

Logan Haberman, Braden
Yokopenic,
Joseph Turkovich
Group #3
CS-265
9/11/25

Windows 11 Installation on VMWare ESXi Server

ETA: ~2 hours(including download time)

Ingredient List:

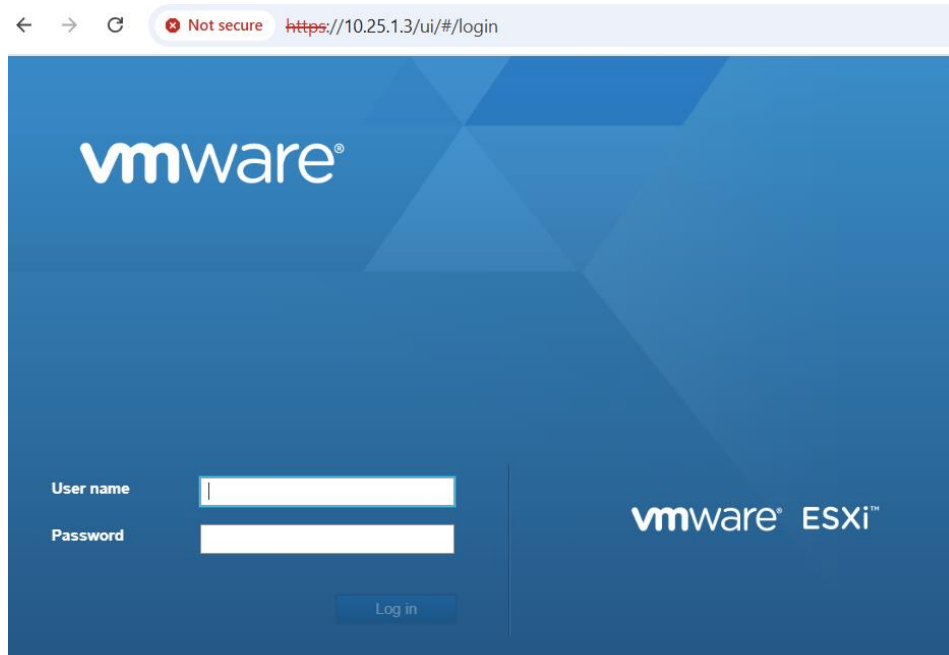
Windows 11 License Key

Connection to server (through VPN or Wi-Fi)

ESXi credentials

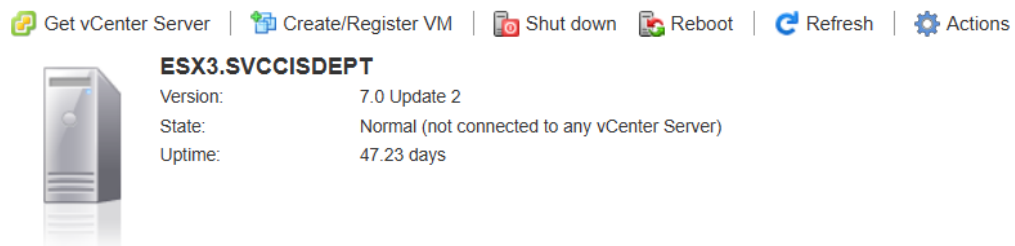
Logging into ESXi Server

1. Type in 10.25.1.3 into your browser
2. Click Enter
3. Input your username and password and Log In



Creating the Virtual Machine

1. Once logged into the ESXi server, click the “**Create/Register VM**” button.



2. Select “**Create a new virtual machine**”, then click “next.”

Create a new virtual machine

Deploy a virtual machine from an OVF or OVA file

Register an existing virtual machine

This option guides you through creating a new virtual machine. You will be able to customize processors, memory, network connections, and storage. You will need to install a guest operating system after creation.

Back

Next

Finish

Cancel

3. Enter a name for the virtual machine

4. Click on the **Guest OS Family Drop Down**, then click on **“Windows”**

Compatibility

ESXi 7.0 U2 virtual machine

Guest OS family

Select Guest OS Family

Guest OS version

Select Guest OS Family

Linux

Mac OS

Other

Windows

5. Click on Guest OS Version dropdown, then click **Microsoft Windows 10 (64-bit)**.

Then click “next.”

