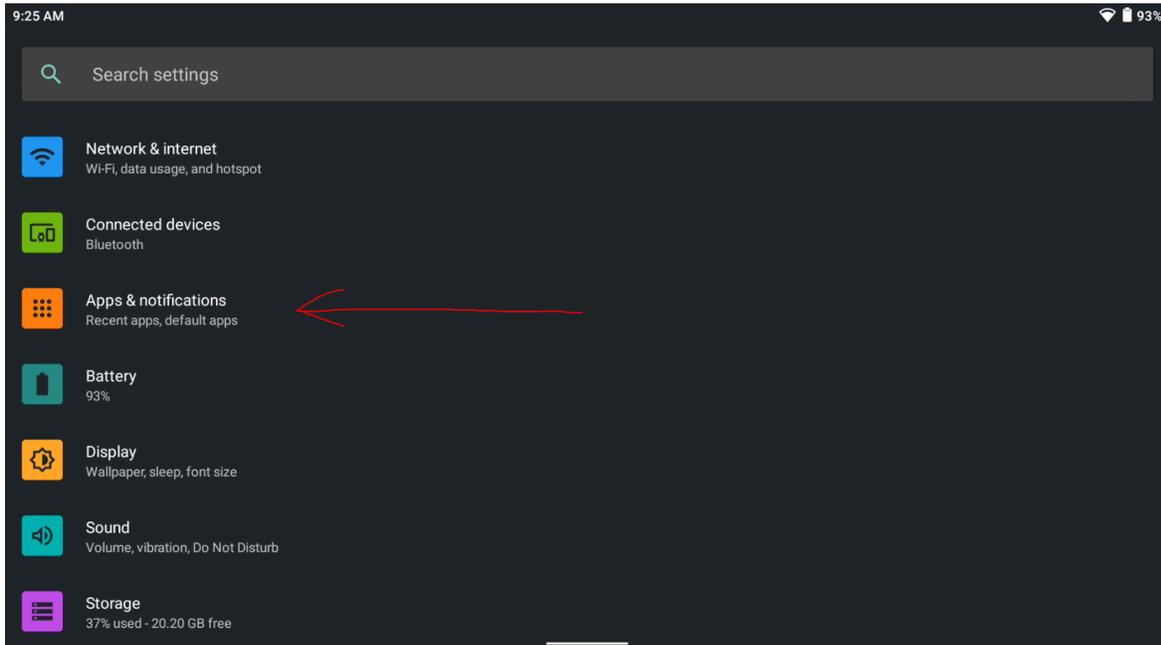


Scroll down, nearly to the bottom, and activate “Don't keep activities.”

