HandWallet PC for Linux

Download, installation and first launch guide

Version 7.87 · October 2026 · www.handwallet.com

What is HandWallet PC for Linux?

HandWallet is an app for managing expenses and income. The PC version runs the HandWallet app in a window on your computer, so you can work with a keyboard, a mouse and a big screen. All your data is stored on your computer.

Installation is simple: download **one file**, allow it to run, and double-click it. No other software is needed, and no administrator password.

> Here and there, this guide shows short commands for the **Terminal**. The Terminal is a window where you type commands instead of clicking buttons. Open it with **Ctrl+Alt+T**, or search for "Terminal" in the applications menu. Copy the command from this guide, paste it into the Terminal (Ctrl+Shift+V) and press Enter. You don't have to use the Terminal: every command also has a way without it, or is only an optional check for advanced users.

Is my Linux version supported?

HandWallet PC needs four things. Not sure? Just try to run it: HandWallet PC checks everything by itself, and if something is missing it shows a message that explains what to do.

Requirement	How to check
A recent Linux distribution Ubuntu 22.04, Debian 12, Fedora 36, Linux Mint 21 or newer, and distributions based on them (for example Kubuntu, Lubuntu, Zorin OS, Pop!_OS).	**Settings** → **System** → **About** shows the distribution name and version. In the Terminal: `cat /etc/os-release`
A 64-bit Intel or AMD processor Computers with an ARM processor (such as a Raspberry Pi) are not supported.	In the Terminal: `uname -m` The answer should be `x86_64`.
Virtualization turned on Explained below.	In the Terminal: `ls /dev/kvm` If `/dev/kvm` is shown, all is well. If you get a message that the file does not exist, see below.
3 GB of free disk space in your home folder.	In the **Files** app, under "Other Locations". In the Terminal: `df -h ~` (the Avail column).

What is virtualization and why is it needed?

HandWallet PC runs the HandWallet app inside a **virtual machine**: a small simulated computer that runs inside your computer, isolated from it. For the virtual machine to be fast, the processor needs a feature called **virtualization** (Intel calls it VT-x, AMD calls it AMD-V). Almost every computer from the last decade supports it, but sometimes it is turned off in the BIOS settings.

How to turn it on: restart the computer and enter the BIOS/UEFI setup (usually by pressing F2, F10, Del or Esc right after power-on). Look for the option "Intel Virtualization Technology (VT-x)" or "SVM Mode (AMD-V)", enable it, then save and exit.

What about other distributions?

The list above has the distributions we tested. Others can work if they are new enough. A check for advanced users: the command `ldd --version` shows a version number on its first line. HandWallet PC needs 2.35 or higher.

Step 1: Download the file

1. In your browser, open **www.handwallet.com/expensemanager/linux.asp**
2. Click **DOWNLOAD NOW**. The file `HandWallet-PC-Linux-x86_64.AppImage` (about 40 MB) is saved to your **Downloads** folder.

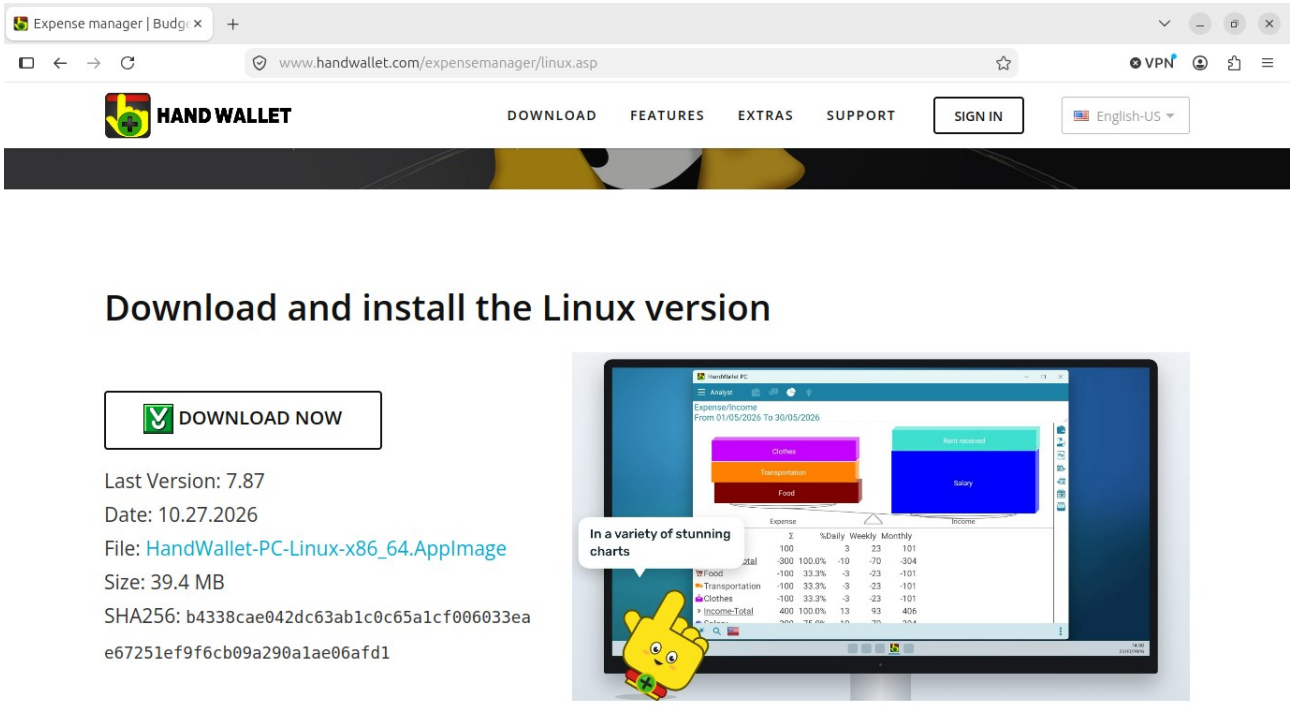

Figure 1: The download page. Under the button: the file details, including version, date, size and signature (SHA256).