Guest OS version

Microsoft Windows 10 (64-bit)

6. Switch the Datastorage from CoreESX -> DataStore1

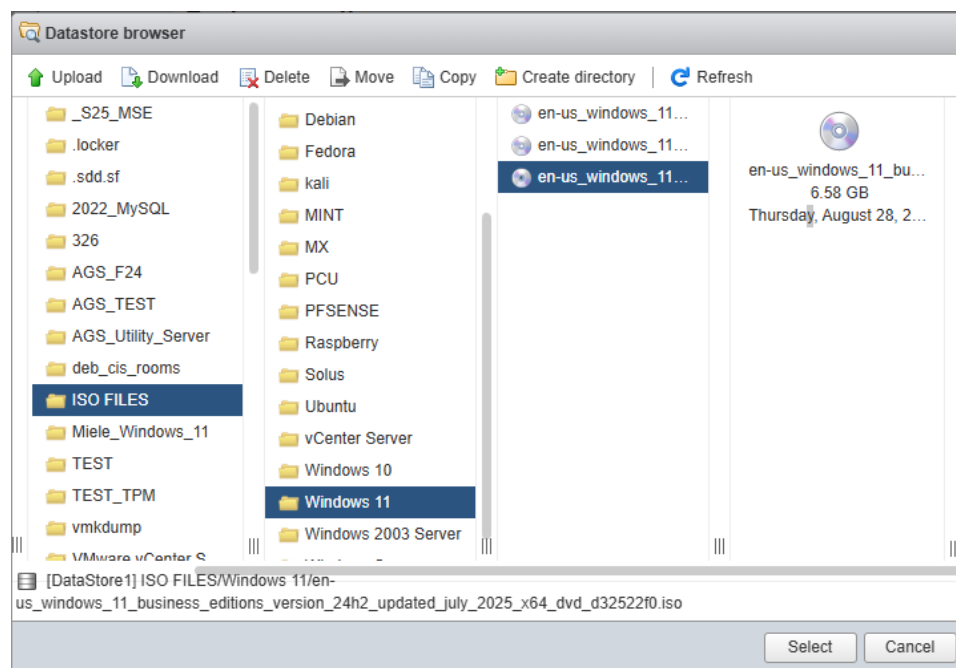
7. Select 16 GB memory, 80 GB Hard disk 1, and VM Network for Network Adapter 1.

CPU	4	
Memory	16	GB
Hard disk 1	80	GB
SCSI Controller 0	LSI Logic SAS	
SATA Controller 0		
USB controller 1	USB 3.1	
Network Adapter 1	VM Network	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Connect
CD/DVD Drive 1	Datastore ISO file	<input type="checkbox"/> Connect
Video Card	Default settings	

8. Click “Datastore ISO file” for CD/DVD Drive 1 and follow the following path:

DataStore1/ISO FILES/Windows 11/en-

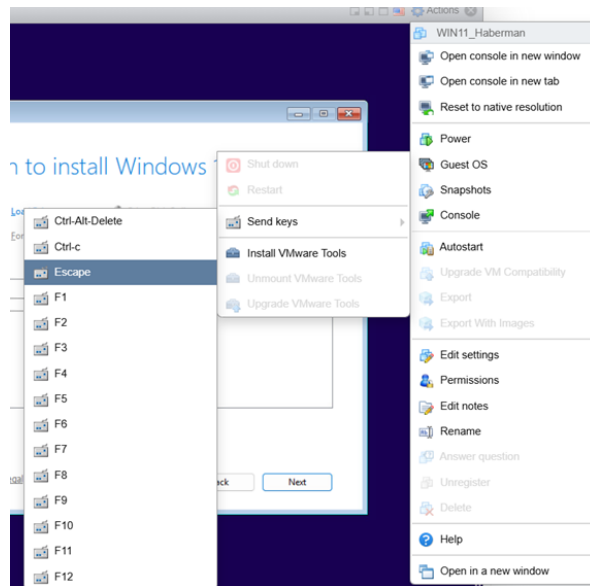
us_windows_11_business_editions_version_24h2_updated_july_2025. Click select.



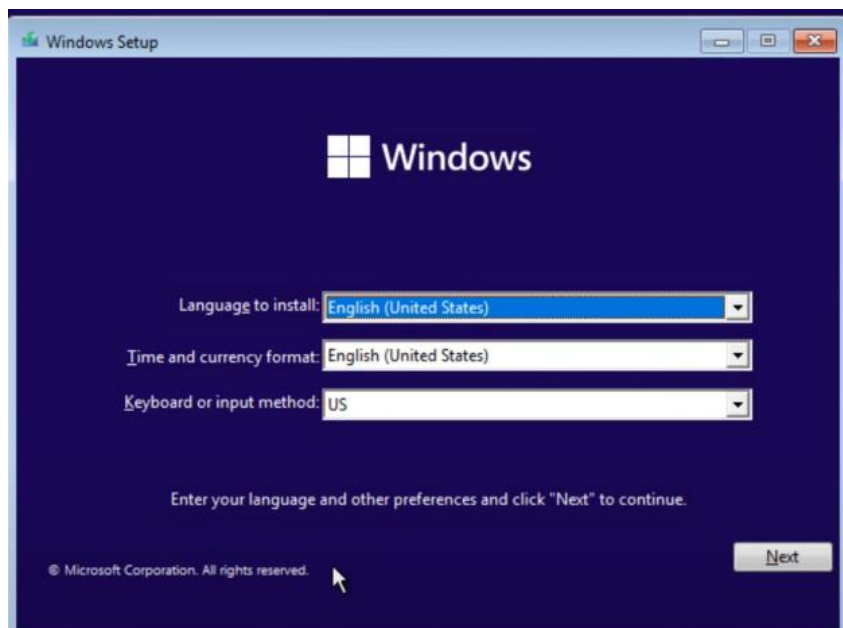
9. Click “Finish.”

