

Installation Steps for ESXi

ESXi is a hypervisor, which stands for Elastic Sky X Integrated. It can be run as a bare-metal hypervisor or as a hosted hypervisor on an operating system. It is important to note that this tutorial will focus on the hosted version.

To install ESXi, there are three main steps you must follow:

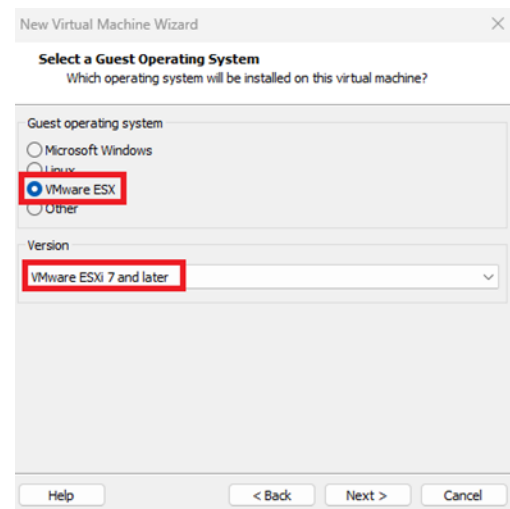
1. Download the VMware ESXi Hypervisor ISO file.
2. Execute the installation process for VMware ESXi.
3. Configure VMware ESXi.

During the installation process, it is important to understand the differences between type 1 and type 2 hypervisors. Type 2 hypervisors are hosted on an operating system, while type 1 hypervisors run directly on the hardware. However, the installation steps for both types of hypervisors are the same.

After completing the installation, you can manage your ESXi host using the vSphere Web Client or the vSphere Client. These tools allow you to configure and manage your ESXi host and virtual machines.

Step 1: Download the VMware ESXi Hypervisor software file.

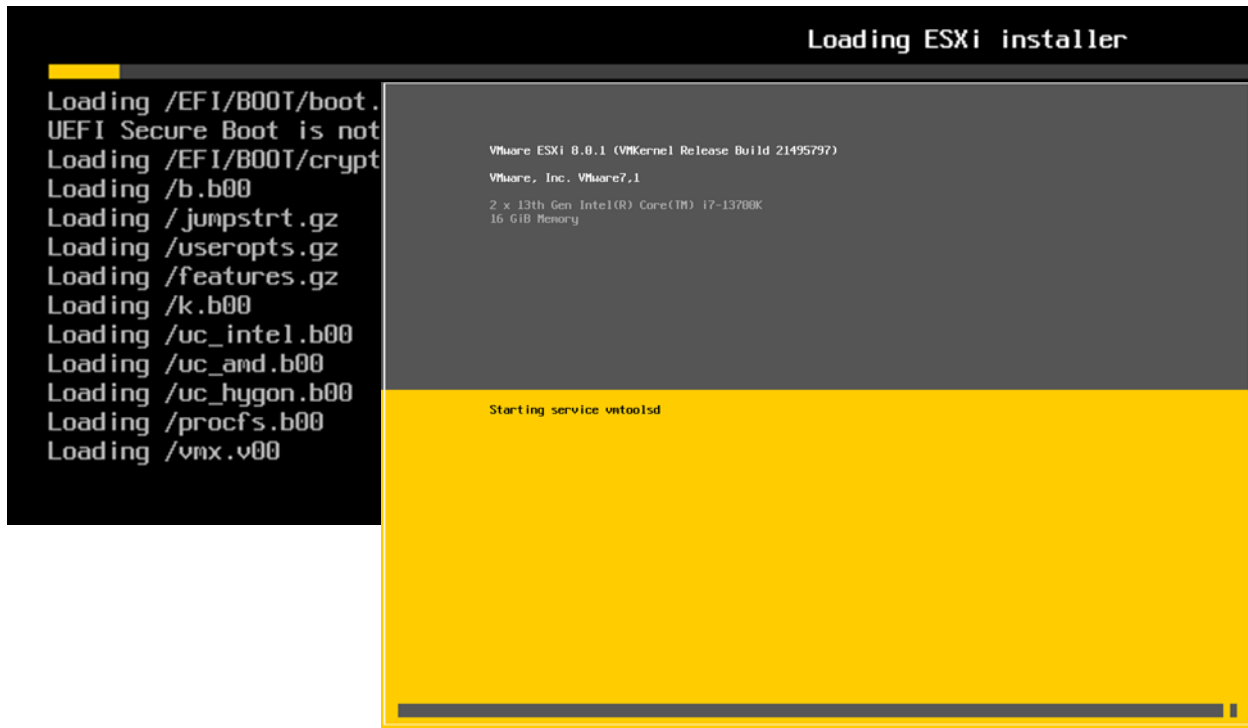
Firstly, you need to download the VMware ESXi Hypervisor file ISO from a reputable website. Afterwards, you can install it as a virtual machine in VMware Workstation. You should note that this process is different from installing it on a Microsoft Windows platform. You need to select the appropriate option, which is VMware ESXi. To achieve optimal performance, allocate a minimum of 8 GB of RAM and assign two cores to it. Once the download is complete, you can proceed by giving the downloaded ISO file to your virtual machine and then turn it on.