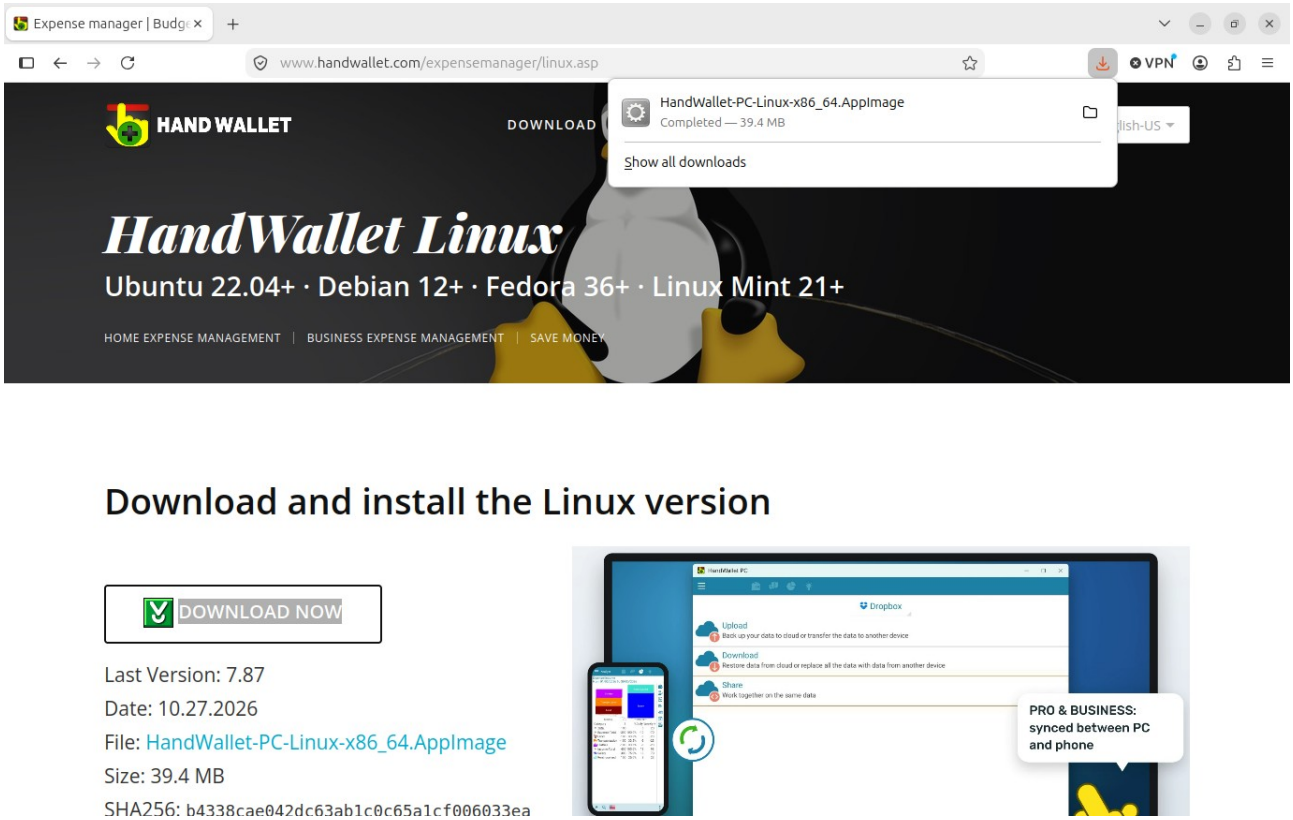

Figure 2: The download is complete (in Firefox).

> **What is an AppImage?** It is a common way on Linux to ship a program as a single file that contains everything the program needs. There is no installation in the usual sense: the file itself is the program. As is customary, the long name also says which processor type it is for (x86_64).

Step 2: Check the signature (optional, recommended)

What is a signature? The signature (SHA256) is a kind of fingerprint of the file: a long string of letters and digits calculated from every single byte of the file. Any change to the file, even the smallest, gives a completely different signature. Such a change can come from an interrupted download, an error along the way, or an attempt to tamper with the file.

So if the signature you calculate on your computer is **identical** to the one on the download page, the file arrived exactly as we published it.

1. Open a Terminal (**Ctrl+Alt+T**).
2. Copy and paste the following command, then press Enter. It goes to your Downloads folder (in any language) and calculates the signature:

   ```
   cd "$(xdg-user-dir DOWNLOAD)" && sha256sum HandWallet-PC-Linux-x86_64.AppImage
   ```
3. Compare the result with the signature on the download page. They must be exactly the same.