Installing Windows 11

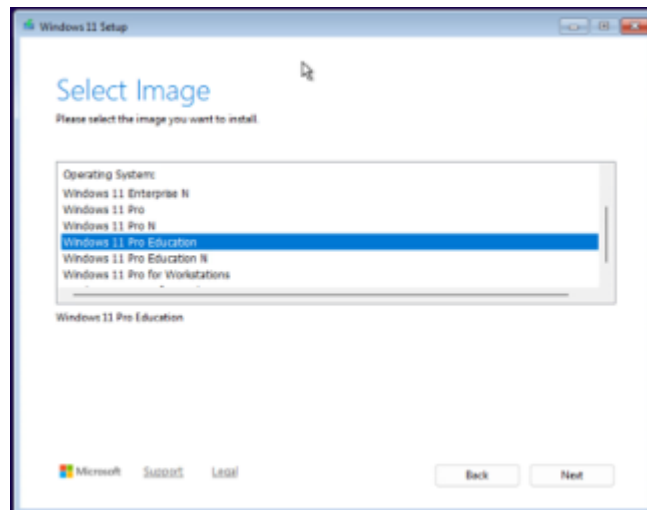
1. Power on the VM by pressing the green “Power on” button.
2. Click the “actions” button in the top right corner.
3. Click **Guest OS --> Send keys --> “Escape”** as the VM is booting up



4. Select languages and formats that best suit your needs, then click next



5. Click the appropriate Windows installation option and wait.



How to Bypass TPM 2.0 Check to Download Windows 11 On a Virtual Machine.

When should I use this method?



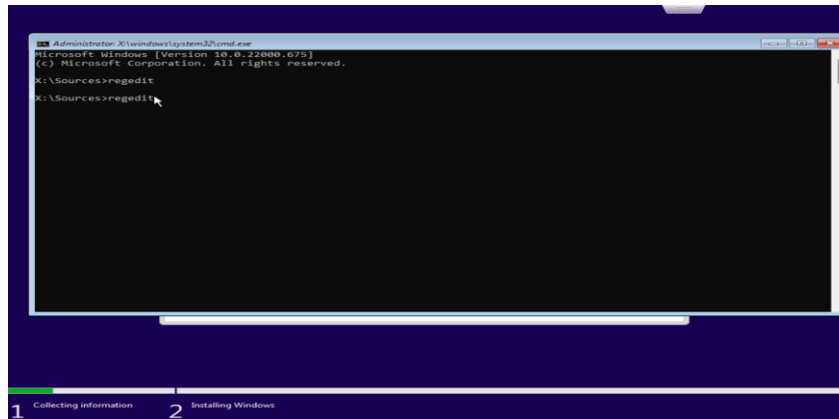
When downloading Windows 11, if you receive the above message, it could mean your system hardware is too outdated to run the Operating System OR you are missing the TPM 2.0 requirement.

This is an easy-to-follow guide on how to bypass the TPM check that should at most take 15 minutes to complete.