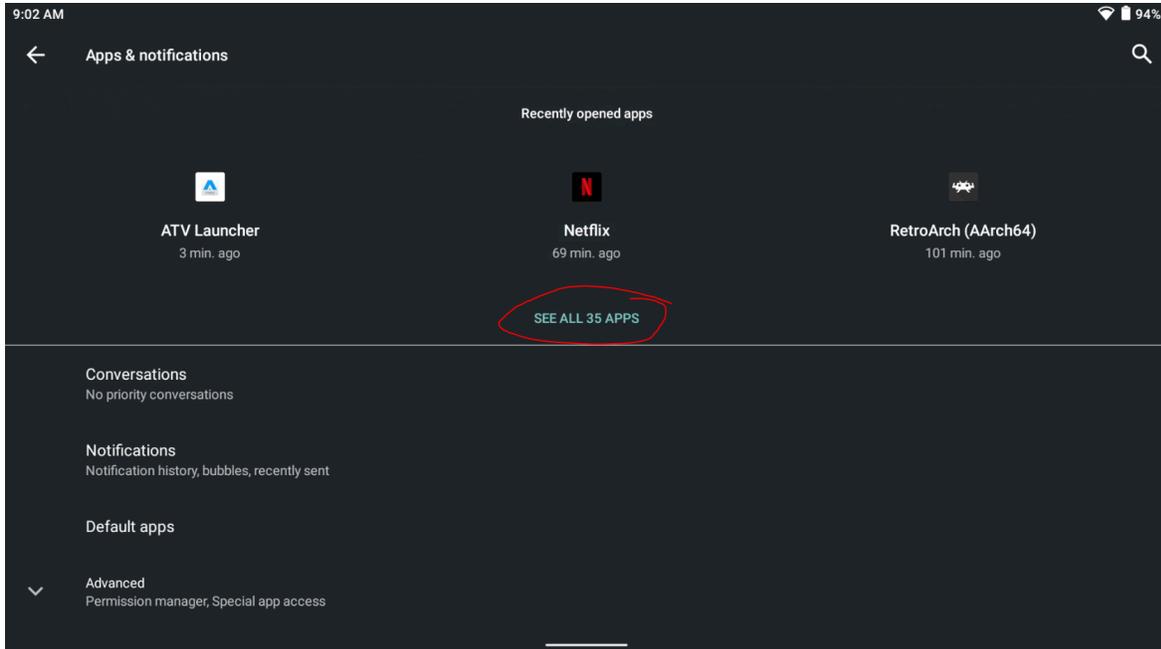


Installing APKs

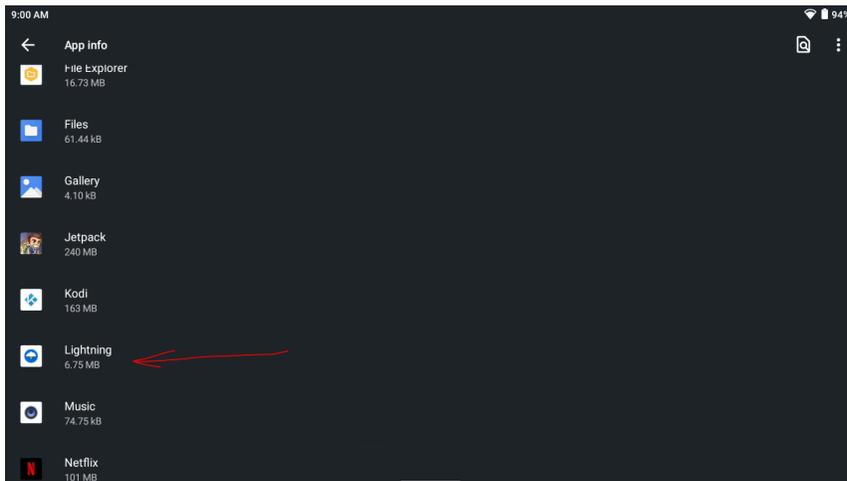
Now you can go to Wifi and connect to the internet. We can now move on to installing a launcher, an app store, and a keyboard. We will first install an app store called Aptoide TV, a third party app store meant for android TVs that works well with the Beam's built in controls. Aptoide TV isn't the safest app store and those of you who prefer a safer alternative will need a mouse every time for others tend to be built for touch screens. APKpure is an example of a safer app store and if you prefer that then follow this guide as an example for installing apks. First we are going to start the default web browser by going to "Apps and Notifications."



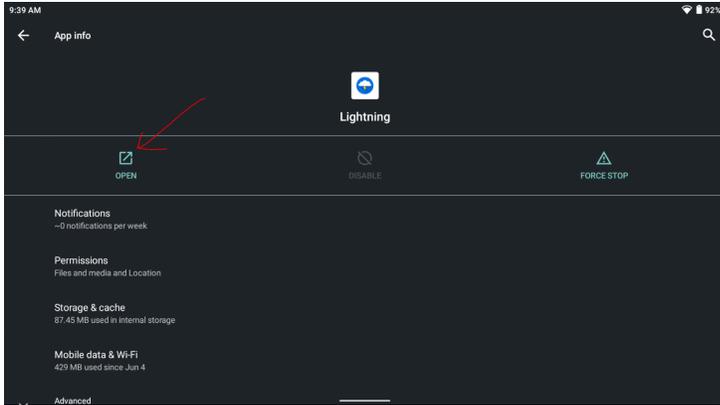
In the middle click see all apps. (Spooky note: no Netflix is not installed by default)



