This abbreviated guide show just the key steps to install Veeam backup software.

Why Use Veeam Agent for Microsoft Windows?

A full system image backup:

1. Backs up absolutely everything in a computer, including Windows, software, settings and data
2. Restores everything **much faster** than other types of backups, saving hours or days of downtime
3. Can perform a bare metal restore, meaning a restore to an empty drive or new computer.
4. Options to rotate two or more USB hard drives on any schedule to an offsite location.

Veeam Agent for Microsoft Windows (VAMW) is **free** for laptops and desktops.

It performs *forever incremental* drive image backups, insuring that backs are fast and complete.

The full image backup file is repeatedly updated with daily backups. You don't need to restore any incremental backup files to restore a full backup of yesterday's full system. Incremental are used to take you back in time if needed.

VAMW has proven its value in performing the sometimes difficult task of restoring to dissimilar computers.

It is available for Windows laptops and desktops.

It is also available for Apple and Linux operating systems.

Note: For instructions on rotating two or more USB hard drives, see Appendix A (at end of this guide) or:
https://helpcenter.veeam.com/docs/agentforwindows/userguide/rotated_drives.html?ver=50

Getting Ready

To install the Veeam Agent for Windows backup software you will need:

1. One or two available USB ports on your computer.
2. A flash drive (thumb drive) labeled VeeamRecov on the outside of the drive (or new flash drive or one than can be erased). Minimum size: 4 GB.
3. An external hard drive or flash drive with free space for backups. It is best to have twice as much space as the size of the drive (or volume) you are backing up. For details, see Disk Space, below.
4. The Veeam installer file. Download it in the next step.

You may need to **restart (reboot) your computer** before installing Veeam Agent for Windows.

Download Veeam Agent for Microsoft Windows

Use this link: to download the Veeam installer file.

https://www.veeam.com/agent-for-windows-community-edition.html

Note: You need to create a Veeam account to get access to the Free version.

After logging in, Download Veeam Agent for Microsoft Windows.

Backing Up to USB Drive

Veeam Backup automatically selects a USB drive if one is connected.