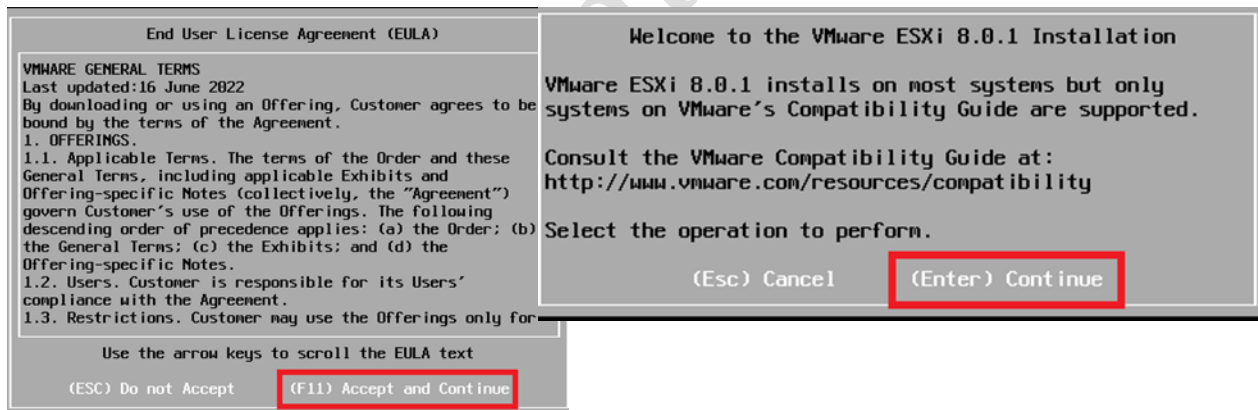
Step 2: install VMware ESXi

To begin the installation process for VMware ESXi, first, you need to place the ISO file and turn on the virtual machine. Once done, the booting process and installation will start automatically.

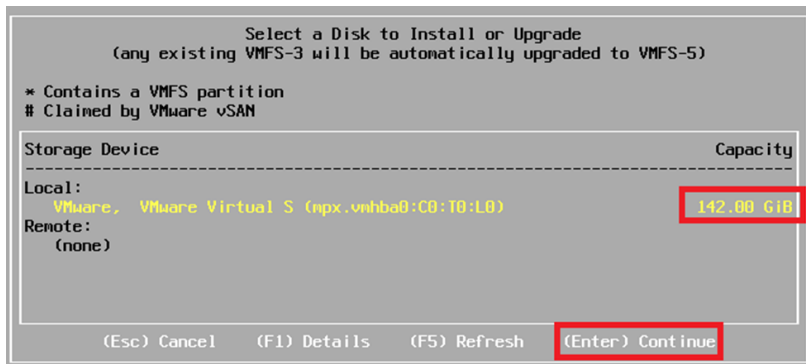
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Press the "Enter" key to proceed to the next step. In the following step, you will need to accept the installation rules and enter the key. Hit F11 to continue.



In the next step, we select the disk on which we want to install ESXi. Here, we have only one disk with 142 GiB.

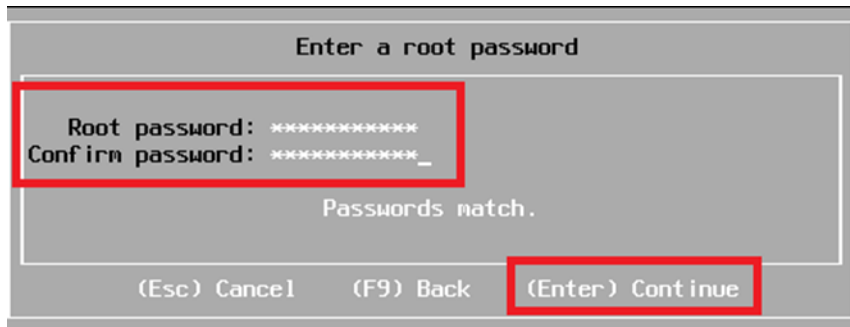


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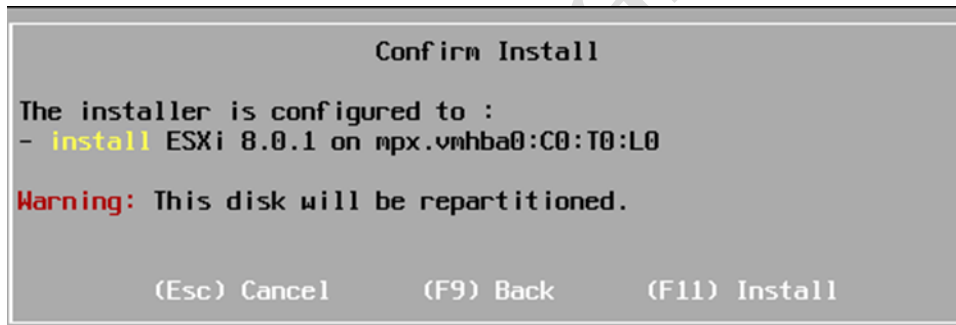
After choosing the preferred language, we can proceed to the next step, which by default is set to United States.