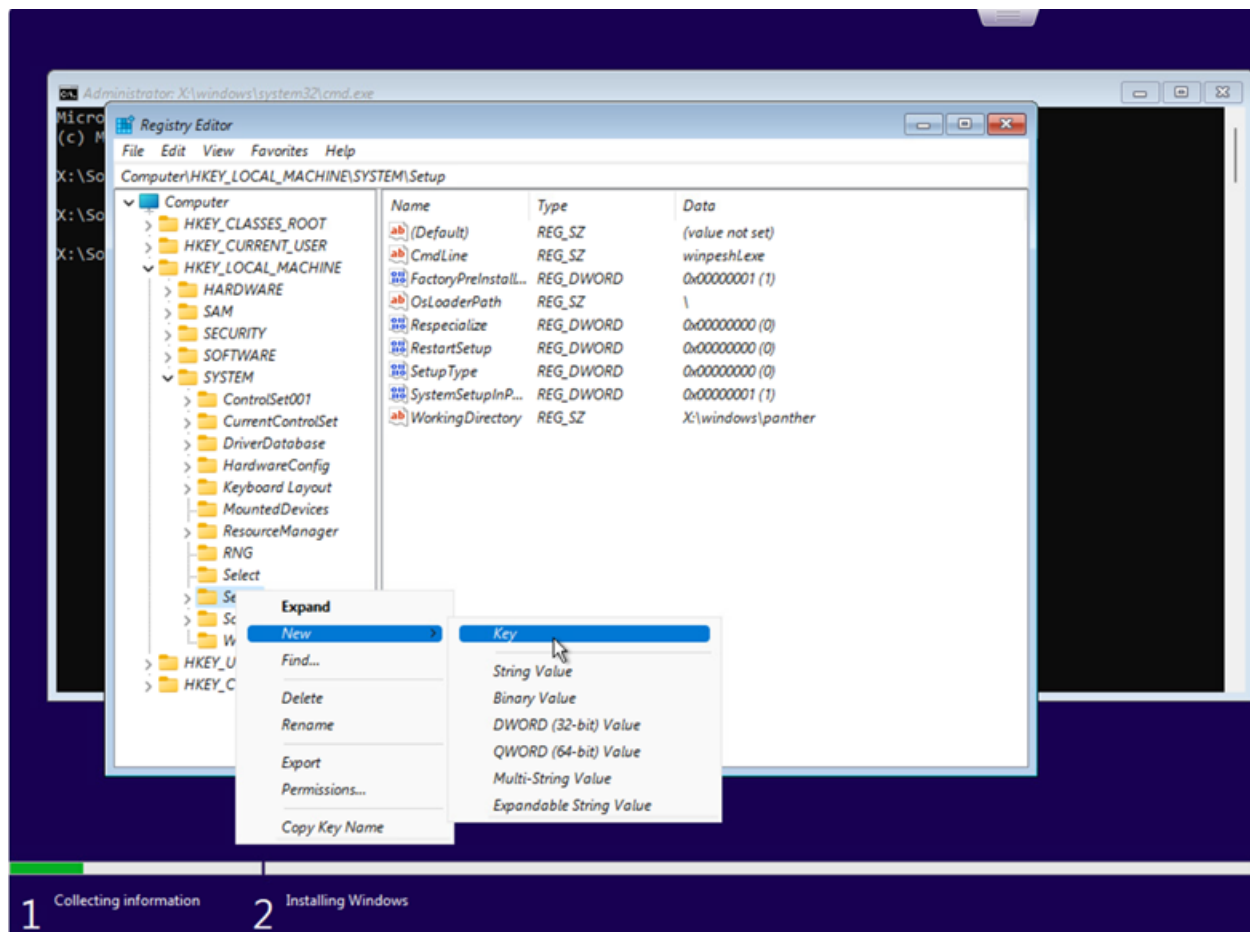
Before following the instructions below, check to see if your hardware is able to run Windows 11.

How to Bypass TPM 2.0:

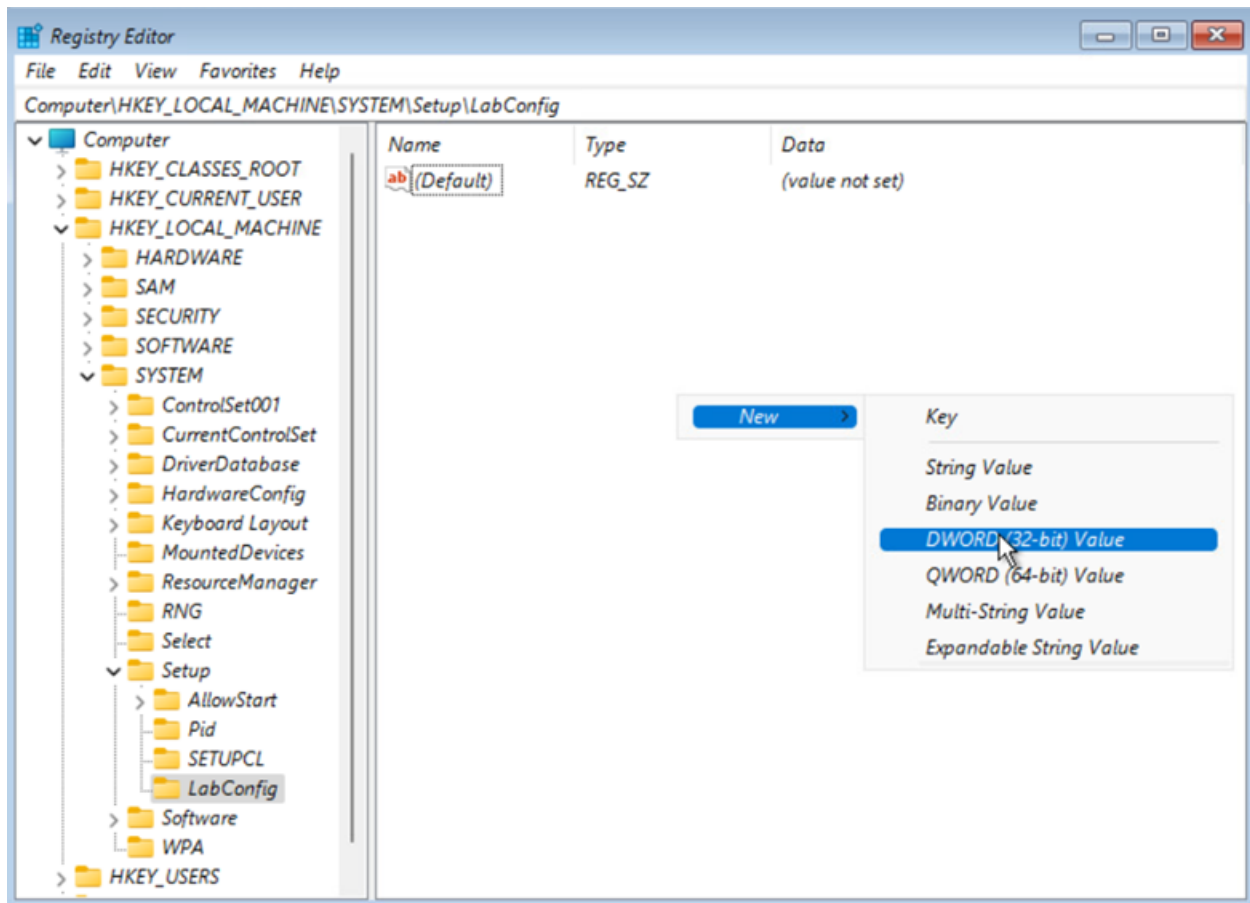
Step 1: The first step in bypassing the TPM requirement is opening a command prompt. To do this you need to press **Shift + F10**. Once the command prompt is open you will need to type “regedit” into the command prompt and press enter. (picture shown below)