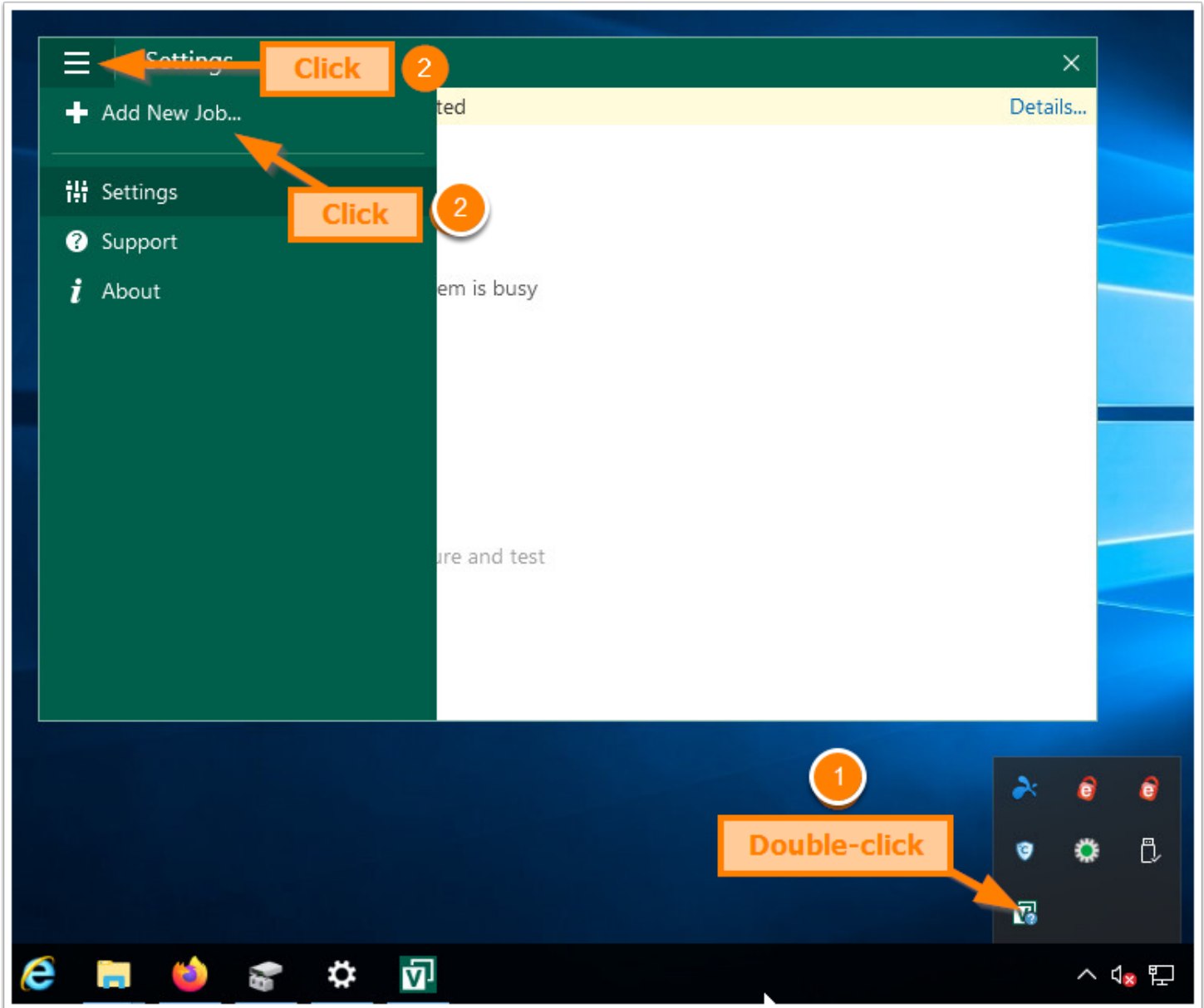If it shows the **wrong USB drive**, check the **Skip** box.
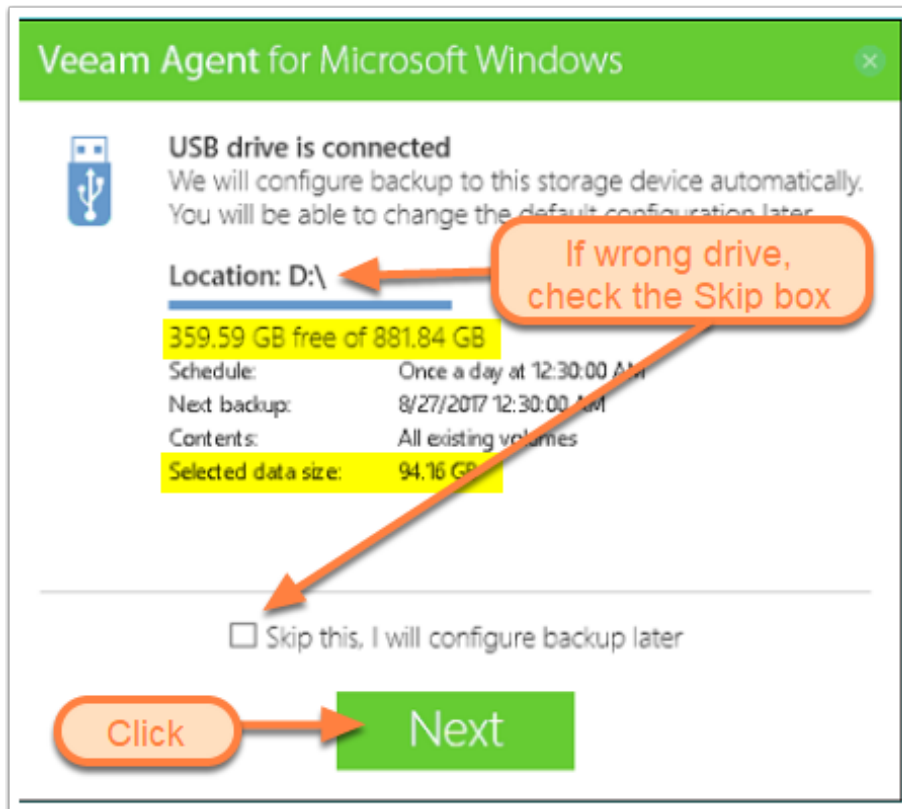
Click Finish