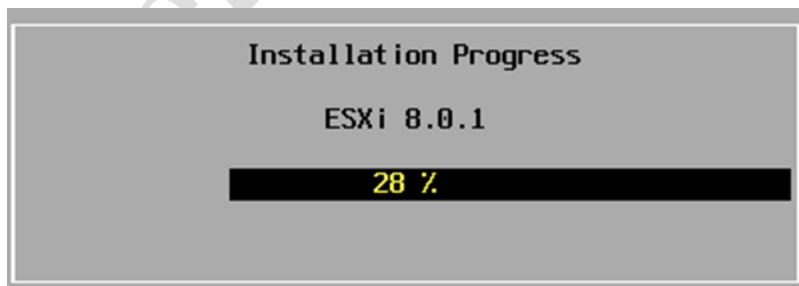
A minimum of 7 characters is required for the password to gain access to the ESXi space.



At this stage, a warning message appears, informing us that all selected disk space will be partitioned and the information will be permanently deleted. By pressing F11, we confirm and enter the installation process.

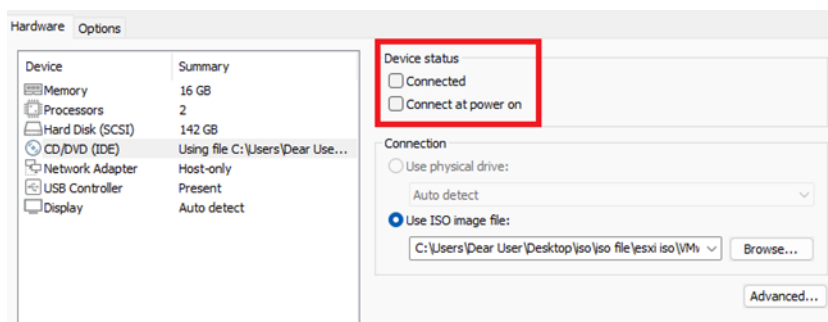
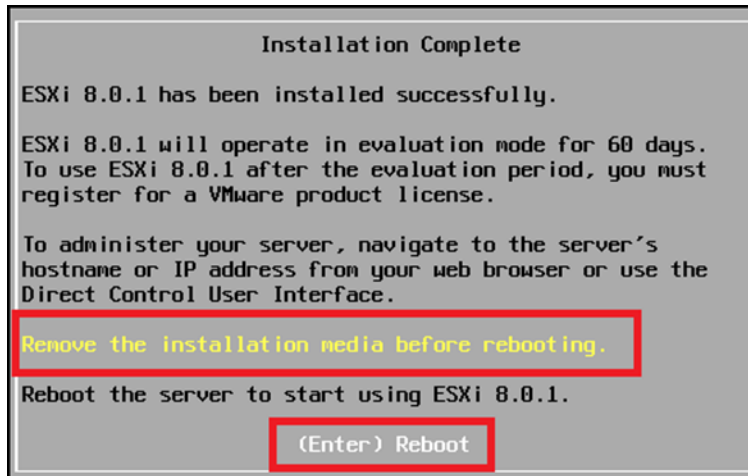


"The process of installation has started."

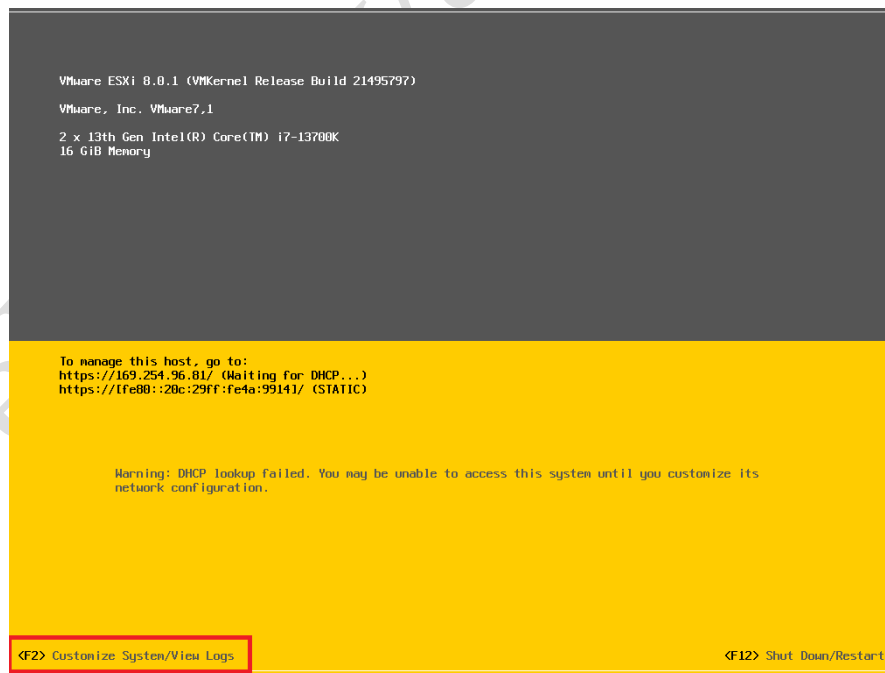


After the system boots, remove the ISO disk before confirming. For a virtual machine, select "connected" and remove the disk.