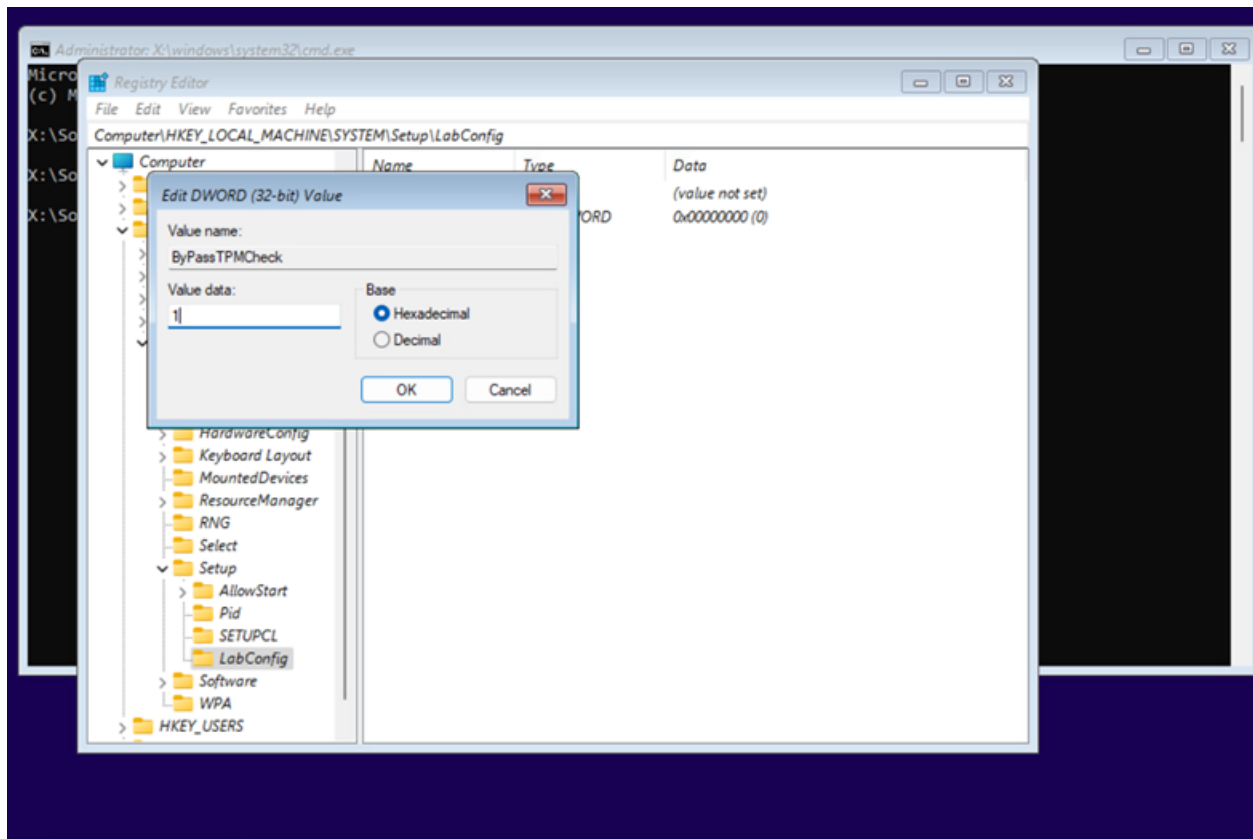
Step 2: If done correctly the registry editor will open. From here you will expand the **HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE** folder. Doing so will show you more folders, find the **SYSTEM** folder and expand it. This will also show you more folders, find the “**Setup**” folder -> new -> **Key** and click



