
TECHNICAL SETUP AND REFERENCE GUIDE



Showcases technical skills in setting up and installing operating systems, virtual machines, and more.

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Operating Systems

Downloading a Windows 10 and 11 ISO File

Step 1: Make sure your computer can handle the operating system

Windows 10 has specific hardware requirements for installation.

- Processor: 1 GHz
- RAM: 2GB
- Hard disk space: 20GB

A good way to tell what kind of hardware your computer has is using task manager. Task manager provides information about the running applications, general performance, and hardware of the computer.

Opening task manager:

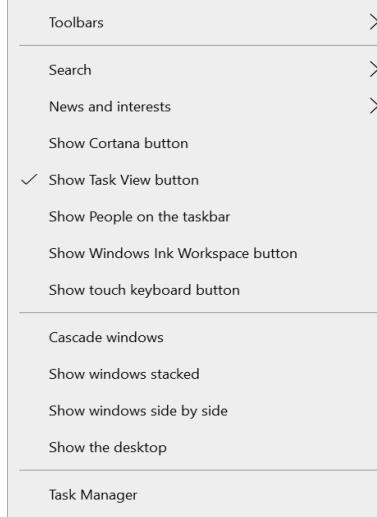
Task manager can be opened several ways, but for this example we will use what I consider the easiest.

Navigate down to your task bar, the task bar is the large bar you see at the bottom of your screen. You will also see your pinned applications, search bar, and windows start button on this bar.



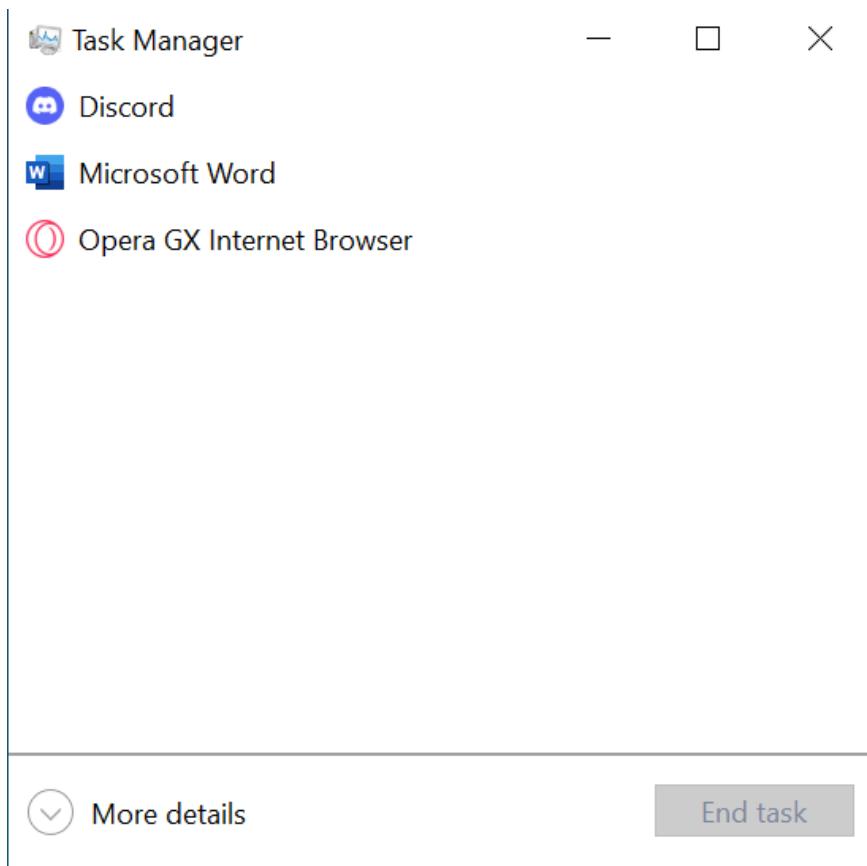
Your task bar may not look the same as mine.

Hover your mouse over the empty space in your task bar, and right click. You should get a menu like so:

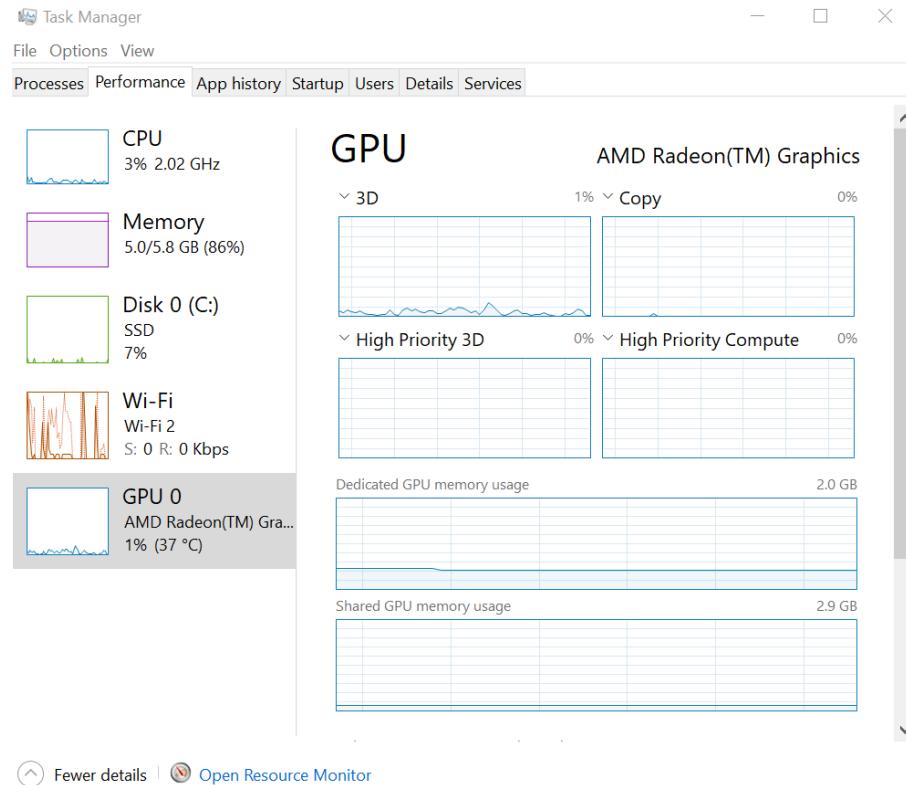


Click on “Task Manager,” and your task manager should open.

Once your task manager opens, if it is the first time it is being open, it will not have all the details showing that we are looking for. It will only show the current applications you have open. To fix this, there will be a “More details” button in the bottom left-hand corner that you want to click, this will show us a more in-depth view of our system.



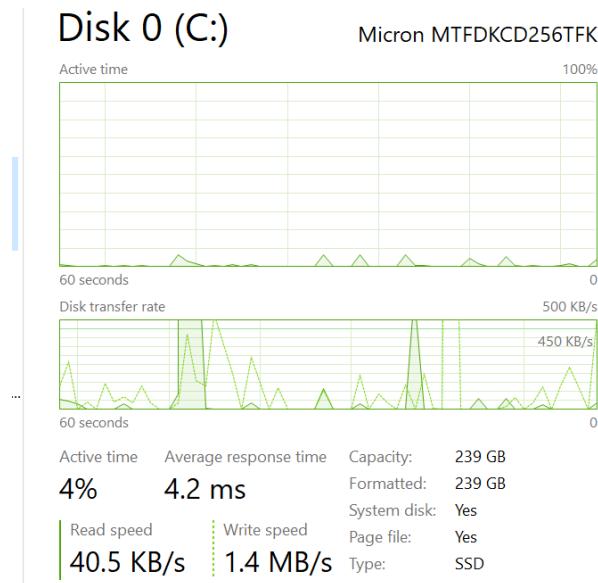
After clicking more details, there will be several tabs at the top of task manager. For this instance, we are just interested in the “Performance” tab. Click on performance.



This should bring us into a view where we can see our CPU, memory, disk drives, etc. on the left side.

Compare your specifications to the ones listed right below step 1, and make sure your system can handle Windows 10! In my case, my laptop has more than enough hardware strength to handle Windows 10 as we can see in the screenshot.

To make sure your disk has enough space, click on its box on the left side. It will bring you into another view that shows its capacity.



Step 2: Search for and download the Windows 10 media creation tool

To download our ISO file, we first must search for the Windows 10 media creation tool in our web browser.

Finding the media creation tool:

Open your web browser. This can be any browser, Firefox, Chrome, Microsoft Edge, etc.

In the search bar, search for Windows 10 media creation tool. Make sure the result you click on is the official Windows website. It will look like this:



[Download Windows 10 Disc Image \(ISO File\)](#)

To use the **media creation tool**, visit the Microsoft Software Download **Windows 10** page from a Windows 7, Windows 8.1 or **Windows 10** device. ... **Windows 10 Pro** ...

Once on the website, scroll down slightly, and there will be a large blue button that says, “Download Now”. We will click this.

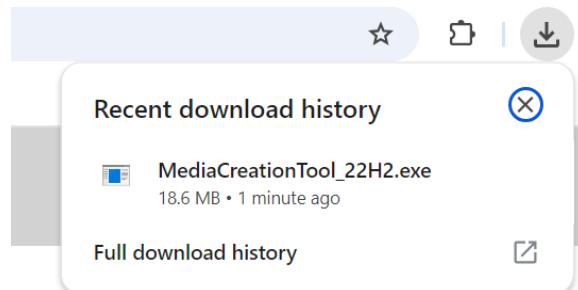
Create Windows 10 installation media

To get started, you will first need to have a license to install Windows 10. You can then download and run the media creation tool. For more information on how to use the tool, see the instructions below.

[Download Now](#)

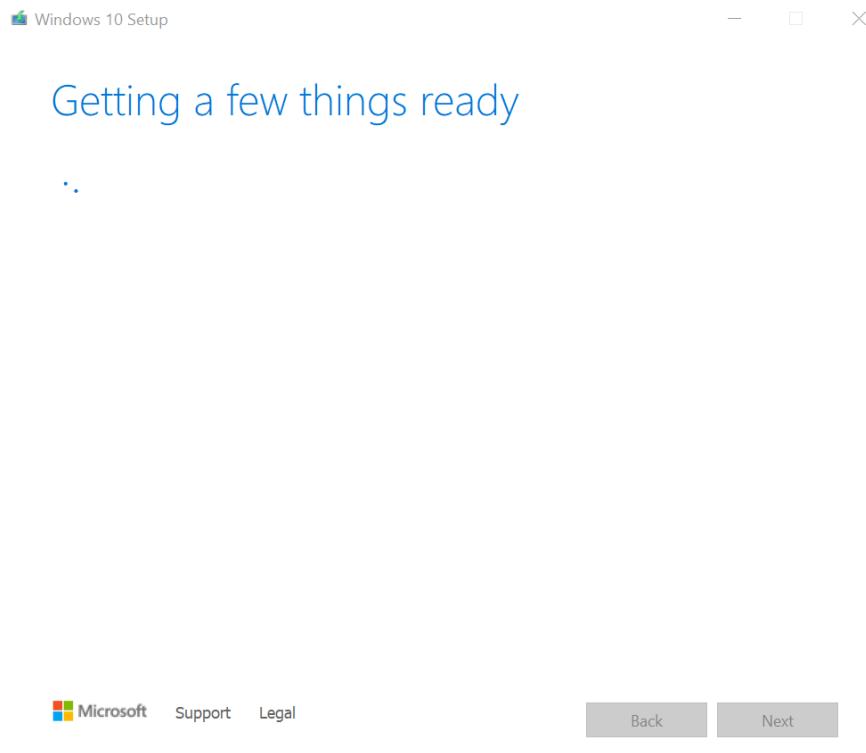
[Privacy](#)

The file should start downloading in the downloads section of your browser. This is in the top right corner. Click on the download's icon, and the file should show up.



Click on the file, once you do this, a popup will ask if you would like to allow it to make changes to your computer. Click yes.

The setup will display a “Getting a few things ready.” This is normal, let it do its thing.



Once it is done, click accept on the applicable notices and license terms screen.

It will display the “Getting a few things ready” once more. We will again wait for it to finish.

After it finishes, another screen will popup that says, “What do you want to do?” It gives us two options, we want to choose “Create installation media (USB flash drive, DVD, or ISO file) for another PC”



What do you want to do?

- Upgrade this PC now
- Create installation media (USB flash drive, DVD, or ISO file) for another PC

Microsoft Support Legal

Back Next

Click next

A screen saying “Select language, architecture, and edition” will be next. There is a check box stating to just use the recommended options for this PC, if you want to change any of the options, you can uncheck this box.

Since this is a tutorial for the 64-bit version, make sure it states that beside “Architecture.” Windows usually defaults to this, and you shouldn’t have to change it.



Select language, architecture, and edition

Please select from one of the available options to continue.

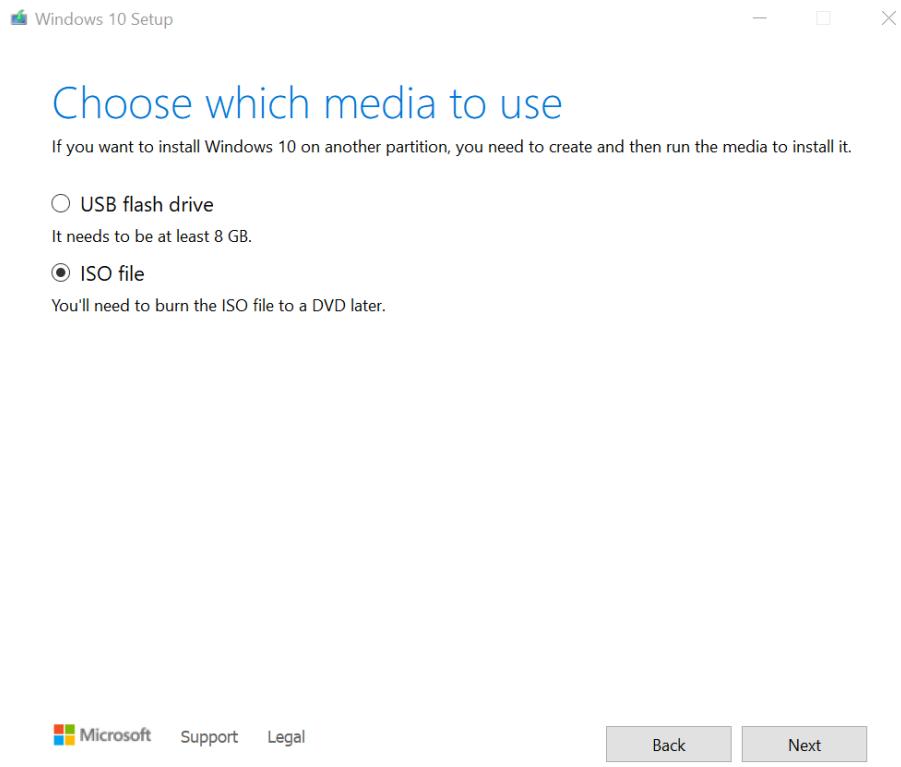
Language English (United States)

Edition Windows 10

Architecture 64-bit (x64)

Use the recommended options for this PC

The setup will now ask us which media we would like to use. Choose “ISO file”



After choosing ISO file and clicking next, your file explorer will open and prompt you to save your file. Save it wherever you wish. The name defaults to “Windows”. I suggest changing the name so when you come back to it later, you know exactly what the file is. In my case, I will name it “Windows 10 64bit download”

The download process will begin, depending on your internet speed, this can take a while. Do not turn off your computer, but you are free to keep using your PC.

Once it is done downloading, it will go through another process of verifying all the files it downloaded.

That’s it! You now have a Windows 10 ISO file!

This same process can be done with a Windows 11 ISO file. You would just search for “Windows 11 media creation tool” instead.

Downloading an openSUSE and Ubuntu ISO File

Step 1: Search for and download openSUSE from distrowatch.com

To find our openSUSE download, we first want to open our browser and type in “distrowatch.com” into the search bar. The website will look like this:

The screenshot shows the DistroWatch.com homepage. At the top, there's a navigation bar with links for Home Page, Headlines, DW Weekly, Comments, Packages, Package Management, Glossary, FAQ, Mobile Site, Search, Sitemap, Major Distributions, Submit Distribution, About DistroWatch, Page Hit Ranking, Advertise, and Torrent Downloads. Below the navigation is a search bar with fields for Type Distribution Name, DuckDuckGo Site Search, and Go buttons. The main content area features a banner for THE LINUX FOUNDATION with a 20% off offer for training and certifications. The central part of the page displays a list of distributions under the heading "Latest News and Updates". One entry is highlighted: "Peropesis 2.7" (NEW • Distribution Release: Peropesis 2.7) dated 2024-09-04. Another entry below it is "Q4OS 5.6" (NEW • Distribution Release: Q4OS 5.6) dated 2024-09-04. On either side of the main content are two vertical banners for 3CX, advertising their business phone system with "\$0/month" and "SLASH COSTS".

Navigate up to the links at the top and click on “Major Distributions”.

Scroll down until you find openSUSE in the list.

The screenshot shows the openSUSE distribution page on DistroWatch.com. At the top left is the openSUSE logo. To its right is a brief history of the distribution. It mentions that the beginnings of openSUSE date back to 1992 when four German Linux enthusiasts (Roland Dyroff, Thomas Fehr, Hubert Mantel, and Burchard Steinbild) launched the project under the name SuSE (Software und System Entwicklung) Linux. In the early days, they sold sets of floppy disks containing a German edition of Slackware Linux. The distribution became independent with version 4.2 in May 1996. The developers adopted the RPM package management format and introduced YaST, an easy-to-use graphical system administration tool. Frequent releases, excellent printed documentation, and easy availability of SuSE Linux in stores across Europe and North America resulted in growing popularity for the distribution. The text also notes that SuSE Linux was acquired by Novell, Inc. in late 2003, then fell into the hands of Attachmate in November 2010. Major changes in development, licensing, and availability of SuSE Linux followed shortly after the acquisition. YaST was released under the General Public License (GPL). ISO images were freely distributed from public download servers, and most significantly, the development of the distribution was opened to the public for the first time. Since the launch of the openSUSE project and the release of version 10.0 in October 2005, the distribution became completely free in both senses of the word and no longer associated with Attachmate. The openSUSE code has become a base system for commercial products, first named as Novell Linux, but later renamed to SUSE Linux Enterprise Desktop and SUSE Linux Enterprise Server. These days openSUSE is available in two main editions - Leap, which provides a stable platform with multiple years of support, and Tumbleweed, which provides a rolling release environment. The distribution often receives praise for its easy configuration (through YaST), Btrfs advanced filesystem support, and automated filesystem snapshots and boot environments. A bulleted list of pros and cons follows:

- Pros: Comprehensive and intuitive configuration tool, large repository of software packages, excellent web site infrastructure and printed documentation. Btrfs with boot environments by default
- Cons: Its resource-heavy desktop setup and graphical utilities are sometimes seen as “bloated and slow”
- Software package management: YaST graphical and Zypper command-line utility using RPM packages
- Available editions: openSUSE Tumbleweed for 32-bit (i586) and 64-bit (x86_64). Leap for 64-bit (x86_64) processors: SUSE Linux Enterprise Desktop/Server for i586, IA64, PowerPC, s390, s390x and x86_64 architectures

At the bottom of the page is a screenshot of the openSUSE desktop environment, showing a window titled "openSUSE" and a taskbar with various icons.

Click on the heading link “openSUSE” at the top.

This will bring us to another page that will have a link to our download.

Distribution	openSUSE (formerly SUSE Linux)
Home Page	https://www.opensuse.org/
Mailing Lists	https://en.opensuse.org/openSUSE_Communication_channels
User Forums	https://forums.opensuse.org/
Alternative User Forums	
Documentation	https://en.opensuse.org/Portal:Documentation • https://manpages.opensuse.org/
Screenshots	https://en.opensuse.org/Screenshots • DistroWatch Gallery
Screencasts	
Download Mirrors	https://get.opensuse.org/ https://mirrors.opensuse.org/list/all.html

Click on the first link in Download Mirrors. This takes us to the openSUSE websites download page.



Make sure to click on “Desktop”.

openSUSE Desktop Distributions

The two distributions to rule them all (now in green!)

The screenshot shows the main landing page for openSUSE Desktop Distributions. It features two main sections: 'Tumbleweed' on the left and 'Leap' on the right. Both sections include a large icon, a brief description, and 'Learn More' and 'Download' buttons.

Distribution	Icon	Description	Buttons
Tumbleweed	A white infinity symbol with arrows pointing in opposite directions.	For Developers, openSUSE Contributors, Gamers and Linux/FOSS Enthusiasts Rolling release with the latest packages provided by the openSUSE Project.	Learn More Download
Leap	A white diamond shape composed of three nested L-shaped brackets.	For Sysadmins, Enterprise Developers, and 'Regular' Desktop Users Regular release with the benefits of both enterprise-grade engineering and community-developed innovation.	Learn More Download

This next page will ask us if we want the Tumbleweed or Leap version, we will be using Tumbleweed. Click the download button on Tumbleweed.

The screenshot shows the 'Download' page for openSUSE Tumbleweed. It lists several download options categorized by hardware architecture.

Category	Architecture	Image Type	Size	Action
Intel or AMD 64-bit desktops, laptops, and servers (x86_64)		Offline Image	4.2 GiB	Download
		Network Image	282.0 MiB	Download
Intel or AMD 32-bit desktops, laptops, and servers (i686)		Offline Image	3.5 GiB	Download
		Network Image	230.0 MiB	Download
UEFI Arm 64-bit servers, desktops, laptops and boards (aarch64)		Offline Image	3.3 GiB	Download
		Network Image	311.4 MiB	Download
PowerPC servers, little-endian (ppc64le)		Offline Image	3.0 GiB	Download
		Network Image	207.7 MiB	Download
IBM zSystems and LinuxONE (s390x)		Offline Image	2.6 GiB	Download
		Network Image	177.6 MiB	Download
PowerPC servers, big-endian (ppc64)		Offline Image	2.8 GiB	Download
		Network Image	213.6 MiB	Download

Here we have a lot of different versions. We want to make sure we're choosing the correct download. Most likely, you will need the Intel or AMD 64-bit desktops, laptops, and servers. Click on download for the offline image

Intel or AMD 64-bit desktops, laptops, and servers (x86_64)

 Offline Image (4.2 GiB)

Download ▾

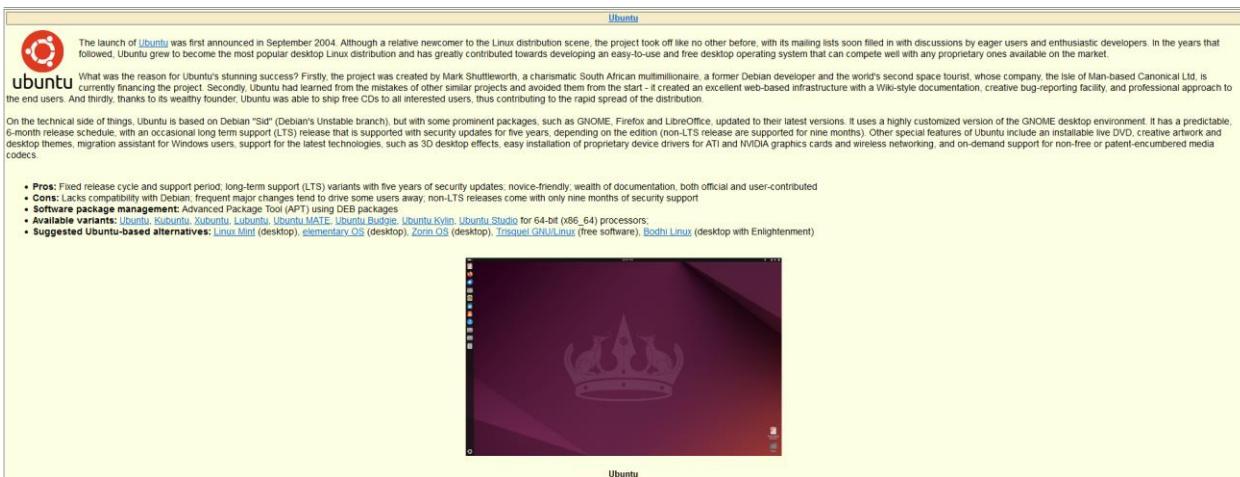
Once you click on download, it will take you to a thank you page, and the download will start in your browser.

That's all! You now have an openSUSE ISO file!

Step 2: Search for and download Ubuntu from distrowatch.com

Again, we want to open our browser and type in distrowatch.com

Go to Major Distributions and scroll down until you see Ubuntu.



The screenshot shows the Ubuntu distribution entry on distrowatch.com. It includes the Ubuntu logo, a brief history of the distribution, its technical side, pros and cons, available variants, and suggested alternatives. A preview image of the Ubuntu desktop environment is also shown.

Click the Ubuntu link at the top.

Distribution	Ubuntu
Home Page	https://www.ubuntu.com/
Mailing Lists	https://lists.ubuntu.com/mailman/listinfo/
User Forums	https://ubuntuforums.org/ • https://askubuntu.com/
Alternative User Forums	
Documentation	https://wiki.ubuntu.com/UserDocumentation
Screenshots	DistroWatch Gallery
Screencasts	
Download Mirrors	https://www.ubuntu.com/download/ • DistroWatch Torrent Archive

Make sure to click the first link in download mirrors. This will take us to Ubuntu's download website.

Download Ubuntu

Ubuntu is the world's favourite Linux operating system. Run it on your laptop, workstation, server or IoT device, with five years of free security updates.



CHOOSE THE OS YOU NEED

Desktop >

Fast, free and full of new features. The latest release of Ubuntu Desktop delivers new tools and enhancements for developers, creators, gamers and administrators. Replace your current operating system or run Ubuntu alongside it.

[Download Ubuntu Desktop](#)

Do you want to upgrade? [Follow our guide](#) ›

Use the Ubuntu terminal and run Linux applications on Windows.
[Enable Windows Subsystem for Linux \(WSL\)](#)

To download the desktop version of Ubuntu, we want to click on Desktop.

Ubuntu 24.04.1 LTS

The latest LTS version of Ubuntu, for desktop PCs and laptops. LTS stands for long-term support — which means five years of free security and maintenance updates, extended to 10 years with [Ubuntu Pro](#).

[Download 24.04.1 LTS](#) 5.8GB



For other versions of Ubuntu Desktop including torrents, the network installer, a list of local mirrors and past releases [check out our alternative downloads](#).

[What's new](#) [System requirements](#) [How to install](#)

Click the green download button, it will take you to a thank you page, and the download will start in your browser.

That's all! You now have a Ubuntu ISO file!

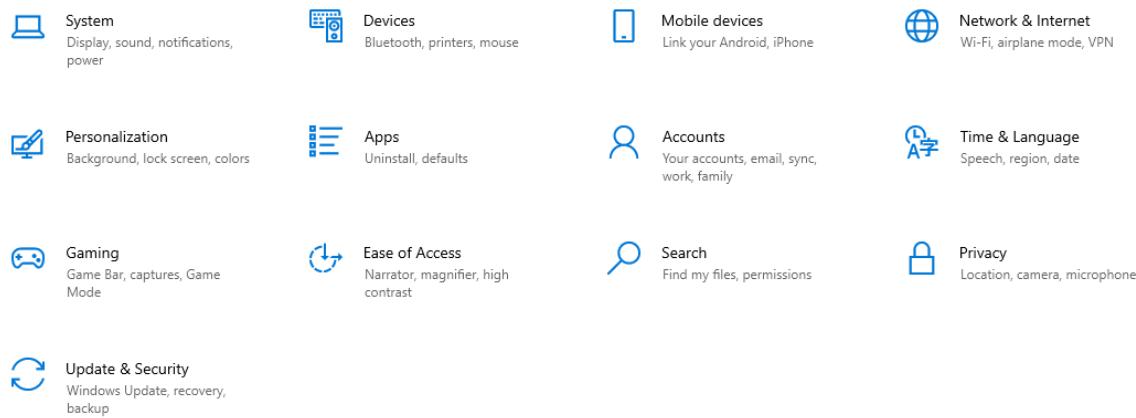
Creating a New User in Windows 10

Creating a new user in Windows 10 is easy. We will use the account we make in more examples soon.

Step 1: Find user account settings

Navigate to the Windows button in the bottom left corner of your screen and click on settings.

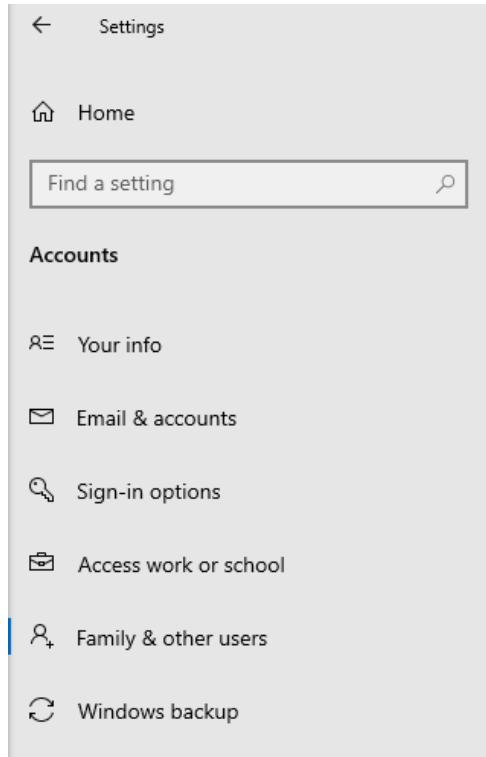
Once we are here, we are met with many tiles. We want to click on Accounts.



Step 2: Create new local user

On the left side of the screen, navigate to Family & other users.

Click on Add someone else to this PC.



Family & other users

Your family

Sign in with a Microsoft account to see your family here or add any new members to your family. Family members get their own sign-in and desktop. You can help kids stay safe with time limits, apps, and games.

[Sign in with a Microsoft account](#)

Other users

Allow people who are not part of your family to sign in with their own accounts. This won't add them to your family.



Add someone else to this PC

After you click on that you will get a popup asking how this person will sign in. Microsoft will prompt you to sign up with a Microsoft account. We can bypass this by clicking on “I don’t have this person’s sign in information”.



How will this person sign in?

Enter the email address or phone number of the person you want to add. If they use Windows, Office, Outlook.com, OneDrive, Skype, or Xbox, enter the email or phone number they use to sign in.

Email or phone

[I don't have this person's sign-in information](#)

Cancel

Next

[Terms of Use](#) [Privacy & Cookies](#)

It will then prompt you to create a Microsoft account. We don't want to use one, so we are going to click on "Add a user without a Microsoft account".



Create account

someone@example.com

[Get a new email address](#)

[Add a user without a Microsoft account](#)

Back

Next

[Terms of Use](#) [Privacy & Cookies](#)

Now you can create your new user. Give it a username and password and answer the security questions. As I've mentioned before, this is just for learning, so we can give a generic answer to the questions, like a single capital letter.

Create a user for this PC

If you want to use a password, choose something that will be easy for you to remember but hard for others to guess.

Who's going to use this PC?

John

Make it secure.

••••••••

••••••••

In case you forget your password

What was your first pet's name? ▾

A

Next

Back

Once you've done this, click next, and the new account will show up.