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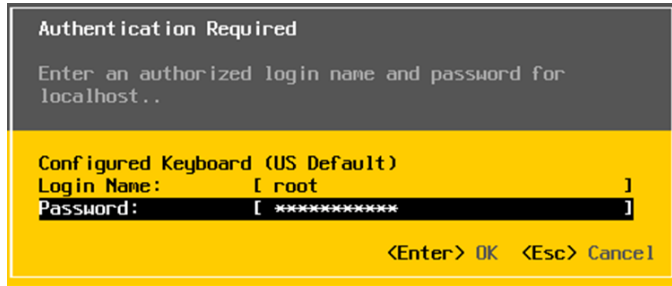
Be patient until the boot steps are complete and the manager page comes up. Click F2 to enter the settings and access ESXi.



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Step 3: Configuration of VMware ESXi

Upon pressing button F2, enter the password set during installation.



Authentication Required

Enter an authorized login name and password for localhost..

Configured Keyboard (US Default)

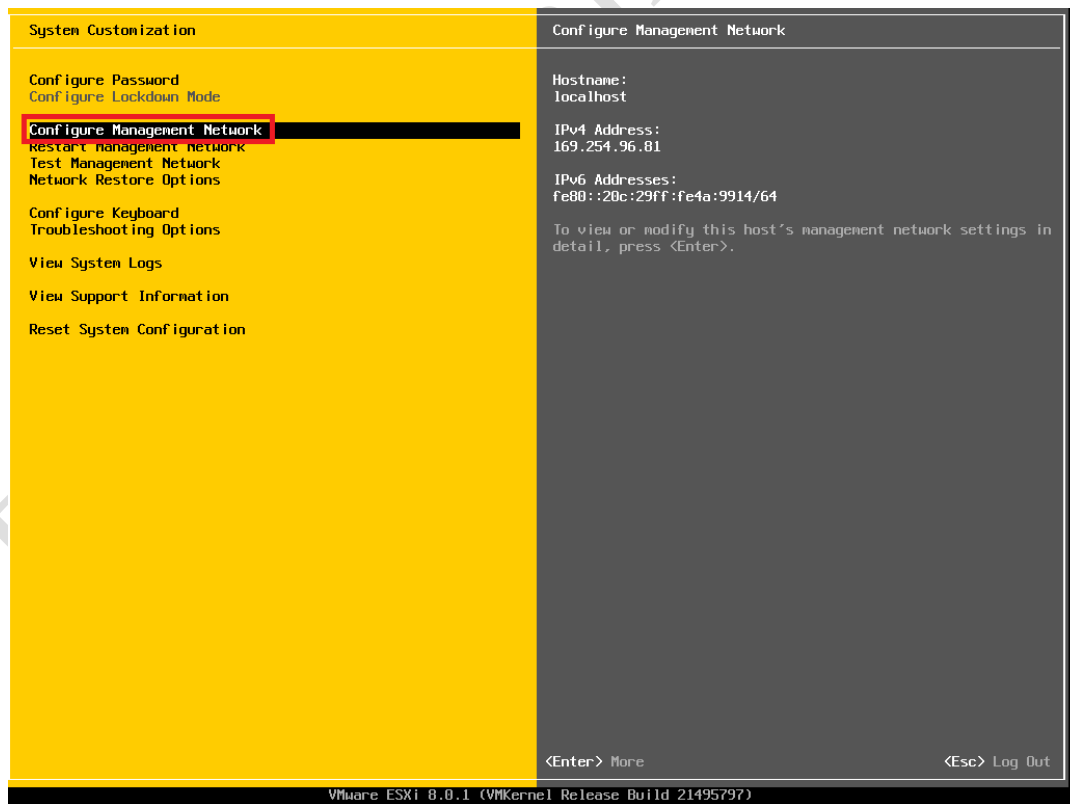
Login Name: [root]

Password: [*****]

<Enter> OK <Esc> Cancel

To configure the network settings in ESXi, you need to access the "Configure Management Network" menu. After installing ESXi, you will have limited access to a GUI environment. However, to access the main web interface of ESXi, you need to configure the network settings. This will allow you to search for ESXi using an IP address or hostname and gain access to the advanced configuration settings, enabling you to manage virtual machines.

In this article, we will create a domain and DNS so that we can access the ESXi management web environment using a hostname. To do this, we need a Windows server (in this example, we will use the domain sony.com) and a DNS to convert the hostname to an IP address (in this example, we have created a record for esxi-1.sony.com in DNS).



System Customization

- Configure Password
- Configure Lockdown Mode
- Configure Management Network**
- Restart Management Network
- Test Management Network
- Network Restore Options
- Configure Keyboard
- Troubleshooting Options
- View System Logs
- View Support Information
- Reset System Configuration