Uncheck the Run Veeam Revoery Media creation wizare. Do that later after giving the backup job a password.

Click **Finish** to complete the software installation and begin the Veeam Recovery drive creation.
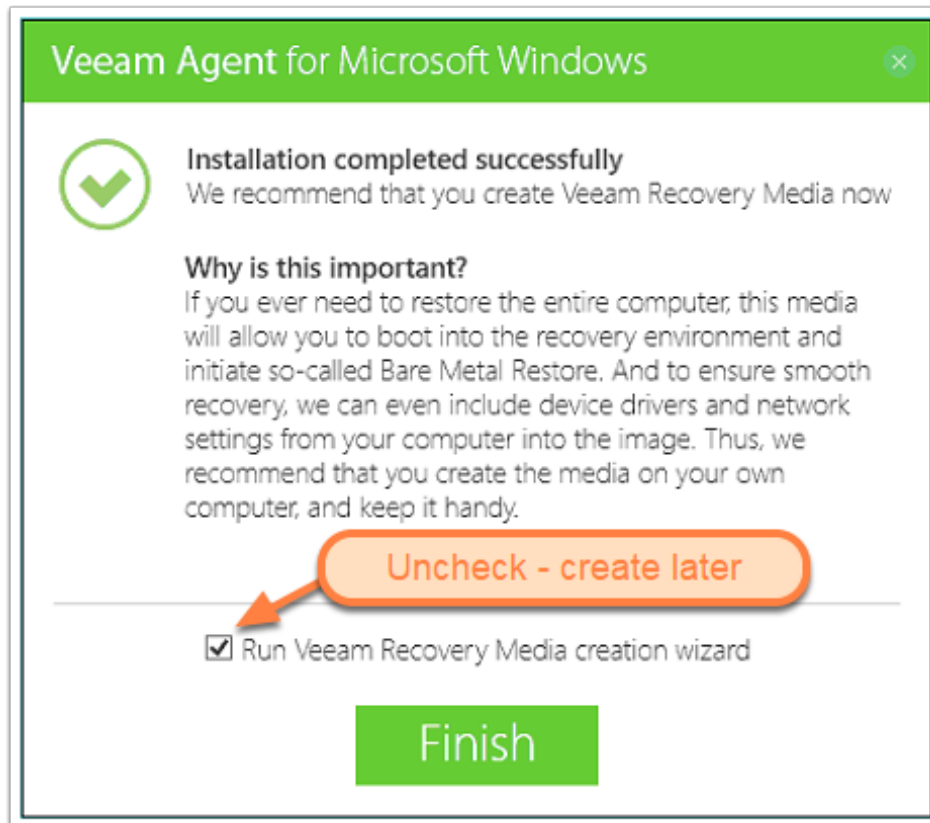
Open the Veeam Control Panel and Add a New Job

1. Right-click the Veeam icon.
2. **Settings**
3. **Add New Job...**

Name the Backup Job

Choose a Backup Mode

Choose a Backup Mode based on how much you want to back up.

Entire computer - This is the most complete choice. It will back up all of your INTERNAL drives, typically just the C drive.

Volume level backup - use his choice if you have multiple internal drives and just want to back up an image of your C drive (Windows drive).You can also choose to back up one or more other internal drives.

File level backup - Use this choice to pick and choose just the folders and files you want to back up.

Choose a Destination

For a USB drive, choose **Local storage**.

You have the option of choosing a network folder or a NAS drive.

