Format USB Flash Drive

Attach the flash drive and check the name assigned to this device immediately using dmesg. In this example, the device name was /dev/sdb1.

$ dmesg | tail  
...  
... sd 12:0:0:0: [sdb] Write cache: disabled, ...  
... sd: sdb1  
... sd 12:0:0:0: [sdb] Attached SCSI removable disk

Format it to FAT or NTFS filesystem and give a label (optional).

# mkfs.fat -n 'Label' -I /dev/sdb1  
# mkfs.ntfs --fast --label 'Label' /dev/sdb1