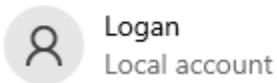
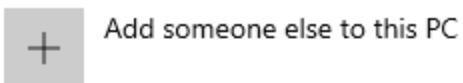
Add someone else to this PC



John
Local account

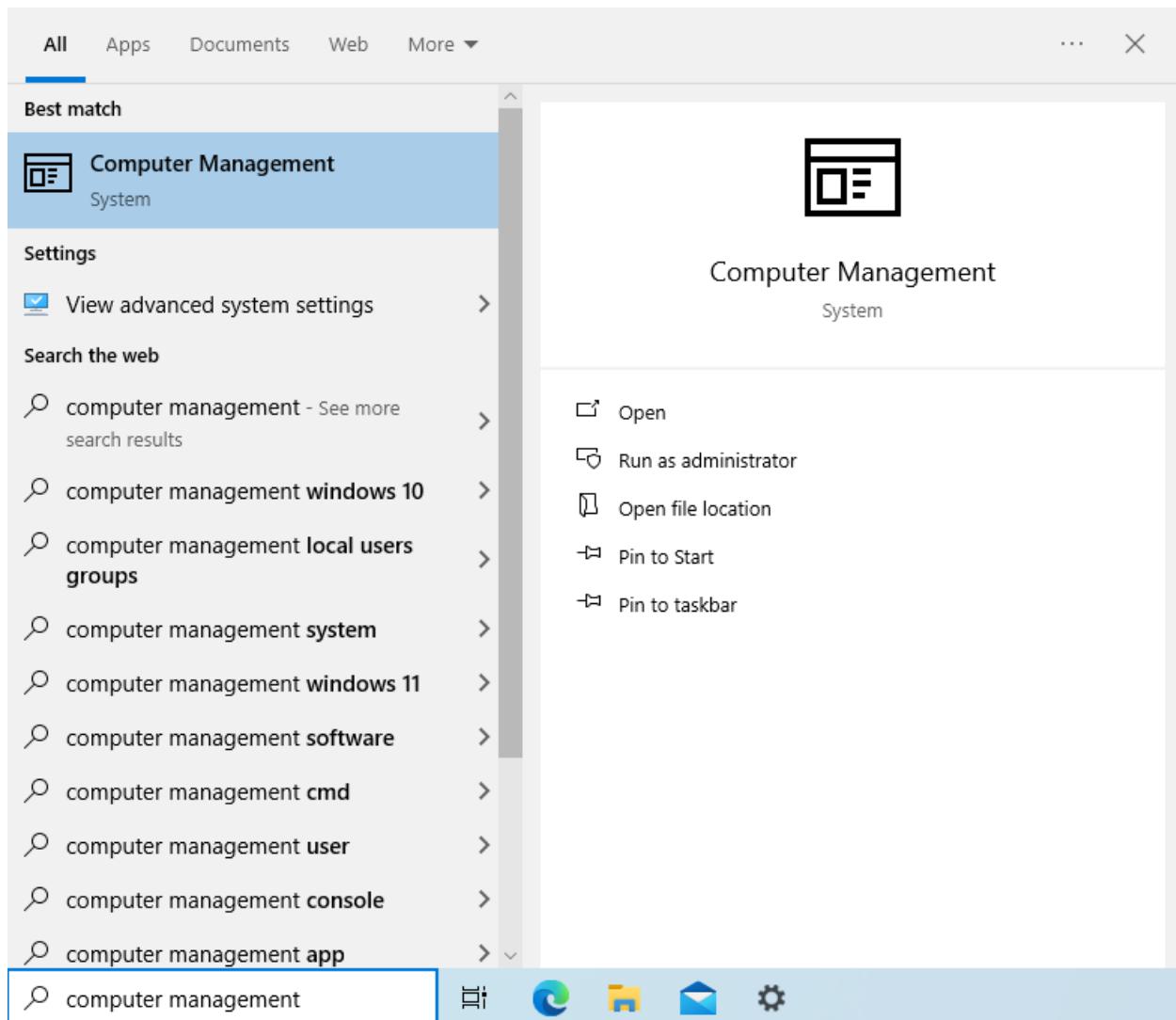
Creating a Local Group in Windows 10 and Adding Users

Remember that local user account we created, and how I said we will be using it later? Well, we will be adding it to our local group that we are creating in this lab. If you want, you can create another couple of users to add to the group. I've created one more, for a total of 2.

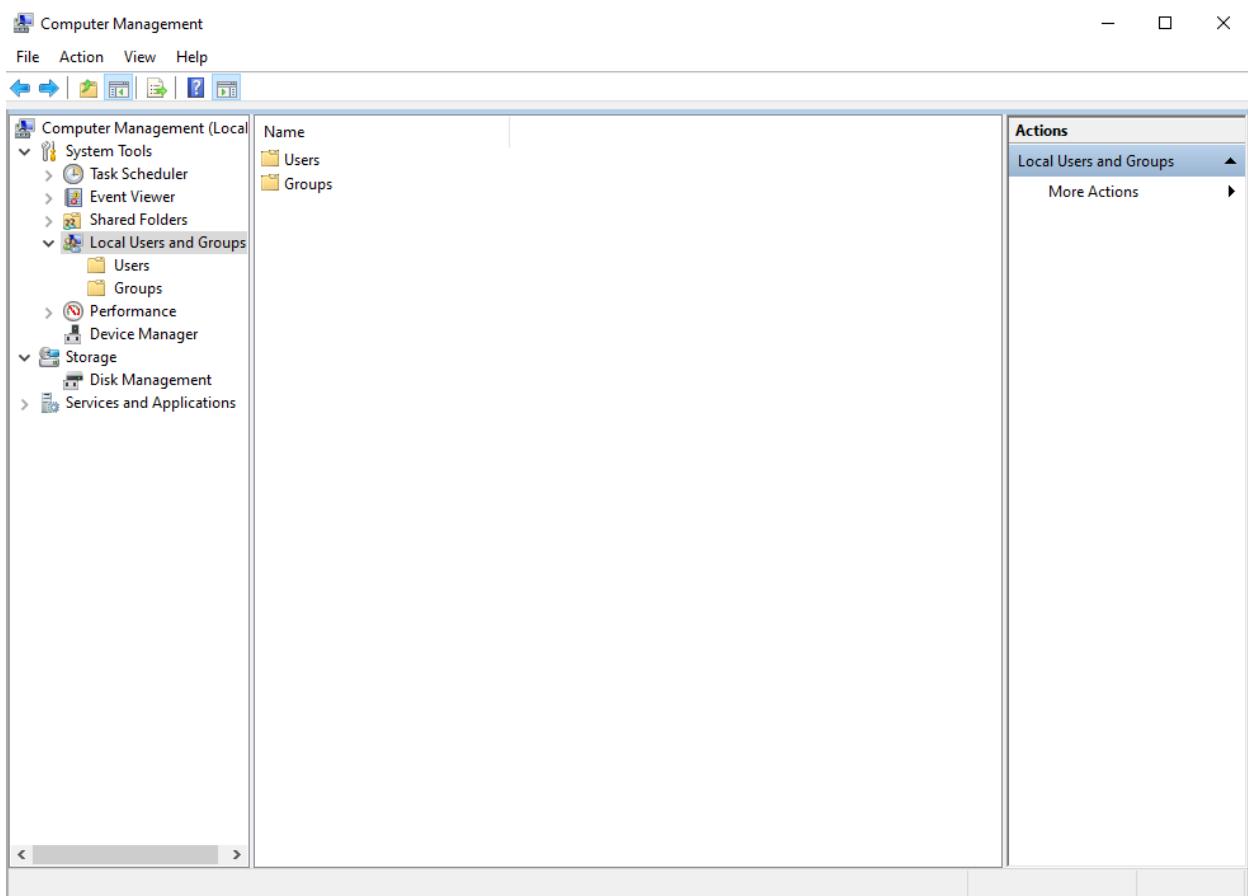


Step 1: Create a new local group

Navigate to your search bar in the bottom left and type in “computer management”.

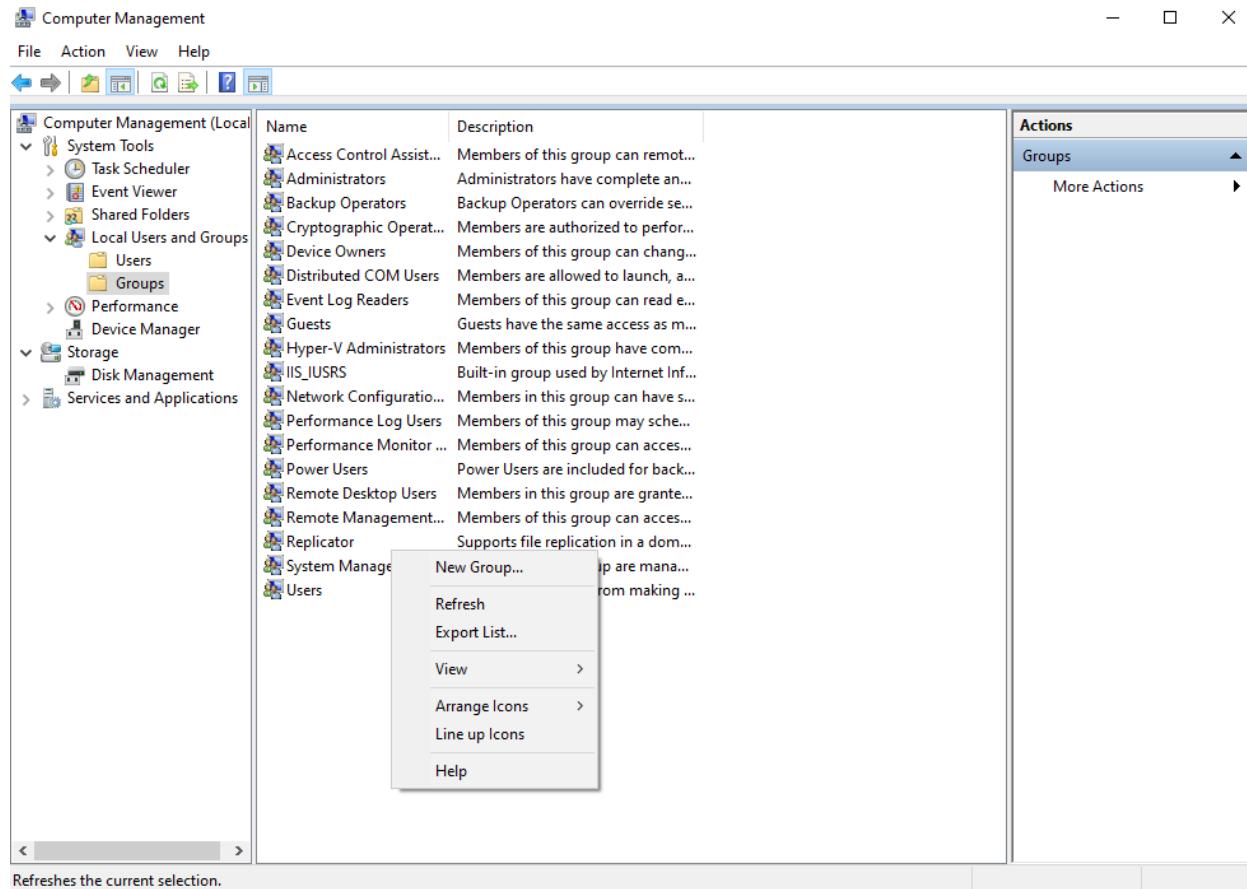


Click on the first result.



You should get a window like so. Click on the Local Users and Groups folder, then double click on Groups.

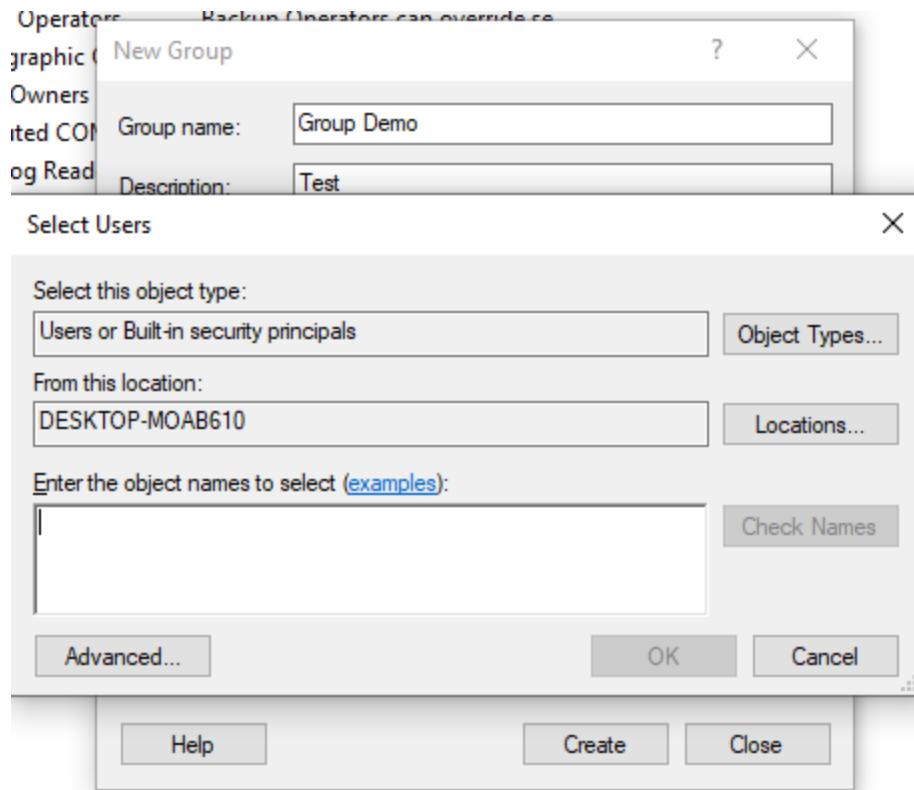
Once inside of the folder, right click on the empty space at the bottom and click on New Group.



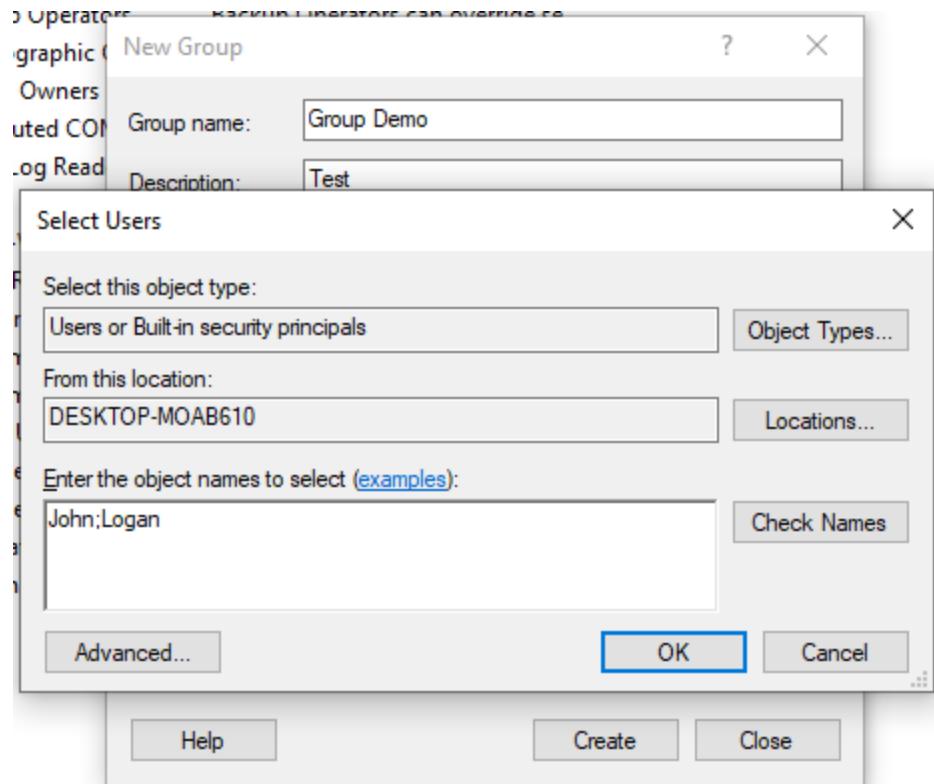
You can give your group a name and description.

Step 2: Add users to the group

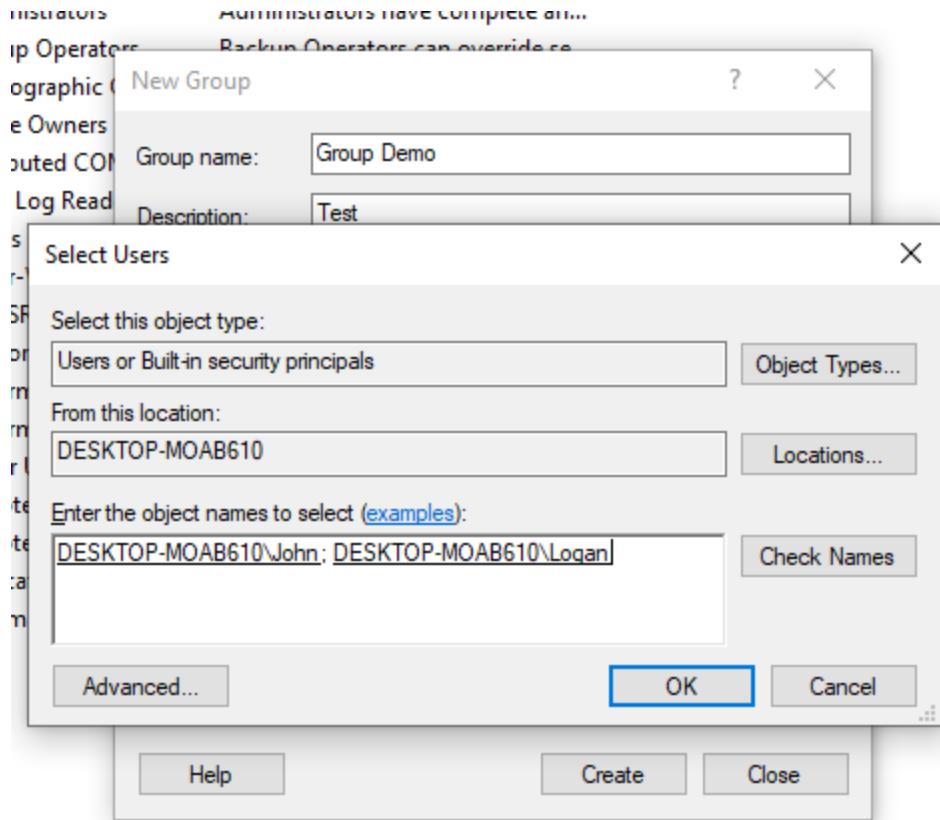
To add the local accounts you created to the group, click Add on the bottom left.



To easily add the local accounts, type the name of the accounts separated by a semi colon like so:

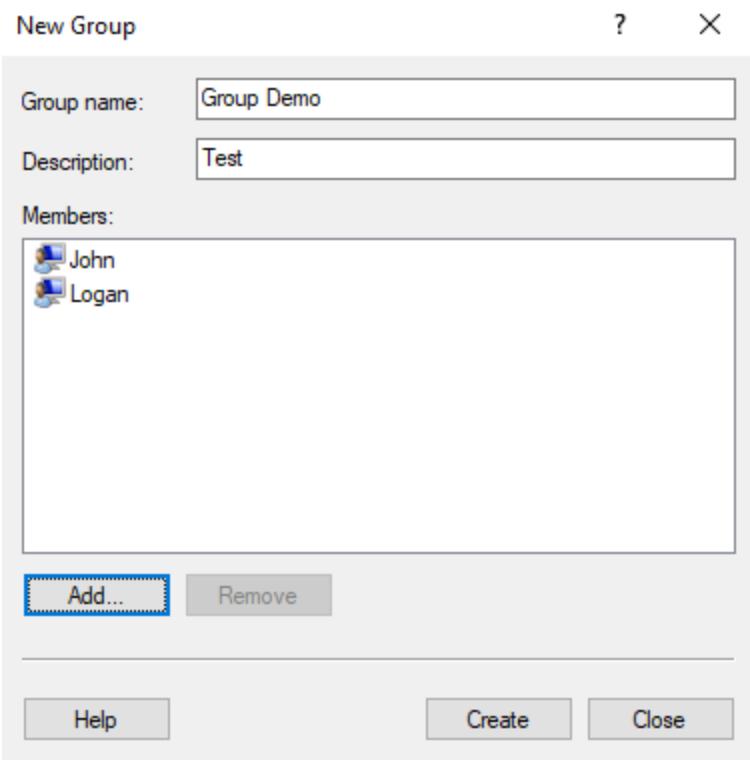


Click on Check Names. If it finds the names, they should be auto completed.



Click OK.

You should now see the users in the group.

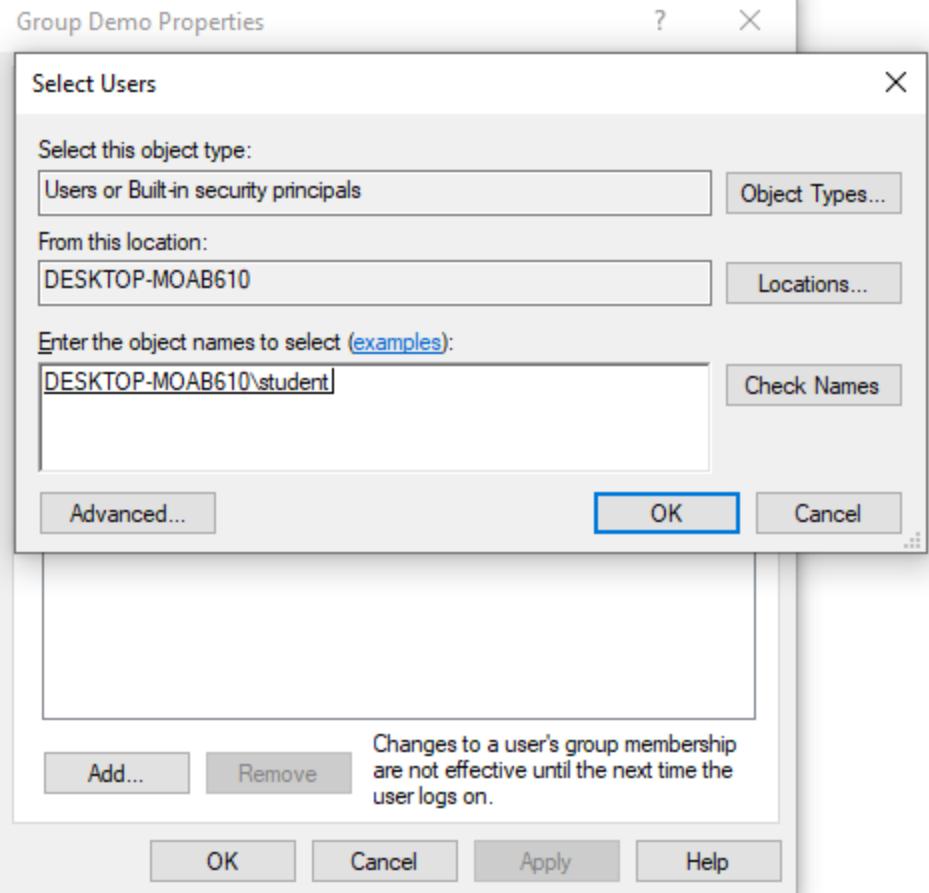


Click create. The new group screen will go blank again, do not worry about this. Click close and your new group will show up at the bottom.

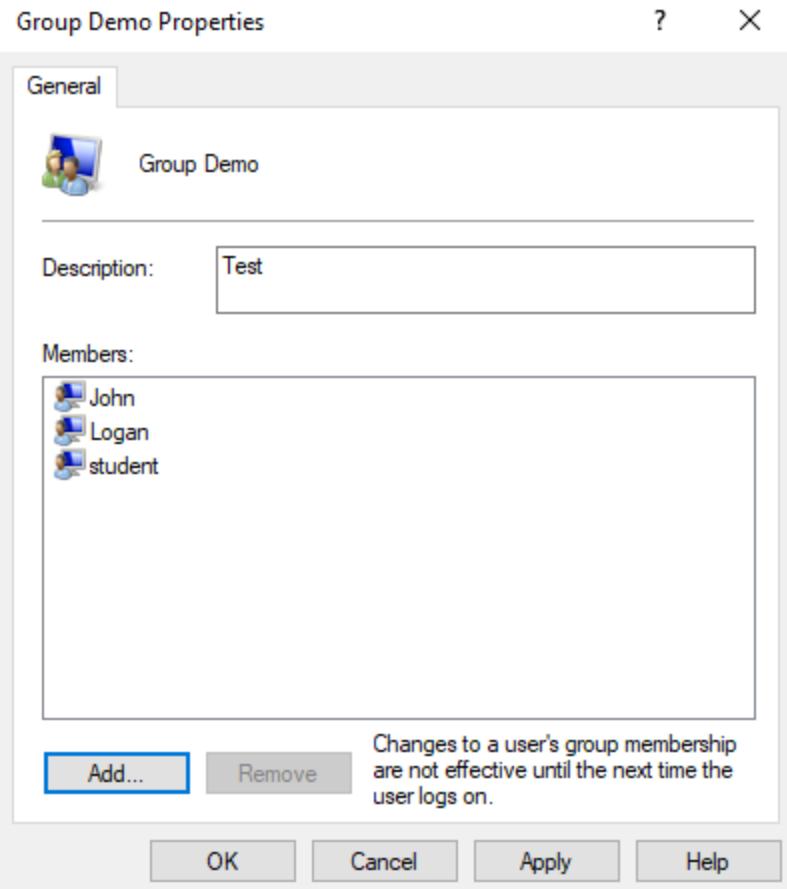
Name	Description
Access Control Assist...	Members of this group can remot...
Administrators	Administrators have complete an...
Backup Operators	Backup Operators can override se...
Cryptographic Operat...	Members are authorized to perfor...
Device Owners	Members of this group can chang...
Distributed COM Users	Members are allowed to launch, a...
Event Log Readers	Members of this group can read e...
Guests	Guests have the same access as m...
Hyper-V Administrators	Members of this group have com...
IIS_IUSRS	Built-in group used by Internet Inf...
Network Configuration...	Members in this group can have s...
Performance Log Users	Members of this group may sche...
Performance Monitor ...	Members of this group can acces...
Power Users	Power Users are included for back...
Remote Desktop Users	Members in this group are grante...
Remote Management...	Members of this group can acces...
Replicator	Supports file replication in a dom...
System Managed Acc...	Members of this group are mana...
Users	Users are prevented from making ...
Group Demo	Test

PS: Make sure you add your own account to the group too. One more time, click on Add.

Type in the name of your local account and click check names. Mine is student.



Click OK and you should now be in the group.



Click apply, then OK.

You now have a local group! We will, again, soon be using these accounts we created.

Creating a Network Share and Using NTFS Permissions

A network share is a resource that is made available to other computers on the network. This can be helpful for file sharing across user accounts and other devices on your network. Don't worry, this will only be available to any device connected to your network, not outside users. We will make sure of this with a security setting.

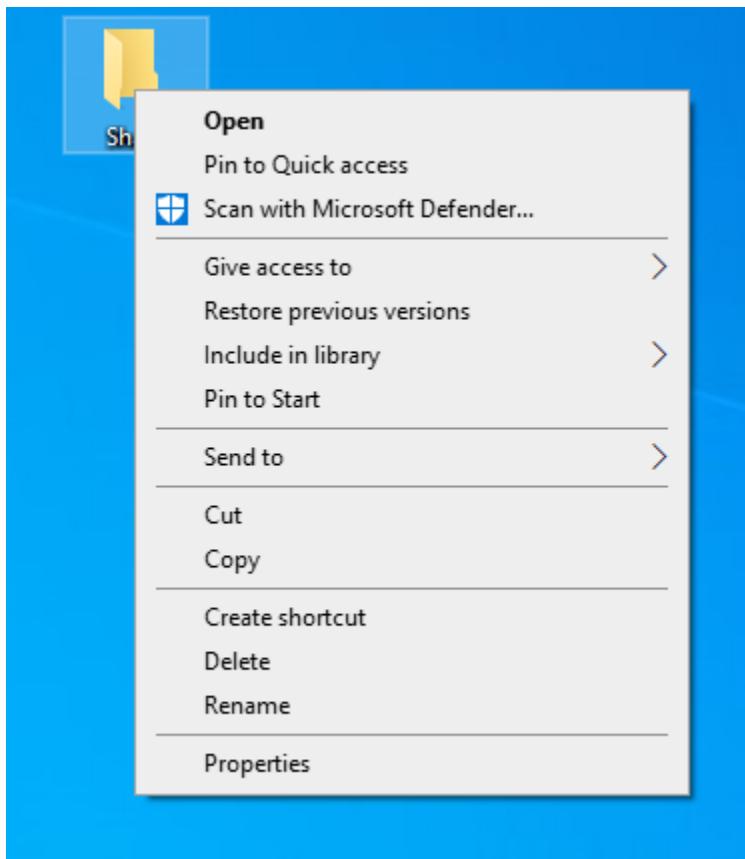
As for NTFS permissions, they are a set of rules that decide if a user has full control over a file or not. I will showcase this.

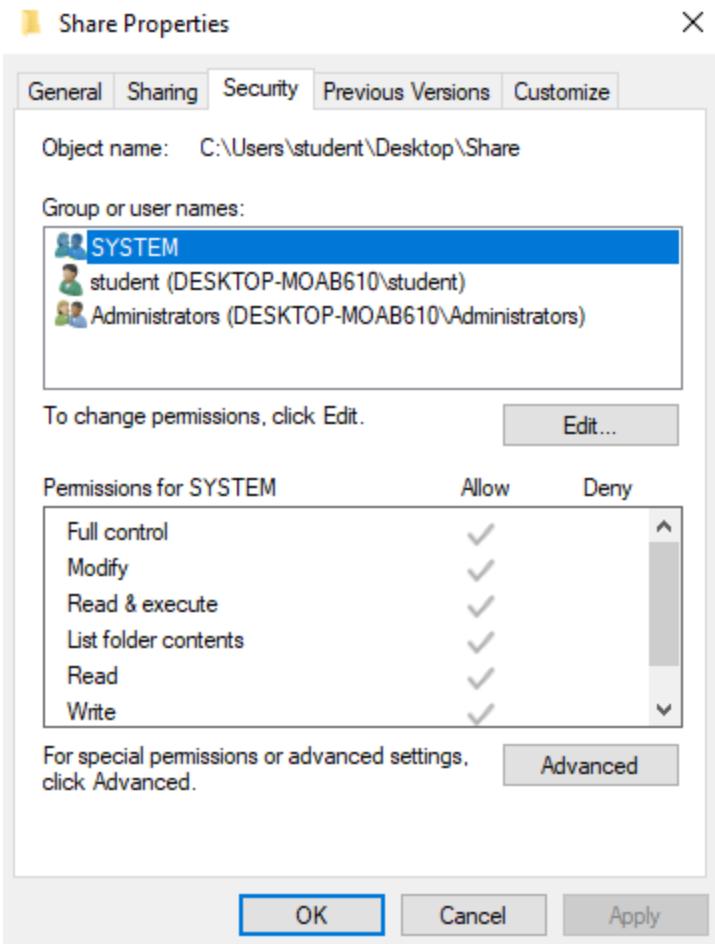
Step 1: Create a file you want to share

For this example, we will be creating a folder on our desktop. Right click on your desktop, click new, then folder. Name your folder whatever you like.