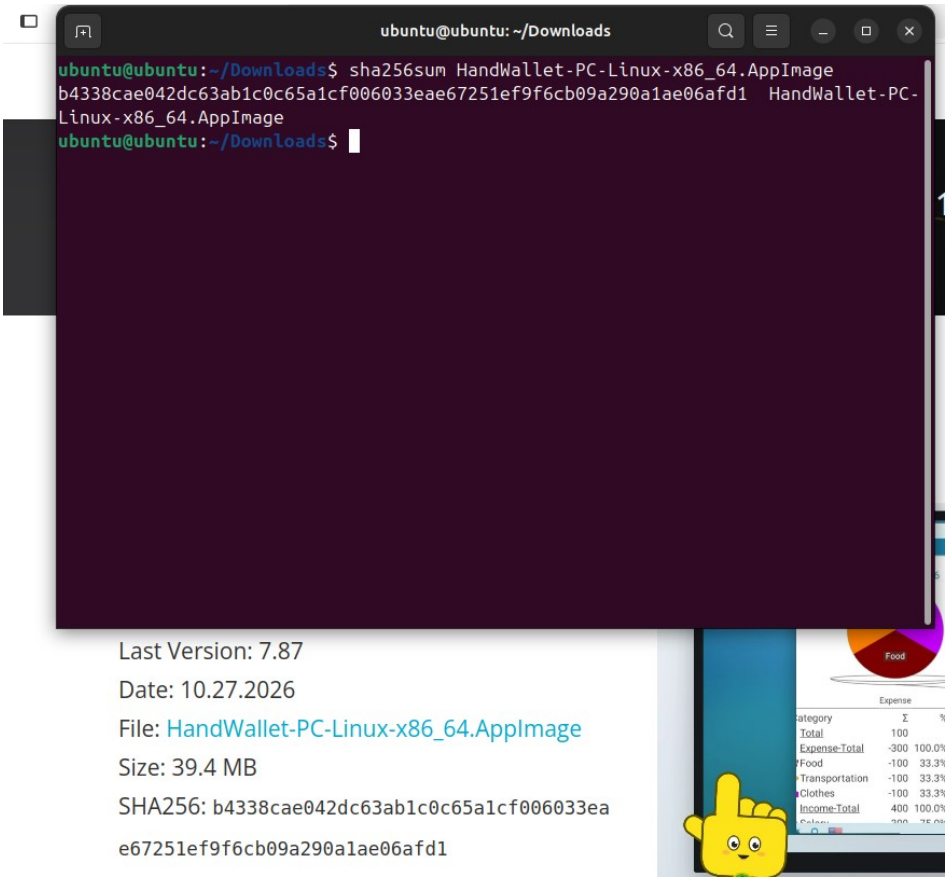

Figure 3: In the Terminal: the calculated signature. Below it, on the download page: the published signature. They are identical.

> **Different signature?** Delete the file and download it again. If the signature is still different, do not run the file, and write to us at support@handwallet.com.

Step 3: Allow the file to run

On Linux, a file downloaded from the internet cannot run as a program until you explicitly allow it. This is a safety mechanism, and you only do it once.

Note: before you allow it, double-clicking the file does not run it but opens it in another program (in Ubuntu: "Disk Image Mounter"). If that happens, close it and continue with the steps below.

1. Open the **Files** app and go to the **Downloads** folder.
2. Right-click the file and choose **Properties**.
3. Turn on **Executable as Program**, and close the window.

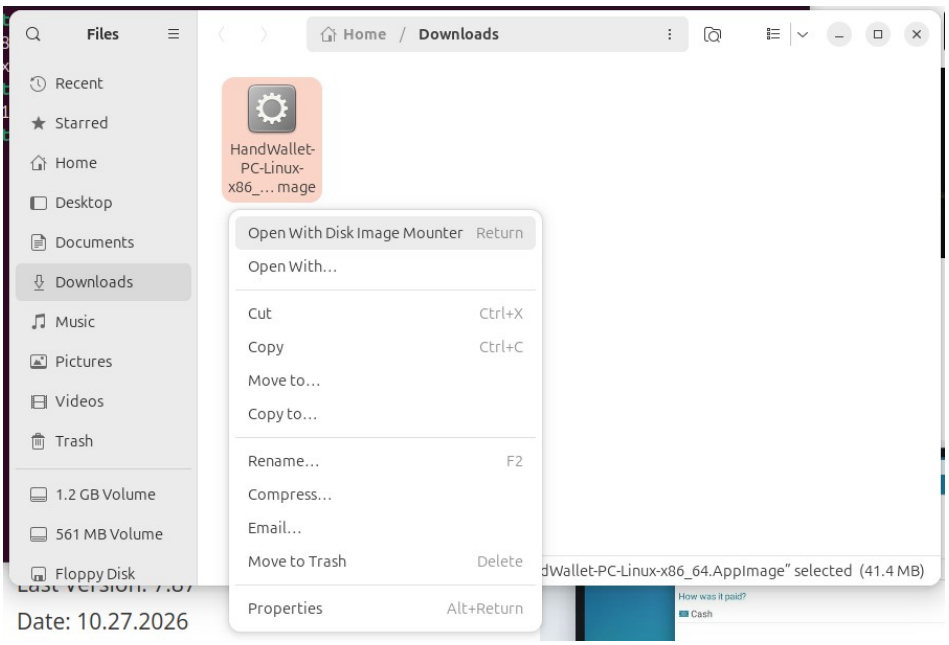

Figure 4: Right-clicking the file. At the bottom of the menu: Properties.