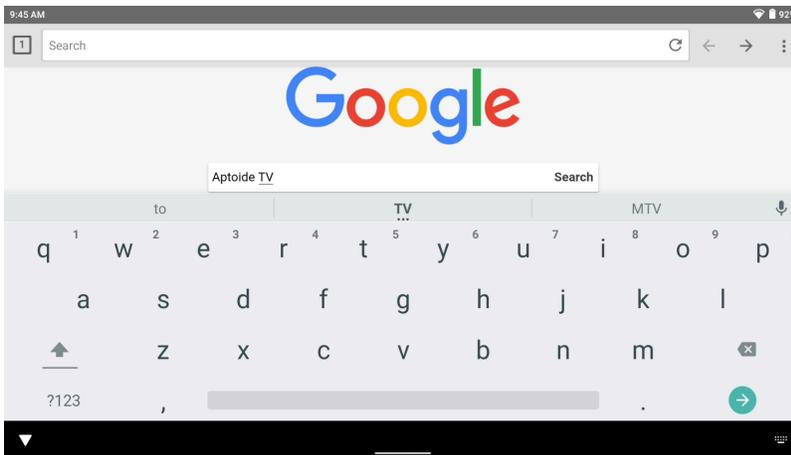
Scroll and look for the Lightning app, this is our web browser.



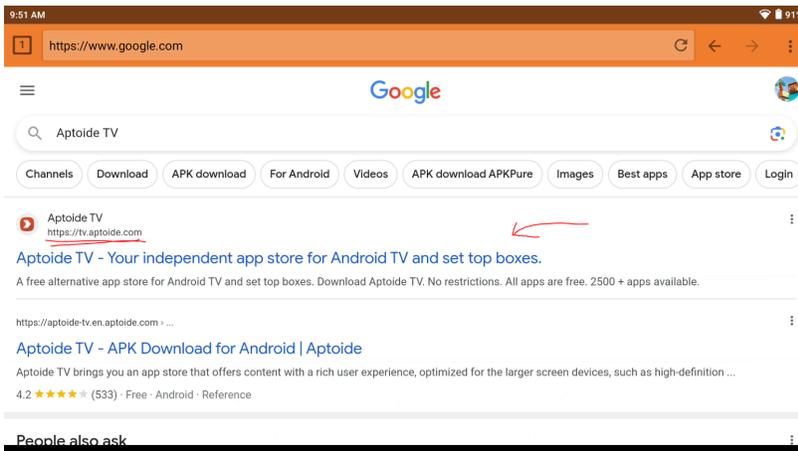
Click open and the app should greet you with a familiar face, Google. From this point Those of you looking to install different apps should know what to do from here and this guide will continue towards an Android TV experience.



In the search bar type “Aptoide TV”, beware of “sponsored” results from Google. Most of those are fakes.



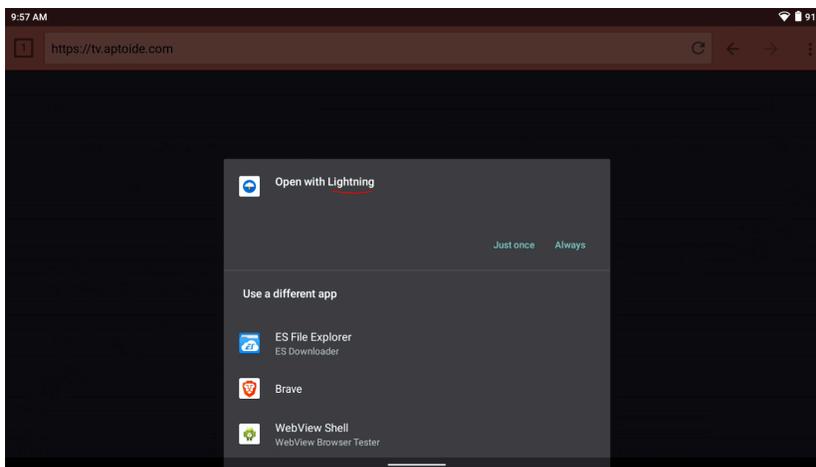
Aptoide TV should be one of the first links.



Don't mind the Mandarin, just click on the big Aptoide TV button..



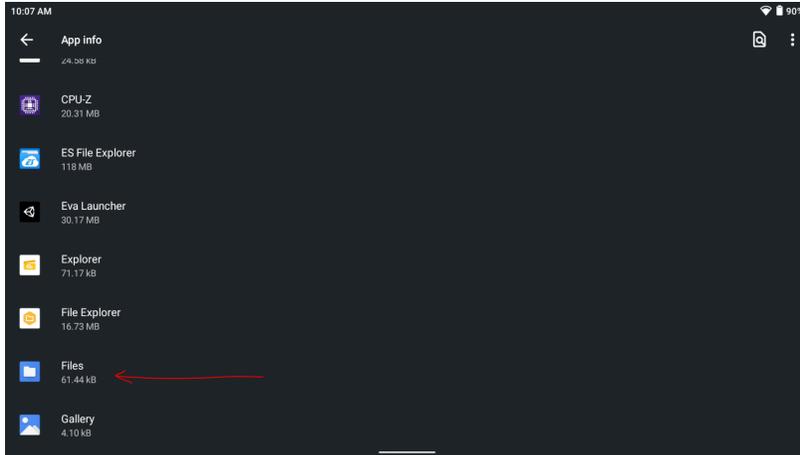
When you get a pop up asking what to open this with just click Lightning