Step 3: When you create the new key, name the folder it creates “**LabConfig**”. Once you name the folder click onto it. Once you have clicked on “LabConfig” you will see the screen shown below. From there right click anywhere in the whitespace and select **New -> DWORD (32-bit) Value**”. This will create a new value that you will need to name “**ByPassTPMCheck**”.



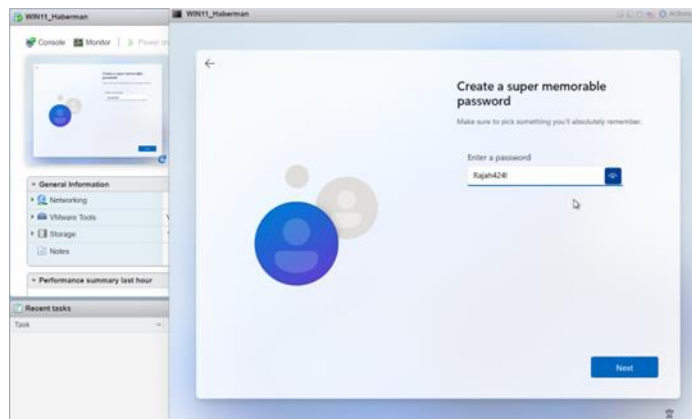
Step 4: Once you have created the “ByPassTPMCheck” double click it and change the value from “0” to “1” and click “OK”.



You can now exit off the command prompt and retry downloading Windows 11.

Creating the Local Account

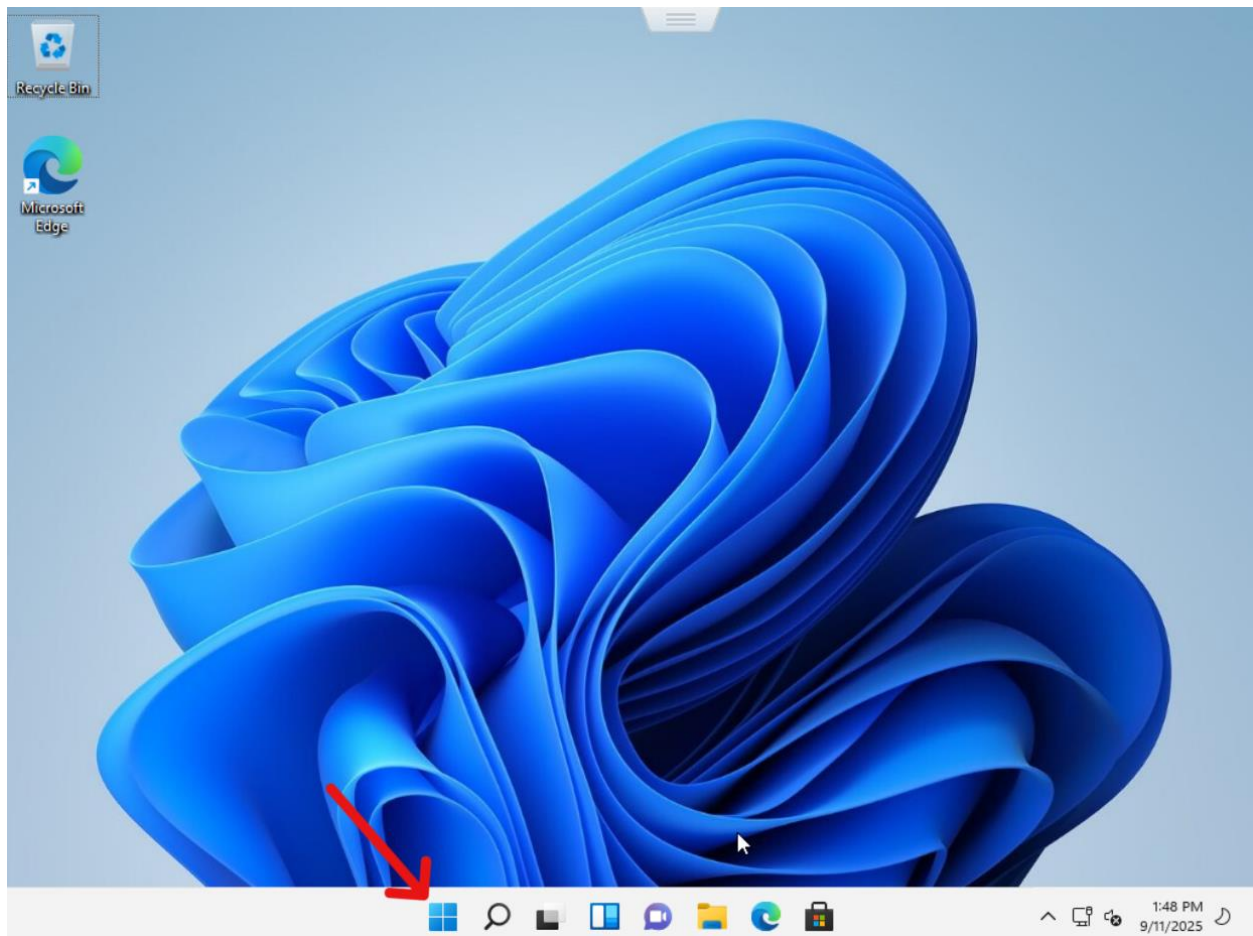
1. Once Windows is done downloading, press “SHIFT” + “F10” on your keyboard.
2. With Command Prompt open, type “ipconfig /release”. This disconnects your VM from WIFI, allowing for the creation of a Local Account.
3. Restart your VM.
4. Create your local account