Click the Backup Drive

1. Choose a Backup Drive
2. Set the retention of incremental backups for 14 days, more or less.
   Note: Each daily incremental may be 5 GB or more, depending on many variables.
3. Add a password to protect the contents of the backup drive.
   Write down the password! Keep it in two safe places, one onsite and one offsite.
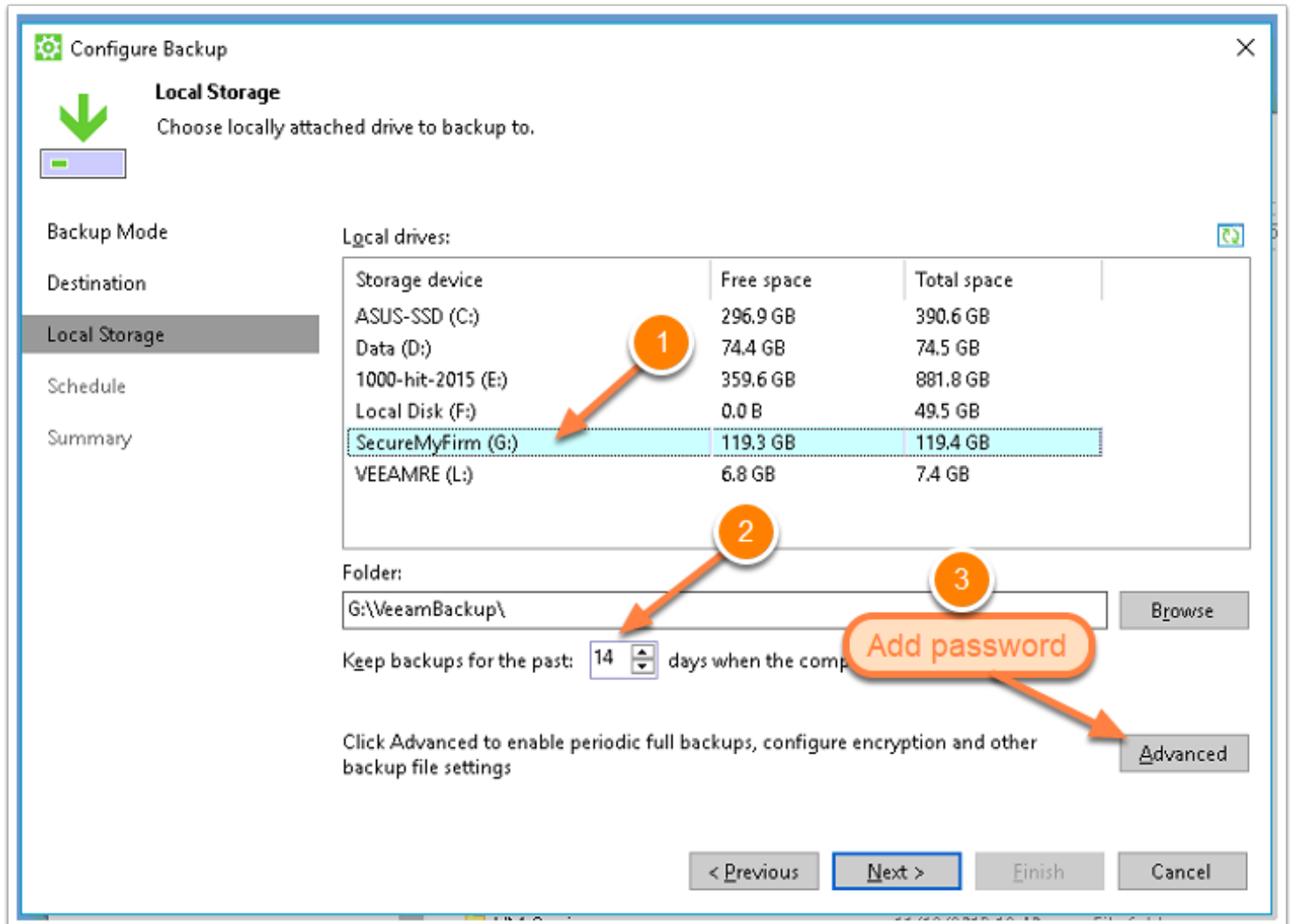
Set the Schedule

The standard schedule is once per day at 12:30 am. You may change the time if you like.

