# Setting up Kali Linux Virtual Machine

To set up a Kali Linux virtual machine (VM), you'll need a virtualization platform like VirtualBox or VMware. Here's a step-by-step guide using VirtualBox:

#### 1. Download VirtualBox and Install It

- Visit the <u>VirtualBox website</u> and download the latest version for your operating system.
- Install VirtualBox by following the on-screen instructions.

## 2. Download Kali Linux ISO or Pre-built Virtual Image

- Go to the Kali Linux official website and download either:
  - o The **ISO file** if you prefer to set it up manually, or
  - o A pre-built VirtualBox image for quicker setup.

**Note**: Pre-built images simplify the process as they come preconfigured with VirtualBox settings.

### 3. Create a New Virtual Machine in VirtualBox

If you downloaded the ISO:

- Open VirtualBox and click New to create a new virtual machine.
- Set the **Name** (e.g., "Kali Linux").
- Choose Linux as the type and Debian (64-bit) as the version.
- Allocate **RAM** (e.g., 2048 MB or more, depending on your system).
- Create a Virtual Hard Disk (at least 20 GB for basic use).

#### 4. Mount the Kali Linux ISO

• After creating the VM, select it from the VirtualBox main window and click **Settings**.

- Go to the **Storage** tab, click on the **Empty** CD/DVD icon, and choose **Choose a disk file**.
- Browse to and select the Kali Linux ISO you downloaded.
- Save the settings.

## 5. Start the Kali Linux Virtual Machine

- Start the VM by selecting it and clicking **Start**.
- Follow the on-screen instructions to install Kali Linux:
  - o Choose Graphical Install.
  - Select the language, location, and keyboard layout.
  - Set a root password.
  - Partition the disk (you can use the default options).
  - Complete the installation process, allowing Kali Linux to install on the virtual hard drive.

# **6. Install VirtualBox Guest Additions (Optional but Recommended)**

- Once Kali is installed and running, you can improve VM performance and screen resolution by installing Guest Additions.
- In the running VM, go to Devices > Insert Guest Additions CD image.
- Open the terminal in Kali and run the following commands to mount the CD and install the additions:

```
sudo apt update
sudo apt install -y build-essential dkms linux-headers-$(uname -r)
sudo mount /dev/cdrom /media/cdrom
sudo /media/cdrom/VBoxLinuxAdditions.run
```

## 7. Set Up Networking

- By default, VirtualBox uses NAT for networking, allowing the VM to access the internet.
- If you need advanced networking, go to **Settings** > **Network** and configure **Bridged Adapter** or **Host-only Adapter** based on your needs.

# 8. Update Kali Linux

• After installation, update Kali to ensure you have the latest tools and security patches:

