

Xmodulo

Linux FAQs, tips and tutorials



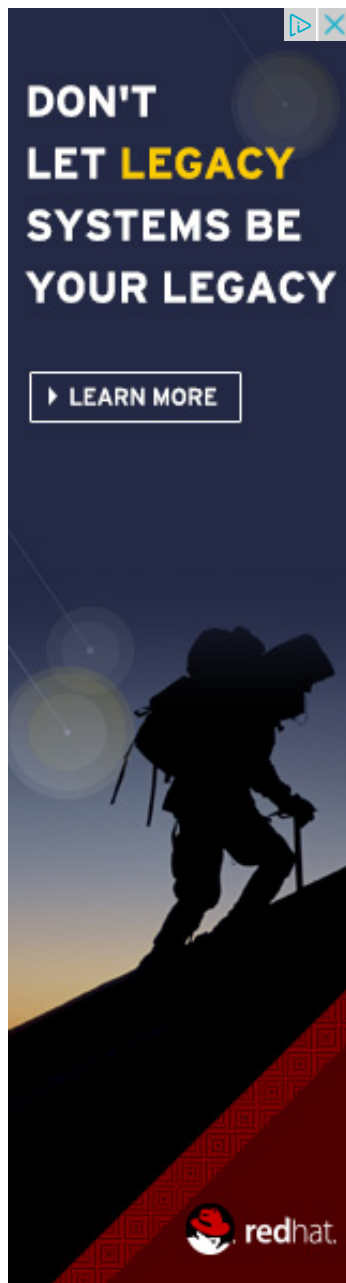
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How to install and run Android VM on VMware Player

Last updated on February 24, 2013
Authored by Dan Nanni [39 Comments](#)

[Android-x86](#) is a port of the Android OS for x86-based processor architecture. If you want to run Android OS on x86-based PC, netbook or laptop hardware, you can install Android-x86. In this guide, I will show you **how to install and run [Android-x86](#) as a VM on VMware Player**.

First, download an iso image of Android-x86.

```
$ wget http://and
```

Create a new virtual

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Linux FAQ

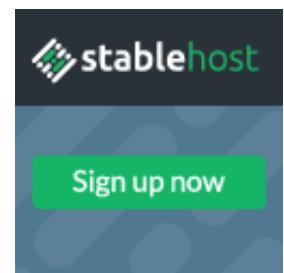
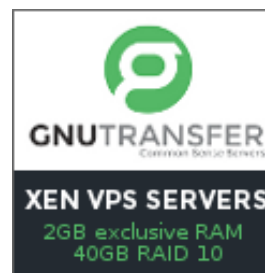
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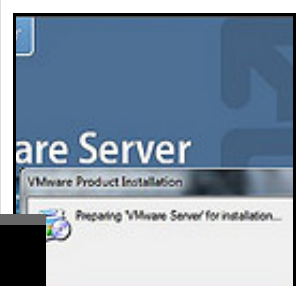
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VMware Player.
Choose "Use ISO image" option to use the downloaded iso file. Set disk image size to 2.5 GB. Memory will automatically be set to 256 MB. Before finalizing the New Virtual Machine Wizard, uncheck "Automatically power on this virtual machine after creation" since there is one thing to do before powering on the VM.

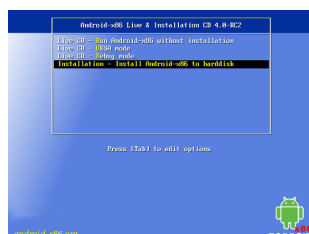
Open .vmx file of the new virtual machine, and change:

```
ethernet0.virtualDev = "e1000"
```

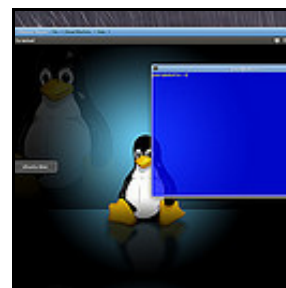
to

```
ethernet0.virtualDev = "vmlance"
```

Power on the VM. Once VM boots up, you will see the following screen. Choose "Install Android-x86 to harddisk"