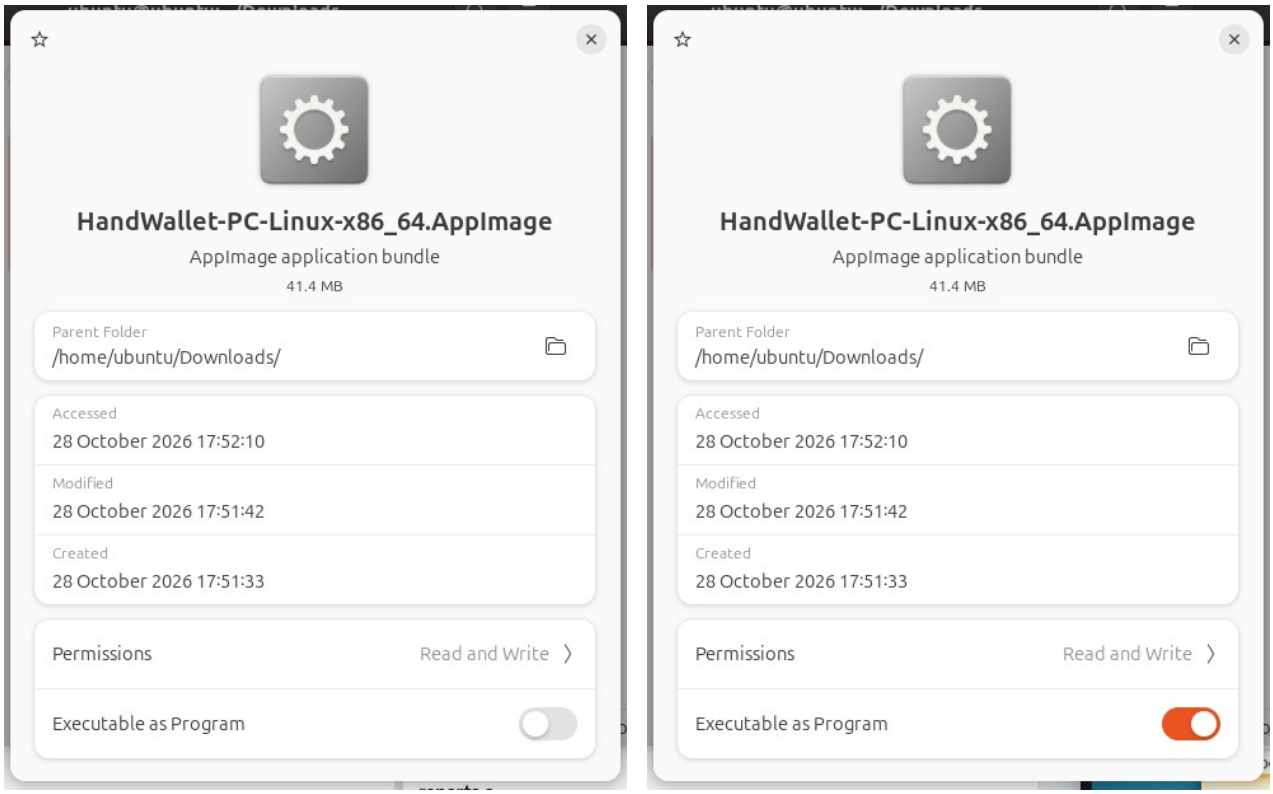

Figure 5: The Properties window: before (left) and after (right) turning on "Executable as Program".

In other distributions the window looks a little different, and the option may have another name, for example "Allow executing file as program" or a "Permissions" tab. **A way that works in every distribution:** in the Terminal, in the Downloads folder:

```
chmod +x HandWallet-PC-Linux-x86_64.AppImage
```

(chmod +x gives the file permission to run.)

Tip: before the first launch, move the file to a permanent place, for example your home folder or a folder named Applications. On the first launch HandWallet PC adds itself to the applications menu, and

the shortcut points to where the file is. If you later delete the file from Downloads, the shortcut stops working.

Step 4: The first launch

Double-click the file. On the first launch HandWallet PC downloads its core components (about 1.35 GB). This happens **only once**, so the first launch needs an internet connection. How long it takes depends on your connection, usually a few minutes.