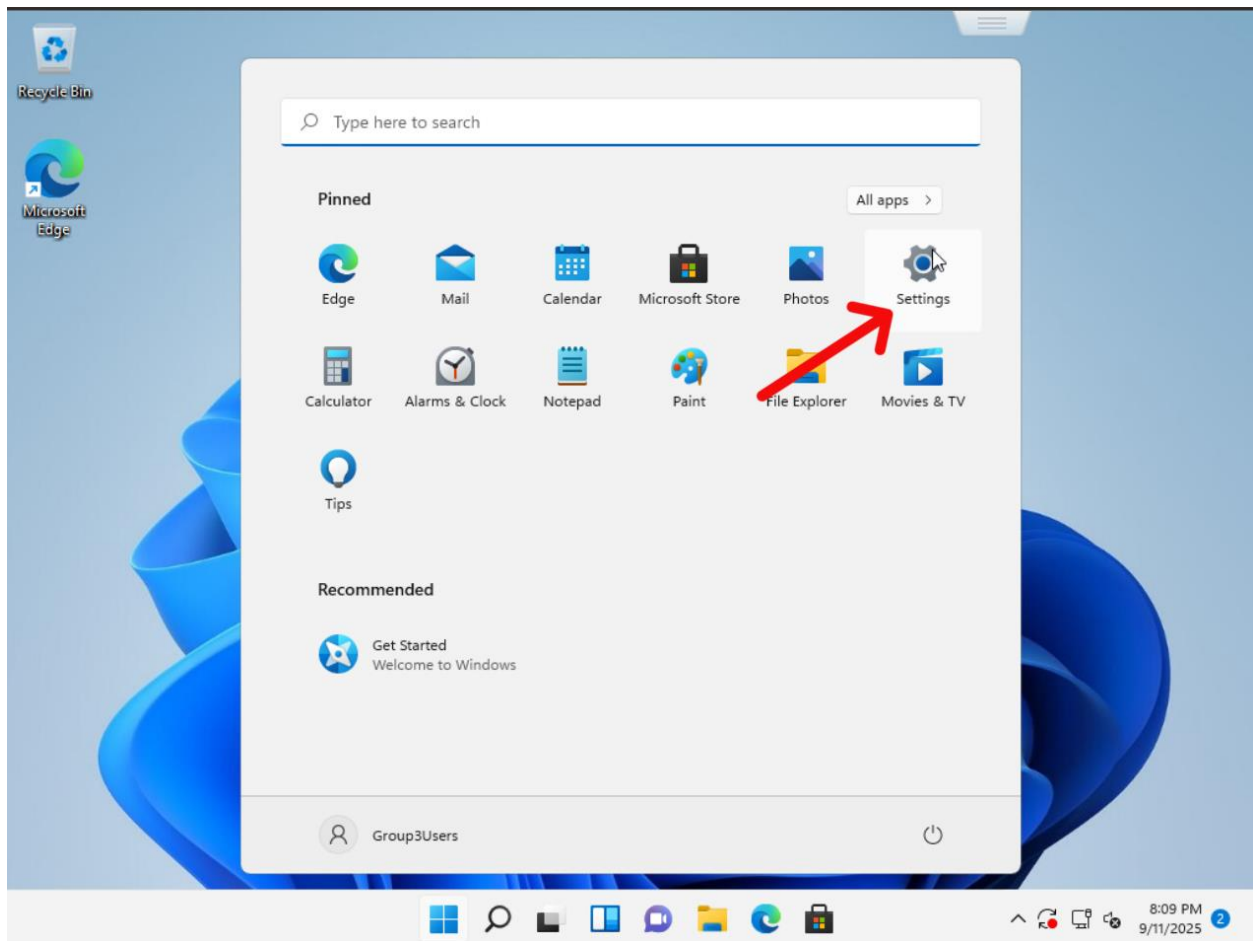
Activating Windows

Now that you are in the windows operating system, your next step should be to activate windows with your windows product key