Configure Management Network

Hostname: localhost

IPv4 Address: 169.254.96.81

IPv6 Addresses: fe80::20c:29ff:fe4a:9914/64

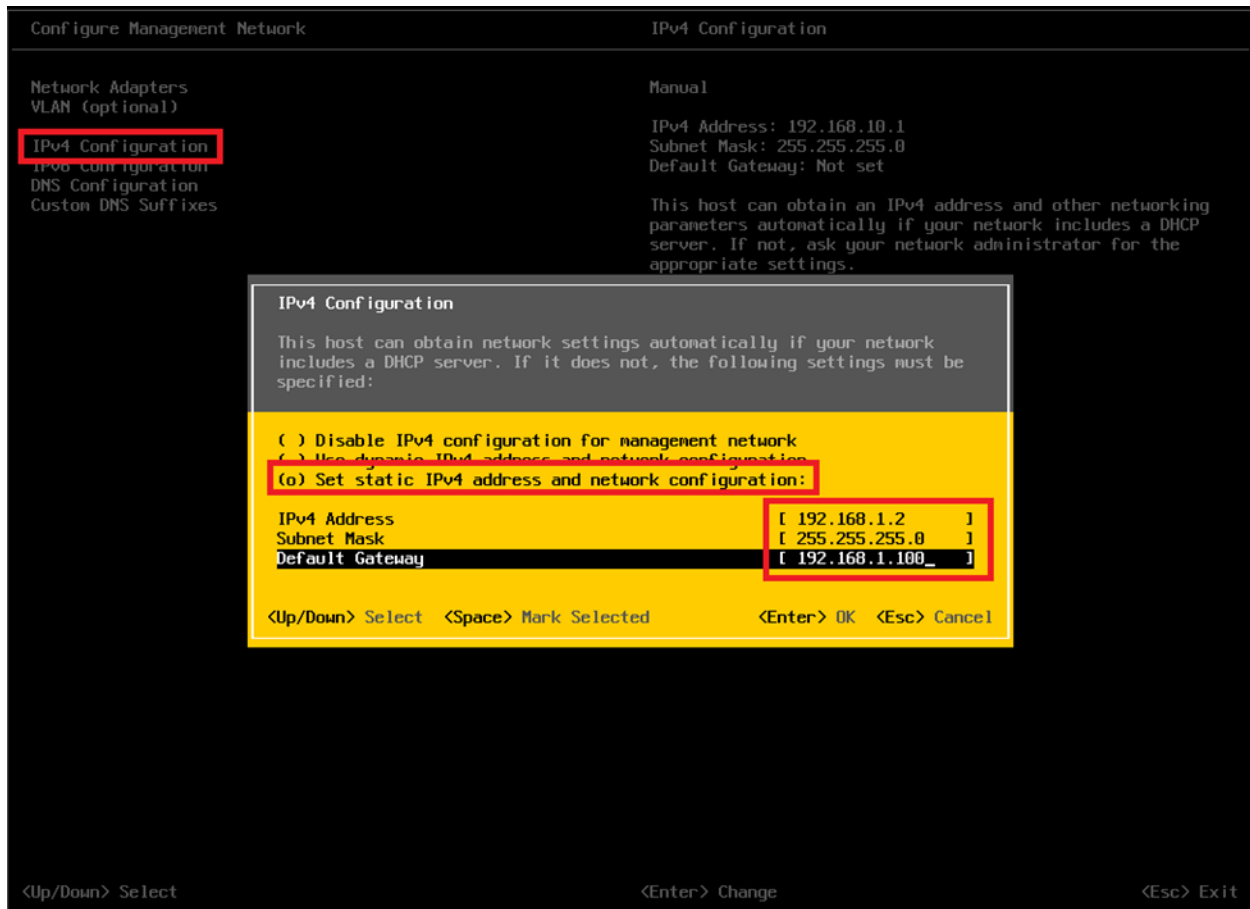
To view or modify this host's management network settings in detail, press <Enter>.

<Enter> More <Esc> Log Out

VMware ESXi 8.0.1 (VMkernel Release Build 21495797)

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Press on 'IP v4 configuration' and fill in the information. This IP is used to access the ESXi management environment.



In this scenario, we need to configure DNS settings to be able to access the ESXi web management interface by its name. Please note that we require a Windows server and a domain environment to establish communication between them. Both the Windows server and the ESXi machine are set up on the host-only network for this purpose.

We are specifying the name of our ESXi host.

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The screenshot shows the 'Configure Management Network' screen in ESXi. The 'DNS Configuration' option is highlighted in the left sidebar. The main panel shows 'DNS Configuration' with fields for 'Automatic', 'Primary DNS Server', 'Alternate DNS Server', and 'Hostname'. A pop-up dialog titled 'DNS Configuration' is displayed in the center. It contains the text: 'This host can only obtain DNS settings automatically if it also obtains its IP configuration automatically.' Below this, there are two options: '() Obtain DNS server addresses and a hostname automatically' and '(a) Use the following DNS server addresses and hostname:'. The second option is selected, and a table shows the following values: 'Primary DNS Server' [192.168.1.1], 'Alternate DNS Server' [], and 'Hostname' [esxi-1]. The dialog also includes navigation keys: '<Up/Down> Select', '<Space> Mark Selected', '<Enter> OK', and '<Esc> Cancel'.

Configure Management Network

DNS Configuration

Network Adapters
VLAN (optional)

IPv4 Configuration
IPv6 Configuration
DNS Configuration
Custom DNS Suffixes

Automatic

Primary DNS Server:
Not set

Alternate DNS Server:
Not set

Hostname
localhost

If this host is configured using DHCP, DNS server addresses are obtained automatically. If not, you must enter the appropriate values.

DNS Configuration

This host can only obtain DNS settings automatically if it also obtains its IP configuration automatically.

