

Homelab Project Status Summary

1. Hardware Layer (ThinkPad T430)

- Model: ThinkPad T430
- CPU: Intel i5-3320M (2 cores / 4 threads)
- RAM: 8GB detected and functioning
- Storage: Samsung 840 Pro 250GB SSD detected
- External storage planned (multi-TB HDD dock)
- SATA Mode set to AHCI
- Intel Virtualization (VT-x) enabled
- Intel VT-d enabled
- Secure Boot disabled
- Boot Mode set to UEFI Only

2. Architectural Decision

- Selected Ubuntu Server 24.04 LTS as base OS
- Goal: Industry-aligned DevOps / Cloud learning path
- Lightweight system optimized for 8GB RAM
- SSH-first workflow (headless server model)
- Entire disk will be used for clean install (GPT + UEFI)

3. Next Steps (Installation Phase)

- Finish downloading Ubuntu Server 24.04 LTS ISO
- Flash ISO to 64GB USB using Rufus (GPT + UEFI, ISO mode)
- Boot from USB using F12 menu
- Install Ubuntu Server with WiFi configured
- Enable OpenSSH during installation
- First boot: SSH into server from main PC
- Post-install: Install Docker and begin service deployment