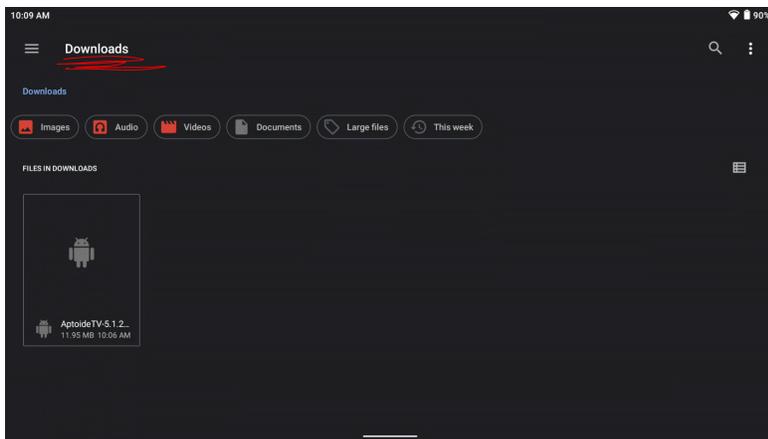
You should get a pop up asking “do you want to download this file?” Click download, give the Beam a second, then go back to the settings by clicking Windows key + N and pulling down your control menu again. Go back to the list of apps we launched Lightning from.



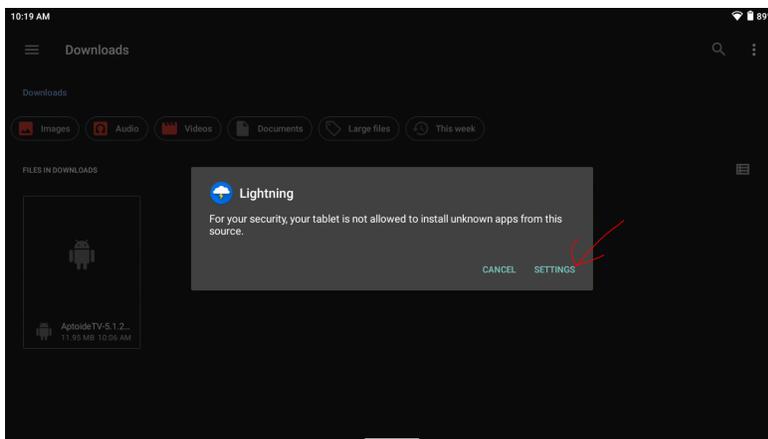
Back in the list of apps we are launching Files.



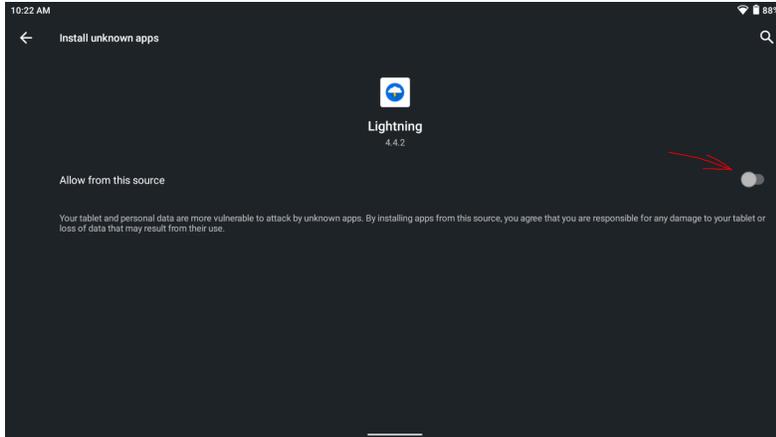
You should be at or get to the downloads folder to find the APK you just downloaded.