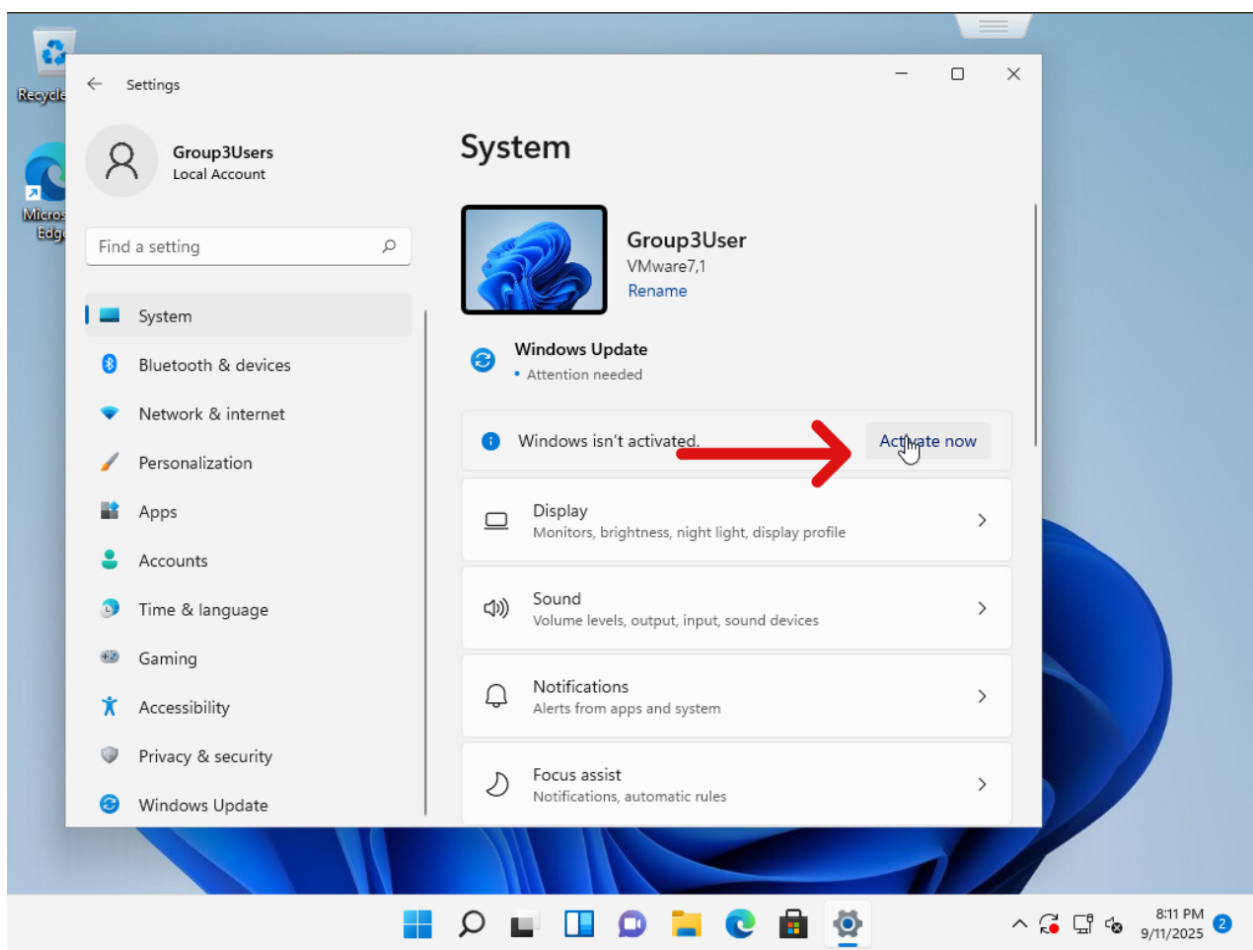
In order to enter your product key you will need to enter your computers settings. To do this you will first need to click the **Windows button** on your keyboard or desktop(Pointed out with red arrow below).



The windows screen will then pop up. Once the screen below pops up you will need to click the **Settings icon** (pointed out with red arrow).



Once in settings, you need to click on the system settings on the left side of the screen and from there on the right you will see a prompt that says “**Windows isn’t activated.**” Now you can click on the “**Activate now**” (Pointed out by red arrow) to enter your product key.



After Clicking “Activate now,” the screen below will pop up. You can enter your product key in the space provided and click “**Next**” to activate Windows.