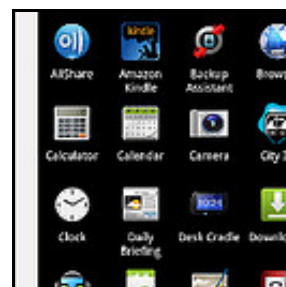
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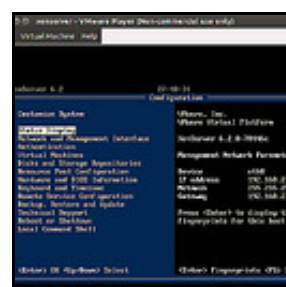
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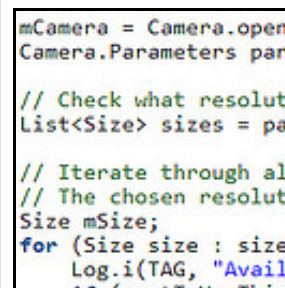
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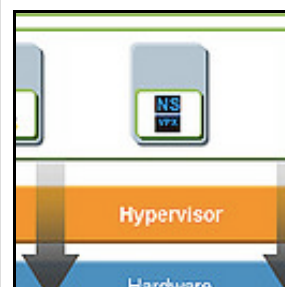
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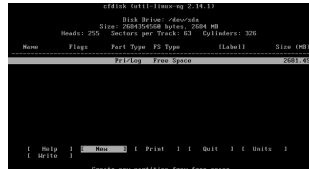


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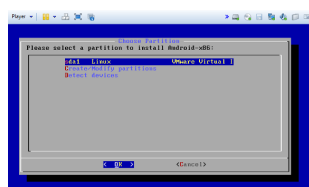
■ XenServer (10)

Next you will see "Choose Partition" window. Click on "Create/Modify partitions" menu. This will lead you to a disk partition editor menu. Use the arrow key to choose [New] to create a new partition.



Then choose [Primary] to create a new primary partition. Accept the default to set it to maximum size, and hit Enter. Use the arrow key to choose [Bootable] and add the "Boot" flag to the partition. Select [Write] to confirm the partitioning, and quite the partition editor menu.

You are back to the "Choose Partition" window. You should now see an additional option to install Android on "sda1 Linux". Choose this option and proceed.



How to install XenServer on VMware Player

How to change the boot order of guest VM on VMware Player

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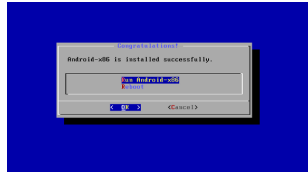
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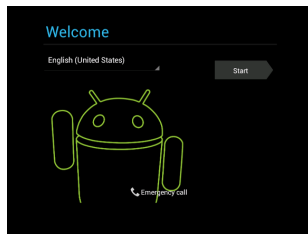
Select "ext3" in the "Choose filesystem" menu. Confirm when asked if you want to format the drive. Confirm again when it asks you to install the GRUB boot loader. When asked whether to install /system as read-write, choose "Yes". This is because you will need to modify /system after installation. In general, mounting /system as read-write makes it easier to debug, at the cost of more disk space and longer installation time. If you are asked to create an SD card, go ahead and create one.

The installation will now proceed. At the end of installation, you will see the following screen. Go ahead

and reboot Android VM.



After Android VM finishes booting up, you will see the following screen. At this point, network is not properly set up. So skip Google signup process.



Proceed to open Terminal Emulator app on Android. It will give you a console interface. First, switch to the root, by typing "su". Confirm when you are asked to grant superuser permission request.

As the root, verify network settings as follows.

```
# ifconfig eth0
```

```
eth0: ip 192.168.1.10 mask 255.255.255.0 flags [up broadcast running multicast]
```

```
# ip route show
```

```
192.168.1.0/24 de  
v eth0 proto kern  
el scope link src  
192.168.1.10 met  
ric 206  
default via 192.1  
68.1.1 dev eth0 m  
etric 206
```

At this point, you will notice that DNS resolution does not work.

```
# ping google.com
```

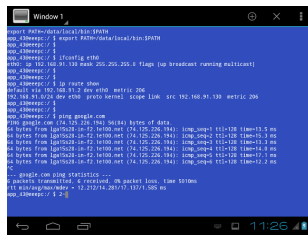
```
ping: unknown hos  
t google.com
```

You need to configure a DNS server by appending the following line to `/etc/init.sh`. In this example, I am using Google's public DNS server (8.8.8.8).

```
# vi /etc/init.sh
```

```
setprop net.dns1  
8.8.8.8
```

Finally, reboot the VM again to finalize network settings. Now DNS lookup should work, and you should be able to fully use networking.



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o

loves to get his hands dirty with his Linbox. He likes to procrastinate when he is supposed to be busy and productive.

When he is otherwise free, he likes to watch movies and shop for the coolest gadgets.