() Obtain DNS server addresses and a hostname automatically
(a) Use the following DNS server addresses and hostname:

Primary DNS Server	[192.168.1.1]
Alternate DNS Server	[]
Hostname	[esxi-1]

<Up/Down> Select <Space> Mark Selected <Enter> OK <Esc> Cancel

<Up/Down> Select <Enter> Change <Esc> Exit

As mentioned earlier, when we have a domain in this scenario, we need to enter the domain name in the Custom DNS Suffixes section.

The screenshot shows the 'Configure Management Network' screen in ESXi. The 'Custom DNS Suffixes' option is highlighted in the left sidebar. The main panel shows 'Custom DNS Suffixes' with the text 'Not set' and a description: 'When using short, unqualified names, DNS queries will attempt to locate the specified host by appending the suffixes listed here in the order shown until a match is found or the list is exhausted. If no suffixes are specified here, a default suffix list is derived from the local domain name.' A pop-up dialog titled 'Custom DNS Suffixes' is displayed in the center. It contains the text: 'DNS queries will attempt to locate hosts by appending the suffixes specified here to short, unqualified names. Use spaces or commas to separate multiple entries.' Below this, there is a field 'Suffixes:' with the value '[sony.com_]'. The dialog also includes navigation keys: '<Enter> OK' and '<Esc> Cancel'.

Configure Management Network

Custom DNS Suffixes

Network Adapters
VLAN (optional)

IPv4 Configuration
IPv6 Configuration
DNS Configuration
Custom DNS Suffixes

Not set

When using short, unqualified names, DNS queries will attempt to locate the specified host by appending the suffixes listed here in the order shown until a match is found or the list is exhausted.

If no suffixes are specified here, a default suffix list is derived from the local domain name.

Custom DNS Suffixes

DNS queries will attempt to locate hosts by appending the suffixes specified here to short, unqualified names.

Use spaces or commas to separate multiple entries.

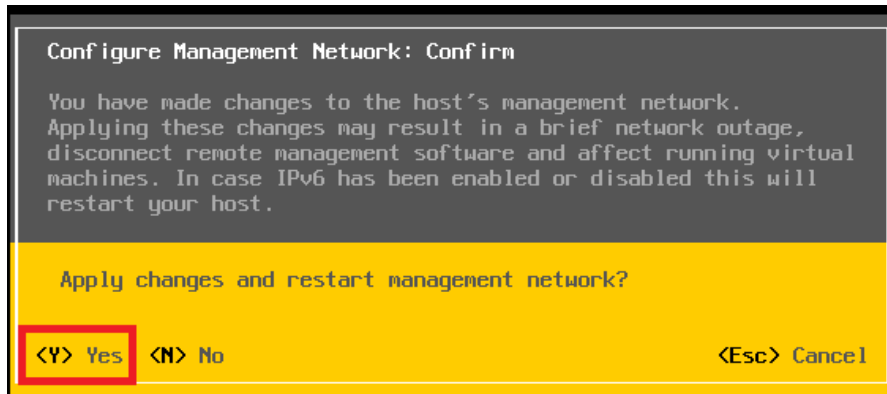
Suffixes: [sony.com_]

<Enter> OK <Esc> Cancel

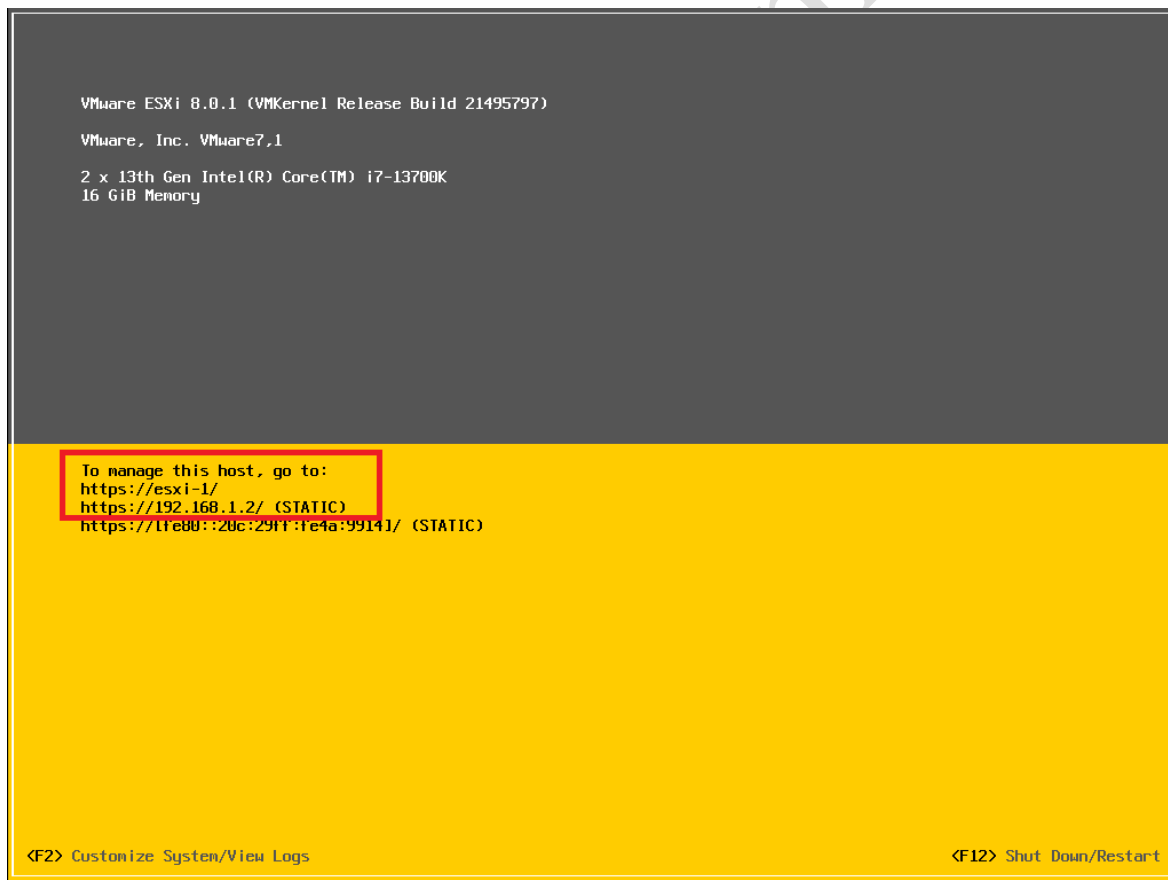
<Up/Down> Select <Enter> Change <Esc> Exit