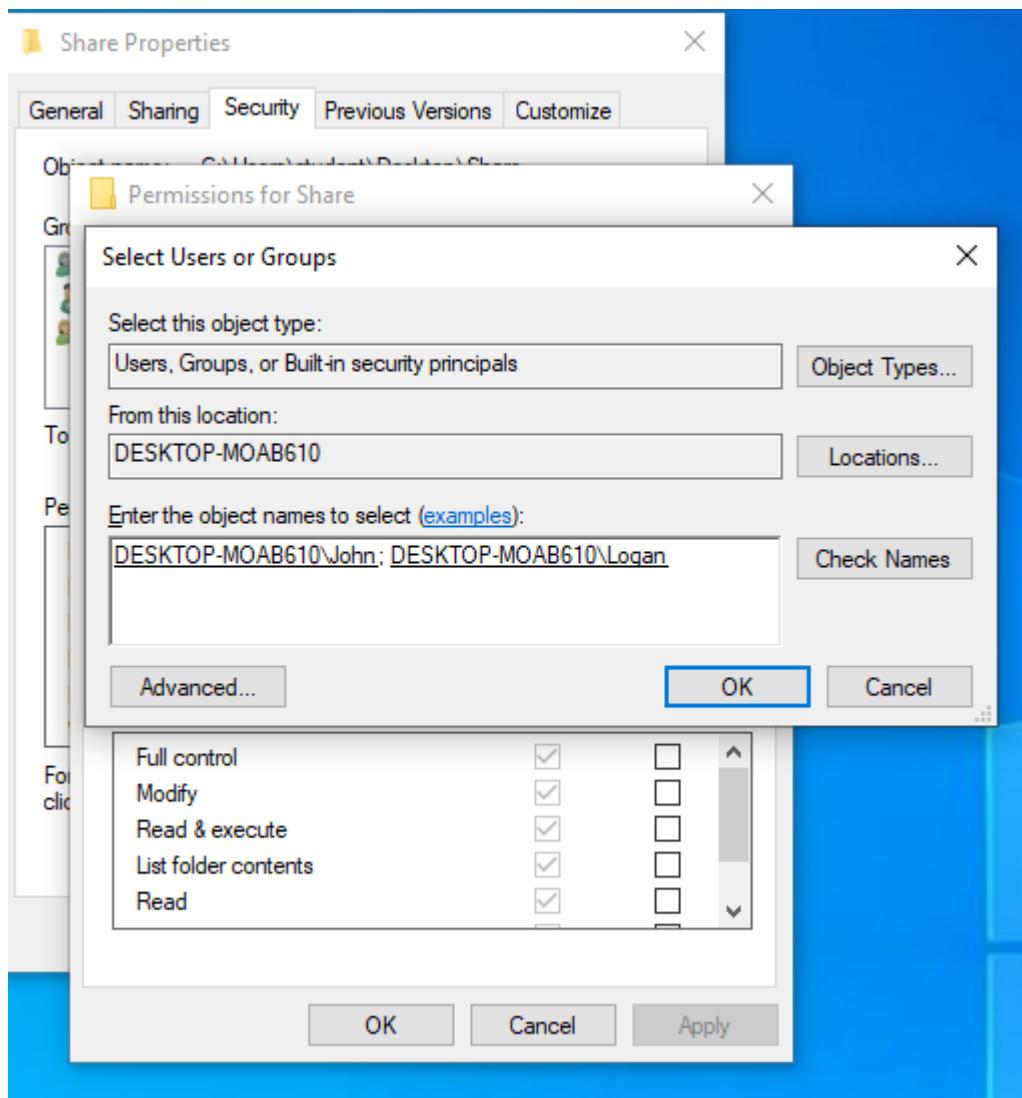
Step 2: Add users

Right click on the folder you created, properties, then navigate to the security tab.

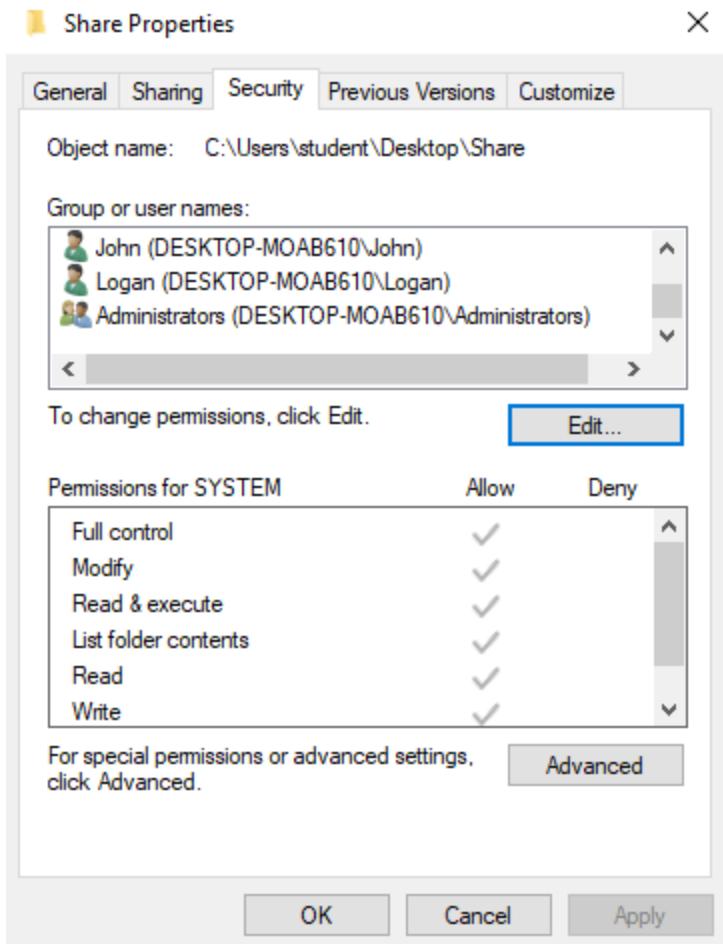




This tab shows who has access to the file and what permissions they have. To add new users, click on add, and it is the same premise as adding users to the local group. Type in their names separated by semi colons and click check names.



Click OK, apply, and OK again. You should now see the users in the list.

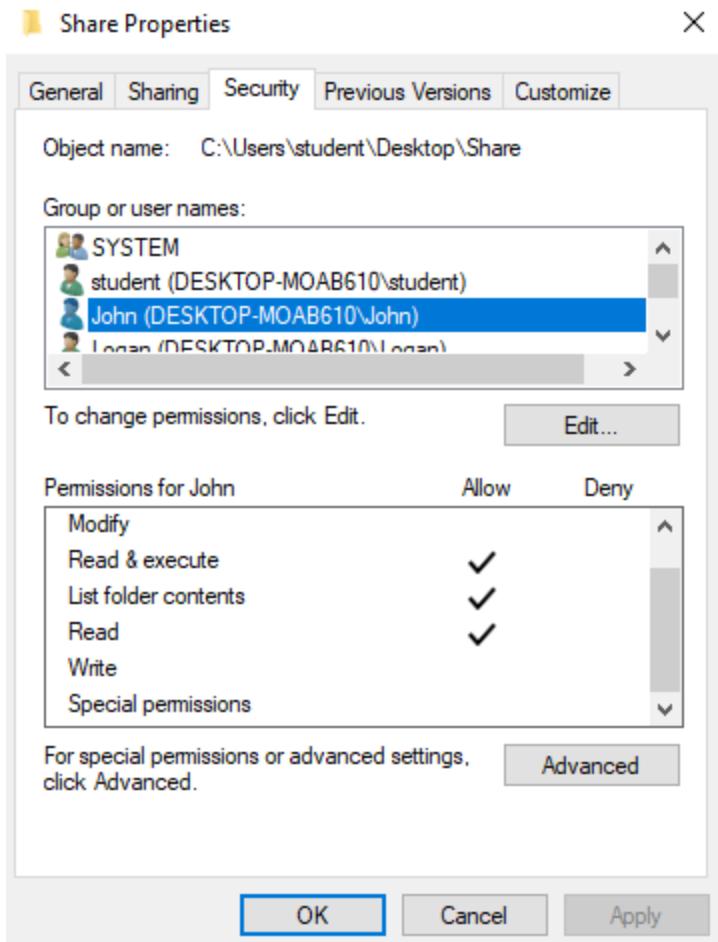


Step 3: Edit NTFS permissions

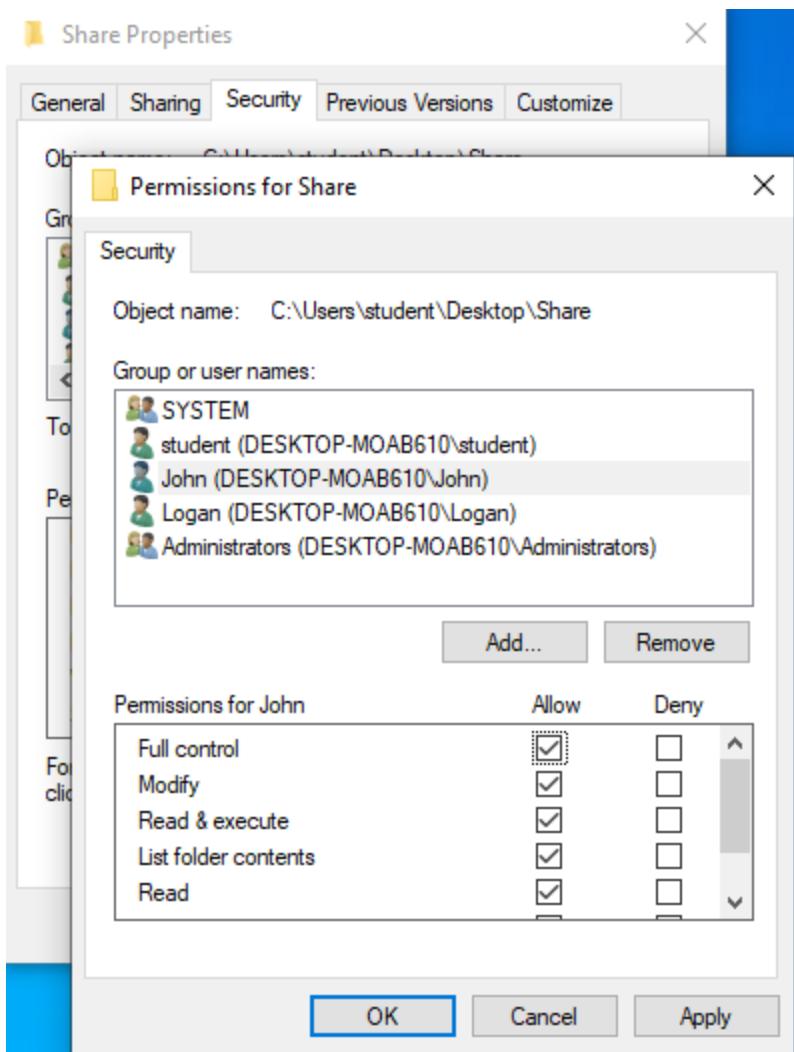
To edit the permissions of the users we just added, we want to go to that same security tab in the properties of our shared folder.

Once we get there, we can click on a user in the list to edit their permissions. By default, they get limited permissions. I will be giving one account full control, and one account read only permissions.

Click on the user you want to edit permissions of and click edit.

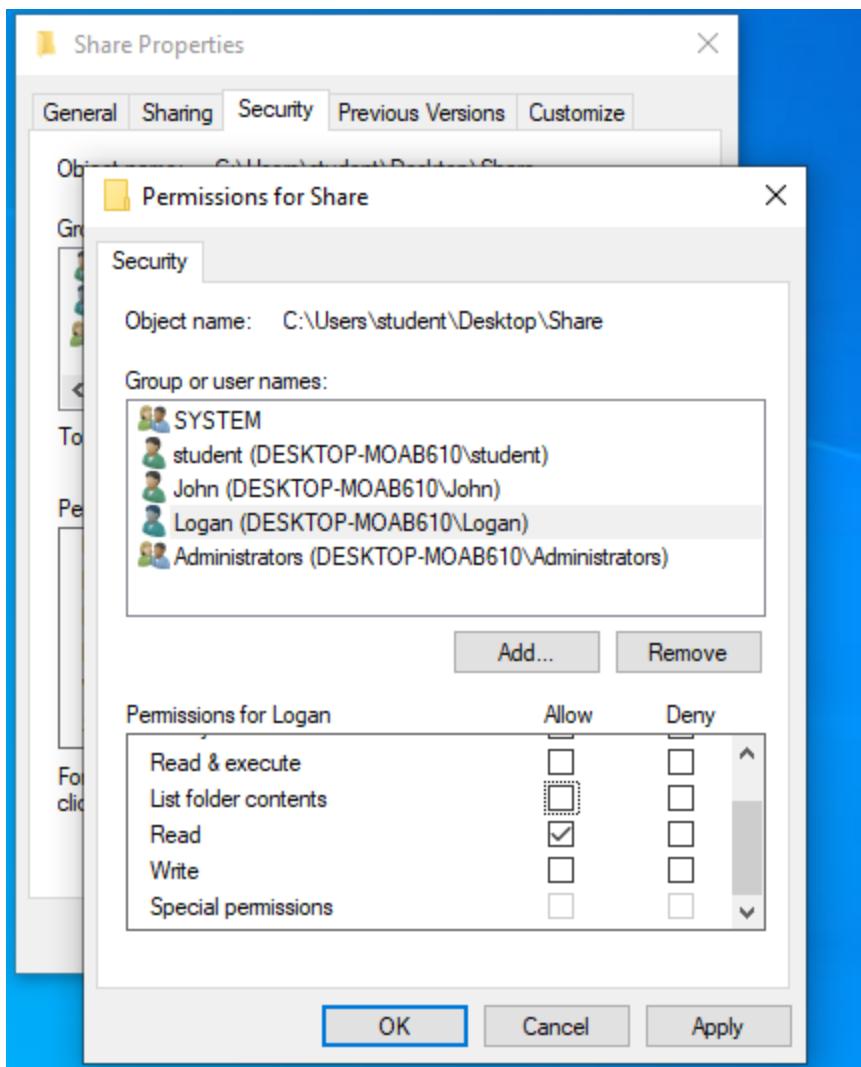


This will bring up a permissions window. Click on the user again. For John I will be giving full control. Click the check box.



Apply, and then OK.

Same thing for our other account. Navigate to the permissions window.

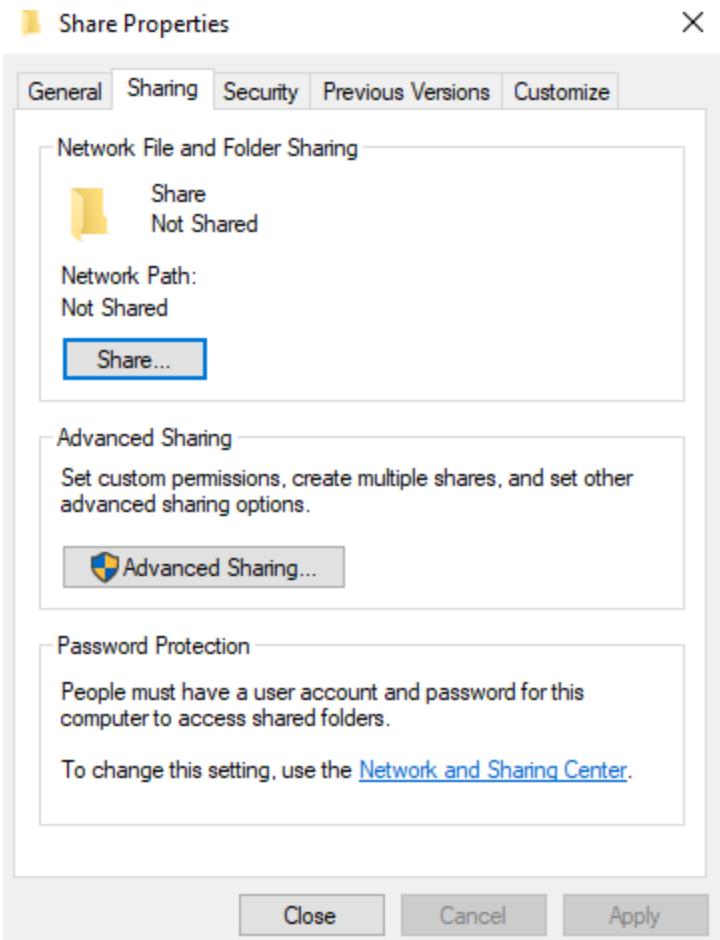


For Logan, I am giving read only.

Step 4: Create a network share

We have added our users and edited their permissions. We now want to create a network share so they can access it from their File Explorer.

Navigate to the properties of our shared folder, and click on the sharing tab.



Click share.

All your accounts that have access to the folder should appear here.

X

←  Network access

Choose people to share with

Type a name and then click Add, or click the arrow to find someone.

Name	Permission Level
 John	Read/Write ▾
 Logan	Read ▾
 student	Owner

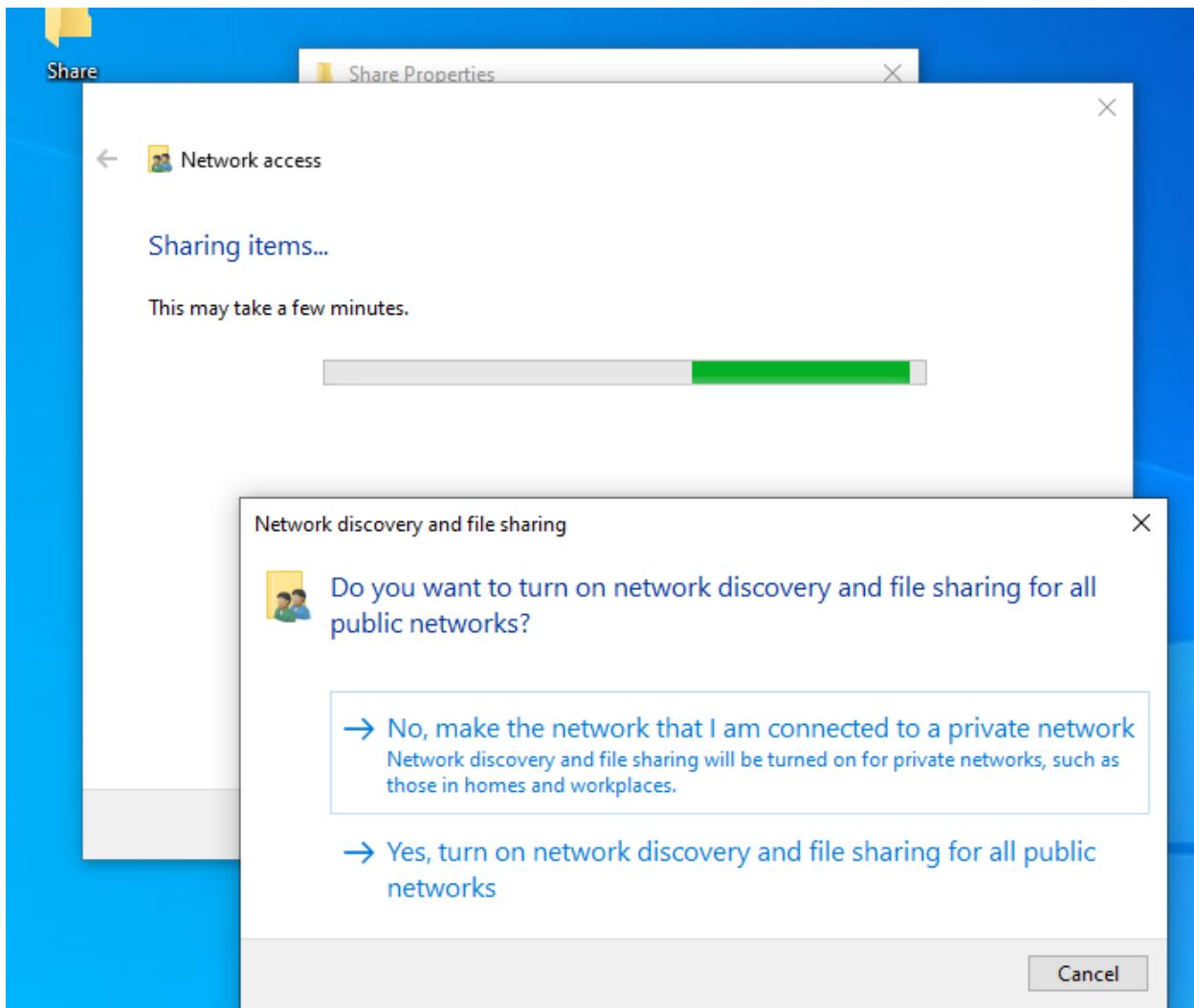
[I'm having trouble sharing](#)

 Share

Cancel

Click share.

This will open an important window.



Please make sure to click no for this. This is the security setting I referenced earlier. You do not want this on the public network.

You should now get a file path. Make sure to copy this so you can test it on a different user account.

X

← Network access

Your folder is shared.

You can [e-mail](#) someone links to these shared items, or [copy](#) and paste the links into another app.

Individual Items

 Share	\\DESKTOP-MOAB610\Users\student\Desktop\Share
---	---

[Show me all the network shares on this computer.](#)

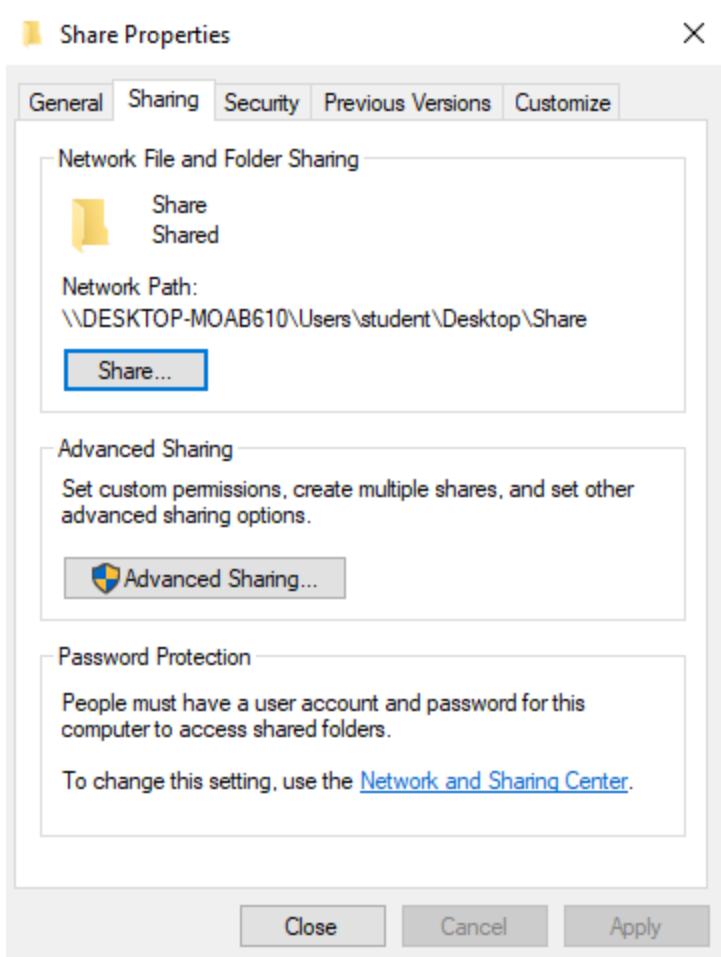
Done

Note, if you click the “copy” button, this can mess up your backslashes \\ and change them into forward slashes //.

Mine did like so: Share (//DESKTOP-MOAB610/Users/student/Desktop/Share)

If you try to navigate to the folder using this, it will not work. Make sure you change the forward slashes into back slashes.

If you ever need to get the network path again it is always available in the sharing tab of the properties of the folder.

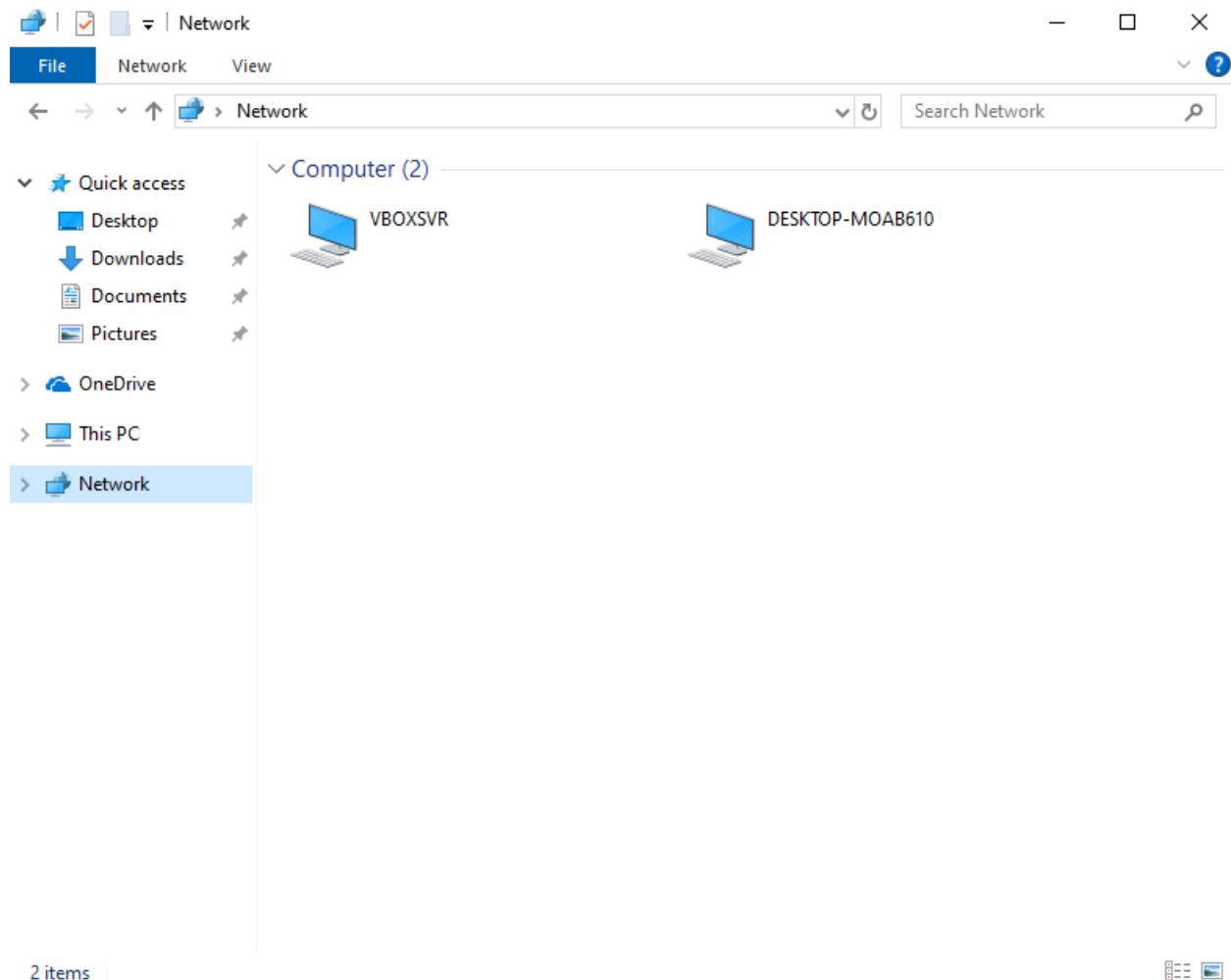


Step 5: Test your network share

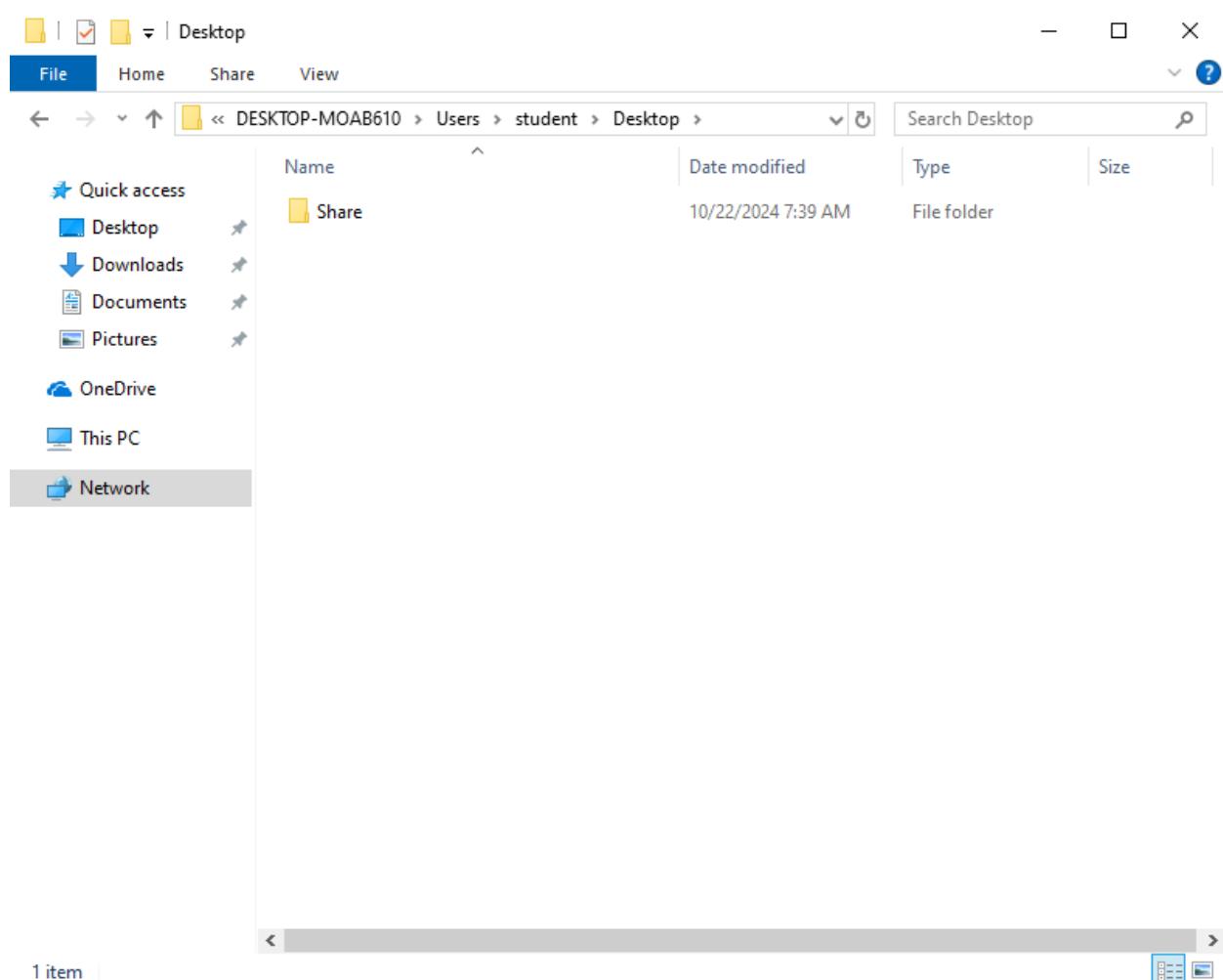
We now want to make sure our network shared folder works! Sign into one of the accounts you created.

If this is your first time signing into the account, Windows will do some setup. This is normal.

Open your file explorer and click on network. Your shared path should show up here.



Double click on it, users, the name of your account, desktop, and then we can see the shared folder we created here.



You now have a working network share!

Virtual Machines

Creating Windows 10 and 11 Virtual Machines

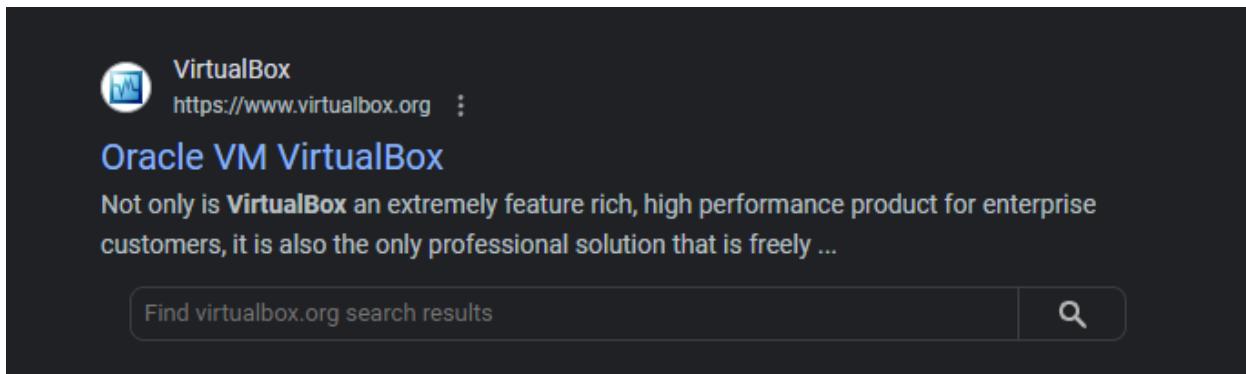
Step 1: Download Oracle VirtualBox, Microsoft Visual C++ Redistributable Package, and Oracle VirtualBox Extension Pack

Before we get started, make sure you have a Windows 10 and 11 ISO file. Refer to the operating systems section to learn how to acquire one.

Oracle VirtualBox is a great tool for making many kinds of virtual machines. For this section, we will be going through how to install Oracle VirtualBox and make Windows 10 and 11 Virtual machines!

Downloading Oracle VirtualBox:

In your browser, search for “Oracle VM VirtualBox”, It should be the first result, or type in [virtualbox.org](https://www.virtualbox.org) to go directly to the website.



Once we're on the main page we will see a series of navigation buttons to the left of the page, we want to click on downloads.



- [About](#)
- [Screenshots](#)
- [**Downloads**](#)
- [Documentation](#)
- [End-user docs](#)
- [Technical docs](#)
- [Contribute](#)

This takes us to the downloads page; we want to make sure we're choosing the correct download for our operating system. I am using Windows, so I will be choosing "Windows hosts." If you're on macOS or Linux, there are downloads for those operating systems as well.