You may or may not want to choose **Skip backup** as the action to take when the computer starts up after missing a backup. Choose **Skip backup** if you want to avoid a slight slowdown when starting up after missing a backup.

Insert the VeeamRecov Flash Drive

Insert the flash drive labeled VeeamRecov into a USB port on the computer.

If you don't have a labeled flash drive, use a new USB flash drive (thumb drive) or one that can be erased. The flash drive should be 8 GB or larger.

Label it with an adhesive label or even Scotch Magic Tape.

This drive is **essential** for recovery!

Create a Recovery Drive

Click on the **Recovery media** link or select this option from the Settings menu.

Recreate the **Recovery media** flash drive after major updates to Windows.
To do so, type **recovery** in the Windows Search box and select: **Create Recovery Media**. See screenshot, below.

SecureMyFirm
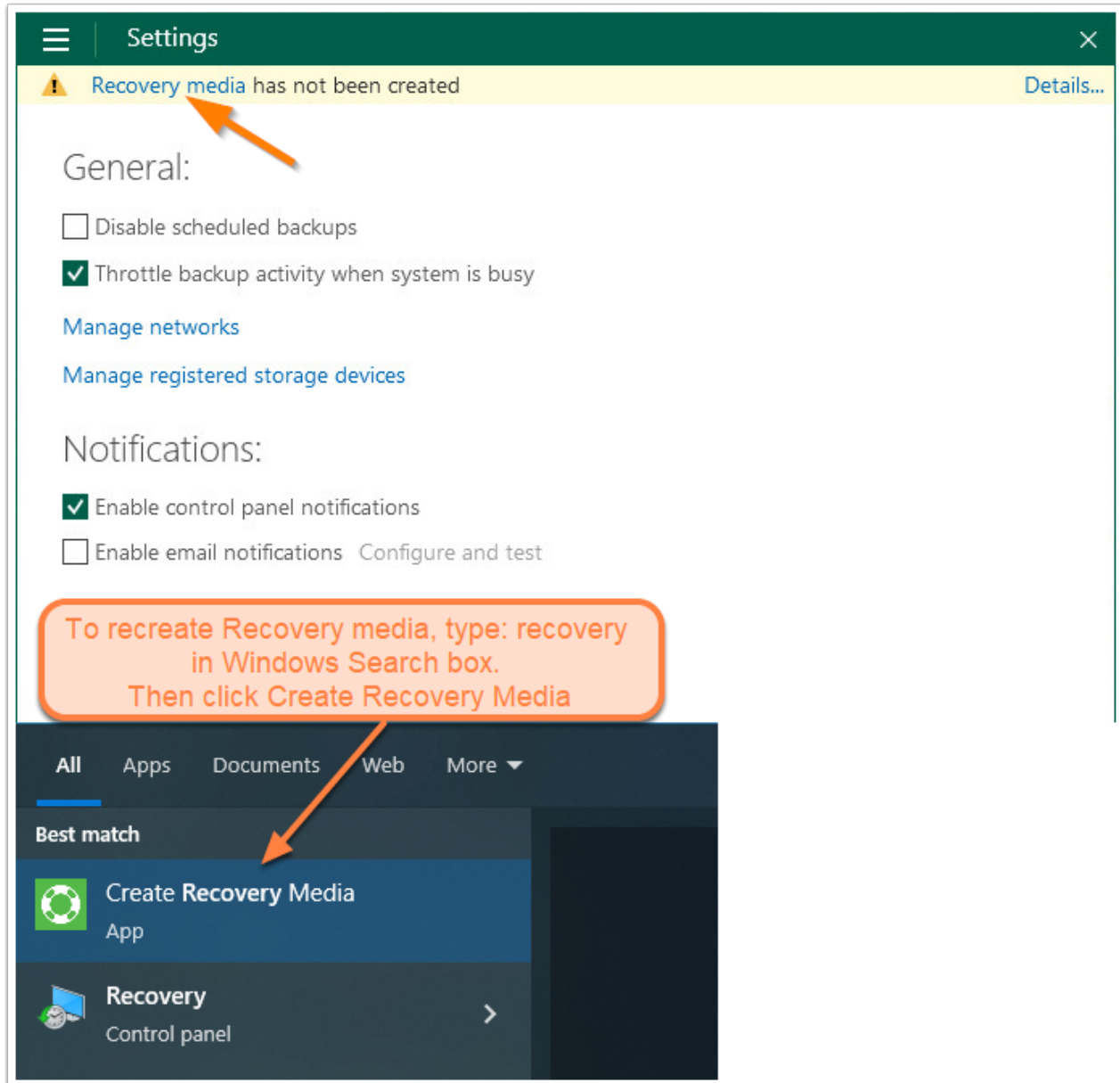
Include a Password (decryption key)

