

How do I get Windows 10 to run in a virtual machine on an Intel-based Mac?

- Parallels Desktop for Mac Pro Edition
- Parallels Desktop for Mac Standard Edition

Question

If you have a Mac with Apple M1 chip, visit this article: KB 125375.

- I have an active Windows 10 license, and I want to install Windows 10 in a Parallels virtual machine on an Intel-based Mac.
- I want to buy and install Windows 10 in a Parallels virtual machine on an Intel-based Mac.

Download Windows 10

- 1. Visit the <u>Download Windows 10</u> page to create your own installation media:
- 2. On the opened web page choose the required edition and click **Confirm**.
- 3. Choose the required system language and click **Confirm**.
- 4. Click **64-bit Download** button.

- 5. Your web browser will offer to save an installation image.
- 6. Proceed with the image download.

Install new virtual machine

- 1. Once the image is downloaded, open Parallels Wizard (Parallels Desktop -> File -> New...).
- 2. Select Install Windows or another OS... and click Continue.
- 3. If installation image was not detected automatically, select or drop an image file to the **Parallels Wizard** window and click **Continue** to begin the installation.

Upgrade existing virtual machine

You can use the same installation image for a Windows 10 upgrade.

- 1. Make sure you are running the latest version of either Windows 7 SP1 or Windows 8.1 Update. <u>Visit this page</u> to find out what version you are running.
- 2. Make sure that your virtual machine has at least 2GB of RAM (KB 113649).
- 3. When your virtual machine is in focus, go to **Devices** > **CD/DVD 1** -> locate and select the downloaded image.
- 4. Open **File Explorer** in your Windows virtual machine, double-click on the CD/DVD drive, and follow the upgrade instructions.

Note: We recommend you take a snapshot before proceeding with the upgrade, just to be on the safe side.

Buy Windows 10

If you don't have a Windows license, you can purchase Windows 10 from the Microsoft Online Store:

- Buy Windows 10 Home
- Buy Windows 10 Pro

NOTE: visit this page if you need help to choose Windows 10 edition: Home or Pro.

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