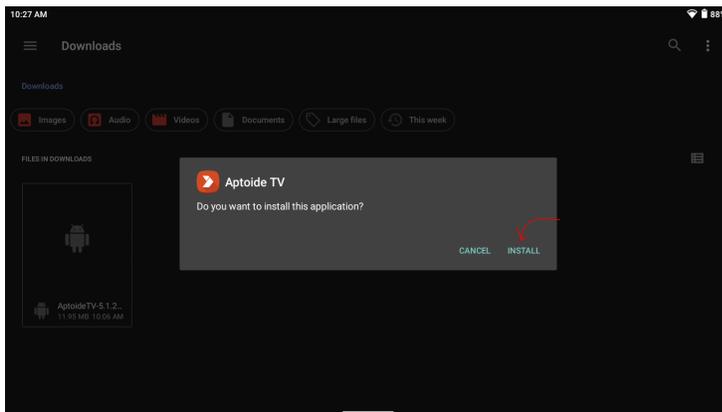
Click on Aptoide TV, you will get another pop up that you will see again later, click “settings”



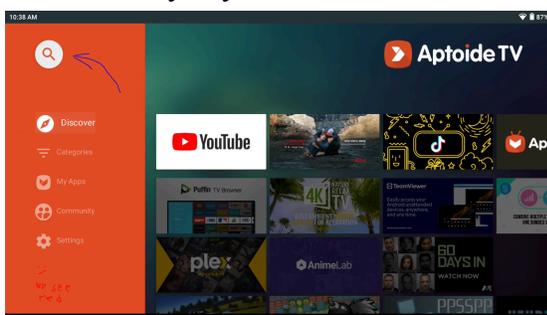
Click and toggle “Allow from source.” then hit the back button on the Beam.



Click on Aptoide TV again and this pop up should have an install button, click on it.



After it installs click open and you should finally be in Aptoide TV. This app store is where we will be getting our keyboard and ATV Launcher. You will notice that the Beam's built in controls work great here until you get to the search option at the top left. We will get a new Beam friendly keyboard later but for now let's get the ATV Launcher.



Installing a New Launcher

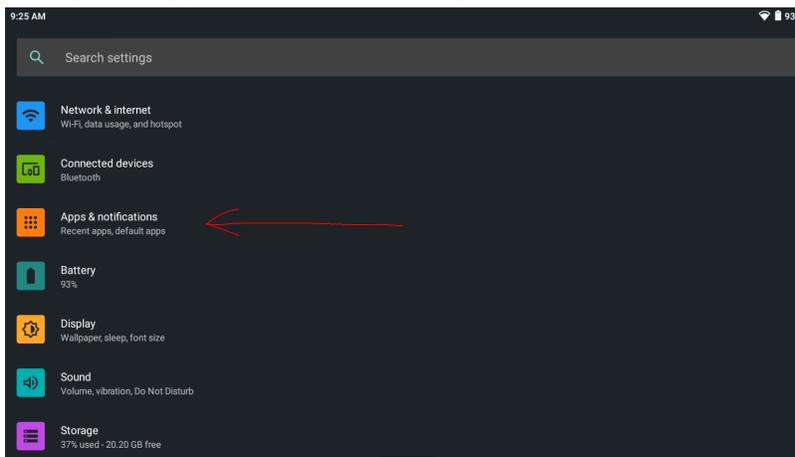
(Spooky note: once a launcher is picked do not install another launcher it will glitch the eva launcher into being the only launcher and trap you again`)

Essentially these next steps are to turn the beam into an android tv but from this point you can turn the beam into whatever you want if you know what to install. First search for the ATV Launcher by clicking the magnifying glass at the top left of the screen. Then type in “ATV Launcher” and it should appear as the very first app.