Download VirtualBox

Here you will find links to VirtualBox binaries and its source code.

VirtualBox binaries

By downloading, you agree to the terms and conditions of the respective license.

VirtualBox 7.0.20 platform packages

- ⇒ [Windows hosts](#)
- ⇒ [macOS / Intel hosts](#)
- [Linux distributions](#)
- ⇒ [Solaris hosts](#)
- ⇒ [Solaris 11 IPS hosts](#)

Clicking on Windows hosts will start the download in the downloads section of your browser.

When VirtualBox finishes downloading, we want to make sure we download Microsoft Visual C++ Redistributable Package. Oracle VirtualBox needs this to run, and it is likely you do not have this program. If you do, you can skip this step.

Downloading Microsoft Visual C++ Redistributable Package:

In your browser, search for Microsoft C++ Visual Redistributable Package. Click the first result.

The screenshot shows a dark-themed web page from Microsoft Learn. At the top, there's a Microsoft logo and the text "Learn Microsoft" followed by a URL "https://learn.microsoft.com > ... > C++, C, and Assembler :". Below this, a large heading reads "Latest supported Visual C++ Redistributable downloads". A sub-headline states "May 28, 2024 — This table lists the latest supported English (en-US) Microsoft Visual C++ Redistributable packages for Visual Studio 2015, 2017, 2019, and 2022." At the bottom of the visible area, there's a link "Visual Studio 2015, 2017... · Latest Microsoft Visual C++...".

On the page, scroll down to “Latest Microsoft Visual C++ Redistributable Version.”

Latest Microsoft Visual C++ Redistributable Version

The latest version is 14.40.33810.0

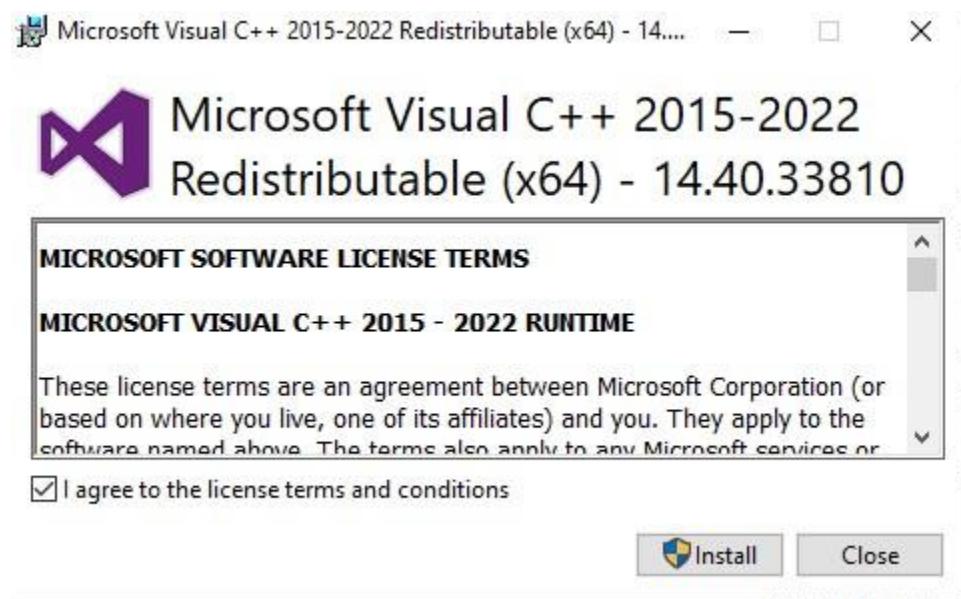
Use the following links to download this version for each supported architecture:

[Expand table](#)

Architecture	Link	Notes
ARM64	https://aka.ms/vs/17/release/vc_redist.arm64.exe	Permalink for latest supported ARM64 version
X86	https://aka.ms/vs/17/release/vc_redist.x86.exe	Permalink for latest supported x86 version
X64	https://aka.ms/vs/17/release/vc_redist.x64.exe	Permalink for latest supported x64 version. The X64 Redistributable package contains both ARM64 and X64 binaries. This package makes it easy to install required Visual C++ ARM64 binaries when the X64 Redistributable is installed on an ARM64 device.

We want to make sure we click the link beside X64. This will start the download in your browser. After it finishes, launch the installer from your file explorer. You can find where it is in your file explorer by clicking the small file icon next to the download in your browser.

A window will pop up asking you to agree to license terms.



Click the check box, then click install.

Another window will pop up asking you to allow this program to make changes to your device, click yes.

The installation will begin. Once it finishes, it will require a system restart.



Make sure your computer restarts before going to the next step!

Downloading Oracle VirtualBox Part 2:

After your computer restarts, run the VirtualBox installer from your file explorer. A popup will ask you to allow it to make changes to your device, click yes. After, the setup wizard will come up.



After clicking next a series of a couple pages will ask us to select the way we want features to be installed. All these defaults are fine, and we can go to the next page.

Oracle VM VirtualBox 7.0.20 Setup

Custom Setup

Select the way you want features to be installed.

Click on the icons in the tree below to change the way features will be installed.

The screenshot shows a tree view of installation features under "VirtualBox Application". The nodes are: VirtualBox Application, VirtualBox USB Support, VirtualBox Networking, VirtualBox Bridges, VirtualBox Host-Controller, and VirtualBox Python Support. The "VirtualBox Application" node is expanded. To the right of the tree is a detailed description of the "VirtualBox Application" feature, stating it requires 209MB on hard drive, has 3 of 3 subfeatures selected, and subfeatures require 1000KB on y... (truncated).

Location: C:\Program Files\Oracle\VirtualBox\

Browse

Version 7.0.20

Disk Usage

< Back

Next >

Cancel

Oracle VM VirtualBox 7.0.20 Setup

Custom Setup

Select the way you want features to be installed.

Please choose from the options below:

- Create start menu entries
- Create a shortcut on the desktop
- Create a shortcut in the Quick Launch Bar
- Register file associations

Version 7.0.20

< Back

Next >

This brings us to a warning from VirtualBox stating that it will reset your network connection. Make sure you are not downloading or doing anything else important during this time.



Click yes, and the installation will begin. After it is done, it will come to a finished screen and ask if you would like to launch VirtualBox. I would suggest unchecking this box, because we have one more thing to download.

Downloading VirtualBox Extension Pack:

The VirtualBox extension pack is an add-on that enhances its capabilities. We want to have this for future endeavors!

The extension pack can be found in the downloads section on the virtualbox.org website.

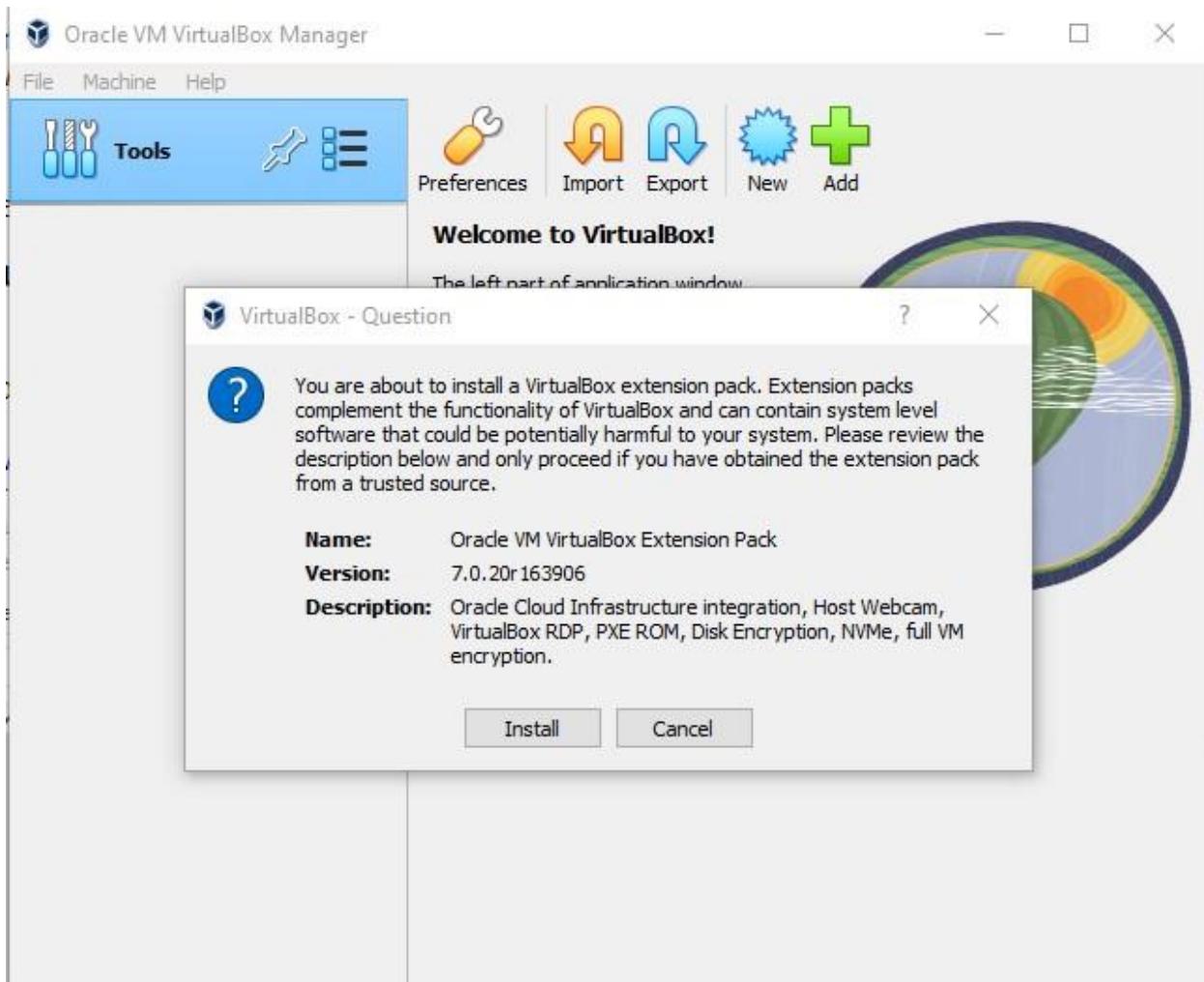
On the same page we were on earlier, scroll down slightly to “VirtualBox 7.0.20 Oracle VirtualBox Extension Pack” and click on “All supported platforms”.

[VirtualBox 7.0.20 Oracle VirtualBox Extension Pack](#)

- [All supported platforms](#)

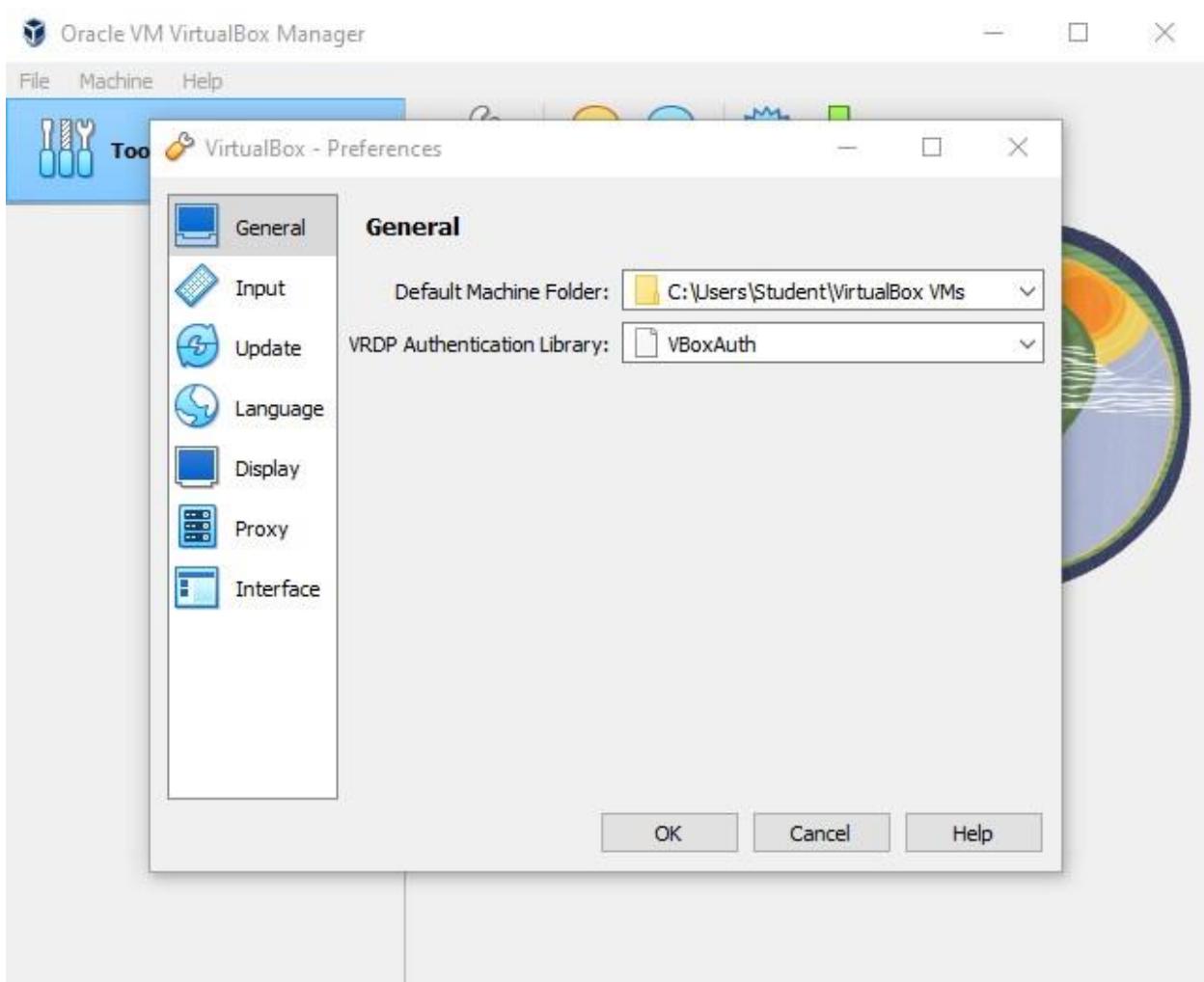
Support VirtualBox RDP, disk encryption, NVMe and PXE boot for Intel cards. See [this chapter from the User Manual](#) for an introduction to this Extension Pack. The Extension Pack binaries are released under the [VirtualBox Personal Use and Evaluation License \(PUEL\)](#). Please install the same version extension pack as your installed version of VirtualBox.

Once this downloads, all we must do is run the installer. After running the installer, VirtualBox manager will come up and ask us if we want to install the extension pack, click install.



One more thing we want to do is make sure we choose a drive for all our machines to go to. Virtual Machines can take up a lot of space, so make sure you choose a drive that has plenty of space.

For this, we click on File, Preferences, and in the General tab there will be a "Default Machine Folder" option, make sure you choose the drive you wish to use.



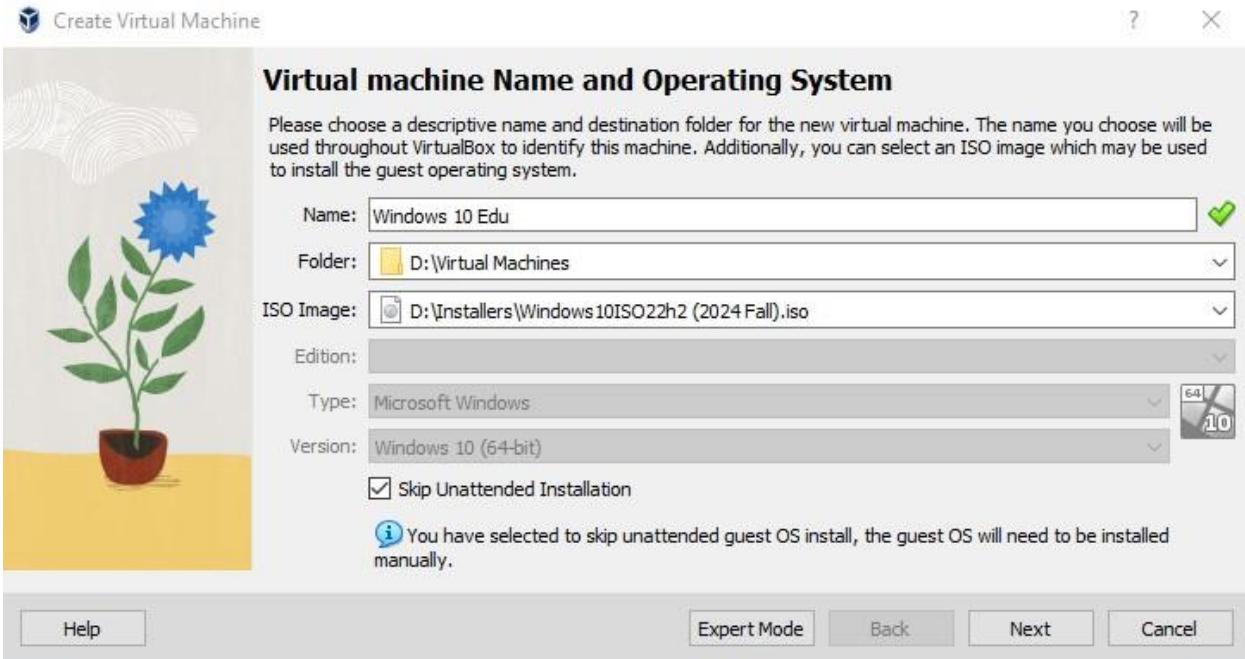
That's it! We can now make our first virtual machine.

Step 2: Making Windows 10 and 11 Virtual Machines

Making a Windows 10 Virtual Machine:

To make our machine, we want to navigate up to where it says “machine” in the top left and click on it. A menu will come up asking if we want to add or make a new machine, click new. We can also simply click the “New” button to the right.

After, a window will come up asking us to name our operating system, choose a folder for it to go in, and the ISO image we want to use.

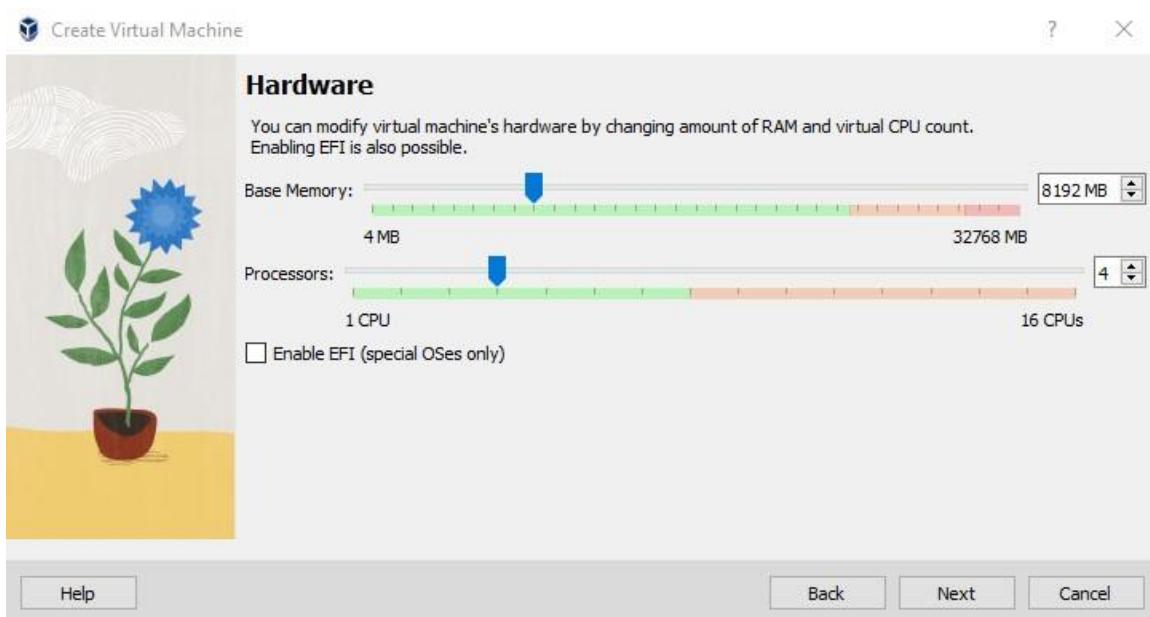


I recommend naming it the specific Windows version you're going to choose when setting up Windows inside of the machine, in my case, I will be using Windows 10 Education, so I named it "Windows 10 Edu."

Choose the folder the machine is going to go in, and then your Windows 10 ISO image.

You will see a checkbox beside something that says, "Skip Unattended Installation". If you want, you can leave the box unchecked, in this example, I will be skipping the unattended installation.

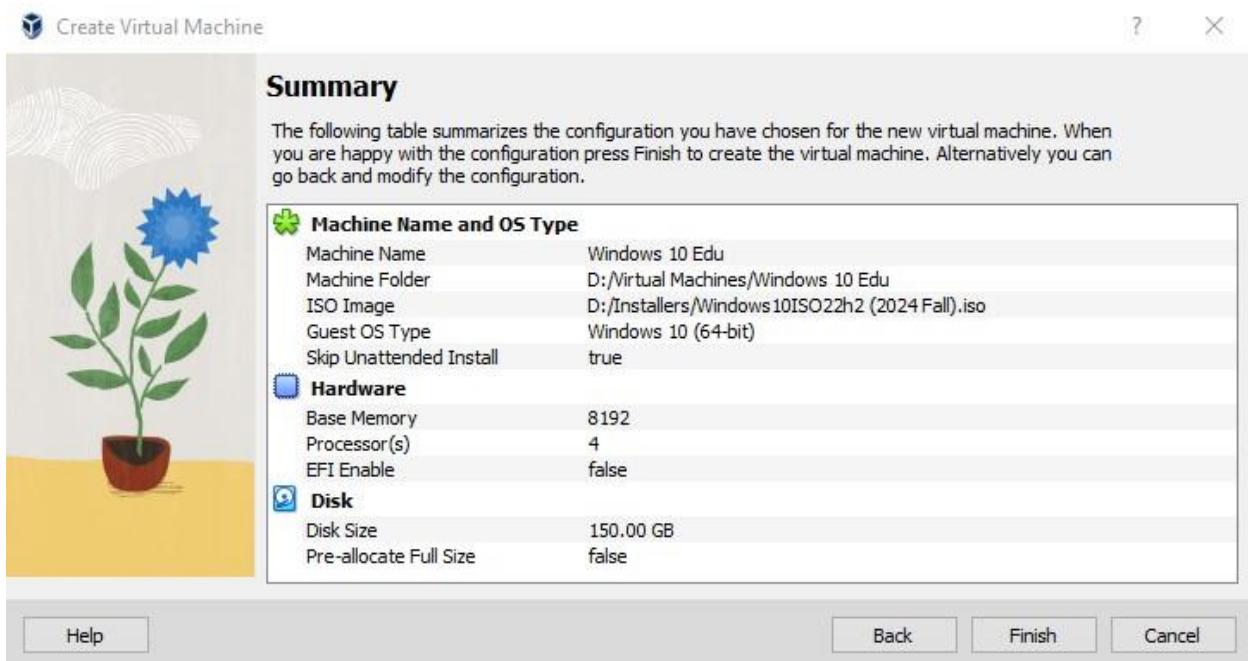
The next screen will ask you to set the resources the VM will share with the host machine. It's always a good idea to give the machine just enough, but not too much. There are color indicators showing what is okay to give it, and what may be too much. This all depends on your hardware, for me, I will be giving it 8192 MB, or 8gb of RAM, and 4 CPU's. You can slide the slider across the bar, but the easiest way is just typing in the amount you want. Remember the operating system itself takes resources, and you should take this into account as well.



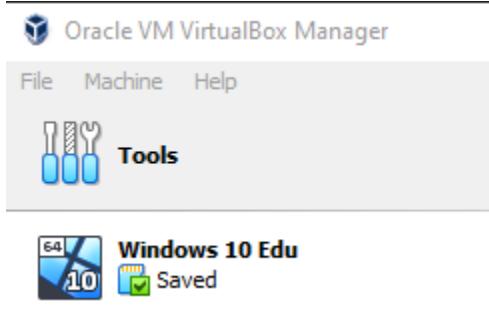
Make sure to leave Enable EFI unchecked in this instance.

Another screen will ask how much virtual hard disk space we want to give the machine. I recommend, depending on your space, to give it 100 more GB than what it presets for you. You can always go back and change this later if it is too much. Make sure to leave the “Pre-allocate space” box unchecked. Virtual Machines only take up the space that they need. They will not take the full, for example, 150GB that you set the virtual disk space to. They can only take up to that amount of space. Otherwise, they will not take this space if it is not needed for downloads you may put on it later.

You're now in a summary page, click finish.



You should now see your Windows 10 VM on the left side of the VirtualBox manager.

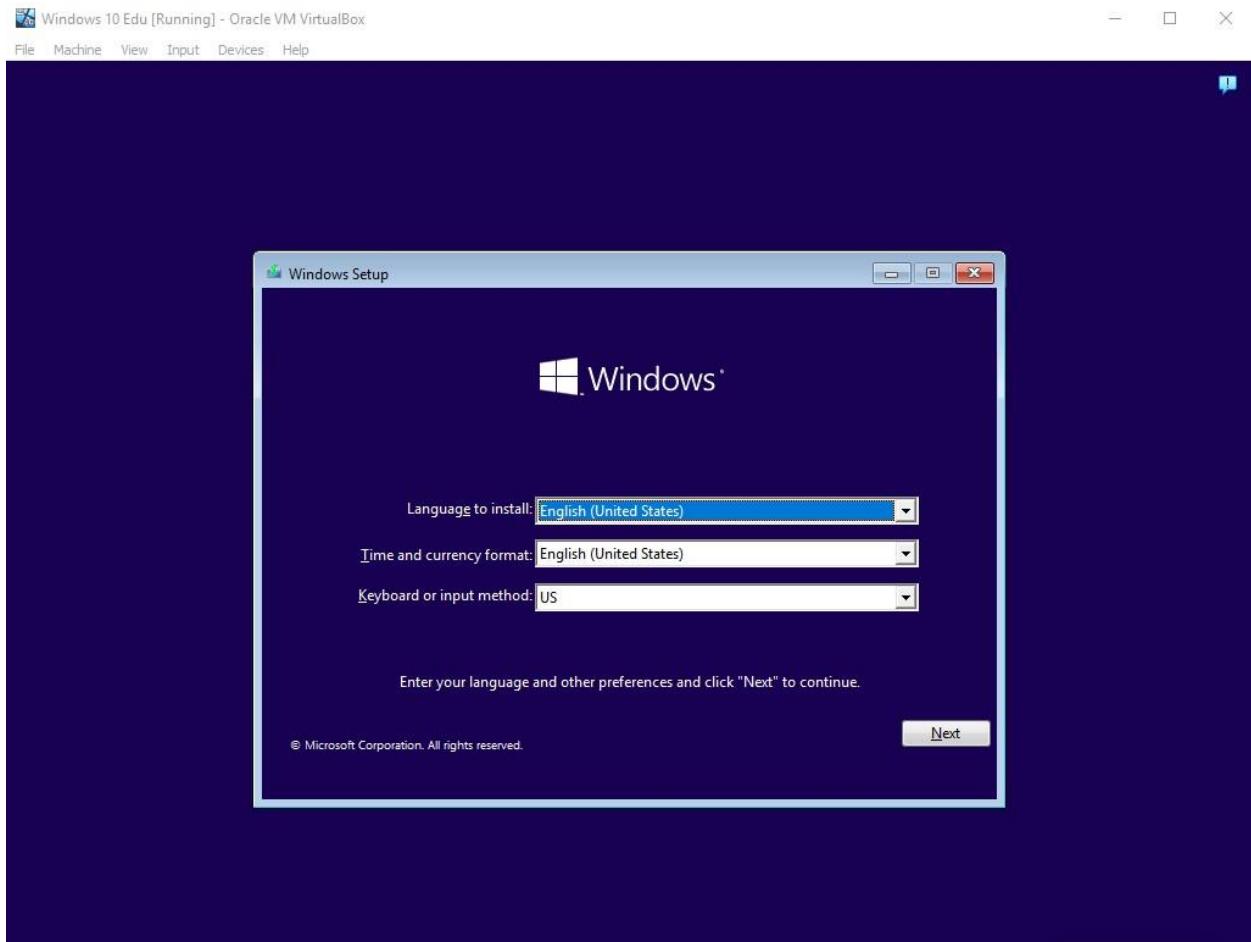


We will double click it to launch. Give it a minute to boot up.

Once the VM starts, we should come to a page where we will start setting up Windows 10!

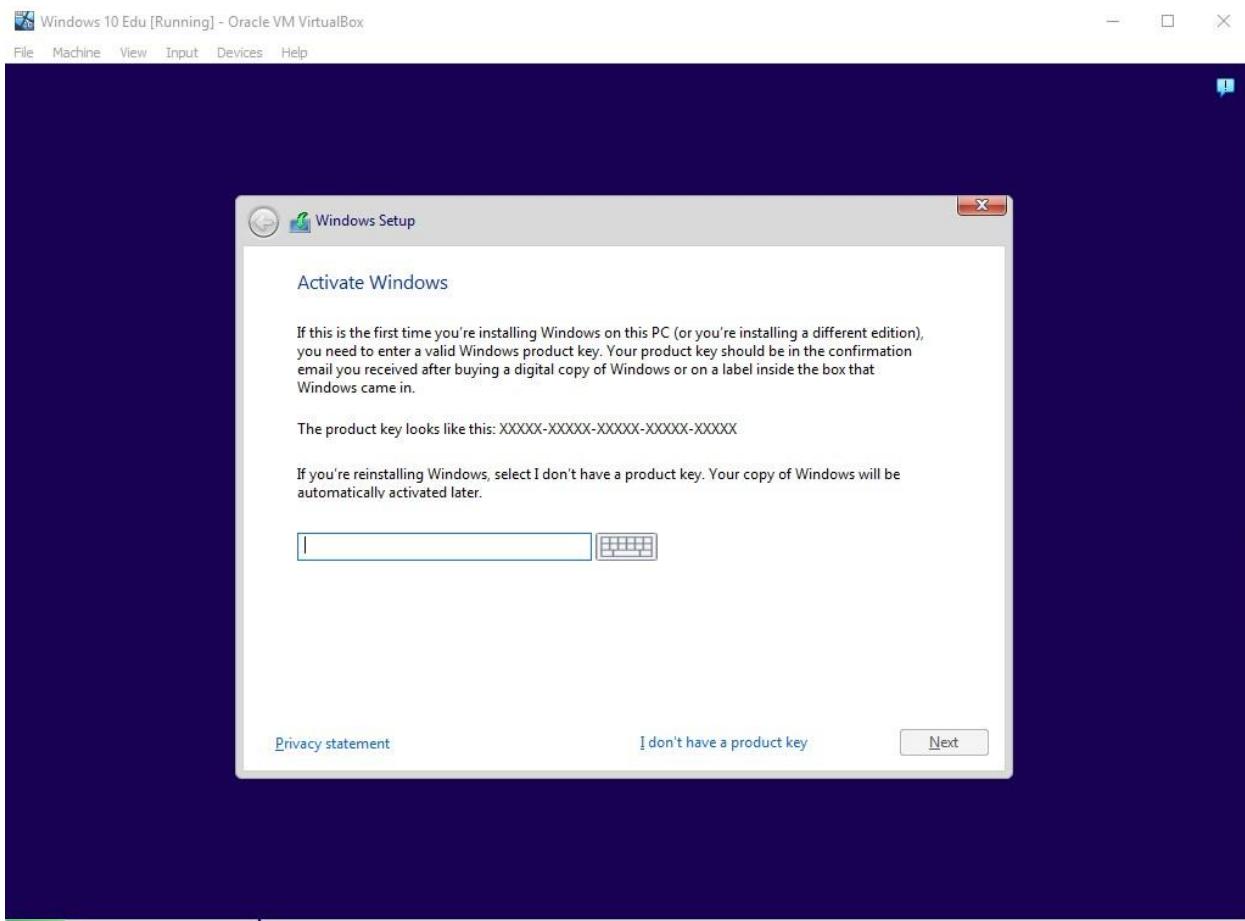
Setting up a fresh Windows 10 Install Inside of a VM:

This first page is simple, and just wants us to choose our region and language.