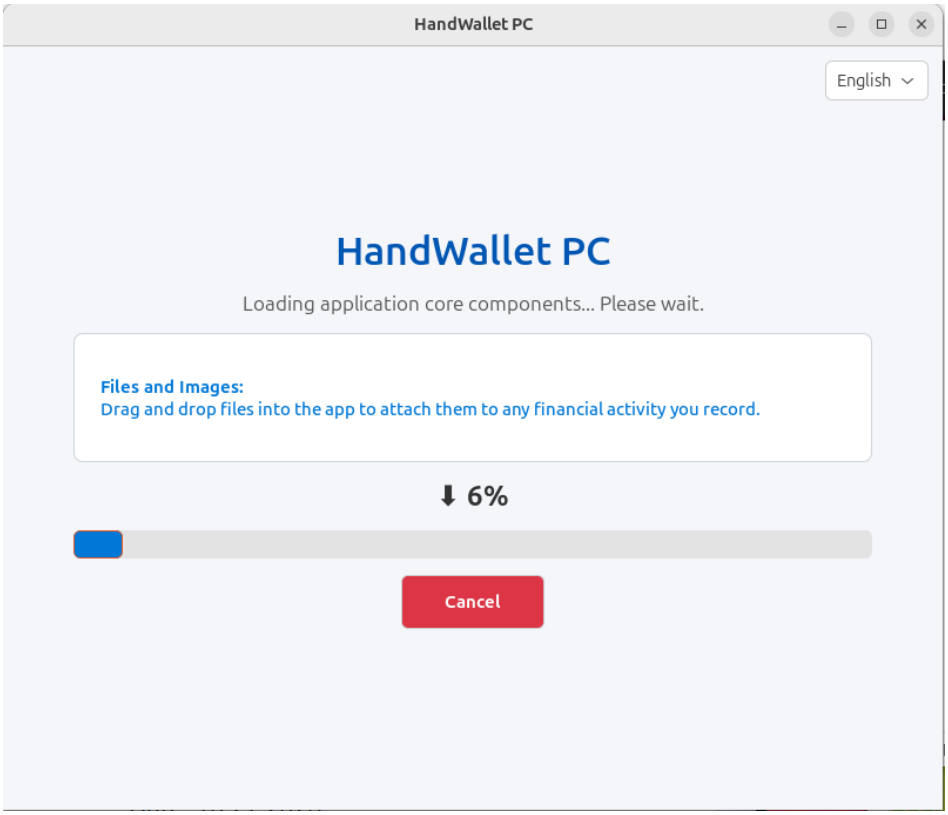

Figure 6: The first launch: downloading the core components. Tips for using the app are shown while you wait. The list in the corner chooses the language of this screen.

When the download finishes, the HandWallet PC window opens. Later launches skip the download and open faster. From now on you can also start HandWallet PC from the applications menu, under the name **HandWallet PC**.

Step 5: The welcome wizard

The first time the app opens, a short wizard helps you set it up: language, country and currency.

Choosing a language

1. On the welcome screen, the language button at the top shows the current language (**English US** at first). To use another language, click it and choose from the list. The app switches immediately.
2. Use the arrows to browse the introduction screens, or click **Skip** to continue.

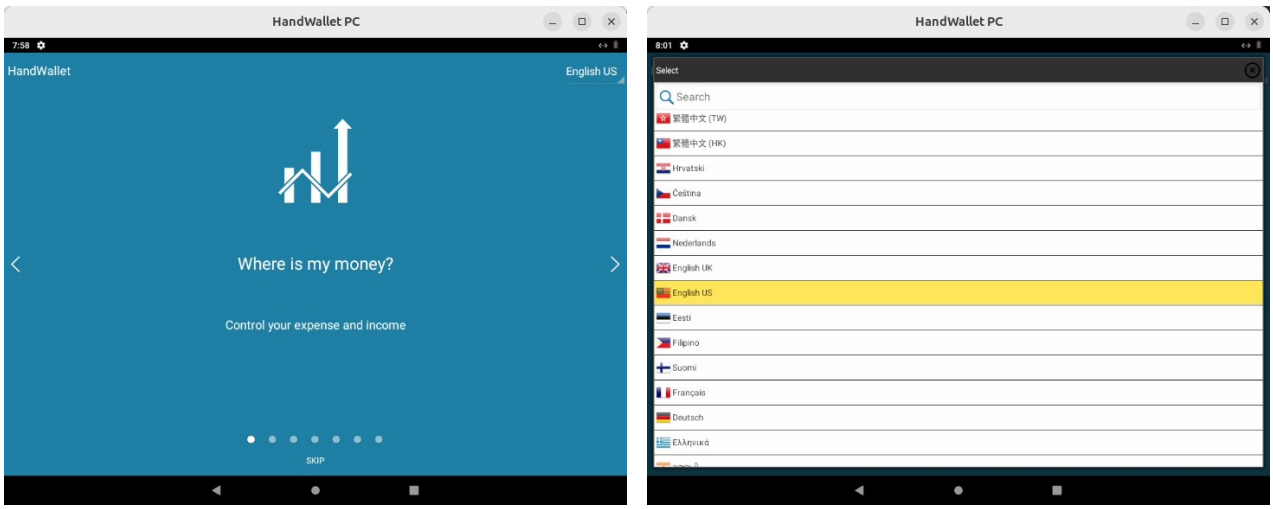

Figure 7: The welcome screen (left) and the language list (right), where "English US" is selected.

Choosing a country and currency

1. The country and currency are already filled in according to the language (with English US: United States and US dollar). If that is right, just click **Next**.
2. Otherwise, click the country under **Select country** and choose yours. You can scroll or search the list. The currency changes with the country, and you can also change it under **Select currency**.