Choose the correct USB flash drive.

Check the box: **Include decryption key...** to insure the password is available for restores.
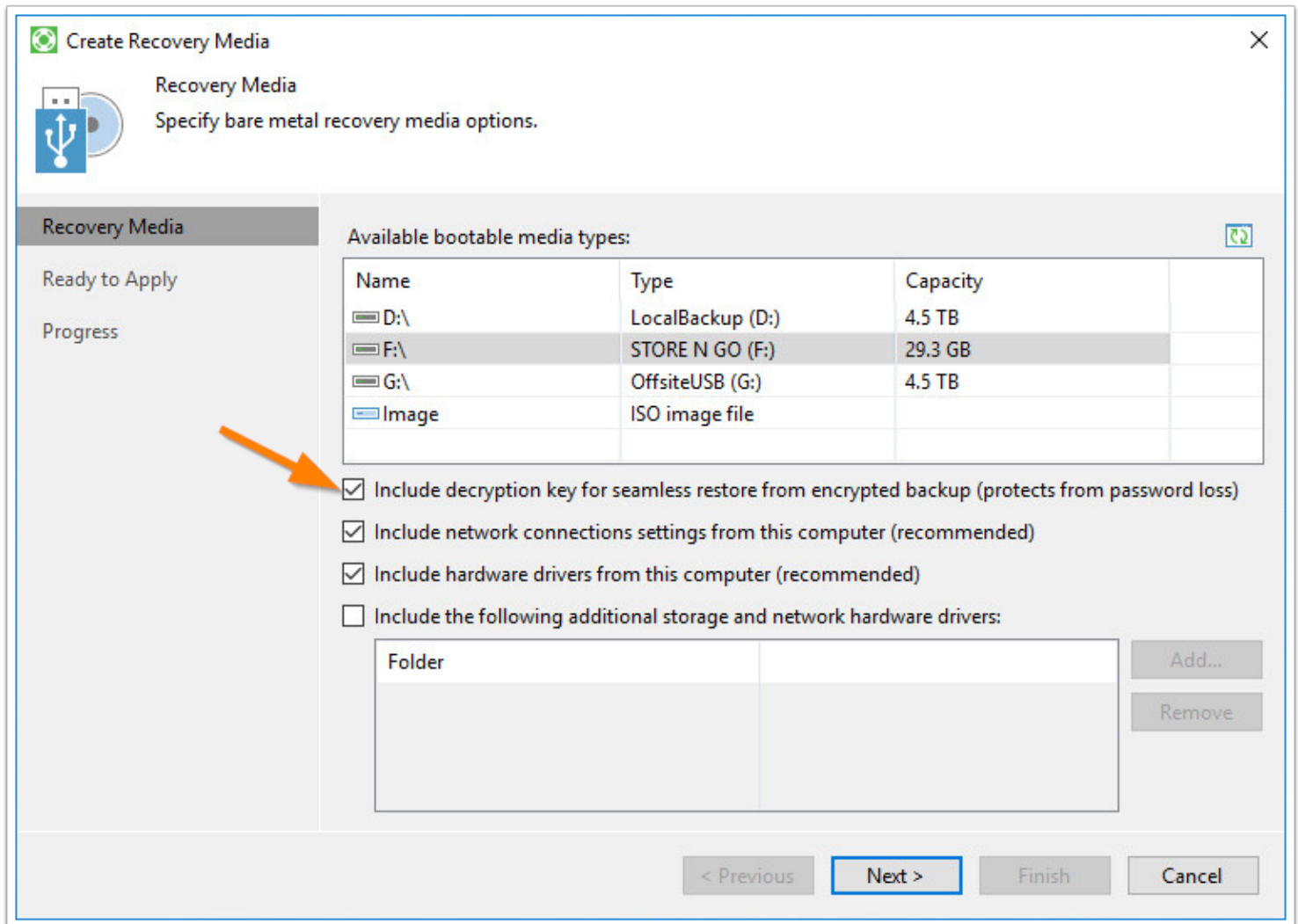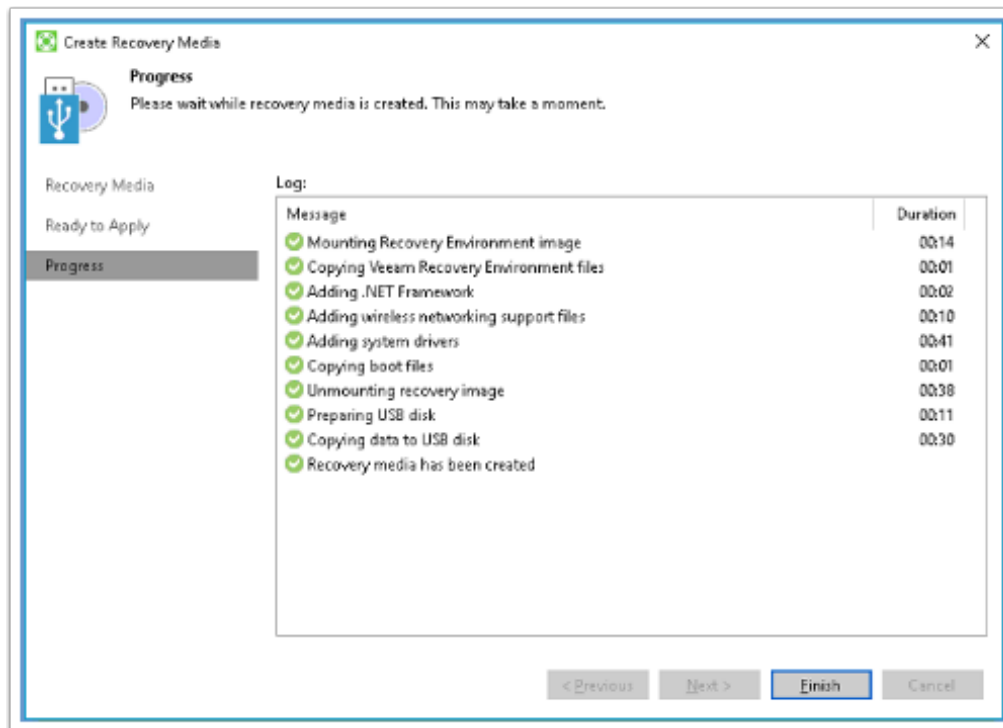
Creating the Recovery Drive Takes Time

Depending on the speed of the flash drive and the USB port, it can take 10 to 60 minutes.

You don't need to click anything during creating.

Remove the VeeamRecov flash drive and store it in a safe place.

Recommended: Create **two** Recovery Drives. Keep on offsite with an offsite backup in a safe place.