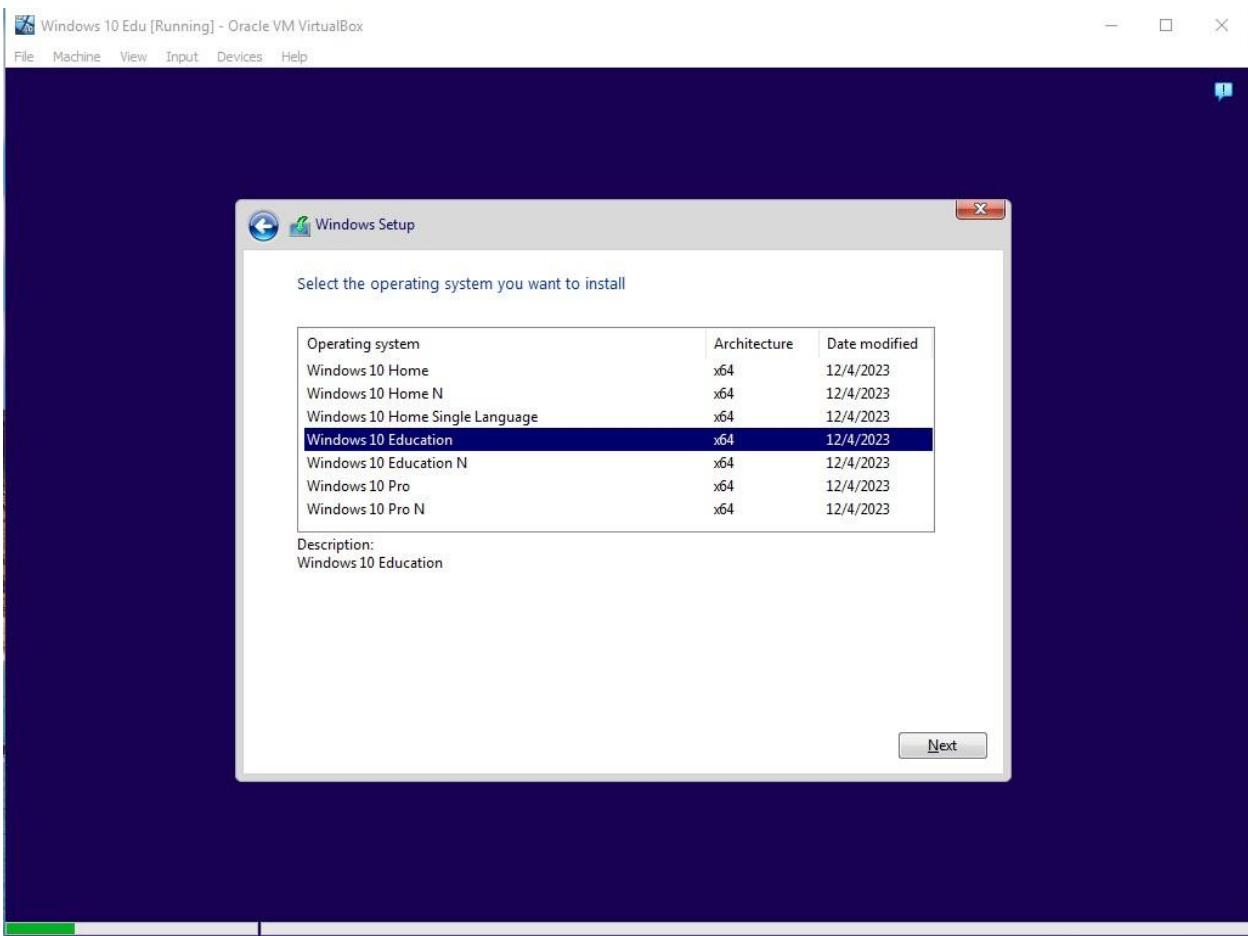


After making your choices, click next, and then install now.

We now come to a product key page, where Windows is asking us to put in a product key. The product key normally will determine what type of Windows 10 we are installing, in this case, we do not have a product key, so at the bottom choose “I don’t have a product key.”

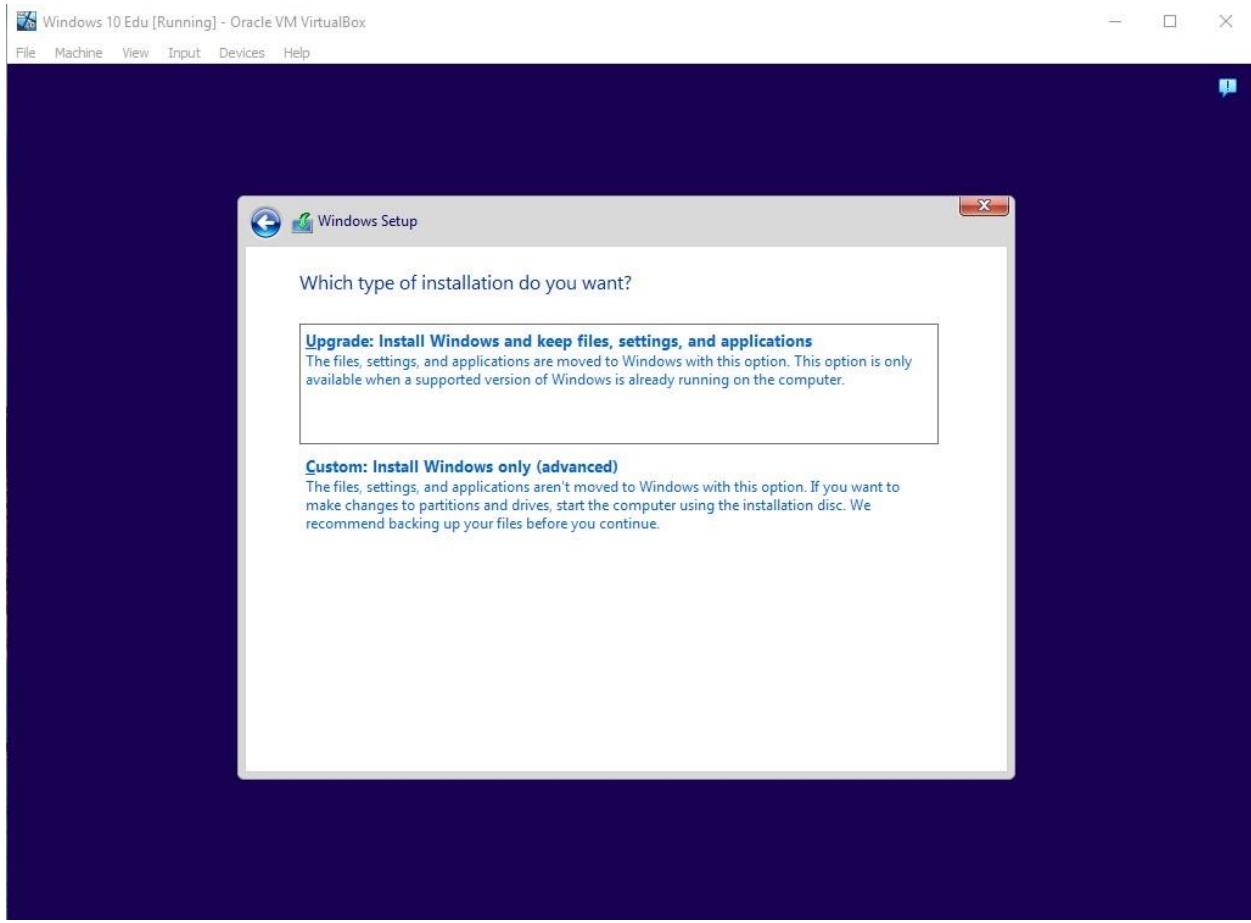


It will then ask you what type of Windows edition you would like to install. As previously mentioned, I will be installing Windows 10 Education, but you can choose whatever edition you wish here.

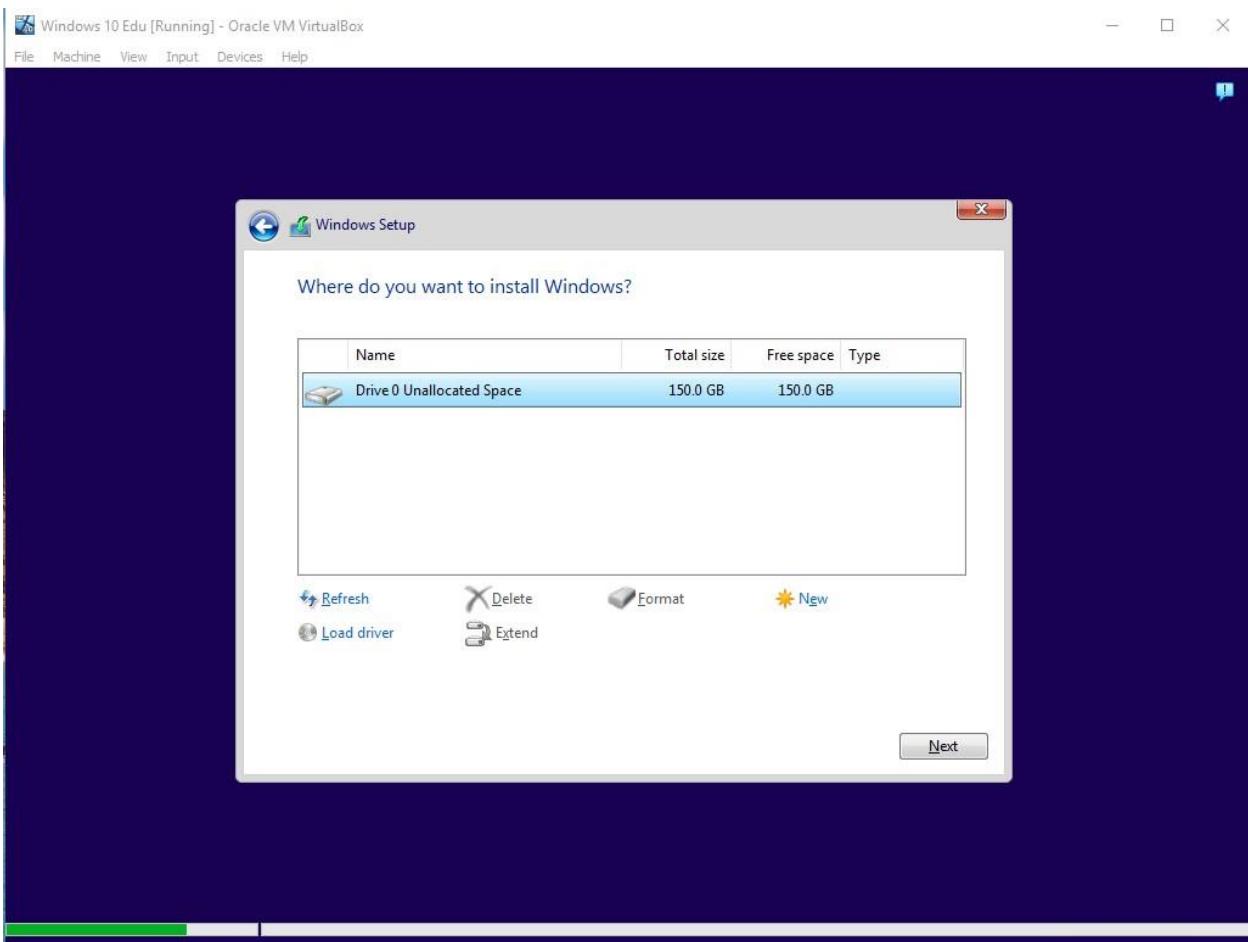


It will ask you to accept license terms, after this, click next.

We will then be prompted to choose what type of installation we want to do. Upgrade is for if you already have an OS on a device and want to upgrade. For this, we will be choosing custom install.

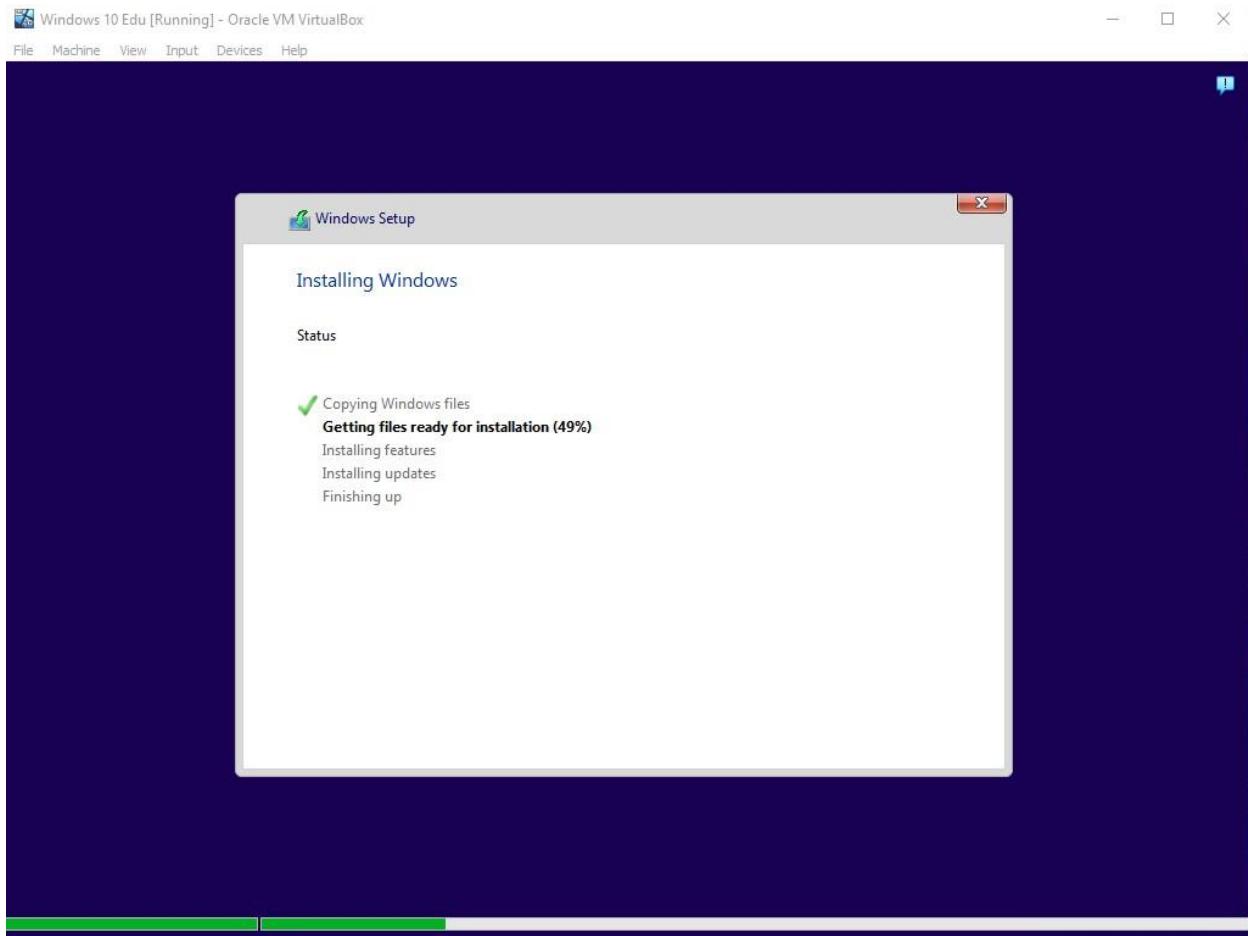


We then need to choose which drive Windows will go on. As you can see, we have the 150GB virtual disk space we gave to the VM earlier. Click the drive and click next.



After clicking next, the download process will begin. Windows tends to take a while, so let it do its thing.

When the “Press a key when CD...” prompt comes up, make sure you do not press a key.



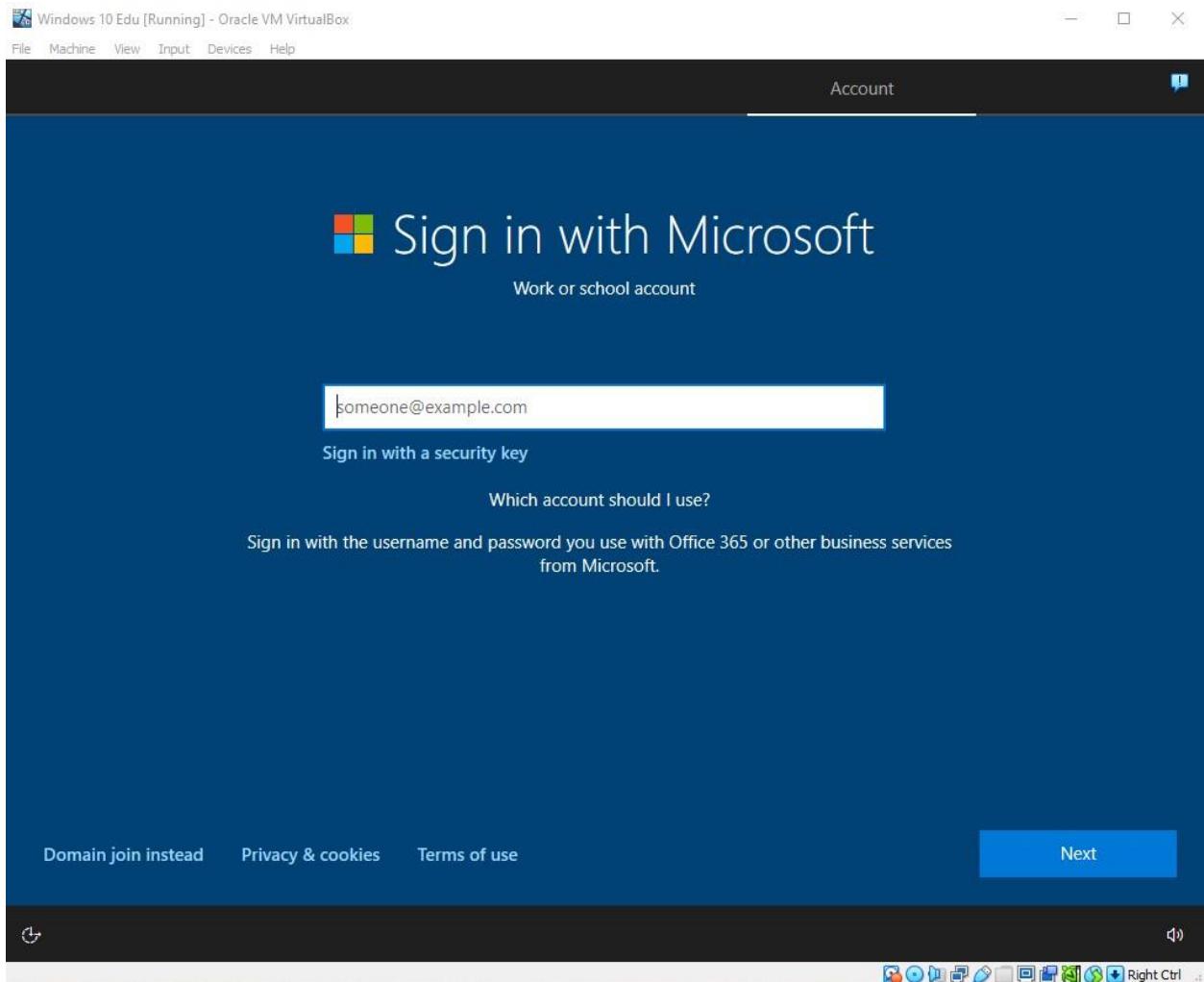
After this process is finished, it will require a restart. Go ahead and restart. This can cause a potential issue with your VM where it does not fully restart. If this is the case, go up to machine in the top left, power off, and re-open the machine. That should fix the issue.

Windows will again load for a while and may restart a couple more times during this process.

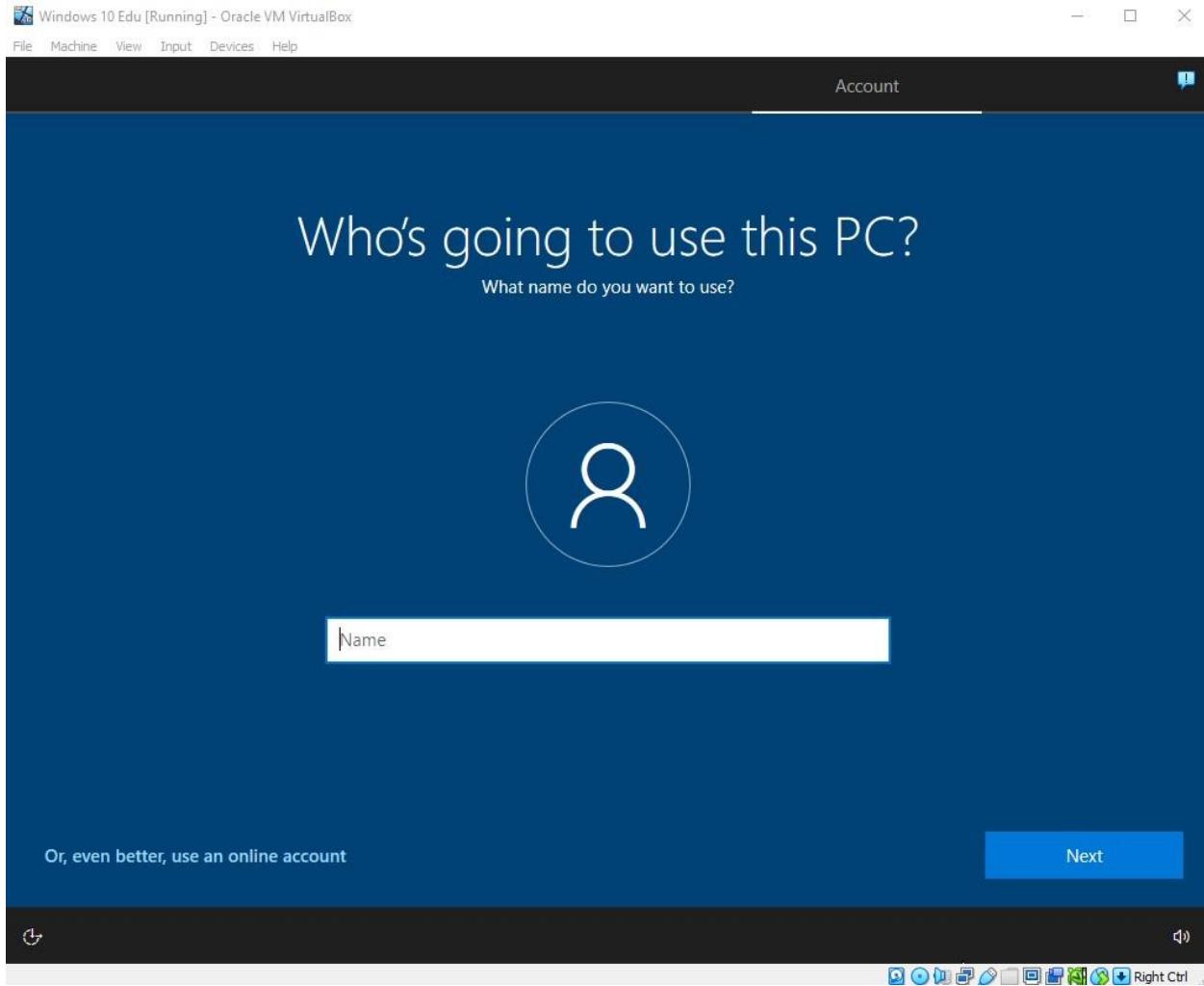
Once it is done, it will prompt us to select our region again, keyboard layout, and any secondary keyboard layouts. Choose your respective options and continue with the installation process.

Windows will load once more.

We now come to a screen that asks us to sign in with Microsoft. We are going to bypass this, so we aren't adding our Microsoft account to the Virtual Machine. Instead of typing in an email, we want to click "Domain join instead" in the bottom left corner.

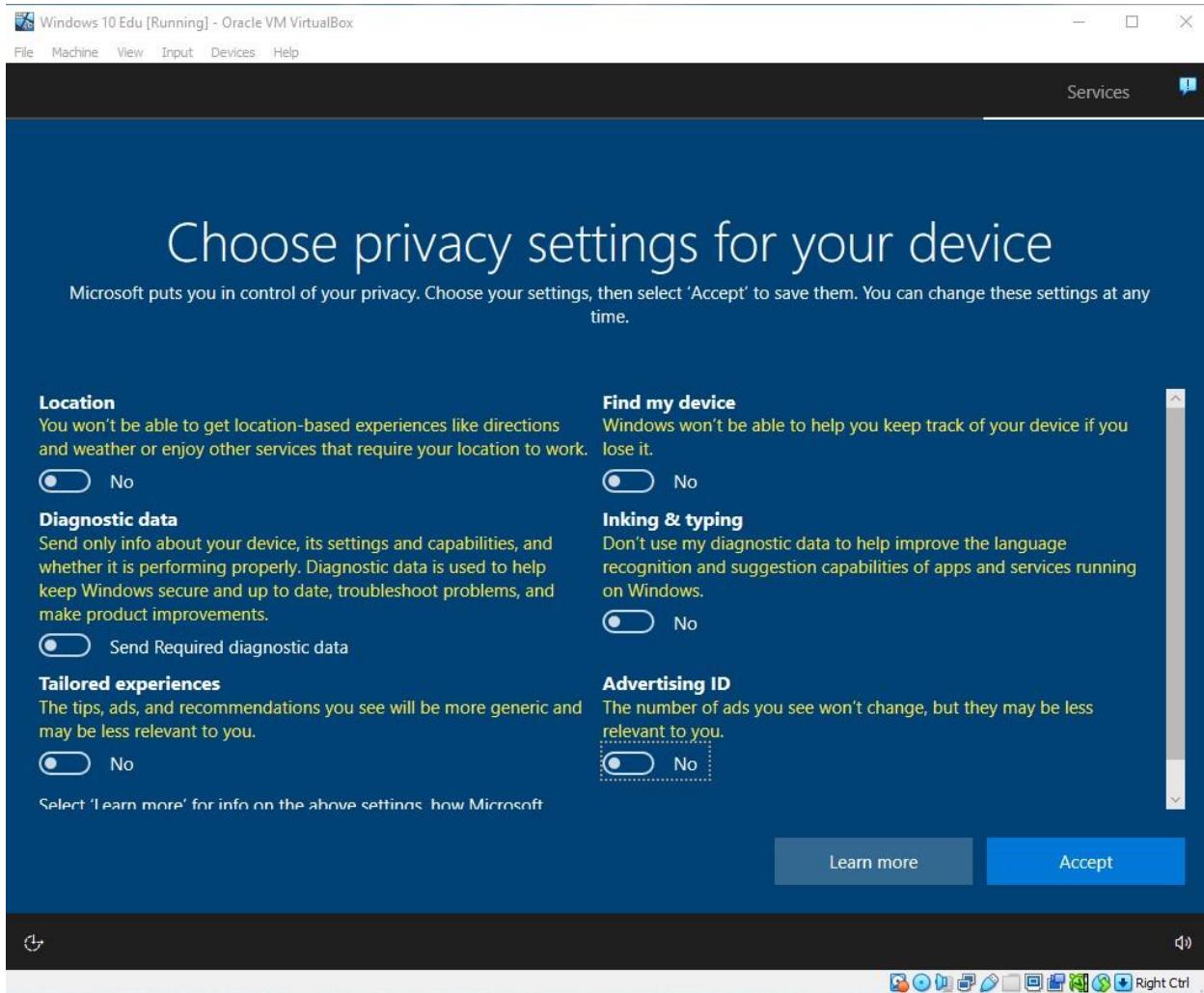


Choose a username and password you would like to use.



We will then be asked to set up a series of 3 security questions. I recommend choosing random ones and making the answer something very simple, like a single capital letter. This is a learning environment, and we do not want any personal information on it.

We have now come to the privacy settings screen. I highly recommend sliding all of these to no.



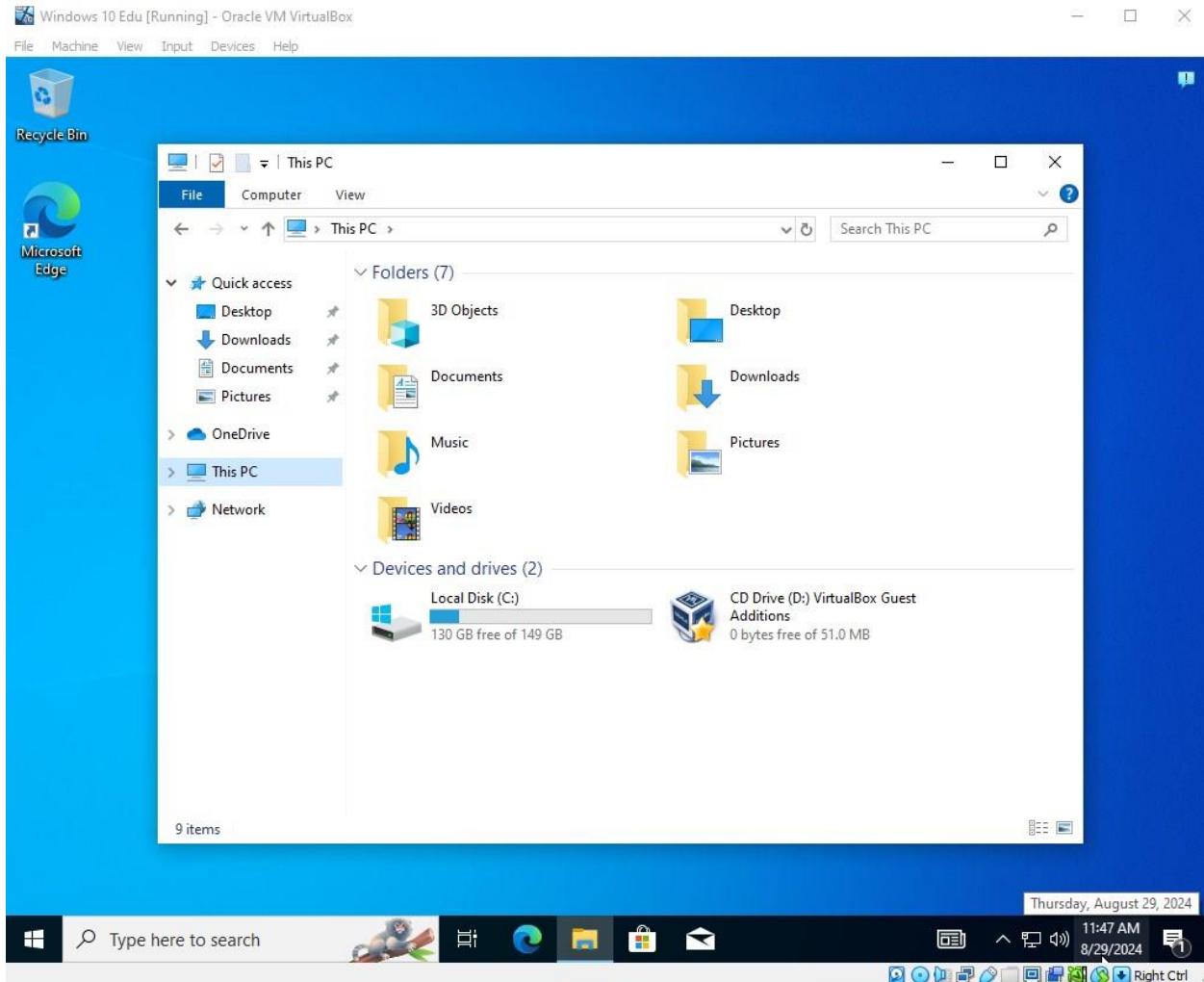
It will then ask if you would like to set up Cortana. I personally recommend selecting not now.

Once again, Windows will load some more.

After that is completed, you should be in Windows 10! We want to do one more thing.

Navigate up to devices, then insert guest CD image.

We then want to navigate to the installer in our file explorer and run it.



Once you run it, allow changes, and the installer should pop up.



Choose your location and components, and then install. The virtual machine's screen will flicker a couple times, this is normal.

You may also need to change your time zone, if you want.

That's all. Your Windows 10 virtual machine is now set up and ready to go!

Making a Windows 11 Virtual Machine:

A few important notes:

- When prompted about the “Enable EFI” checkbox, make sure to **check** it this time around.
- When the “Press a key when CD...” prompt comes up, make sure to press a key this time.
- Make sure all privacy settings are set to no.
- Give Windows 11 a bit more memory and storage space this time around, as it requires more than Windows 10.
- Make sure to skip unattended, if it gives you the option to.

Making a Windows 11 virtual machine is virtually the same with a few differences.

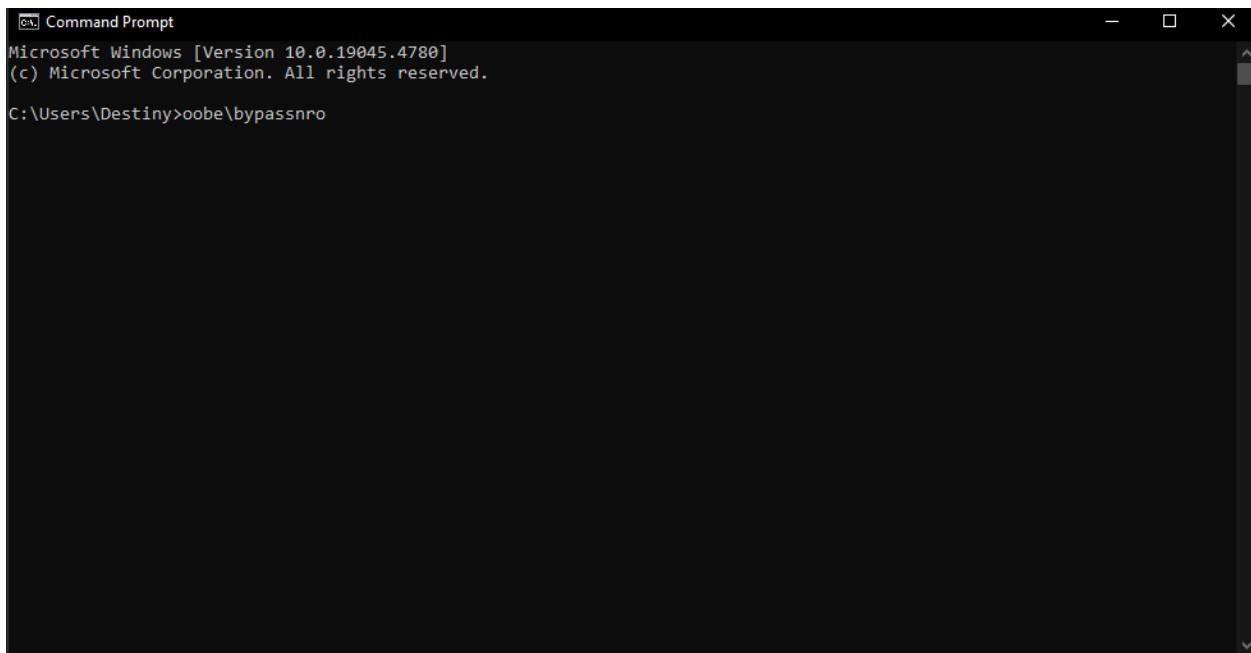
If you need help creating a new virtual machine, refer to page 22; “Making a Windows 10 Virtual Machine.” This first shows you how to create a new virtual machine from scratch.

Just like Windows 10, it will ask you for your region, country, keyboard layout, and security questions. It will also ask you to connect to the internet. I personally advise clicking the button “I don’t have internet” as that tends to make the install easier. Windows 11 does not work as well as Windows 10 in the download process and can be a bit buggy.

Sometimes, this button will not be available to you at all. If this is the case, there is a way around it.

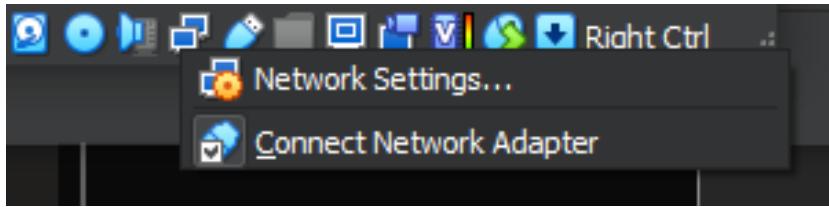
Bypassing Windows 11 Internet Prompt:

We want to open the command prompt by pressing shift + F10. The command prompt should open. Type in the box “oobe\bypassnro” and hit enter. After doing this, Windows 11 will reload and bring you back to the start of the download phase you were in. Continue back through it and it shouldn’t prompt you for internet anymore.



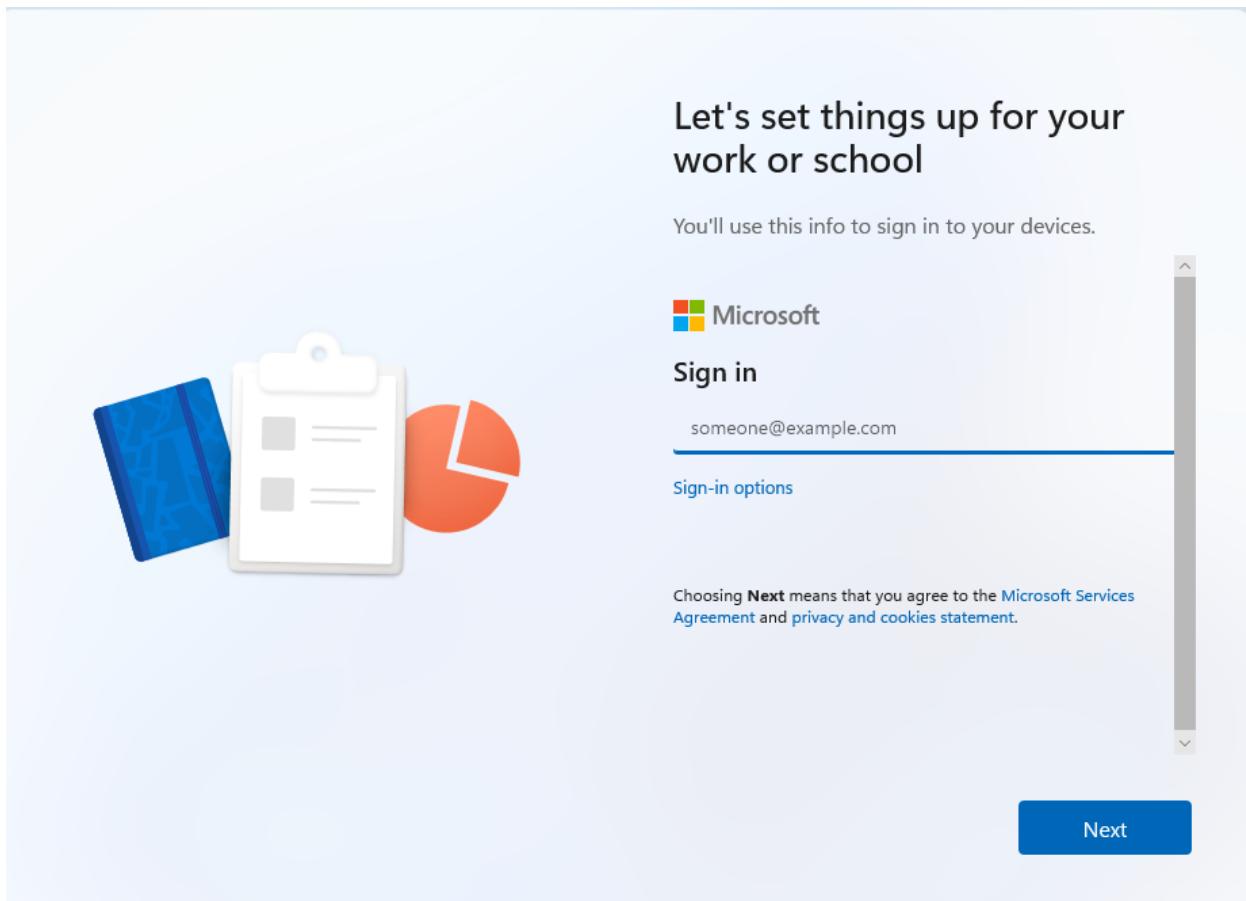
There is one other way to disconnect from the Internet, and that is using VirtualBox itself.

Navigate to the bottom bar of VirtualBox, and right click the 4th most icon from the left, then select “Connect Network Adapter.” This will disconnect the internet from the machine.



Bypassing Windows 11 Microsoft Account:

Windows 11 will also try to force you to make a Microsoft account. This can easily be bypassed by either typing “no@thankyou.com” into the email box or clicking on “Sign in options” then “Domain join instead.”





Let's set things up for your work or school

You'll use this info to sign in to your devices.



Sign-in options

 Face, fingerprint, PIN or security key
Use your device to sign in with a passkey.

 Domain join instead



[Back](#)

Creating openSUSE and Ubuntu Virtual Machines

Step 1: Create a new virtual machine for openSUSE

If you need help creating a new virtual machine, refer to page 22; “Making a Windows 10 Virtual Machine.” This first shows you how to create a new virtual machine from scratch.

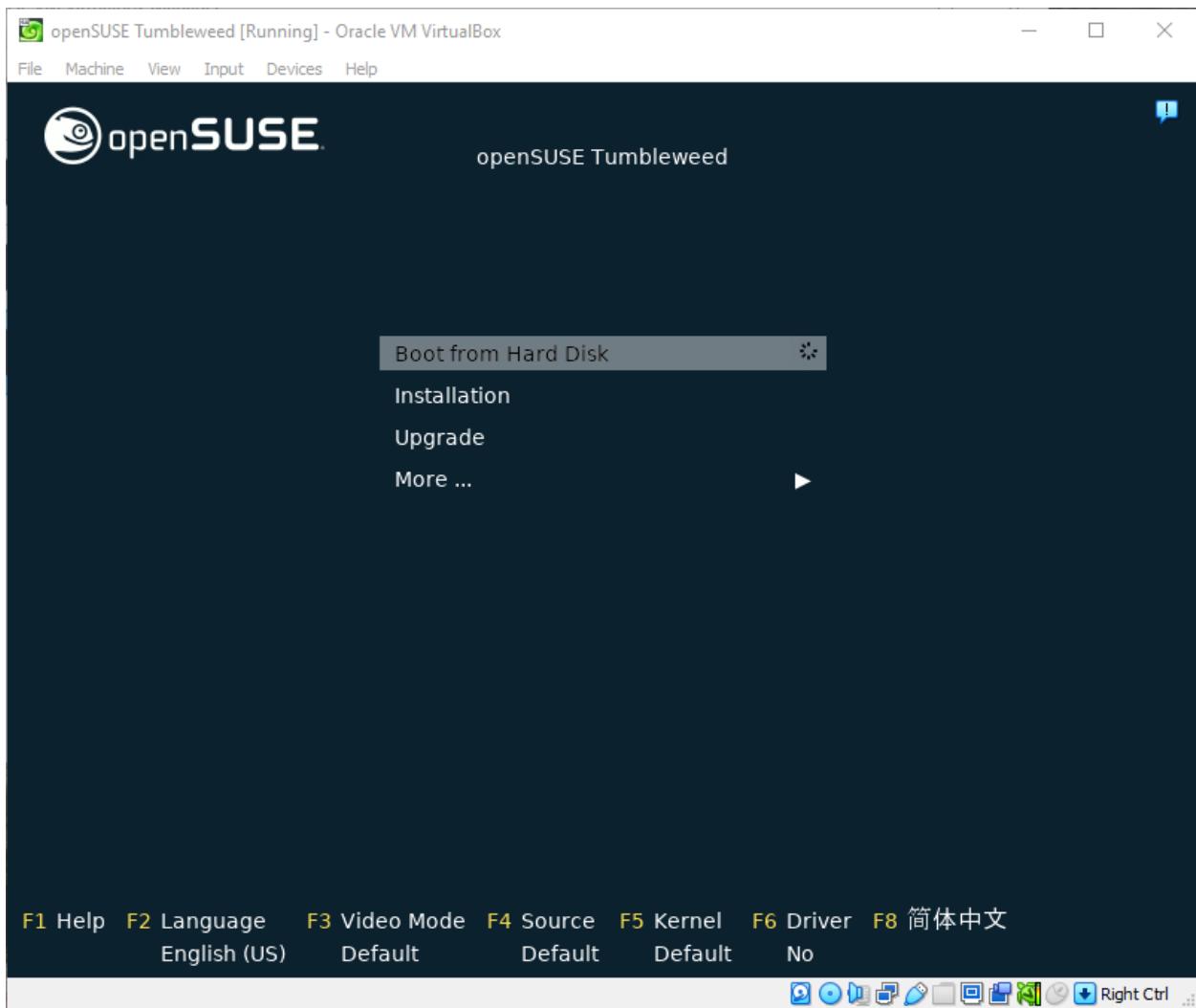
A couple important notes:

- *openSUSE does not need nearly as much space as Windows. The storage space will default to 8gb. Make sure to give it a little more, in my case, I am giving it 58gb.*
- *Do not check “Enable EFI”*
- *openSUSE will not give you the option to skip unattended, the installation must be done manually.*

Step 2: Install openSUSE inside of the virtual machine

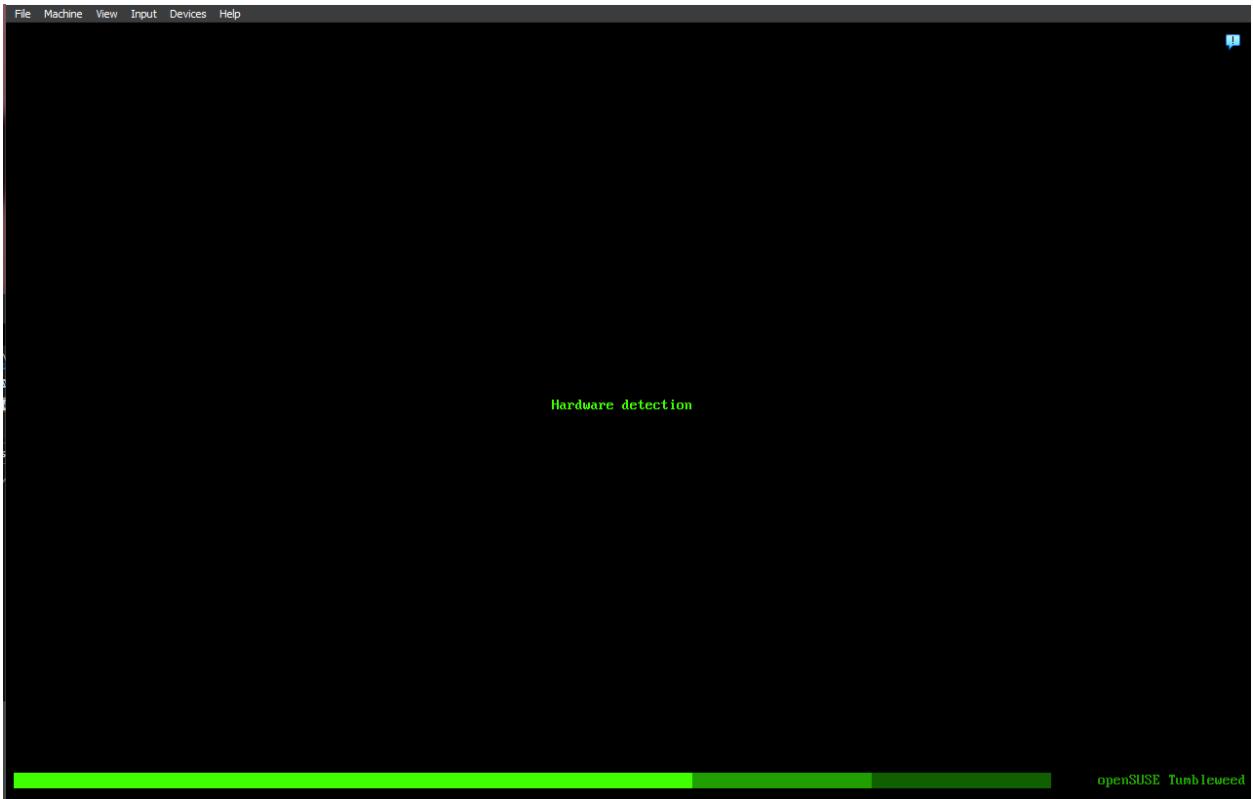
Once you have your machine ready to go, double click on it in your Virtual Box manager to open it.

Once your machine starts, it should boot into the openSUSE installation process.



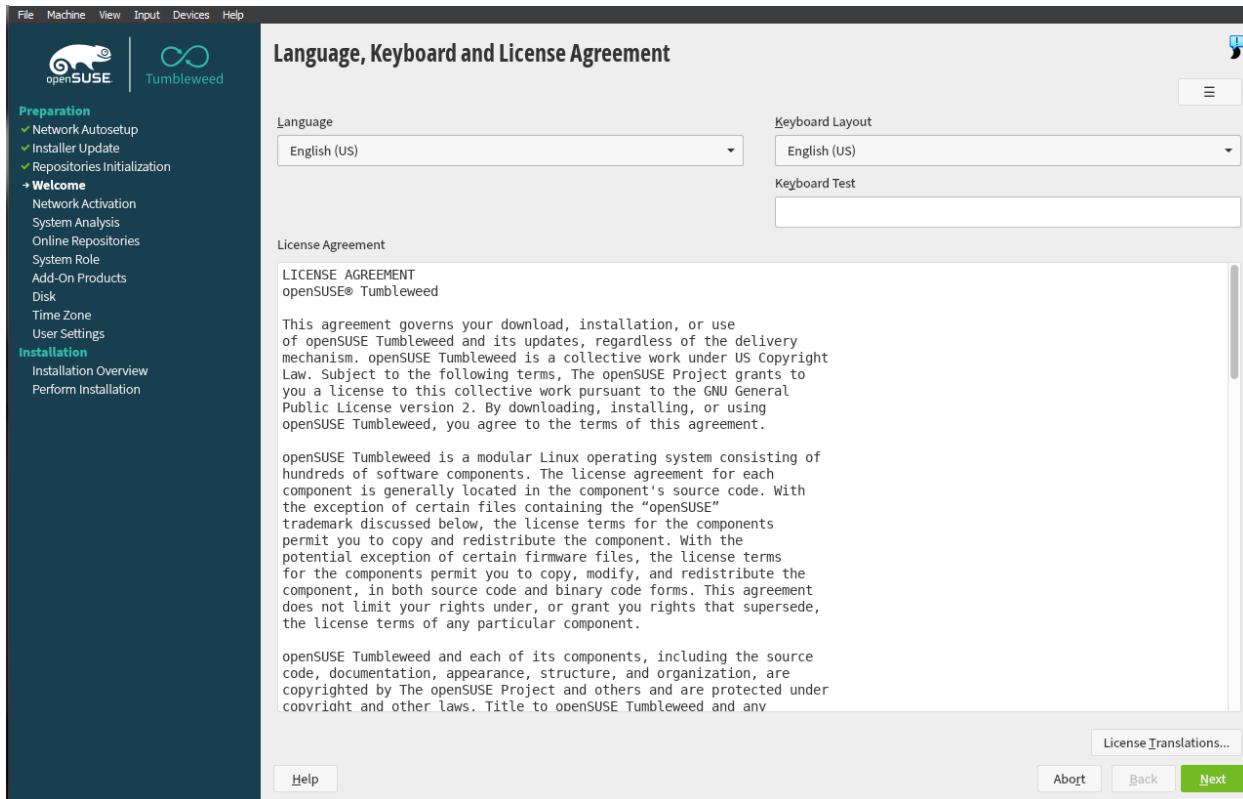
Use your arrow keys to navigate down to “Installation” and hit enter on your keyboard.

You will see a series of text on your screen, and then some loading, let it do its thing.



It will then initialize network configuration. It will say 100% but may not let you click on anything for a short period of time, this is normal.

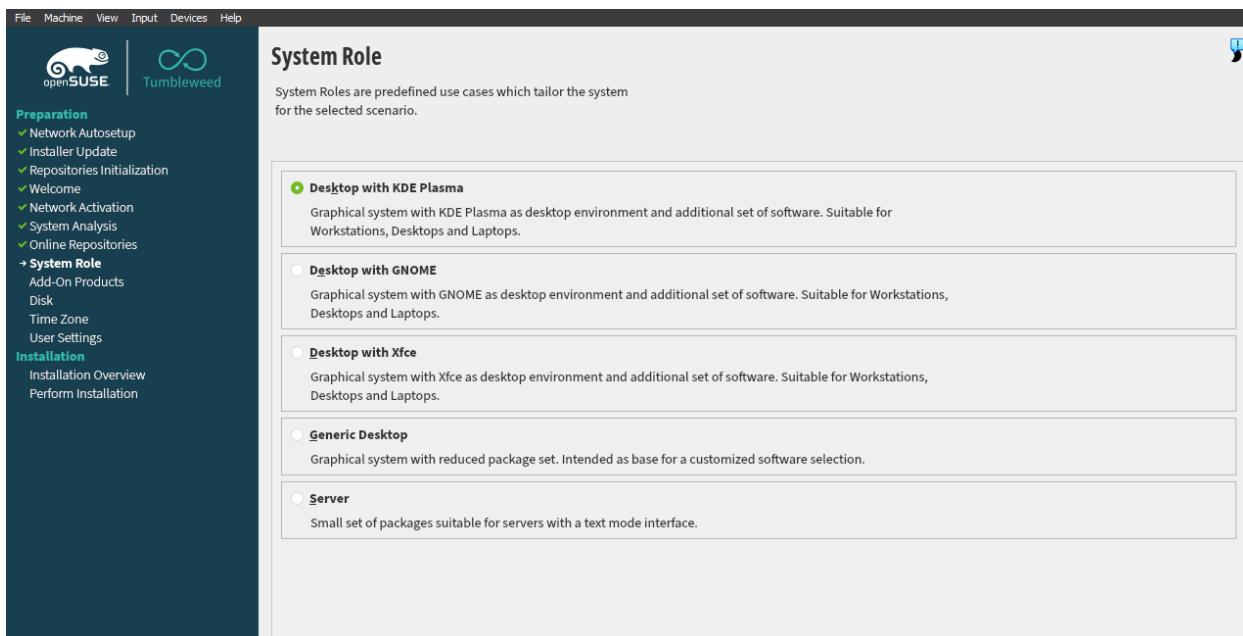
A license agreement will come up next.



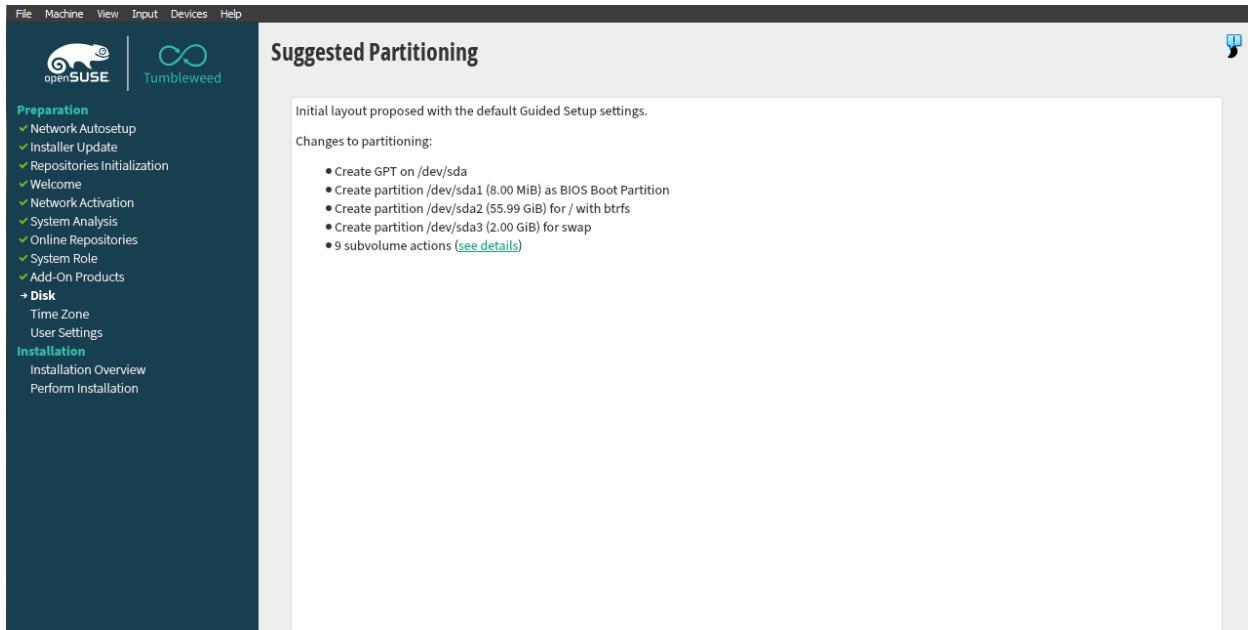
Click next in the bottom right corner.

It may ask you if you want to install repositories, say no to activating now.

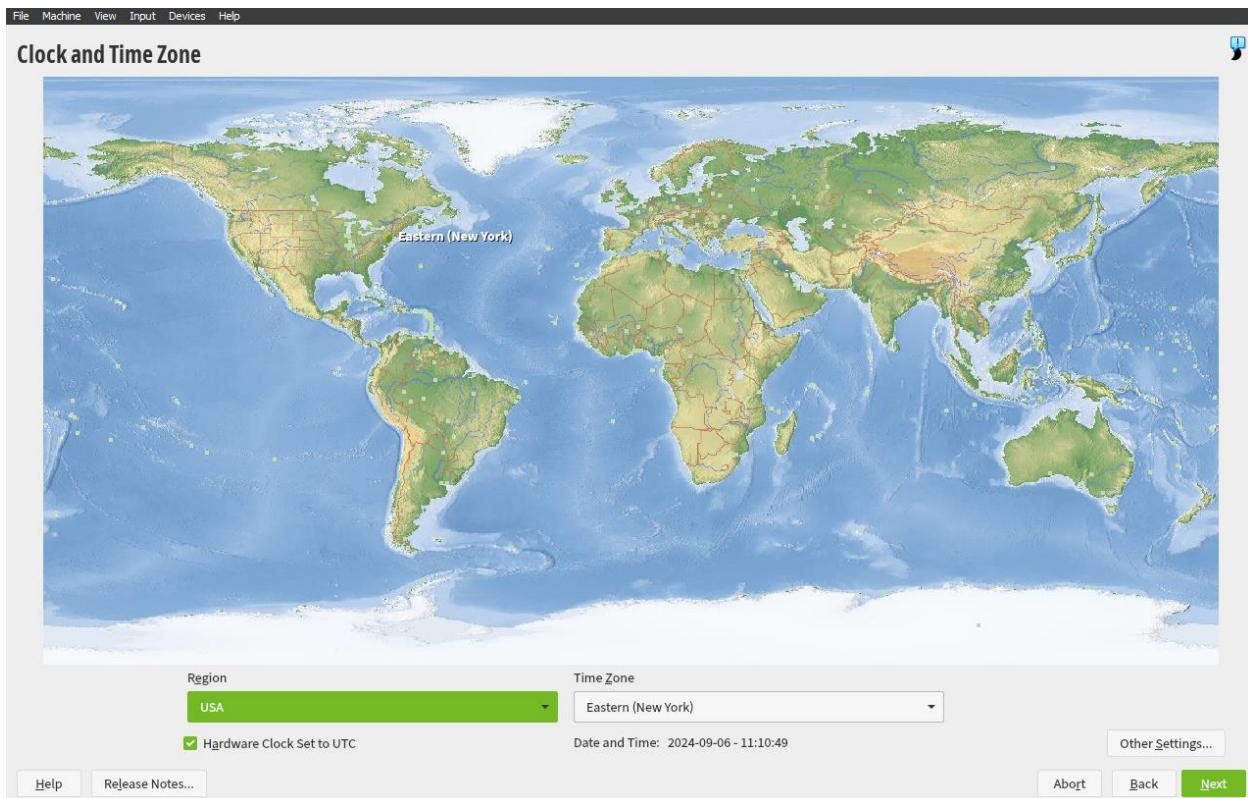
Next, it will ask us what system role we want to use. I recommend choosing KDE Plasma.



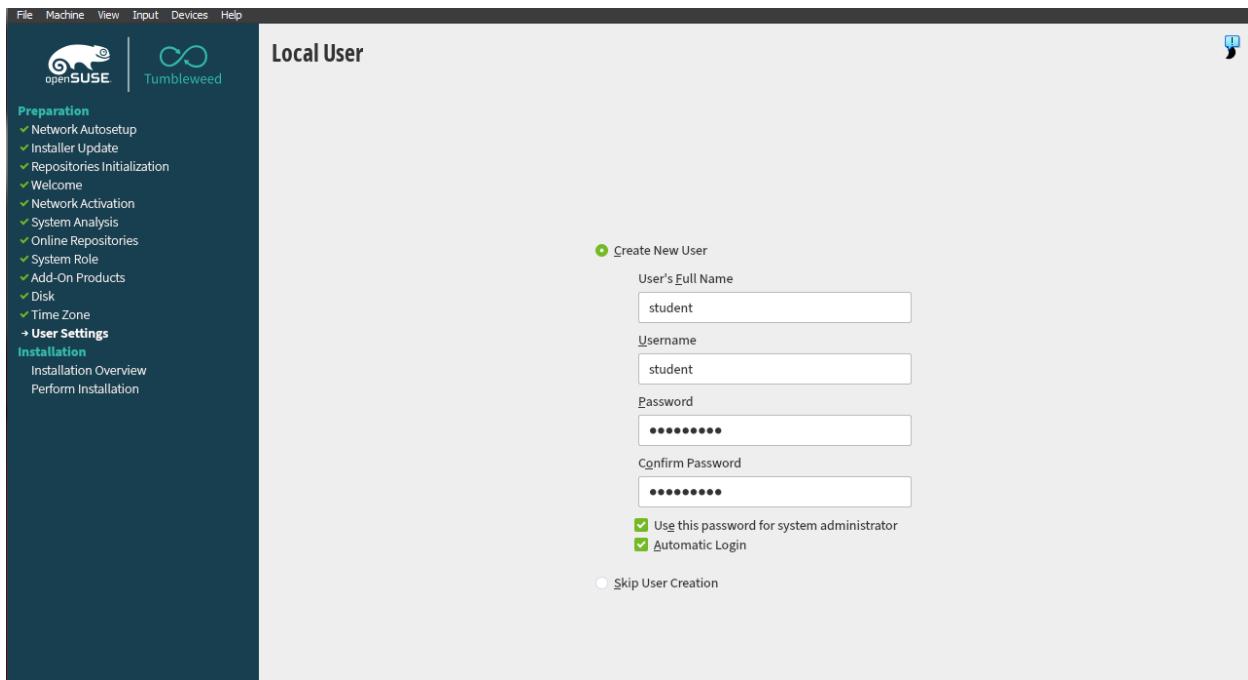
Click next, and a suggested partitioning page will come up. We're fine with these defaults.



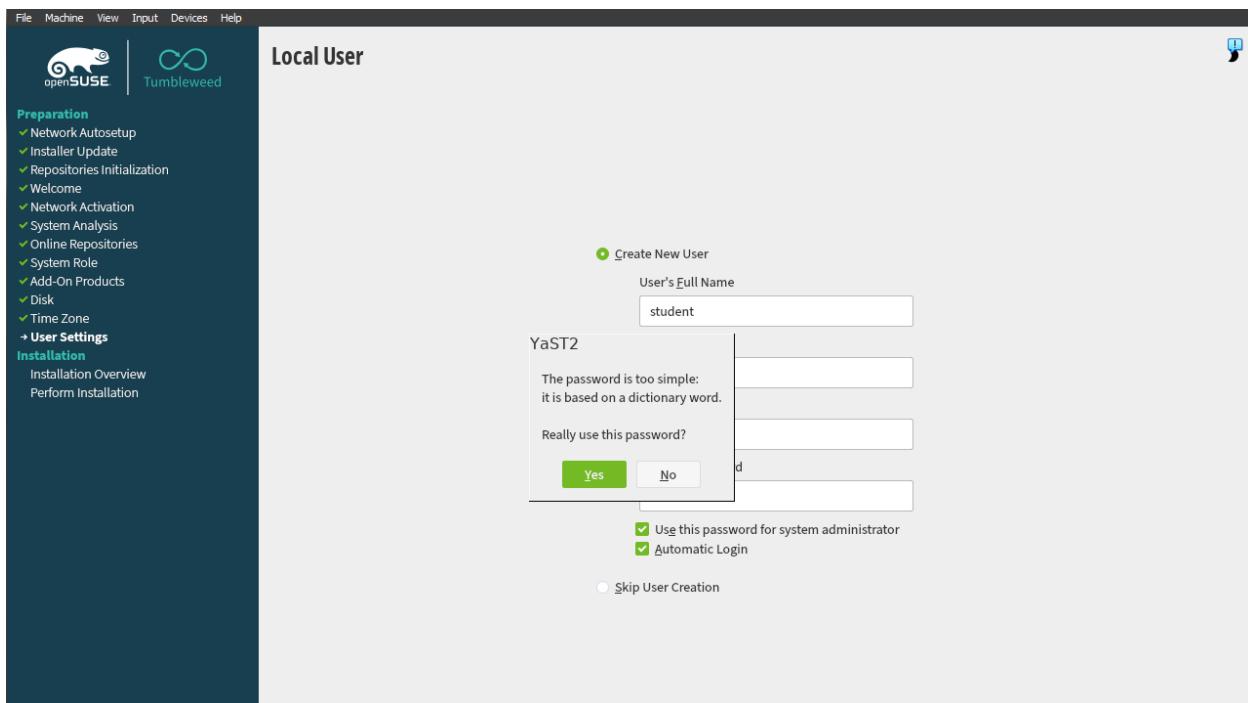
It will then ask for your region, choose your respective region, and click next.



