



Change serial number of a virtual machine

- Parallels Desktop for Mac Pro Edition
- Parallels Desktop for Mac Business Edition

How to change the serial number of a virtual machine?

Note: These steps only apply to macOS virtual machines running on Intel-powered Mac computers. Changing a serial of a macOS virtual machine on a Mac with Apple silicon is currently not possible. More information on the current limitations of macOS virtual machines on Mac computers with Apple silicon is available in [KB 128867](#).

Note: this feature is available only in **Parallels Desktop Pro** and **Parallels Desktop Business** editions.

Change a serial number

Changing a serial number using Terminal

Open Terminal (**Applications > Utilities > Terminal**) and execute the following command:

```
prlctl set "<vm_name|vm_UUID>" --smbios-serial-number <serial>
```

where `<vm_name|vm_UUID>` is your virtual machine's name or its unique identifier (virtual machine's UUID can be found by executing `prlctl list -a` command in Terminal).

Example:

```
prlctl set "Windows 10" --smbios-serial-number C02XK123456
```

Changing a serial number using a Boot flag

Go to virtual machine **configuration** > **Hardware** > **Boot Order** > **Advanced settings** > in **Boot flags** field paste the flag below alongside with a new serial number next:

```
devices.smbios.serial=<serial>
```

Changing a serial number by editing configuration file (more complicated)

1. Right-click on the virtual machine in **Control Center** > **Show in Finder** > right-click on **.pvm** file with the name of your virtual machine > select **Show Package Contents** > open **config.pvs** file with **TextEdit.app**
2. In a text editor, press **CMD + F** to show search bar > in search bar type: "**SerialNumber**" without quotes > it will take you to the exact string we need. Paste the required serial number.

Verifying a serial number

To verify your virtual machine's serial number, perform the steps below.

macOS virtual machine

Open Terminal (**Applications > Utilities > Terminal**) inside the virtual machine and execute the following command:

```
ioreg -l | grep IOPlatformSerialNumber
```

In macOS a serial number is usually presented by a 12-character combination.

Windows virtual machine

Open Command Prompt: click **Windows Start menu**, in Search bar type **cmd**, right-click on the appeared **Command Prompt** application and click **Run as Administrator**. Once Command Prompt opens, execute the following command:

```
wmic bios get serialnumber
```

In Windows, serial number is usually equal to the UUID of your VM.

Linux virtual machine

Open Terminal on Linux virtual machine > execute the command (with quotes):

```
dmidecode | grep "Serial Number"
```

Just as in Windows, a serial number in Linux is usually equal to the UUID of your VM.

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