Status of Backup

To see the status fo your backup, hover the mouse over the Veeam icon in the lower right corner of the Desktop or open the Veeam Control Panel from the icon.
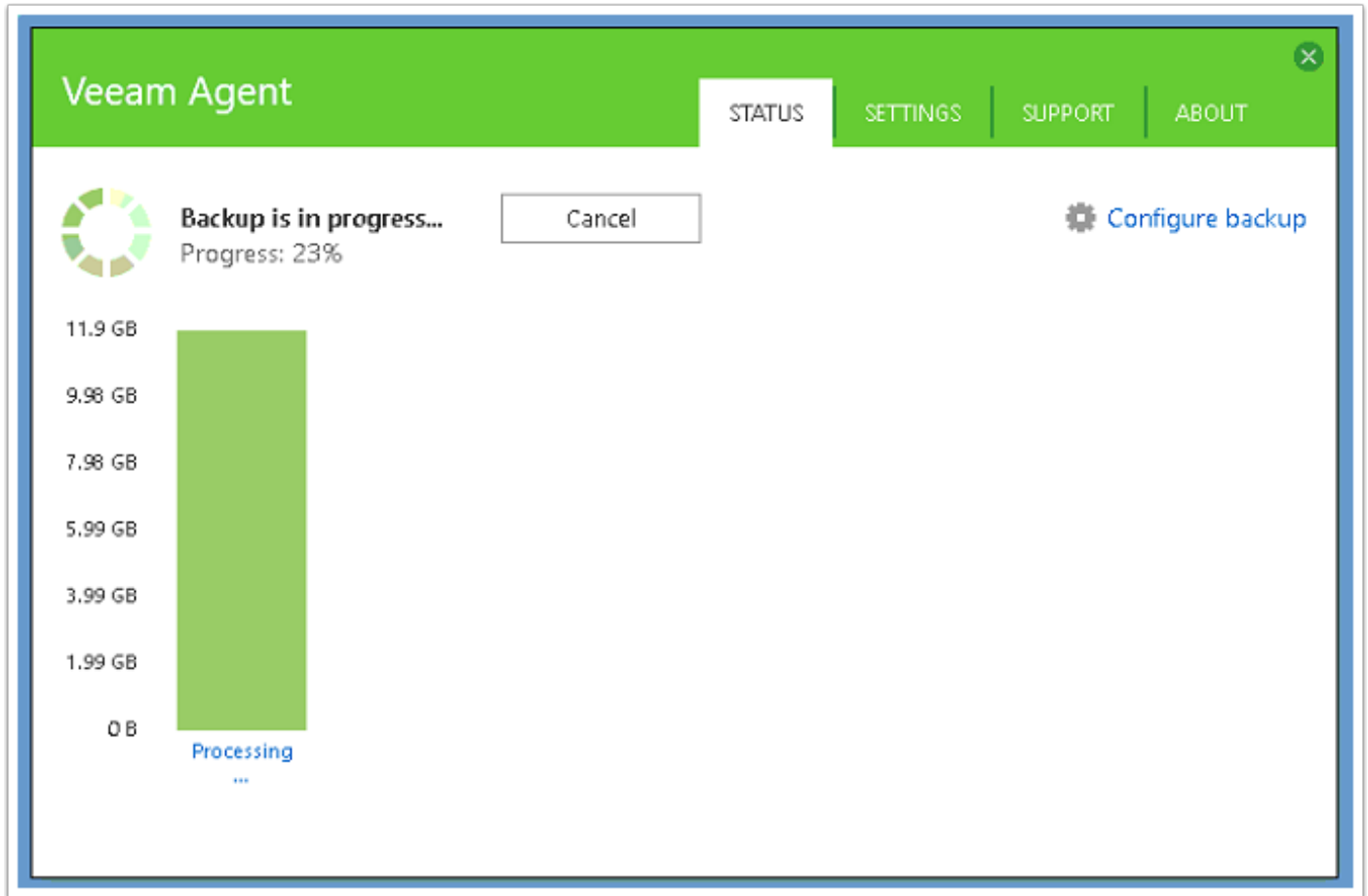
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