Related FAQs:

- [How to install](#)

VMware Player on Ubuntu Desktop

- [How to create multiple networks on VMware Player](#)
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Categories: [Android](#),
[VMware](#)

Tags: [vmware player](#)

39 thoughts on
"How to install
and run
Android VM on
VMware
Player"

john on

Reply



March
10,
2013
at
10:28

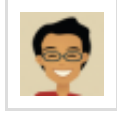
pm said:

How do I get the
[android](#) os to see a

mock wifi connection
so I can add my
google account and
load apps?

Nanni on

Reply



March
11,
2013 at

12:41 am said:

If you have follow
the instruction
here, you will have
an active wired
connection (via
eth0) in your
Android VM. So
you should be
able to access
your Google
account. You don't
need wifi
connection for
that.

As for installing
apps, note that
Google Play store
is only available
for licensed
Android devices.
So it's not
available in
Android-x86
default installation.
You can install
.apk files
manually.

Reply

Charles on

April 11, 2013



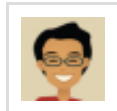
at
4:24
pm

said:

Hi Nanni,

Though I can
ping
google.com in
the VM, I still
encounter the
"no wifi
connection"
error when I try
to set up my
google
account. What
I should do to
force the VM to
connect to
internet
through eth0?

Reply



Dan Nanni

on April 12,
2013 at
1:34 am

said:

You are
right.
Adding
Google
account
appears to
require a
WiFi
connection
.
Unfortunat

ely WiFi is
not
available in
[Android-
x86 4.0-
RC2](#). Try
[Android-
x86 4.2](#)
which is
known to
have WiFi
support.

Dhont on

Reply



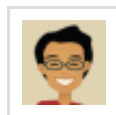
[May 6,](#)
[2013 at](#)
[3:45](#)

[pm](#) said:

did install it starts
up. i didn't adjust
the vmx file
though. now when
it boots up i can't
get past the
[android](#)
bootscreen cuz
simply my mouse
can't click
anything. is this
cuz i didn't adjust
the file?

Dan

Reply



Nanni on [May](#)
[6, 2013 at 6:29](#)
[pm](#) said:

What version
of Android-x86

are you
running? Is it
[Android-x86](#)
4.0 RC2
eeepc?

Mike on [April](#)

Reply



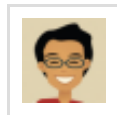
[19,](#)
[2013](#)
[at 5:57](#)
[pm](#)

said:

How do i save that
init.sh file or
whatever?

Dan

Reply



Nanni
on [April](#)
[19,](#)

[2013 at 7:30 pm](#)

said:

The vi editor does
not work for you?

Steve on

Reply



[May 4,](#)
[2013](#)
[at 5:56](#)
[pm](#)

said:

I selected install
/system as read-write
started Terminal
Emulator and used su
to grant superuser
permissions
now vi says at the
bottom "- /etc/init.sh
[Readonly]"

when I try to "chmod
664 /etc/init.sh" it
says "Unable to
chmod /etc/init.sh:
Read-only file
system"
How do I fix this?

Steve on

Reply



May 4,
2013 at
6:10

pm said:

Never mind, I've
fixed it. I reset it
and started it in
Debug mode, then
I was able to edit
the file in vi. ("I" for
insert mode, type
new line, Esc, :w
:q)

Reset it again and
[Android](#) OS
started and I'm
now able to ping
google.com.

Alex on [May](#)

Reply



6,
2013
at 1:17
am

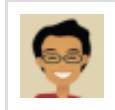
said:

I've followed your
instructions to install
[Android](#) 4.2 under
VMWare 9 for
Windows but after the
install Android doesn't
show any desktop or

something like that.
I've chosen OS type
as "Other Linux 2.6.x
kernel" (the latest
possible version) but
it didn't help. What
should I do to make
the things work?

Dan

Reply



Nanni

on [May 6, 2013](#)

at 1:41 pm said:

It appears there's
some issue with
installing [Android-
x86 4.2](#) on
VMware. If you
want, you can try
[installing Android-
x86 on VirtualBox](#)
instead. Android-
x86 4.2 runs fine
on VirtualBox.

Tom23 on

Reply



[May 13, 2013](#)
at 8:21 pm

said:

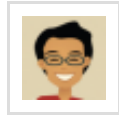
This will not work.
[Android](#) is stuck at
boot screen. Fail
again!

Dan

Reply

Nanni on

[May 19, 2013](#) at



1:17

pm

said:

There is a known issue between VMware and [Android-x86 4.2](#), which causes the GUI to fail to load upon boot.

