

Scanner How-To

Scanners are supported on Linux by SANE (Scanner Access Now Easy), which provides a standardized access to any scanner hardware (flatbed scanner, hand-held scanner, video- and still-cameras, frame-grabbers, etc.).

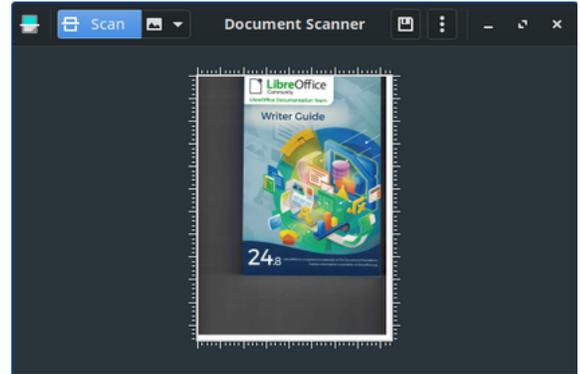
Basic steps

- Scanner powered **ON**.
- Run your scans from the app on MX Linux.

You can manage your scanner from MX Linux with the default **Document Scanner** aka **Simple Scan**. It is very easy to use and can export to PDF with a single click.

Others like **Not Another PDF Scanner** aka **NAPS2** - an easy download and install with MX Linux app Deb Installer.

A USB cable (A to B) *may* be need for some brand's setup.



Troubleshooting

For some older scanners the **libsane-common** and the optional **libinsane1** packages *may* need to be installed. See Scanner Database links below for more info.

Firewall

To verify your firewall is or is not blocking your scanner temporarily turn it off. SANE uses ports 6566 and 54921 over UDP. The UFW has a preconfigured rule 'SANE Scanner' for less fuss to get an unblock rule setup.

The **HP Printing** package *should* be installed from MX Package Installer. Some scanners require a different front-end (system interface to the scanner): you can install **gscan2pdf**, click Edit > Preferences, and use the pull-down menu to select a front-end (e.g., scanimage).

Many Multi-Function Printers have a scanner inbuilt that requires a driver to be downloaded and installed.

HP Scanners: HP uses Avahi for Service Discovery to locate printers on your network. Avahi listens at port number 5353 UDP. To allow printer discovery, it *may* be required that this port not be blocked by the Firewall, aka UFW. Use the 'Preconfigured' rule for 'Bonjour'. For more, see the MX User Manual section 4.5.1.

Driver Downloads

- **Epson** – Download Center <https://download-center.epson.com/>

Links

Make sure your scanner is listed as supported by SANE on [this list](#).

- **Canon** – older drivers <https://asia.canon/en/support>
- **NAPS2** (**Not Another PDF Scanner**) - free and open source that supports SANE and eSCL Drivers.
- **SANE** - Scanner Access Now Easy <http://www.sane-project.org/>
- **Scanner Database** [detailed information](#) regarding scanners, their drivers & [Libinsane](#) support of those.
- **Xsane** - <https://wiki.ubuntuusers.de/XSane/> Xsane: very comprehensive & powerful scanning program.
- **MX Wiki** – older scanner may need [Printer drivers](#) Brother, Canon, Epson, HP, Lexmark and Samsung.

Please direct ALL support requests to the MX Linux Forum -- <https://forum.mxlinux.org>

Adapted from MX 23 User Manual in September 2025

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