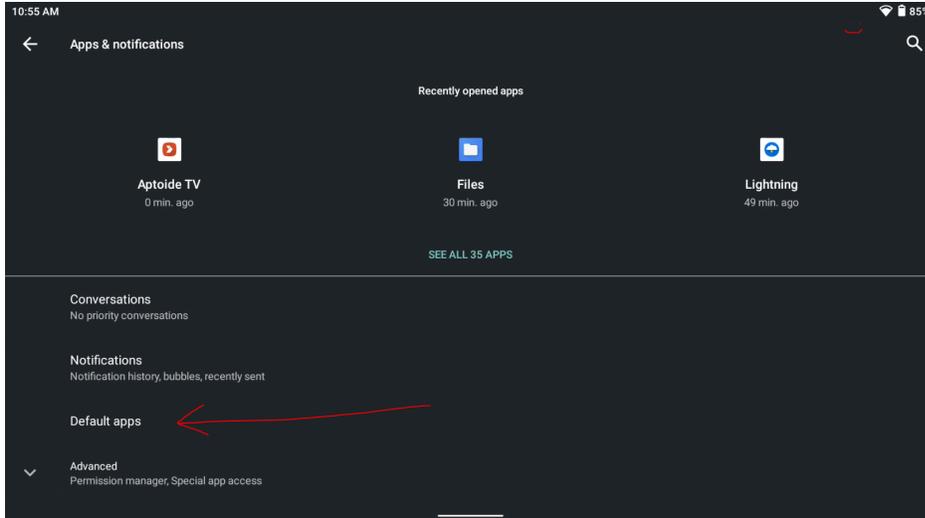


When you try to install the Launcher you will see the same pop up from installing Aptoide TV, click settings, allow from source again, and use the back button on the Beam to get back to Aptoide TV. Install the ATV Launcher and go back to settings by pulling down the control menu again.

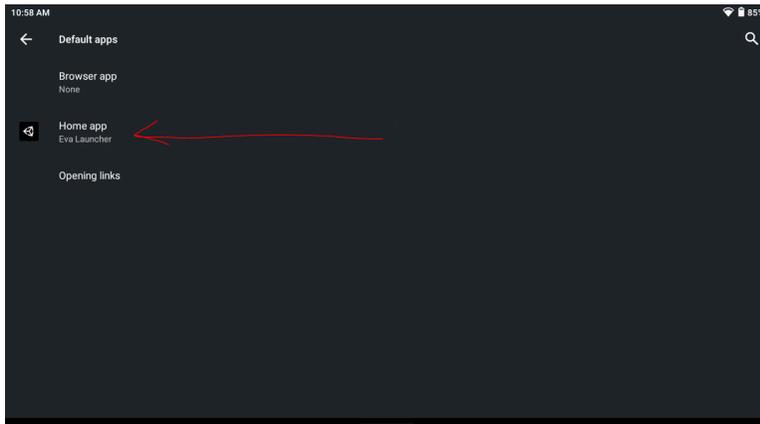
Now go to Apps and notifications again.



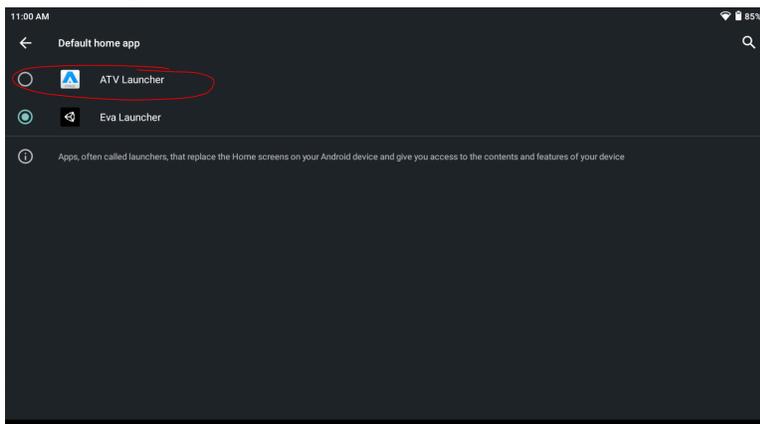
Click on “Default apps.”



Click on “Home app.”



And finally click on the ATV launcher.