Try either of the following instead. Both work okay.

Install Android-x86 4.0 on VMware, or install [Android-x86 4.2 on VirtualBox](#).

Matthew X.

Reply



Economou on [June 27, 2013 at 2:15 pm](#)
said:

I successfully installed Android-x86 4.0 R1 for the Eee PC (<http://android-x86.googlecode.com/files/android-x86-4.0-r1-eeepc.iso>) under VMware Fusion 5. When I created the virtual machine, all I had to change was the guest operating system type (I chose Ubuntu) and the hard disk bus type (I

changed it from SCSI to IDE). The other settings remained at their defaults. I was able to partition the virtual disk and install [Android](#), and I was able to sign into my Google Account immediately as part of the setup process. After completing the installation, I was also able to download Firefox from the Google Play Store.

Matthew

Reply



X.

Economou on [June 28, 2013 at 2:35 pm](#) said:

I forgot to mention that after I installed Android, I chose the option to run Android right away, which leaves the installation CD mounted. If you decide to reboot instead, leave the CD image connected to the virtual machine, otherwise Android will hang at the logo screen. If you are stuck there, connect the CD

image and reboot
- the first boot
process will rerun
itself at that point
(where it prompts
you to configure
the time and date
and to log into
your Google
account). You will
be able to boot
[Android](#) without
the CD connected
to the virtual
machine later.

Also, I found that
when the first boot
process
redirected me to
log into my
account using the
web browser
(likely because I
have multi-factor
authentication
enabled), the
keyboard input
method was
messed up. It
seemed like the
caps lock or shift
key was stuck on
or something. I
don't know what
combination of
fiddling got it to
work, but I tried
tapping the shift
keys and toggling
the caps lock key.
Hopefully, you'll be
able to get it to
work, too.

Do not try to enable WiFi in the settings. Doing so appears to disable the Ethernet interface, and besides, it won't work under VMware. Just ignore the "No Internet connection" warning.

I haven't been able to get Bluetooth working either, probably because of missing drivers.

Reply



Dennis Schultz on
[May 28, 2014](#)
[at 6:59 pm](#)
said:

I realize this is an old post, but maybe this response will help someone doing desperate web searches like me.

I have not determined exactly what causes the caps-lock

problem, but I have had it happen multiple times - often in the middle of entering a URL in the browser search bar. The magic step to unlock it seems to be to hold down the left shift key while typing any active key (letter, number, etc). Once you do this, the keyboard will behave as expected.

Dave on

Reply



August
5,
2013
at 8:07
pm

said:

I have this working on VMware / Win 8. However, although the browser works, I cannot download anything.

Also, once the lock screen kicks in, I cannot unlock - the cursor will not allow

the padlock logo to move.

Addbo on

Reply



August
9,
2013
at
12:38

am said:

Looks like [Android](#) 4.3 works in VMWare Player... two things I need now

1) how does one change the resolution... tried setting it in VMWare Player and that didn't work...

2) how does one get sound working?

Thanks

Dave on

Reply



August
10,
2013
at
11:10

pm said:

Hi,

I have [Android](#) X86 running on VMware 9 in Win8.

Can I access files on Android from Win 8? I also have a WinXP VM and can access

some of those from
Win8.

When Android starts,
I can open it by sliding
lock icon to right. If
android locks again
due to inactivity, it can
not be unlocked.

Can not set up gmail.
Enter gmail app but
after selecting
[existing] or [new] get
blank black "settings"
screen.

Any help appreciated

sina on

Reply



April 30,
2014 at
10:30

pm said:

maybe airdroid
can help.

Eshan on

Reply



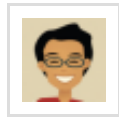
August
20,
2013
at 5:24
am

said:

I typed in ifconfig eth0
on terminal emulator.
It tells me "eth0:
Cannot assign
requested address"
What do i do here?

Dan

Reply



Nanni

on

August

20, 2013 at 7:00

pm said:

Looks like 'ifconfig
eth0' doesn't work
immediately after
boot up for some
reason.

Try this:

ifconfig eth0 up

daniel on

Reply



August

20,

2013

at 6:10

pm

said:

\$ su

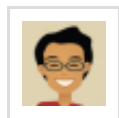
su: uid 10000 not
allow to su

Running [Android](#) 4.3

How?