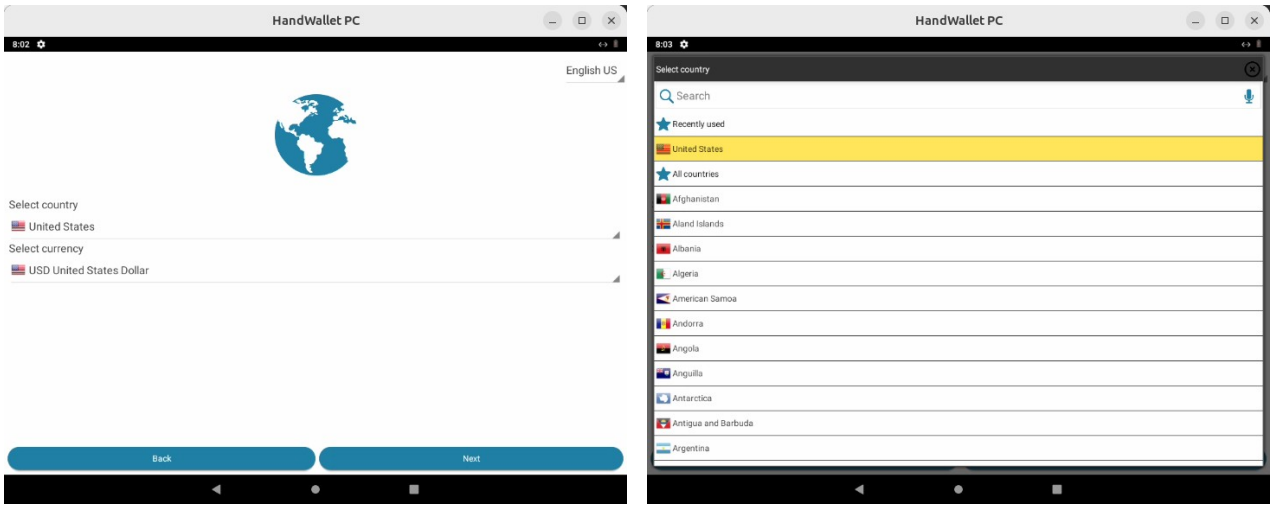

Figure 8: The country and currency screen (left) and the country list (right), where "United States" is selected.

How do you prefer to enter data?

In some countries, including the United States, the wizard then asks whether to download your actions automatically from your bank and credit card company, or to enter them yourself. To follow this guide, choose **To enter data manually at this stage** and click **Next**. You can connect a bank later.

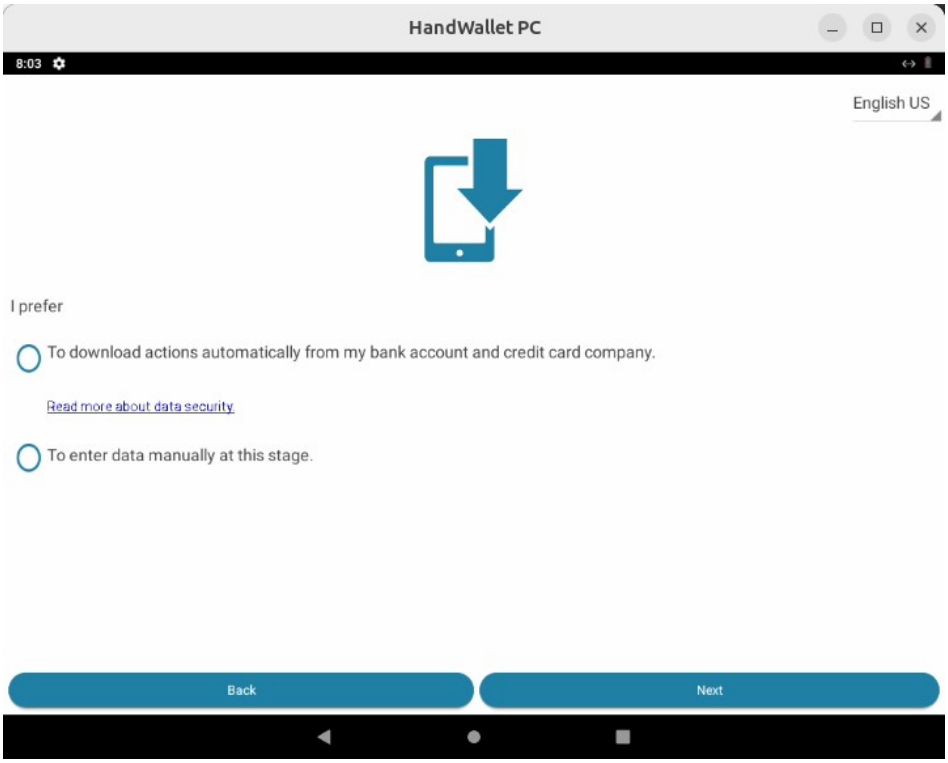

Figure 9: Choosing between automatic download from the bank and manual entry.

Step 6: Your first action

In HandWallet, every money movement is called an **action**: a purchase, a bill payment, a salary, a loan and so on. At the end of the wizard you see the Actions screen, still empty, with an invitation to write your first action.

1. Click the round **+** button in the corner.
2. Choose the type of action: **Income**, **Expense** or **Else**.
3. Under **What?**, choose a category and then a subcategory, for example Food → Fruits & Vegetables.
4. Type the amount. For an expense, the amount is shown with a minus sign.
5. You can add a description, change the date and choose how it was paid (cash, credit card, etc.). All of these are optional.
6. Click **Confirm**.

