

01 — Windows 11 Virtual Machine Setup (VirtualBox)

This guide walks through creating a Windows 11 virtual machine for use as the monitored endpoint in the SOC Home Lab.

1. Install VirtualBox

Download VirtualBox:

<https://www.virtualbox.org/wiki/Downloads>

Install using default settings.

2. Create the Windows 11 VM

1. Open **VirtualBox**
2. Click **New**
3. Configure:
 - **Name:** Windows 11 Lab
 - **ISO Image:** Windows 11 ISO
 - **Type:** Microsoft Windows
 - **Version:** Windows 11 (64-bit)
4. Hardware settings:
 - **CPU:** 2–4 cores
 - **RAM:** 4–8 GB
 - **Storage:** 60+ GB
5. Enable:
 - **EFI**
 - **Virtualization**
 - **I/O APIC**

General	Preview
Name: Soc Automation Operating System: Windows 11 (64-bit)	
System	
Base Memory: 5024 MB Processors: 2 Boot Order: Floppy, Optical, Hard Disk TPM Type: v2.0 UEFI: Enabled Secure Boot: Enabled Acceleration: Nested Paging, Hyper-V Paravirtualization	
Display	
Video Memory: 128 MB Graphics Controller: VBoxSVGA Remote Desktop Server: Disabled Recording: Disabled	
Storage	
Controller: SATA SATA Port 0: Soc Automation_.vdi (Normal, 80.00 GB) SATA Port 1: [Optical Drive] Windows.iso (5.65 GB)	
Audio	
Host Driver: Default Controller: Intel HD Audio	
Network	
Adapter 1: Intel PRO/1000 MT Desktop (NAT)	
USB	
USB Controller: xHCI Device Filters: 0 (0 active)	
Shared folders	
None	
Description	
None	

🚀 3. Install Windows 11

1. Start the VM
2. Follow Windows setup prompts
3. Create a local user account
4. Install all updates