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To save the information, press the ESC key, and then hit the Y option.

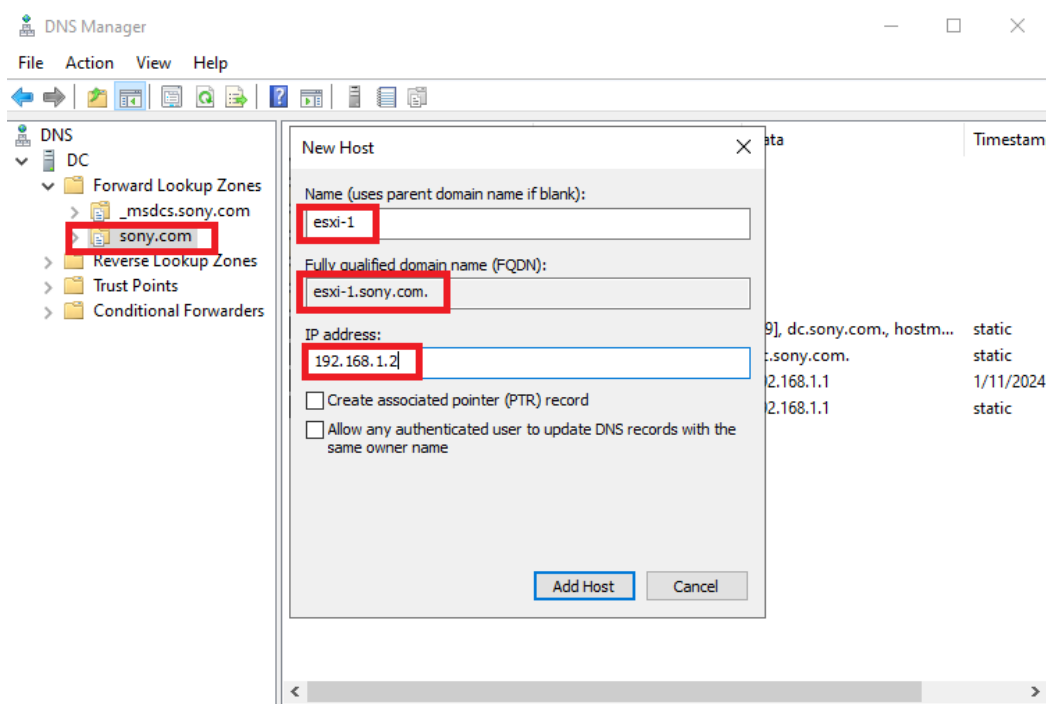


After saving the information, we can use the IP address and the address to access the ESXi web management environment.