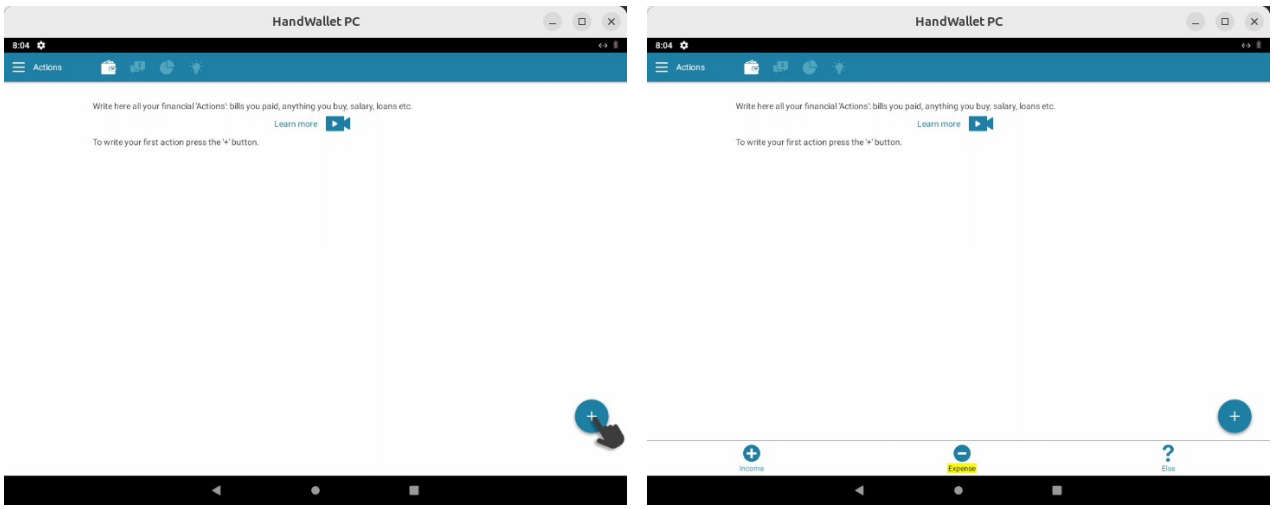

Figure 10: The Actions screen before the first action (left). After clicking +, choose the type of action (right).

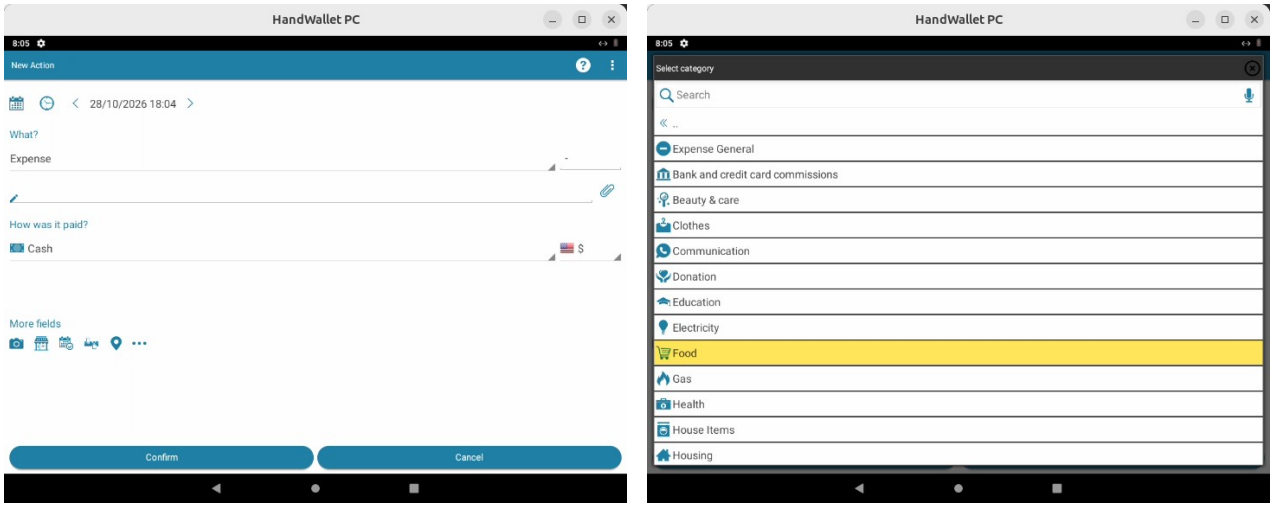

Figure 11: The New Action form (left) and the category list (right), where we chose "Food".