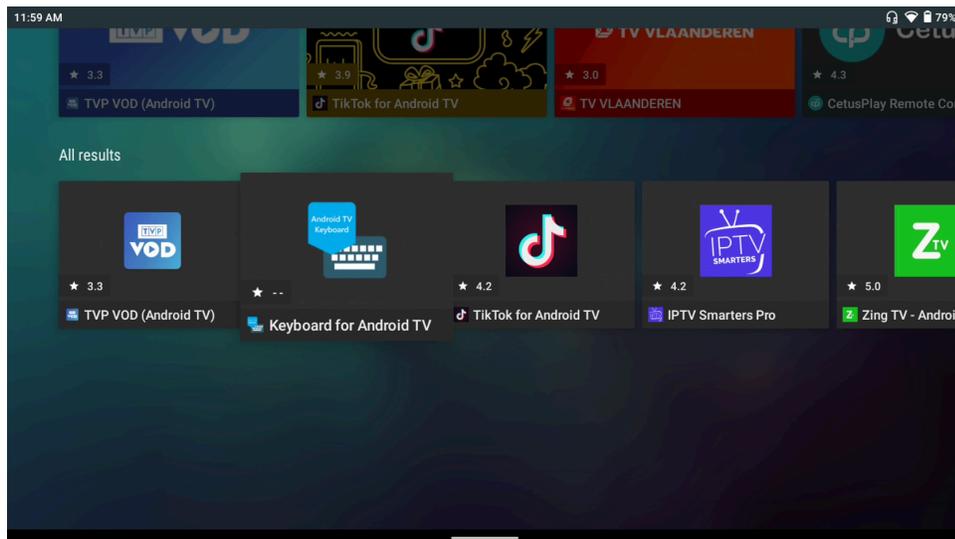


You will automatically be put into the ATV Launcher. If you want to return to the Beams default launcher just look for the Eva launcher and start it, when you hold the back button it'll take you to the ATV Launcher without needing to unplug and replug the Xreal Air. You will see

the apps you installed in the Eva launcher, but as of the latest update they will only give you a black screen. There is one last thing to finish the Beams transformation and that's a new keyboard.

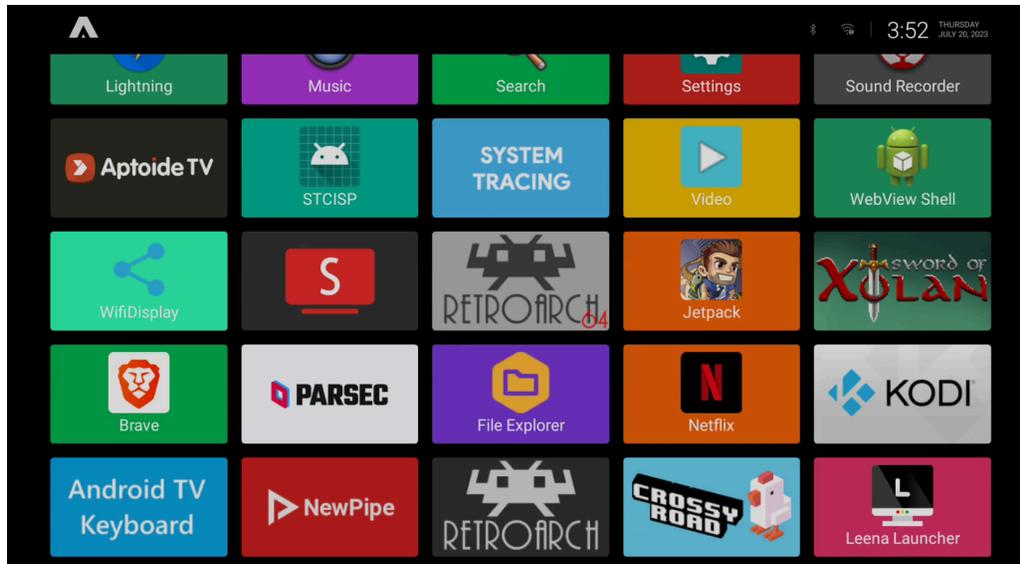
Installing a New keyboard

At this point I recommend restarting the Beam by holding the power button to allow the ATV launcher to put the glasses into a normal screen mirror when leaving the Eva Launcher if you turn on the spatial display. After doing that go to Aptoide TV again and search for “Android TV keyboard.”



After installing it I recommend disconnecting a bluetooth keyboard if you have one connected. Follow this guide from Android police on how to change your keyboard, it is about the same for the Beam: <https://www.androidpolice.com/how-to-change-android-keyboard/> Note you cannot toggle off the default keyboard but that's fine. If the keyboard button on the bottom right doesn't appear try the search bar in settings or anywhere else the keyboard gets called. And we're done.

So this is it, an AR adapter tuned Android TV power house capable of games, streaming, and so much more as an android device. There were a lot of hoops to jump through but now we can unlock the full potential of the Xreal Beam. Down below will be a screenshot of apps and games I use on my Beam with Retroarch and Sword of Xolan requiring a bluetooth controller. Two incredible apps I recommend are Kodi and New Pipe (YouTube alternative) for both working somewhat with the Eva Launcher. That's it for this guide, I'll be posting mostly memes again so see you guys on Reddit, Twitter (if it's still alive), and Discord.



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Link: <https://www.androidpolice.com/how-to-change-android-keyboard/>