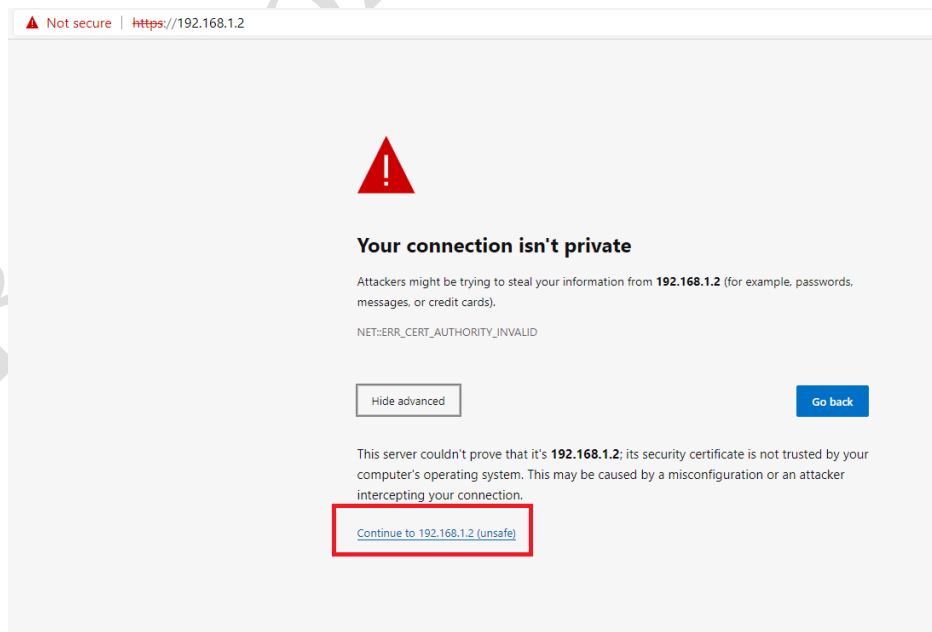


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To be able to view the WEB ESXi environment with its name, create a record in the relevant domain.

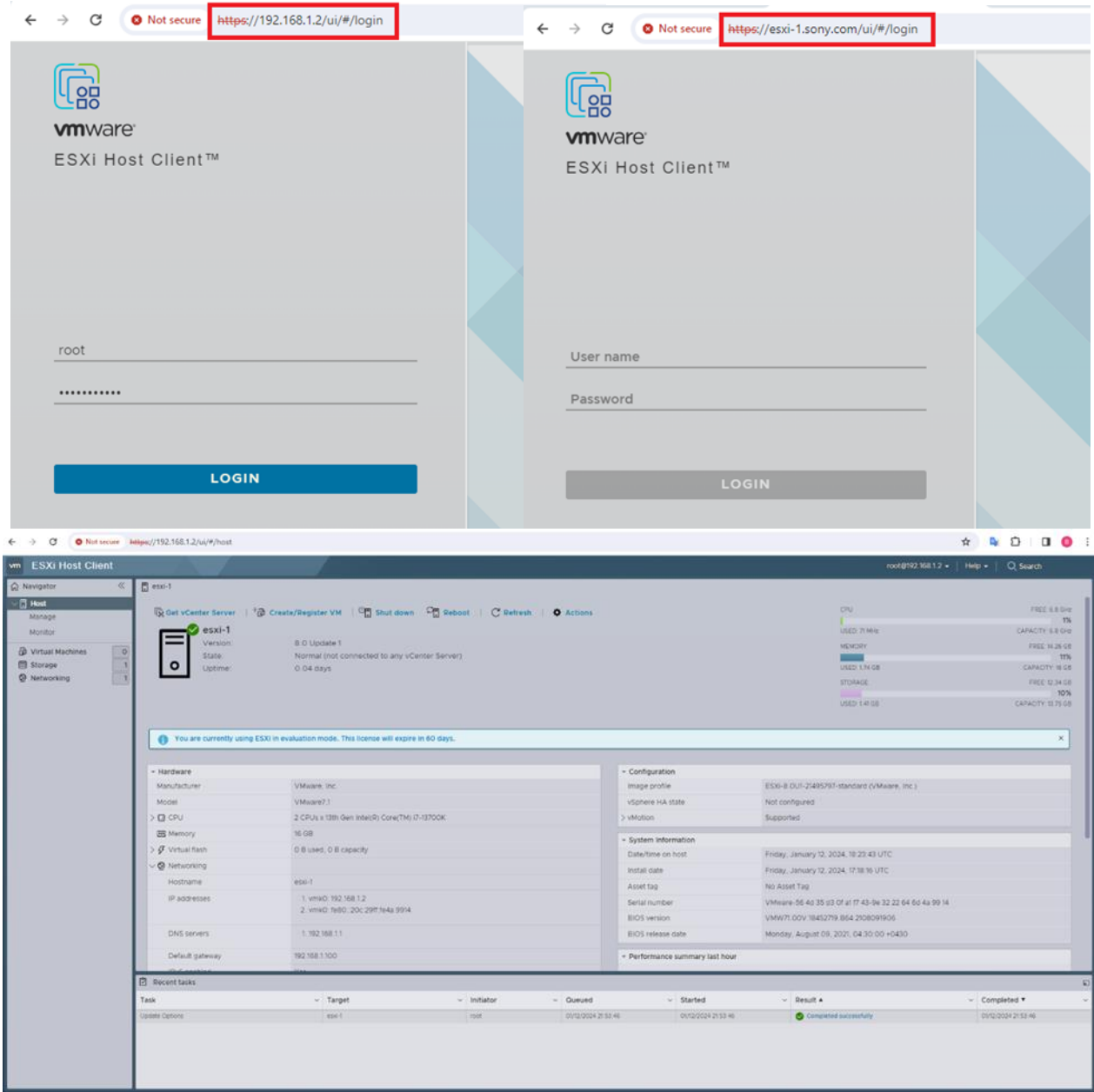


The work is almost done and we just need to search for the web environment with its name or IP. Since we are not using SSL, it shows us as "Not Secure", but we can simply click on "Advance" and then "Continue".



Installation Steps for ESXi

As you can see, both the IP address and the web management page name for ESXi are accessible. All you need to do is to enter the username and password that you have set during the installation process and you can access the main environment.



Dear all,

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Best regards.

Behrooz valiannezhad