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31

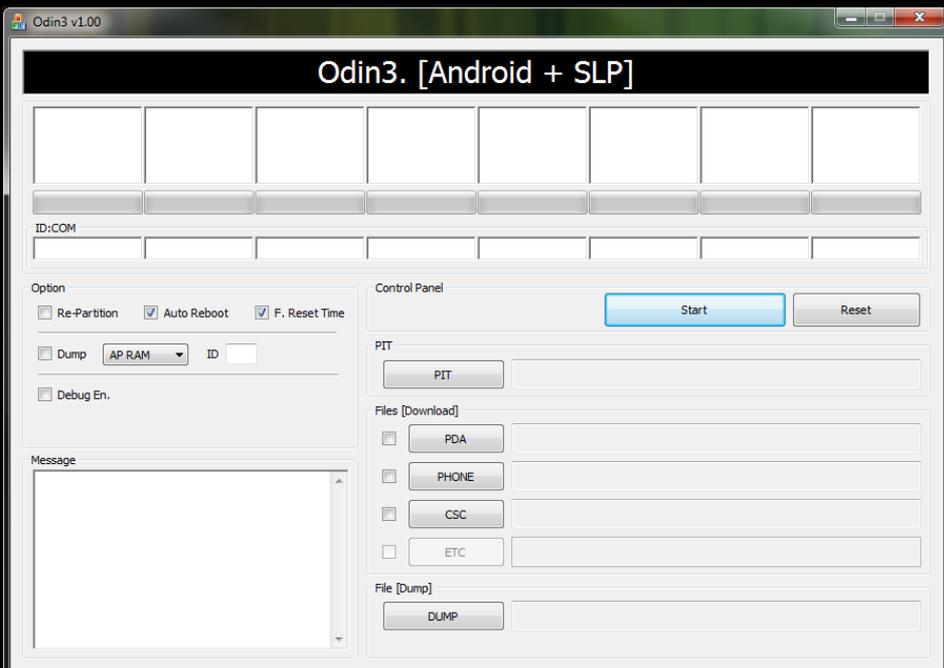
What is the basic functionality behind the Odin buttons & checkboxes?

odin

There's a [good question on what the Odin tool is](#). I understand now that it's an internal Samsung tool for flashing firmware, which explains why it's so hard to find info on the (rather cryptic) options and buttons. Can anyone here perhaps enlighten us with a basic description for the following:

- Options:
 - **Re-Partition** (checkbox)
 - **F. Reset Time** (checkbox)
 - **Phone EFS Clear** (checkbox)
 - **Phone Bootloader Update** (checkbox)
- Buttons and files:
 - **PIT** (button to select a *.pit, *.xml file)
 - **PDA** (button to select *.tar, *.md5, *.smd file)
 - **PHONE** (button to select *.bin, *.tar, *.md5 file)
 - **CSC** (button to select *.tar, *.md5 file)
 - **ETC** (button to select ???)

For reference, here's a screenshot of the App showing these various options and buttons:



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Jeroen

370 ● 1 ● 5 ● 13

asked

Aug 2 '12 at 12:42



Community ♦

1

edited

Apr 13 at 12:18

1 Answer

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Looking at this Odin 3, don't forget, there are variant versions of Odin in respect to different Samsung devices. But this particular one is what's used to flash, from my experience, Samsung Galaxy S and Samsung Galaxy tablet P1010T.

In short, for Odin to operate, there can be *.bin*, or *.tar* or even *.tar.md5* files associated with a ROM for flashing. Odin knows how to handle them in the appropriate manner. (Have not seen *.bin* used, its more of the *.tar.md5* which is a tar file with MD5 check-sums contained in the archive, in which Odin will automatically verify each file within it)

- **Re-Partition** does what it says - re-partitions the layout.
- **Auto Reboot** and **F.Reset Time** - when the flash is done, auto reboot and reset the timer of the flashing when done. Usually can leave those two checked.
- **PIT** - this is a file that describes the layout of the partitions involved, this will be very specific to the device in question, use the wrong PIT file for the device, and its... well... face the consequence!
- **PDA** - an all in one archive that contains the *.img*'s MD5 sum, boot, recovery, system, userdata, cache and movinand. Those *.img*'s are different to the normal ones that is out there, they use Samsung's RFS (Not sure what R means, but its **F**ile **S**ystem and is proprietary to Samsung) - this is optional, the clue would be in the name of the file - if it contains *PDA* in it, use it, if not, uncheck this and follow on, if using this to flash the device...
- **Phone** - When flashing a ROM for Samsung device, depending on the model, there will be usually, a file similar to this *XXXX-REVnn-ALL-low-YYYYY.tar.md5* Again, this will be an all in one archive as explained for the *PDA*, the distinction and big clue, is the former is for tablets, the other is for smartphones (That's what have played with - just doubly check and make sure this is correct, have a wifi-only tablet here, and it uses the Phone when flashing - O_o).
- **CSC** - This is some country code used for the region to flash the ROM against, XE is Europe, AU is Australia, and so on, this part can throw you off, its more then for tracking what region this is based of, in *terms of localization and language support*. **And more importantly**, for Kies to recognize the region and to determine if there's firmware update available. It is quite possible to have a CSC that can be limited to one country.

Another aspect of the Phone and CSC is, some would expect the name of the file for the Phone to be near same as CSC, for example, P1010XWKC1 is the froyo firmware, but does not have a PDA in the filename... just to highlight that firmware for Samsung devices can be inconsistent at times.

So with that in mind, here's the general guidelines for flashing a ROM,

- Re-Partition - do not check, unless you have the appropriate PIT file for your device. This will wipe all your data.
- Auto Reboot and F.Reset Time are both checked.
- *PIT* - mandatory, ensure you have the right file for your device.
- If its smartphone, ensure *Phone* is selected and the appropriate

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t0mm13b

12.4k ● 1 ● 34 ● 52

answered

Aug 2 '12 at 13:38



George

217 ● 3 ● 14

edited

Mar 30 '16 at 21:06

Thanks for the detailed answer, this explains a lot. I did use Odin just now for flashing my i9000 (not quite following those guidelines btw, only needed the PDA file), now I understand more or less what it was I just did :) – [Jeroen](#) Aug 2 '12 at 14:12

Couldn't stay without saying, reading your answers I feel like reading a tech bestseller! +1 – [Zuul](#) Aug 2 '12 at 19:56

lol! Thanks @Zuul for your kind words... – [t0mm13b](#) Aug 2 '12 at 20:03

Its good article, to add to the tomm13b CSC is Carrier Specific Changes anyway description for CSC is same. It will be country and carrier specific as well. – [Suman](#) Aug 21 '12 at 12:53

3

DO NOT check repartition by default! This is usually not needed and it will always wipe your data on the device. Repartitioning should only be done when you know the partition layout currently in use does not match the requirements of the rom you are flashing. Please edit your answer to only recommend repartition when the .pit file is included with the other rom files. Also one pit may not be compatible with all the firmwares for the device. – [Mihic](#) Sep 2 '12 at 20:09

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