Dan

Reply



Nanni

on

August

20, 2013 at 6:55

pm said:

Why don't you
install
Superuser.apk?

javier on

Reply

[September 13,](#)



2013 at
11:43
pm

said:

In terminal mode
use:

adb shell
su

Lei on

Reply



January
16,
2014 at

5:49 am said:

If you follow these
instructions from
the beginning,
mostly you will
succeed. but if
you download
another iso, as
some said : su uid
xxxx is not
allowed. since not
all [android](#) (maybe
most) systems
allow user to be
the "root". you
need to create a
system using
rootable image.

user0 on

Reply



September 28, 2013
at 12:28 pm said:

Hello, great guide up

until DNS configuration. After finding the Terminal Emulator, and typing "vi /etc/init.sh" I got no idea how to proceed. I opened the .sh file (i suppose) but I cannot type anything since it says [Readonly] at the bottom of the file.

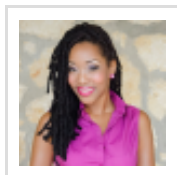
And even if I could - exactly where should I append the setprop line? How do I after that save the config and exit the "vi"? And lastly how do I reboot? (Yes I'm a noob!)

Hoping for an answer, thanks.

(Also, why change the ethernet0.virtualDev setting from "e1000" to "v lance"?)

B on

Reply

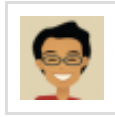


November 3, 2013 at 7:33 pm said:

How do I get to the terminal emulator?
I'm a newbie

Dan Nanni on

Reply



November 4, 2013
at 3:08 am said:

There should be
terminal emulator
app pre-installed
on [Android-x86](#).

Roger on

Reply

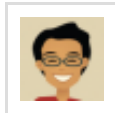


November 6, 2013 at
4:31 am said:

How do I save in vi
after entering required
DNS?

Dan

Reply



Nanni
on

November 6, 2013
at 4:43 am said:

:wq

If you have
mounted /system
as read-write, as
instructed in the
article, you should
be able to save
the change.

Frits on

Reply

[December 6,](#)
[2013 at 3:39 pm](#) said:

For people who don't



get the
last
part:

When

you have opened
init.sh file in vi, you
press 'i' (the letter)
and you see the
cursor change, now
you can type.

Type on top of the file:
setprop net.dns1
8.8.8.8

Now press 'ESC'
button, the cursor
changes back.

Now press:

:wq

You see these
characters appear at
the bottom of the
screen. Press
The file is now saved
(w=write, q=quit).

Now the files is
edited, you can reboot
the machine.

Frits on

Reply



[December 6, 2013 at
3:56 pm](#) said:

Oh and when you do
get back up, don't
click the wifi
connection because it

will lock up (as mentioned above).
I don't seem to get a network connection even though I added the DNS server line, pinging google.com gives me the same error as before I added the line and rebooted.

Does it matter what type of virtual network I have enabled (Vmware Workstation), [android-x86-4.0-RC2-eeepc.iso](#)?

mb on

Reply



[January 20, 2014 at 10:04 pm](#) said:

One way that worked for me to change the screen size and resolution, is to press "e" twice at Android start menu to reach grub edit menu and enter:

vga=ask

at the end of boot entry, then you can select whatever the size/resolution you want from the menu, (it's actually a code number) I chose code 351 (1920x1200x16),

and I'd recommend a Color Quality 16 bit, (AxBx16). Then press "b" to boot to start [Android](#).

Webb Surfer

Reply



on

[February 2, 2014 at 3:11 pm](#) said:

just a couple of notes about the Terminal Emulator steps (for impatient people like me):

1. don't forget to first write "su" when you open the Terminal so you don't get [read-only] when you open init.sh, 2. you open the file like it says and check that it doesn't say "read-only" at the bottom, 3. after inserting the line (I inserted it before the last line, don't know if that was necessary), don't forget to press Escape, write a colon (:) and then "wq", 4. try opening the file to see if it was saved before rebooting

shubham on

Reply

[April 9, 2014 at 6:35 am](#) said:



vmware says internal error when i switch on the [android](#) after changing
ethernet0.virtualDev = "e1000" to
ethernet0.virtualDev = "v lance".

fedeluca on

Reply



July 1,
2014
at 3:13
pm

said:

How can I configure the network on the VM if I'm behind a proxy?
When I execute netcfg on the emulator eth0 is UP but network is not available.

Saiful.Faisal

Reply



on

September 29, 2014
at 9:32 am said:

Questions regarding network adapter!

Which network adapter should I choose on VMplayer?

'NAT' or 'Host only networking' or ... ?
and What if the host computer may use proxy server for accessing to the internet, do I need to do any extra settings for that?

Thanks

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