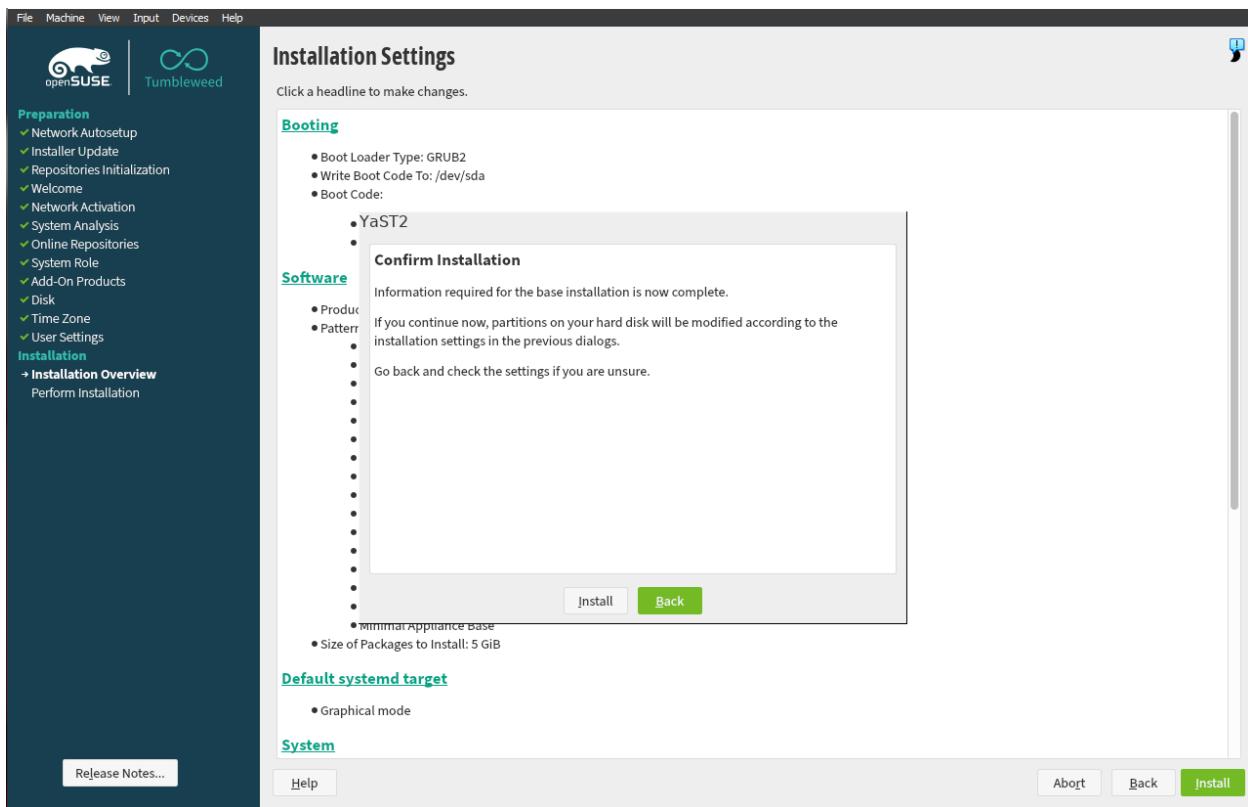
We now come to creating a user. I suggest using something like “student” for the full name field, and an easily remembered password. This is just a learning environment.



openSUSE may have a popup stating your password is too simple, click yes to using the password.



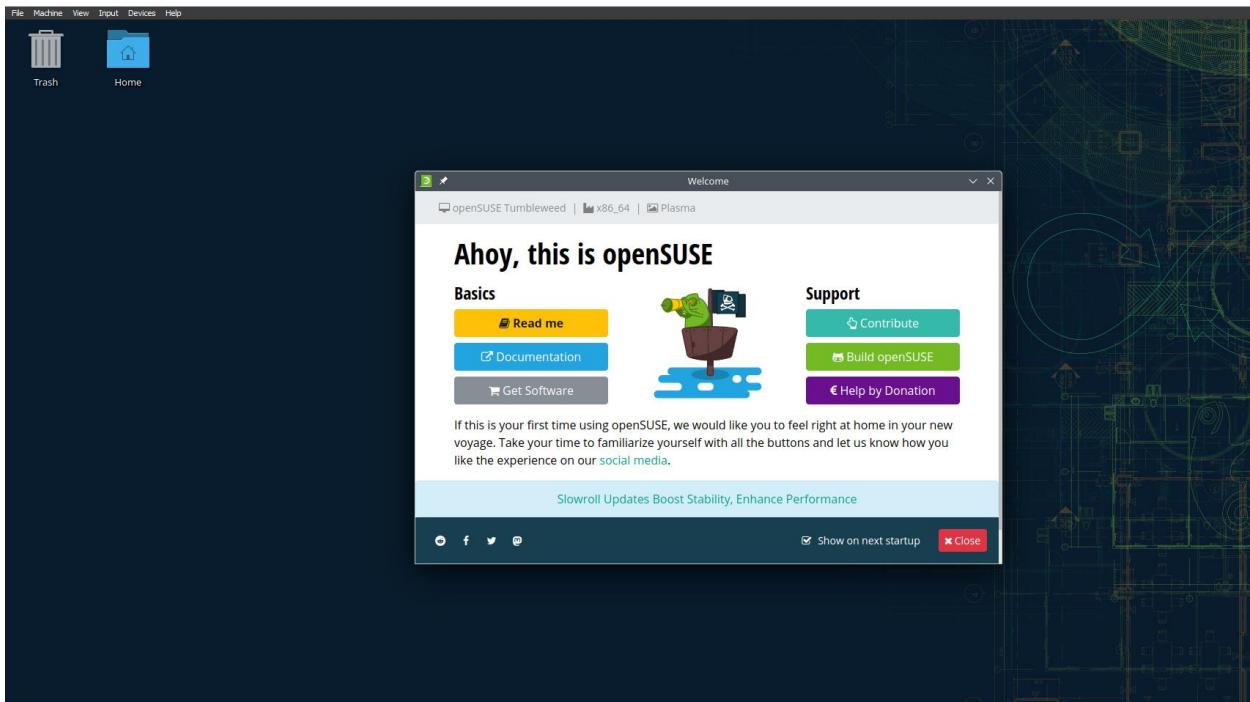
After clicking next, it will give you an installation overview. Click Install.



After clicking install, a popup will come up asking if you are sure you want to install. Click install again, and openSUSE will begin the final installation process.

After it is done, it will restart and take you back to the first set of options. This time, we will choose “Boot from hard disk”

Then choose “openSUSE Tumbleweed”



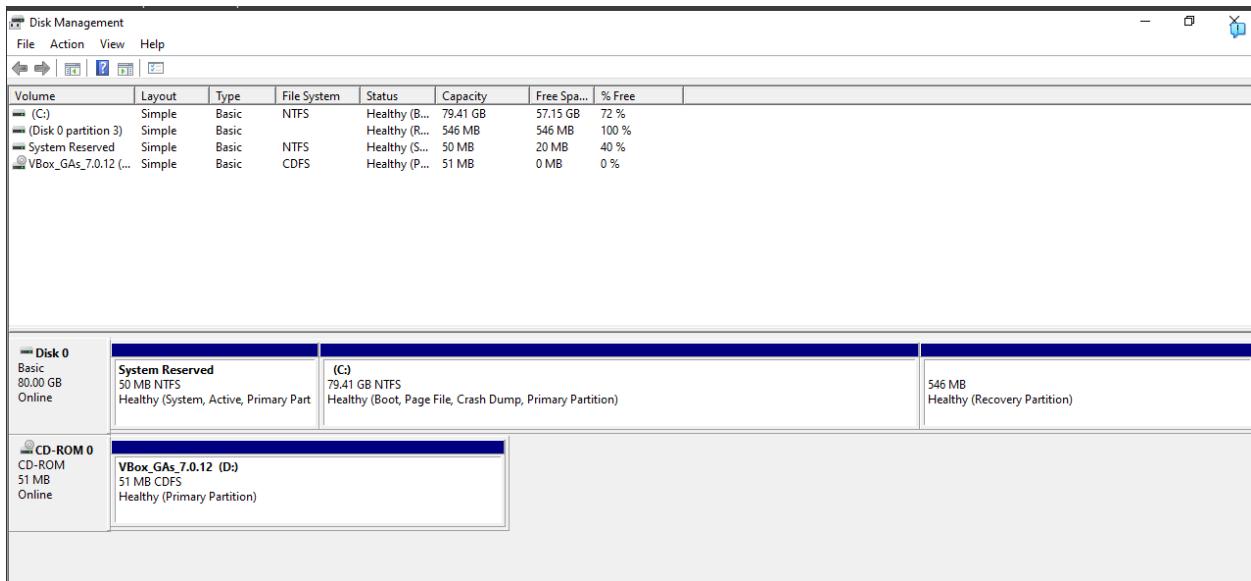
You are now inside of openSUSE!

Creating and Attaching a New Virtual Hard Disk

Step 1: Open Disk Management

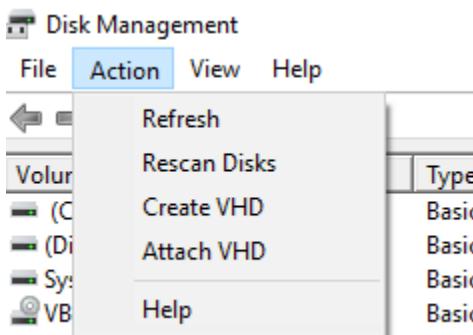
Navigate to your Windows search bar and type in Disk Management.

You should see something called “Create and format hard disk partitions” we want to open this.



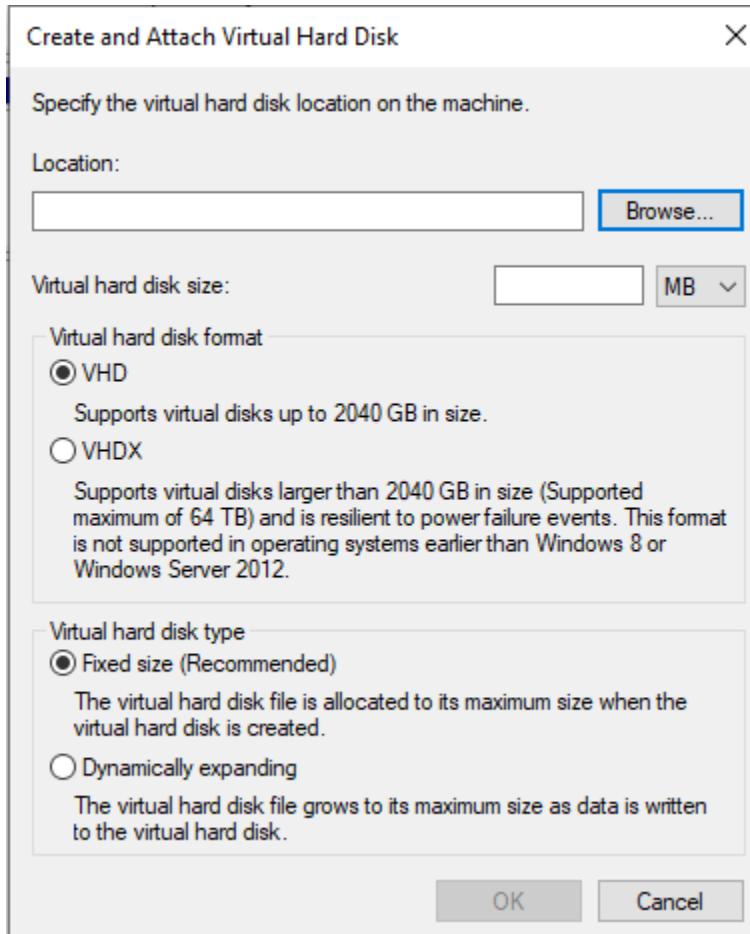
Step 2: Create the VHD

Navigate to the Action tab and click on create VHD.



Specify the location you would like to put it in. Make sure the virtual hard disk format is VHD, and you can use fixed size for the VHD type.

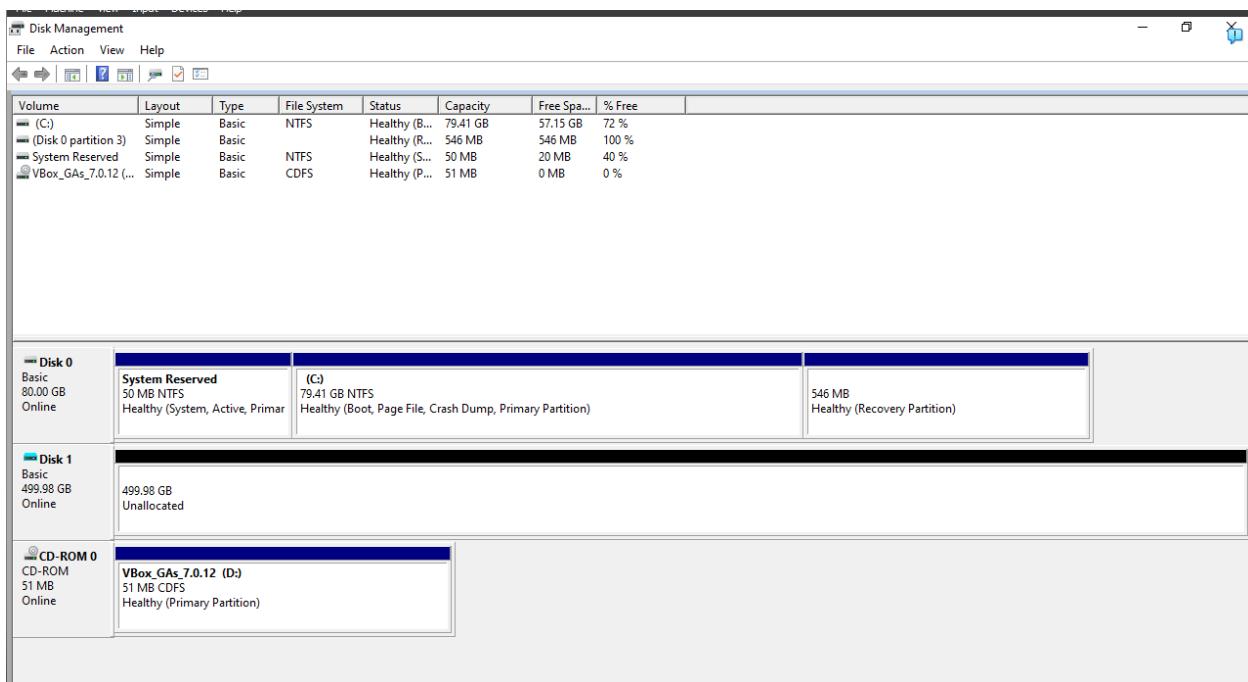
For size, I am using 500GB. Keep your storage space in mind.



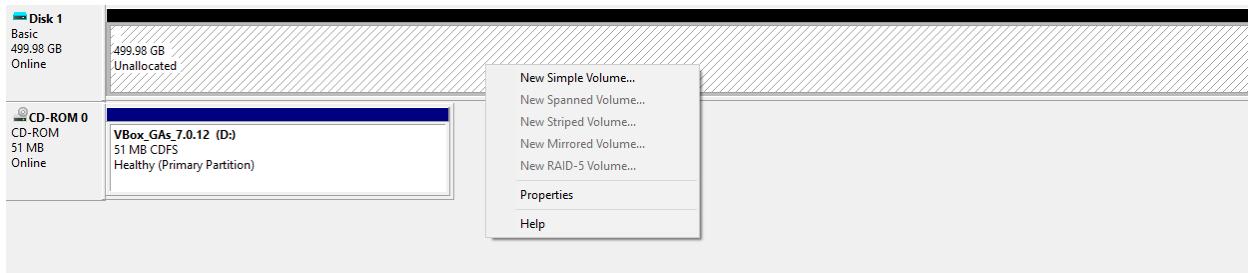
After you click ok disk management will take some time to create the VHD.

Step 3: Format

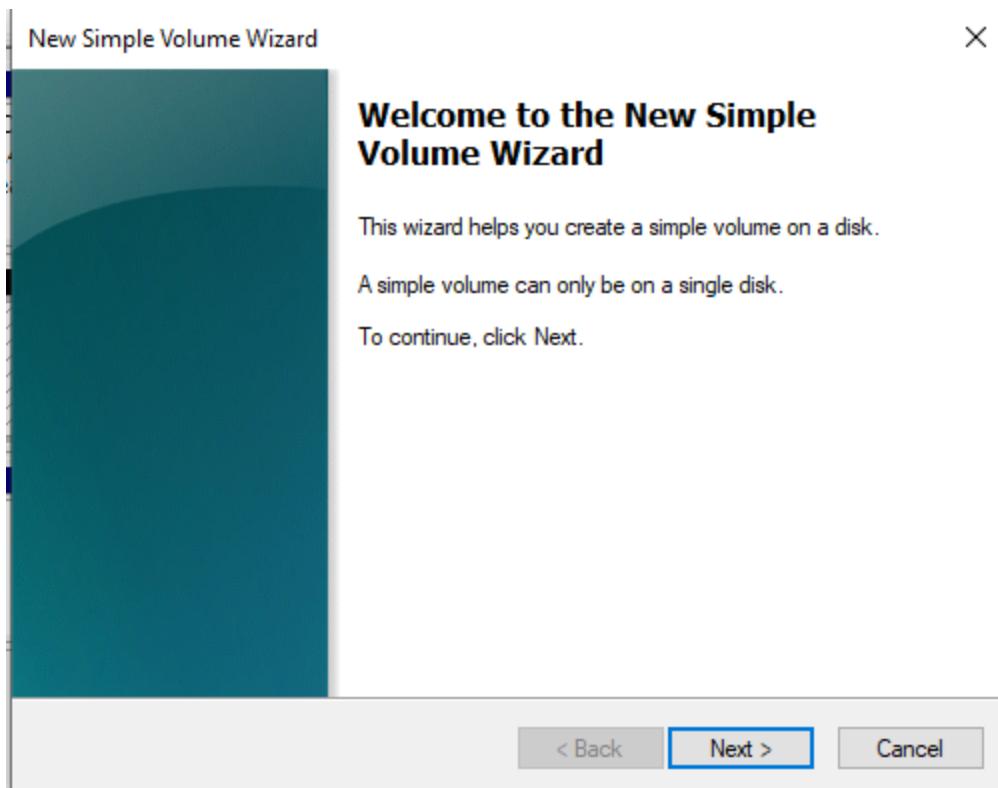
All new drives must be formatted. After it is done creating the VHD, it should show up in your disk management with unallocated space.



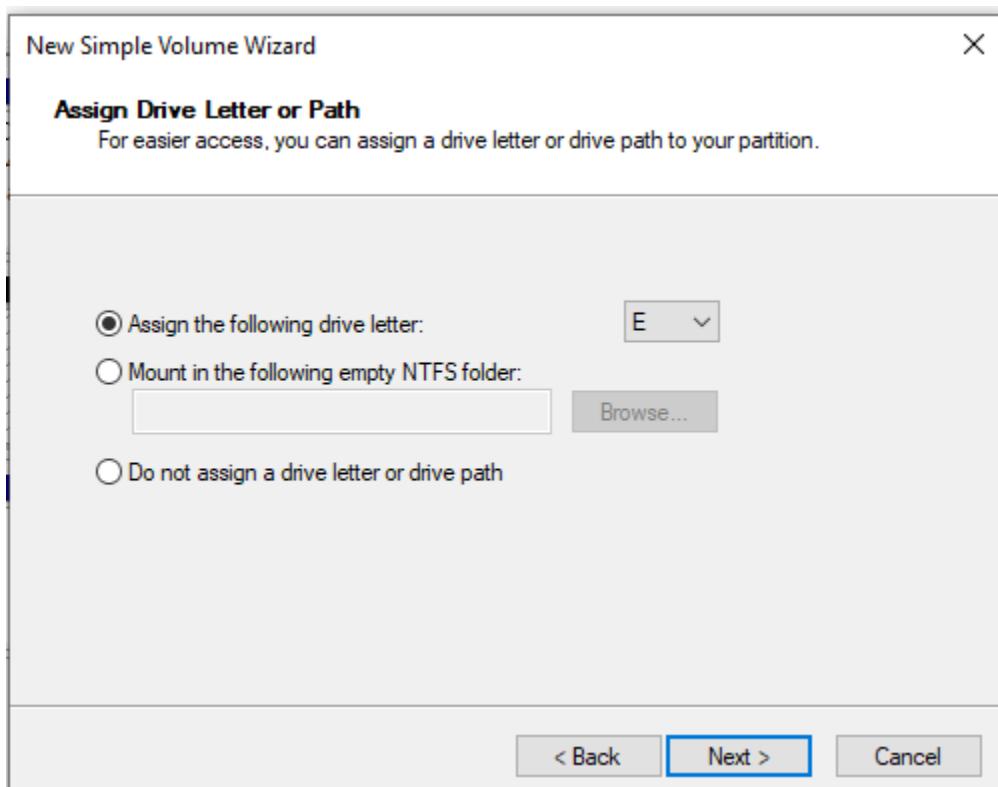
Right click on the unallocated space and click on New Simple Volume



A new simple volume setup wizard will appear.



Click next, the drive size is fine. Assign any letter you want to the drive and click next again.



New Simple Volume Wizard

X

Format Partition

To store data on this partition, you must format it first.

Choose whether you want to format this volume, and if so, what settings you want to use.

- Do not format this volume
 Format this volume with the following settings:

File system: NTFS

Allocation unit size: Default

Volume label: New Volume

Perform a quick format

Enable file and folder compression

< Back

Next >

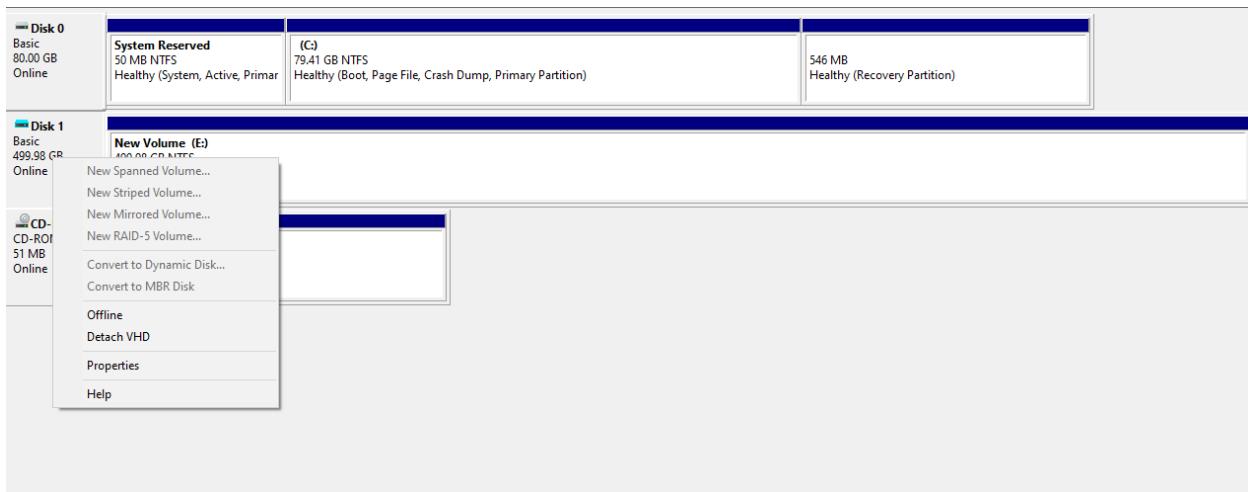
Cancel

On this screen make sure to check “Perform a quick format”. Next, then finish.

Disk Management							
File Action View Help							
Volume Layout Type File System Status Capacity Free Spa... % Free							
Volume	Layout	Type	File System	Status	Capacity	Free Spa...	% Free
(C:)	Simple	Basic	NTFS	Healthy (B...)	79.41 GB	57.15 GB	72 %
(Disk 0 partition 3)	Simple	Basic		Healthy (R...)	546 MB	546 MB	100 %
New Volume (E:)	Simple	Basic	NTFS	Healthy (B...)	499.98 GB	499.87 GB	100 %
System Reserved	Simple	Basic	NTFS	Healthy (S...)	50 MB	20 MB	40 %
VBox_GAs_7.0.12 (...)	Simple	Basic	CDFS	Healthy (P...)	51 MB	0 MB	0 %

Disk 0	System Reserved 50 MB NTFS Healthy (System, Active, Primary)	(C) 79.41 GB NTFS Healthy (Boot, Page File, Crash Dump, Primary Partition)	546 MB Healthy (Recovery Partition)
Disk 1	New Volume (E:) 499.98 GB NTFS Healthy (Basic Data Partition)		
CD-ROM 0	VBox_GAs_7.0.12 (D:) 51 MB CDFS Healthy (Primary Partition)		

Your new VHD will now show up! If you want to detach the drive, you need to right click in the space that says Disk 1 and click on detach VHD. After, the VHD will disappear.



Windows 10 Personalization

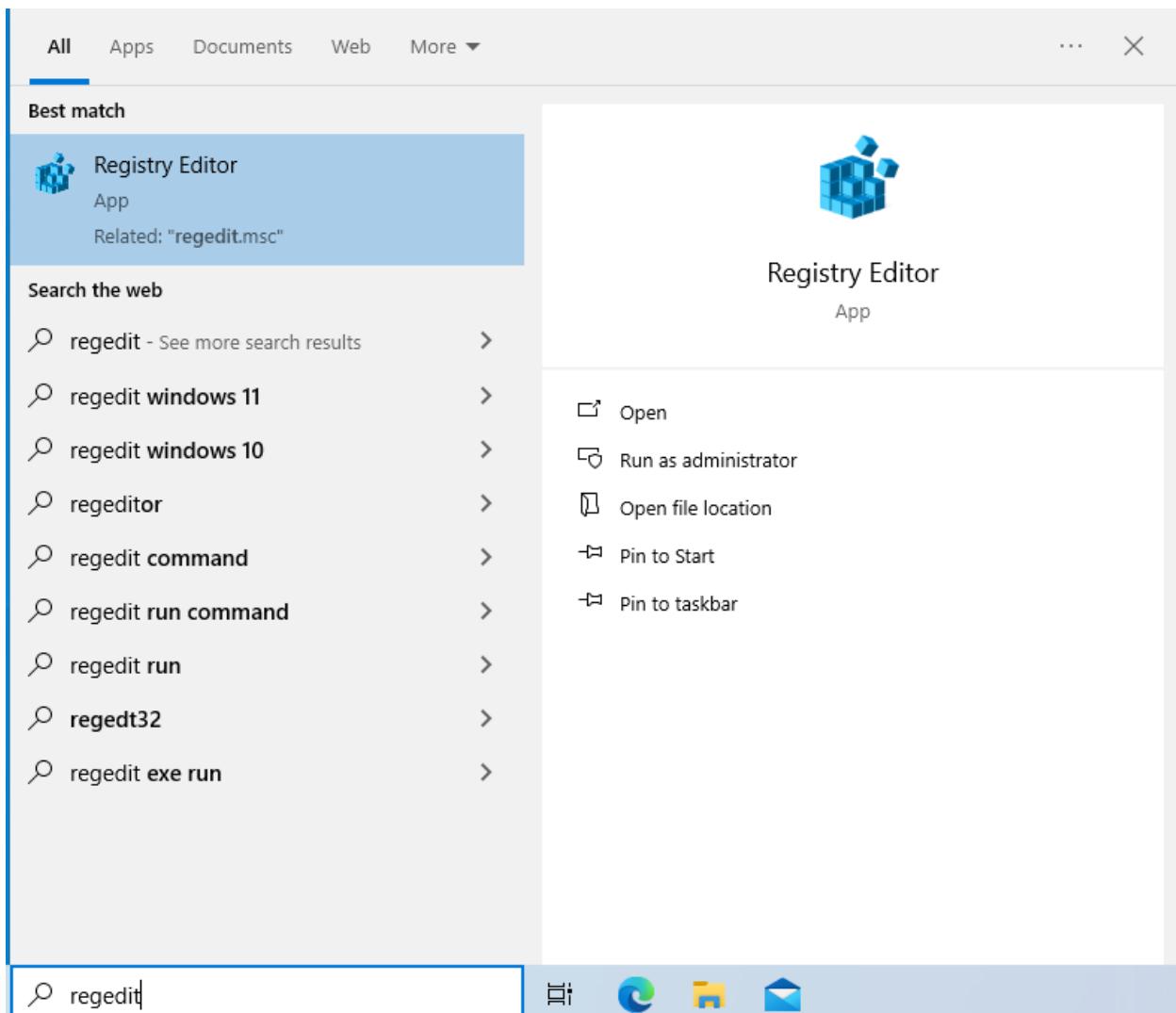
Using Windows 10 Registry Editor to Pause Updates

The registry editor is a database of settings for your Windows installation. Every setting you can think of for Windows is stored here. The registry editor contains very important files to your Windows installation. Be very careful when messing around with it.

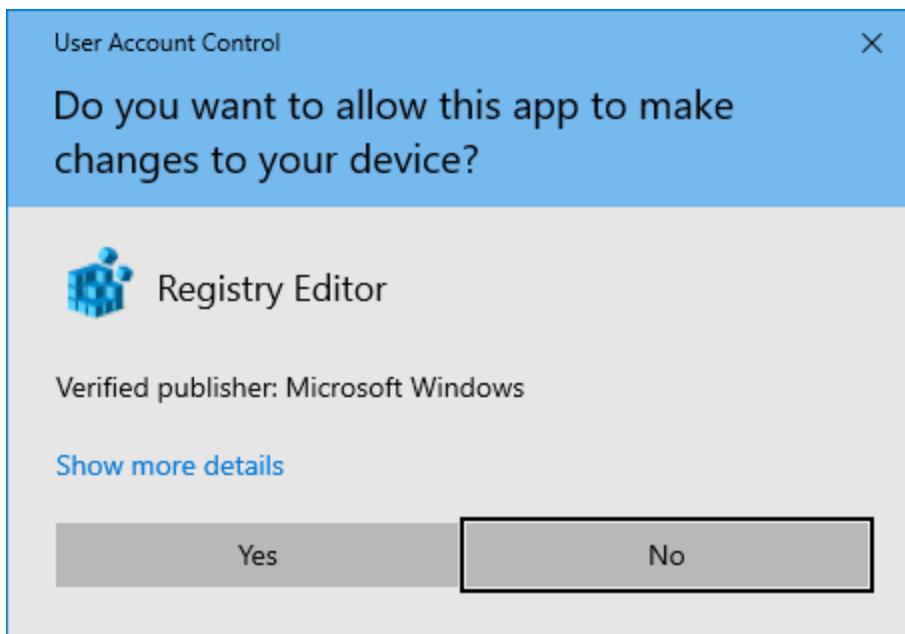
In this instance, we are going to be using it to pause Window's updates for an extended period. Usually, Windows will force you to update after a while, but there is a workaround for this.