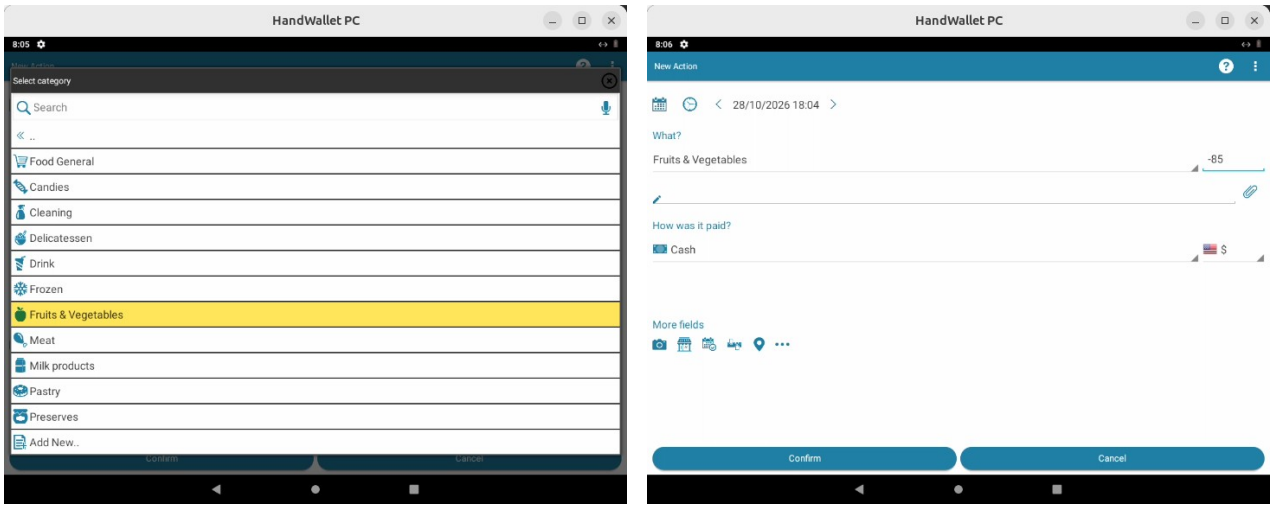

Figure 12: Subcategories (left), where we chose "Fruits & Vegetables". After typing the amount (right).

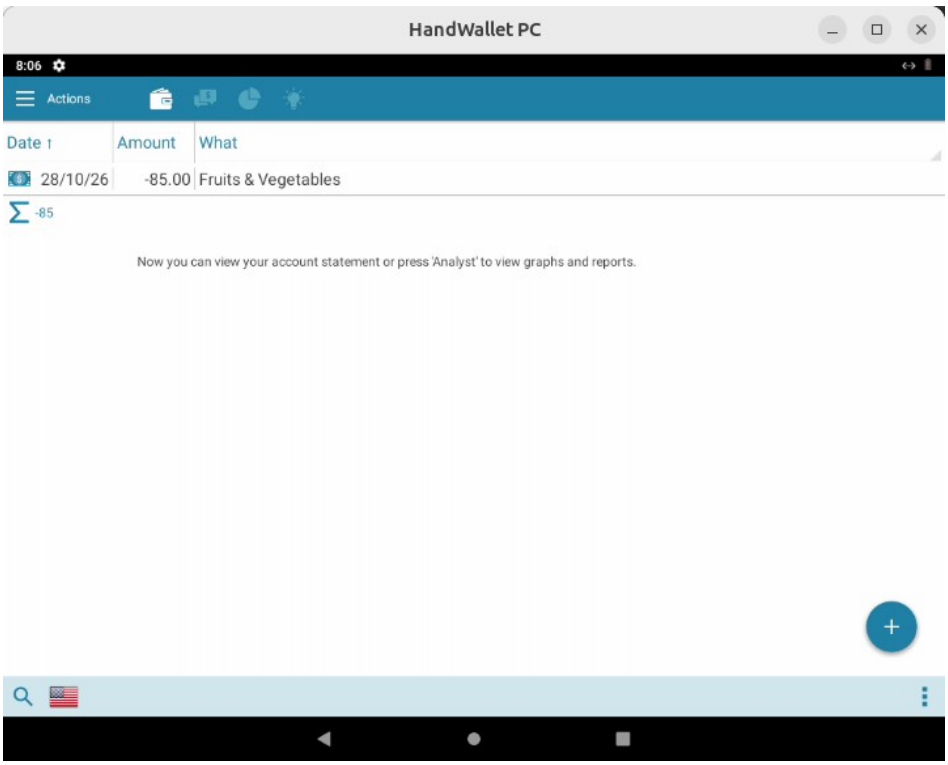

Figure 13: The first action is saved. From here you can keep writing actions, view your account statement, or press Analyst to see charts and reports.

Typing in your language

HandWallet types in the same language as your computer. Switch the keyboard language the way you always do (in Ubuntu, for example, with **Super+Space**), and HandWallet switches with it.

Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Vietnamese and Thai are typed with an input method. If your computer has one of them, HandWallet adds it by itself when it starts (a one-time download of about 50 MB). Then type as you do on your computer: the suggestions appear inside the HandWallet window. If your computer uses fcitx5, its switch key (**Ctrl+Space**) also works inside the HandWallet window.

> The input method for these languages is **fcitx5-android**, free software under the LGPL-2.1 license, used without changes. Its source code: https://github.com/fcitx5-android/fcitx5-android

Troubleshooting

What happens	What to do
Double-clicking opens the file in another program, or nothing happens.	The file is not allowed to run yet. Go back to Step 3.
Message: "Hardware virtualization is turned off in this computer's BIOS/UEFI settings".	Turn on virtualization in the BIOS, as explained in "Is my Linux version supported?".

What happens	What to do
Message: "Your user does not have permission to use hardware virtualization".	In the Terminal: `sudo usermod -aG kvm $USER` Then log out and log in again. (The command adds your user to the group that may use virtualization. sudo asks for your password.)
Message: "This Linux version is too old for HandWallet PC".	Update your distribution to a supported version (see the table at the beginning of this guide).
Message: "There is not enough free space on this computer".	Free up disk space (at least 3 GB), then run it again.
I added a language in Linux, but HandWallet does not type in it.	Close HandWallet and open it again. Each time it starts, HandWallet checks the computer's languages and adds what is needed.
The download on the first launch failed.	Check your internet connection and run it again. The download starts over.

Need help?

Write to us at **support@handwallet.com** and describe what happened. If a message appeared, attach a screenshot of it.