TRAINING DAY 6 REPORT:

Downloading Kali Linux

Today, I learned how to **download Kali Linux**, the most popular OS for ethical hacking and cybersecurity.

Steps to Download Kali Linux:

- 1. Go to the official Kali Linux download page.
- 2. Scroll to **Installer Images**.
- 3. Choose your version:
 - **64-bit Installer** (recommended for most laptops/PCs).
 - Or **Kali Live** if you want to try it without installing.
- 4. Click the **Download** button next to your chosen image.
- 5. Save the downloaded **ISO file** (e.g., kali-linux-2024.1-installer-amd64.iso) to your computer.

This file will be used to create a **virtual machine** or a **bootable USB** for installation.

Important Tips:

- Always download Kali Linux from the official website for safety.
- The ISO file can be large (2-4 GB), so make sure you have enough disk space.
- Verify the downloaded file's checksum if possible, to ensure it wasn't corrupted or tampered with.

Configuring VirtualBox for Kali Linux

Steps to Configure VirtualBox for Kali Linux:

1. Install VirtualBox

Install virtualbox on your system.

2. Create a New Virtual Machine

- Open VirtualBox → Click **New.**
- Enter Name (e.g., "Kali Linux"), set Type: Linux, and Version: Debian (64-bit).
- Click Next.

3. Set Memory (RAM)

- Allocate at least 2 GB (2048 MB) of RAM.
- For better performance, 4 GB or more is recommended if your host system has enough RAM.

4. Create Virtual Hard Disk

- Select Create a virtual hard disk now → Click Create.
- Choose **VDI** (**VirtualBox Disk Image**) → Click **Next**.
- Choose **Dynamically allocated** → Click **Next**.
- Set disk size to at least **20 GB** → Click **Create**.

5. Attach the Kali Linux ISO

- Select your new VM → Click **Settings**.
- Go to **Storage** → Under **Controller: IDE**, click the empty disk icon.
- On the right, click the small disk icon → **Choose a disk file...**.
- Browse and select your **Kali Linux ISO** file → Click **OK**.

6. Adjust Important Settings

- **System** → **Processor**: Increase to **2 or more CPUs** if your system supports it.
- **Display** → **Video Memory**: Set to at least **64 MB**.
- **Network** → **Adapter 1**: Leave on **NAT** or switch to **Bridged Adapter** if you need Kali to appear on your local network.

7. Start the VM

- Select your VM → Click **Start**.
- Kali will boot from the ISO; follow the on-screen installation instructions (Graphical Install recommended).

Installing Kali Linux in VirtualBox

Steps to Install Kali Linux in VirtualBox:

1. Start the Virtual Machine

- In VirtualBox, select your **Kali Linux VM** → Click **Start**.
- Kali will boot from the ISO you attached earlier.

2. Choose Installation Type

- On the Kali boot menu, select **Graphical Install** → Press **Enter**.

3. Select Language, Location & Keyboard

- Choose your preferred **language**, **country**, and **keyboard layout** → Click **Continue** after each step.

4. Configure Network

- Enter a **hostname** (e.g., kali) → Continue.
- You can leave the domain name blank → Continue.

5. Set Up User Accounts

- Enter a **full name** for the new user → Continue.
- Choose a **username** (e.g., kali) \rightarrow Continue.
- Create and confirm a **strong password** → Continue.

6. Configure Clock

- Select your **time zone** → Continue.

7. Partition Disks

- Choose **Guided use entire disk** → Continue.
- Select the virtual hard disk you created → Continue.
- Choose **All files in one partition** → Continue.
- Select Finish partitioning and write changes to disk \rightarrow Continue.
- Confirm **Write changes to disk** → **Yes** → Continue.

8. Install the System

- The installer will copy files and install Kali. This may take **5–15 minutes** depending on your system.

9. Install GRUB Boot Loader

- Choose **Yes** to install GRUB.
- Select the device /dev/sda → Continue.

10. Finish Installation

- After installation completes, click **Continue** to reboot your VM.
- Kali will now boot into your new installed system.

Log in

- Use the username and password you created during setup.
- Once logged in, you'll see the **Kali Linux desktop** installation is complete!

Black Screen Error (VirtualBox/Kali Linux)

What is the Black Screen Error?

- The black screen error is when your virtual machine **starts but only shows a black or blank screen** instead of the login screen or desktop.
- This means your VM is **powered on but the display isn't rendering properly**, leaving you stuck.

Common Causes of Black Screen Error

- 1. **Display Issues** VirtualBox settings like video memory or display acceleration may not be set correctly.
- 2. **Guest Additions Problems** Incorrect or missing VirtualBox Guest Additions can cause display glitches.
- 3. **Virtual Machine Configuration** Low RAM, too few CPU cores, or wrong OS version selected during VM creation.
- 4. **Graphics Compatibility** Issues between your host system's GPU/graphics drivers and VirtualBox.
- 5. **Kernel/Driver Errors** Problems during Kali Linux installation or updates can cause the desktop environment to fail to start.

How to Fix Black Screen Error

1. **Restart the VM** – Sometimes, a simple reboot fixes temporary glitches.

- 2. **Increase Video Memory** − Go to VirtualBox → **Settings** → **Display** → **Screen** → **Video Memory**, and set it to at least **64 MB**.
- 3. **Enable 3D Acceleration** In the same Display settings tab, try checking **Enable 3D Acceleration**.
- 4. **Check System Resources** Increase RAM or CPU cores in **Settings** → **System**.
- 5. **Reinstall Guest Additions** Boot into Kali Linux recovery mode or terminal, and reinstall VirtualBox Guest Additions.
- 6. Reconfigure Desktop Environment Log in to a virtual console by pressing Ctrl+Alt+F1–F6, then reinstall the desktop environment using: sudo apt update sudo apt install --reinstall kali-desktop-xfce
- 7. **Try a Different Display Controller** − In **Settings** → **Display** → **Graphics Controller**, switch between VBoxVGA, VMSVGA, or VBoxSVGA to find what works best.

If None of These Work

- **Reinstall Kali Linux in the VM** with recommended settings.
- Check the **VirtualBox version**—updating to the latest version often fixes bugs.
- Ensure your **host system's GPU drivers** are up to date.

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