Step 1: Accessing The Registry Editor

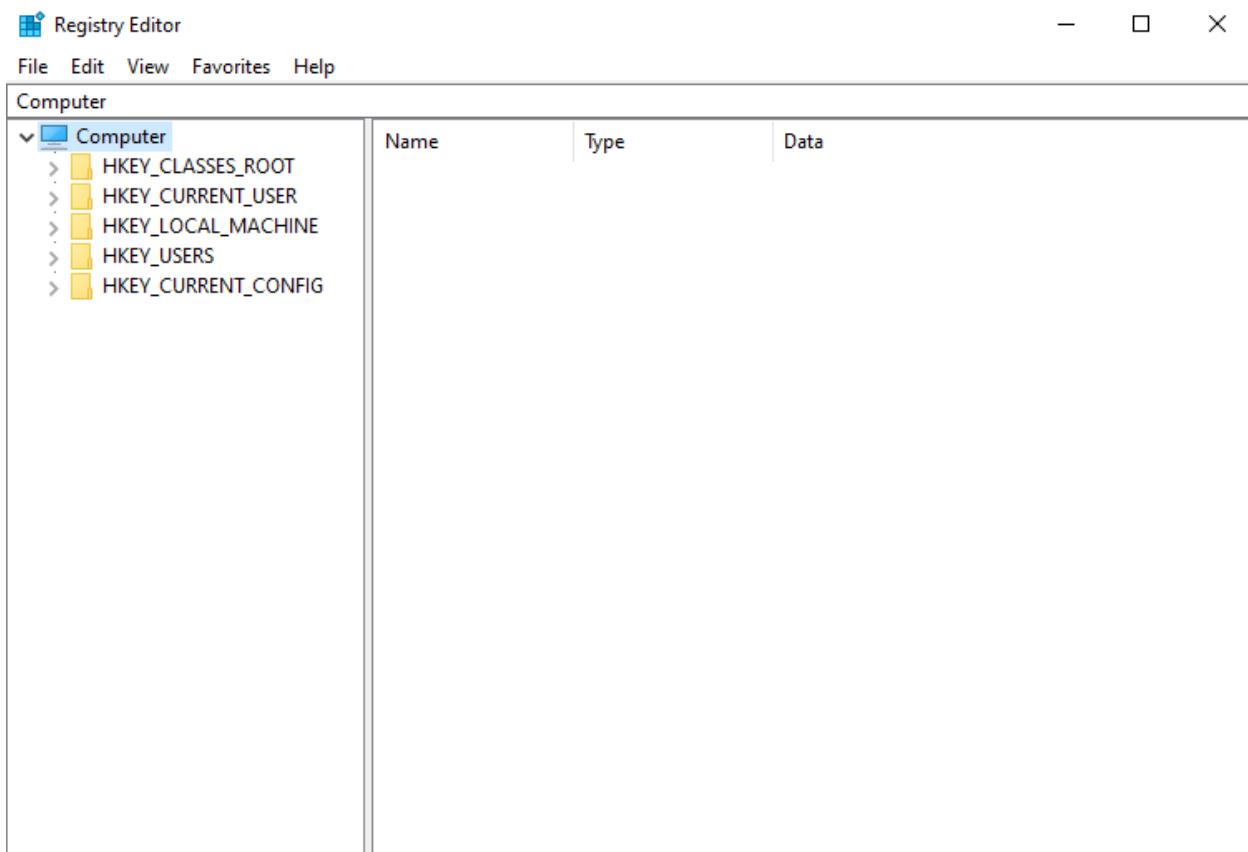
Navigate to your Windows search bar in the bottom left corner. You can type in registry editor or “regedit.”



Click on the registry editor app, it will prompt you to allow it to make changes to your device. Click yes.



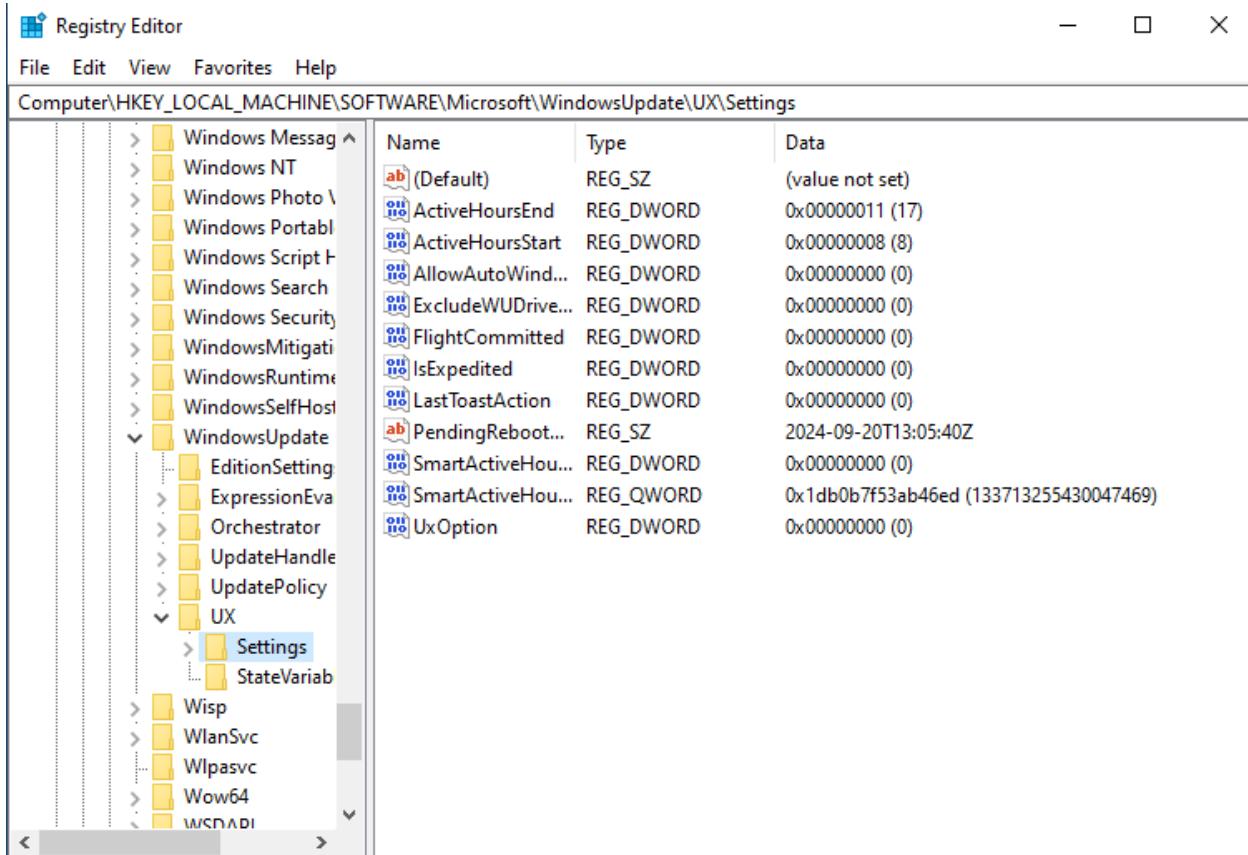
This should bring up the registry editor. It should look something like this.



Keep in mind the folders on the left side. These are called keys. Expanding these folders will reveal more folders called subkeys.

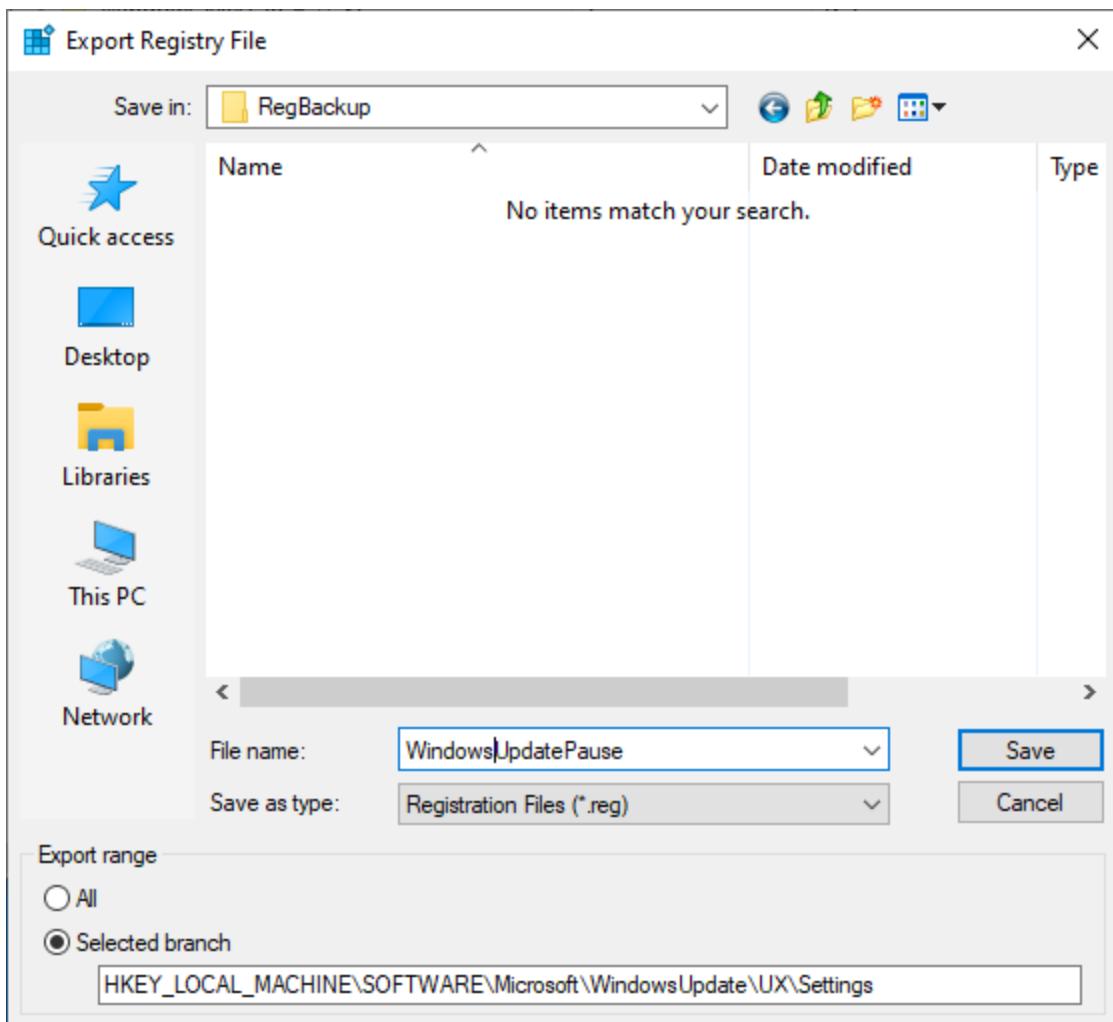
Step 2: Backup Windows Update Settings Key

To get to the Windows update settings subkey, click the down arrow beside HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE, SOFTWARE, Microsoft, WindowsUpdate, UX, Settings.



Right click on the settings subkey and choose export.

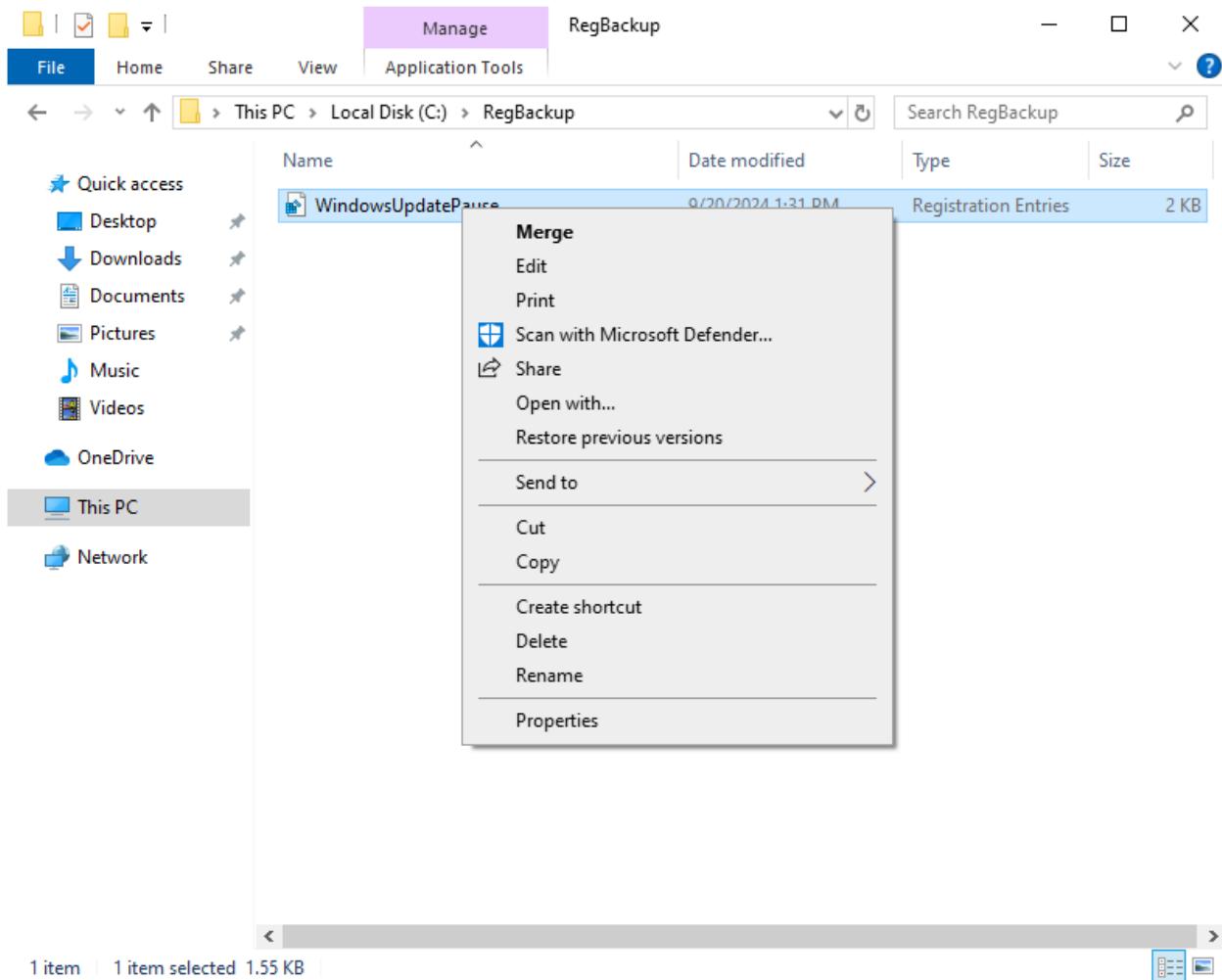
It will bring up a window that prompts you to save the key. Navigate to where you want to save it. I am naming it “WindowsUpdatePause”, so I remember what it is, and put it in a specific folder I made. Make sure “Selected branch” is selected at the bottom. If you chose all it will back up your entire registry. We are just backing up this specific key.



Click save.

Step 3: Editing The Reg File

Now we must edit the reg file. Navigate to where you saved the file. Do not double click. Right click on it and click “edit.”



This will bring up a notepad with some text in it. Do not delete the first block of text. Right now, we only want to delete anything after the first block of text. In my case I will be deleting the two sentences at the bottom that start with “HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE.”

```
[HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\WindowsUpdate\UX\Settings]
"ActiveHoursEnd"=dword:00000011
"ActiveHoursStart"=dword:00000008
"AllowAutoWindowsUpdateDownloadOverMeteredNetwork"=dword:00000000
"ExcludeWUDriversInQualityUpdate"=dword:00000000
"FlightCommitted"=dword:00000000
"IsExpedited"=dword:00000000
"LastToastAction"=dword:00000000
"UxOption"=dword:00000000
"PendingRebootStartTime"="2024-09-20T13:05:40Z"
"SmartActiveHoursSuggestionState"=dword:00000000
"SmartActiveHoursTimestamp"=hex(b):ed,46,ab,53,7f,0b,db,01

[HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\WindowsUpdate\UX\Settings\FirstOccurrenceOfReadyToReboot]

[HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\WindowsUpdate\UX\Settings\ModelState]
"SignalRegistered"="::2F2087516D"
```

Now we want to start typing in our edits as follows:

- "PauseFeatureUpdatesEndTime"="2024-12-20T13:05:40Z"

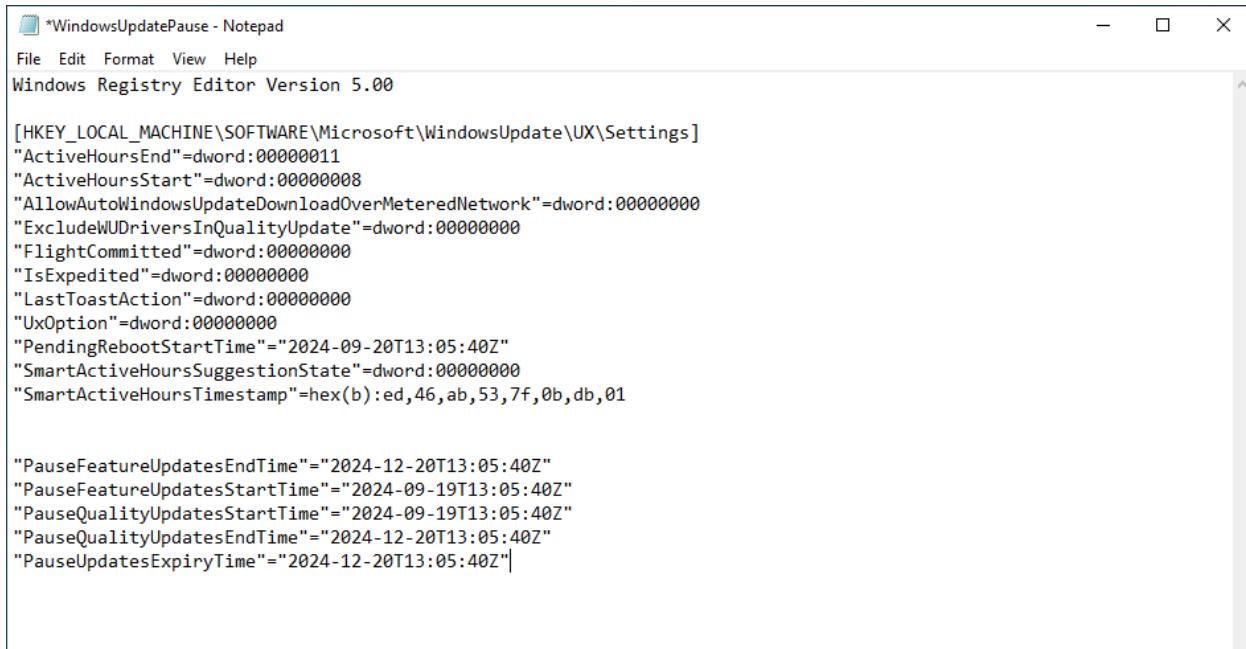
(For the date, you can pull this from the "PendingRebootStartTime" a little bit above. In some cases, this may not be there. If that is the case for you, please follow the exact format time and date I have here. We will be changing these anyways. Also keep in mind your date may be different. Adjust your dates accordingly.)

- "PauseFeatureUpdatesStartTime"="2024-09-19T13:05:40Z"
- "PauseQualityUpdatesStartTime"="2024-09-19T13:05:40Z"
- "PauseQualityUpdatesEndTime"="2024-12-20T13:05:40Z"
- "PauseUpdatesExpiryTime"="2024-12-20T13:05:40Z"

I went ahead and changed the times I want to use in the list above. Make sure that pause quality updates and pause feature updates start times have the exact same time, and that the time is changed to a day before the current day. Today is September 20th for me, so I changed them to September 19th.

The rest of them need a time in the future. I gave them all December 20th, 2024.

Your notepad should look like this now.



```
*WindowsUpdatePause - Notepad
File Edit Format View Help
Windows Registry Editor Version 5.00

[HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\WindowsUpdate\UX\Settings]
"ActiveHoursEnd"=dword:00000011
"ActiveHoursStart"=dword:00000008
"AllowAutoWindowsUpdateDownloadOverMeteredNetwork"=dword:00000000
"ExcludeWUDriversInQualityUpdate"=dword:00000000
"FlightCommitted"=dword:00000000
"IsExpedited"=dword:00000000
"LastToastAction"=dword:00000000
"UxOption"=dword:00000000
"PendingRebootStartTime"="2024-09-20T13:05:40Z"
"SmartActiveHoursSuggestionState"=dword:00000000
"SmartActiveHoursTimestamp"=hex(b):ed,46,ab,53,7f,0b,db,01

"PauseFeatureUpdatesEndTime"="2024-12-20T13:05:40Z"
"PauseFeatureUpdatesStartTime"="2024-09-19T13:05:40Z"
"PauseQualityUpdatesStartTime"="2024-09-19T13:05:40Z"
"PauseQualityUpdatesEndTime"="2024-12-20T13:05:40Z"
"PauseUpdatesExpiryTime"="2024-12-20T13:05:40Z|
```

Everything under the text with the square brackets we can now get rid of except our new additions.



```
*WindowsUpdatePause - Notepad
File Edit Format View Help
Windows Registry Editor Version 5.00

[HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\WindowsUpdate\UX\Settings]

"PauseFeatureUpdatesEndTime"="2024-12-20T13:05:40Z"
"PauseFeatureUpdatesStartTime"="2024-09-19T13:05:40Z"
"PauseQualityUpdatesStartTime"="2024-09-19T13:05:40Z"
"PauseQualityUpdatesEndTime"="2024-12-20T13:05:40Z"
"PauseUpdatesExpiryTime"="2024-12-20T13:05:40Z"
```

Now navigate up to file and click save.

Step 3: Merging A Custom Reg File Into The Registry

Navigate to the file in your file explorer and double click it, allow changes. A warning will pop up. Click yes.

Registry Editor



Adding information can unintentionally change or delete values and cause components to stop working correctly. If you do not trust the source of this information in C:\RegBackup\WindowsUpdatePause.reg, do not add it to the registry.

Are you sure you want to continue?

Yes

No

After clicking yes it will let you know the changes were added successfully.

Registry Editor

X



The keys and values contained in C:\RegBackup\WindowsUpdatePause.reg have been successfully added to the registry.

OK

Your registry editor should now show the new entries.

Registry Editor

-

□

X

File Edit View Favorites Help

Computer\HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\WindowsUpdate\UX\Settings			
	Name	Type	Data
>	Windows Messaging	REG_SZ	(value not set)
>	Windows NT	REG_DWORD	0x00000011 (17)
>	Windows Photo View	REG_DWORD	0x00000008 (8)
>	Windows Portable	REG_DWORD	0x00000000 (0)
>	Windows Script Host	REG_DWORD	0x00000000 (0)
>	Windows Search	REG_DWORD	0x00000000 (0)
>	Windows Security	REG_DWORD	0x00000000 (0)
>	Windows Mitigation	REG_DWORD	0x00000000 (0)
>	Windows Runtime	REG_DWORD	0x00000000 (0)
>	Windows Self-Host	REG_DWORD	0x00000000 (0)
> Windows Update			
> EditionSettings	(Default)	REG_SZ	(value not set)
> ExpressionEvaluator	ActiveHoursEnd	REG_DWORD	0x00000011 (17)
> Orchestrator	ActiveHoursStart	REG_DWORD	0x00000008 (8)
> UpdateHandler	AllowAutoWindow...	REG_DWORD	0x00000000 (0)
> UpdatePolicy	ExcludeWUDrive...	REG_DWORD	0x00000000 (0)
> UX	FlightCommitted	REG_DWORD	0x00000000 (0)
> Settings	IsExpedited	REG_DWORD	0x00000000 (0)
> StateVariables	LastToastAction	REG_DWORD	0x00000000 (0)
> Wisp	PauseFeatureUpdate...	REG_SZ	2024-12-20T13:05:40Z
> WlanSvc	PauseFeatureUpdate...	REG_SZ	2024-09-19T13:05:40Z
> Wlpasvc	PauseQualityUpdate...	REG_SZ	2024-12-20T13:05:40Z
> Wow64	PauseQualityUpdate...	REG_SZ	2024-09-19T13:05:40Z
> WSDNAPI	PauseUpdatesExcept...	REG_SZ	2024-12-20T13:05:40Z
	PendingReboot...	REG_SZ	2024-09-20T13:05:40Z
	SmartActiveHours...	REG_DWORD	0x00000000 (0)
	SmartActiveHours...	REG_QWORD	0x1db0b7f53ab46ed (133713255430047469)
	UxOption	REG_DWORD	0x00000000 (0)

If you have anything in this file called “PendingRebootTime” right click it and click delete. I have one, so I will be deleting mine. You may or may not have one.

Now lets see if it worked! Navigate to your Windows settings, Updates and Security, then scroll down until you see “Advanced Options.”

The screenshot shows the Windows Settings interface with a blue sidebar on the left. The main content area is titled "Advanced options". It contains a section for "Show a notification when your PC requires a restart to finish updating" with a toggle switch set to "Off". Below this is a "Pause updates" section with a dropdown menu set to "Friday, December 20, 2024". Further down are links for "Delivery Optimization" and "Privacy settings". At the bottom, there is a note about Windows Update automatically updating itself first, a link to "Sign-in options", and a "Get help" button.

Show a notification when your PC requires a restart to finish updating

Off

Pause updates

Temporarily pause updates from being installed on this device for up to 35 days. When you reach the pause limit, your device will need to get new updates before you can pause again.

Pause until

Friday, December 20, 2024 ▾

[Delivery Optimization](#)

[Privacy settings](#)

Note: Windows Update might update itself automatically first when checking for other updates.

Configure automatic device setup after an update under the Privacy section in [Sign-in options](#)

[Get help](#)

If you see a drop-down box with a date that means it worked! If you do not see one go back and edit the reg file again and make sure that you have absolutely no typos anywhere. Any typo can make it not work.

You can go into the drop-down list and choose a time up until next year.

🏠 Advanced options

Show a notification when your PC requires a restart to finish updating



Pause updates

Temporarily pause updates from being installed on this device for up to 35 days. When you reach the pause limit, your device will need to get new updates before you can pause again.

Pause until

Saturday, February 15, 2025 ▾

[Delivery Optimization](#)

[Privacy settings](#)

Note: Windows Update might update itself automatically first when checking for other updates.

Configure automatic device setup after an update under the Privacy section in [Sign-in options](#)



However, there is one funny thing to note. Choose a different time, and then click the back arrow, and click into advanced options again.

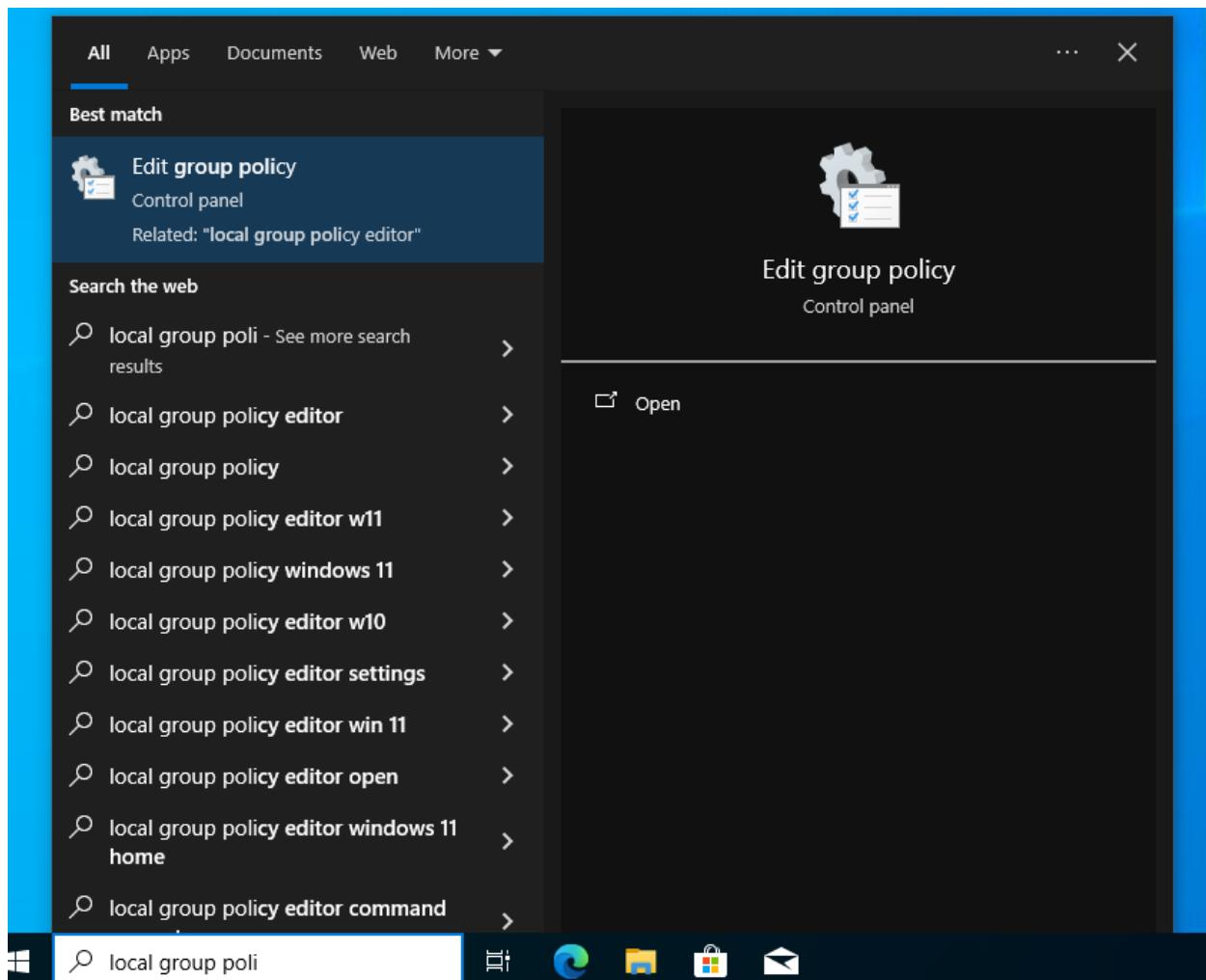
The list gets much longer. You can keep doing this over and over.

You now know how to pause Windows updates using the registry editor!

Using Group Policy to Disable the Microsoft Store

Step 1: Open local group policy editor

Navigate to the Windows search bar in the bottom left corner and type in local group policy editor. It should show up before you finish typing it out.



Step 2: Turn off the store application

Open “Edit group policy”.

Navigate to the administrative templates folder -> Windows components -> Store

Double click on “Turn off the Store application”.

Local Group Policy Editor

File Action View Help

Store

Select an item to view its description.

Setting	State	Comment
Turn off Automatic Download of updates on Win8 machines	Not configured	No
Turn off Automatic Download and Install of updates	Not configured	No
Turn off the offer to update to the latest version of Windows	Not configured	No
Disable all apps from Microsoft Store	Not configured	No
Turn off the Store application	Not configured	No
Only display the private store within the Microsoft Store	Not configured	No

Application Com^
AutoPlay Policies
Biometrics
BitLocker Drive Er
Camera
Cloud Content
Connect
Credential User In
Data Collection ar
Delivery Optimiza
Desktop Gadgets
Desktop Window
Device and Driver
Device Registratio
Digital Locker
Edge UI
Event Forwarding
Event Log Service
Event Logging
Event Viewer
File Explorer
File History
Find My Device
Handwriting
HomeGroup
Internet Explorer
Internet Informati
Location and Sen
Maintenance Sch
Maps
MDM
Messaging
Microsoft account
Microsoft Defend
Microsoft Defend
Microsoft Defend
Microsoft Edge
Microsoft Second
Microsoft User Ex
NetMeeting
News and interest
OneDrive
Online Assistance
OOBE
Portable Operatin
Presentation Setti
Push To Install
Remote Desktop S
RSS Feeds
Search
Security Center
Shutdown Option
Smart Card
Software Protectio
Sound Recorder
Speech
Store
Sync your setting:

A window should pop up. Click enable, apply, then OK.

Your Microsoft Windows Store will now be disabled!