Automating the login

Unless you particularly wish to use your Raspberry Pi as a console system, it becomes tedious to log in and start the X server manually, so the process can be automated using the configuration tool.

1. Start up your Raspberry Pi then log in to the system as the default user `pi` with the `raspberry` password.

2. When the user prompt appears, type `sudo raspi-config` then hit Return – see the configuration tool appear.

3. When the configuration menu appears, use the up/down keyboard arrow keys to choose the “Boot Options” item – then hit Return to select it.

4. In the list of options that appears next, use the up/down keyboard arrow keys to choose the “Desktop Autologin” item – then hit Return to select it.

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You need to temporarily assume superuser status with `sudo` to make configuration changes.

The “Overclock” menu item allows the ARM processor on some models of the Raspberry Pi to be run above their default speed to increase performance; but this may reduce the life of your Raspberry Pi.
5. Next, use the left/right keyboard arrow keys to choose “Finish” then hit Return to apply the configuration change.

6. In the dialog that now appears use the left/right keyboard arrow keys to choose “Yes” – then hit Return to reboot the system straight to the GUI desktop.

Avoid changing the user password “raspberry” for the default user named “pi” in case you forget the new password.