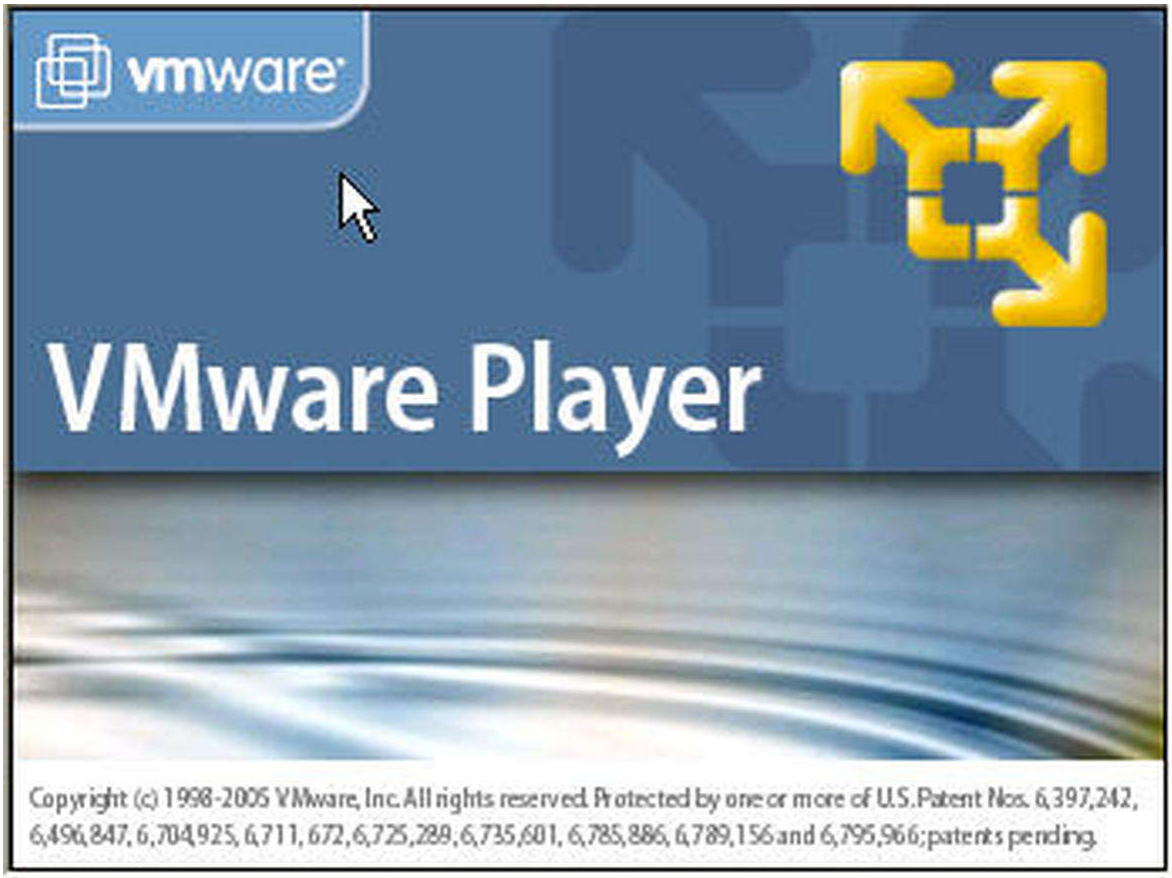


VMware Player overview

VMware Player is a free desktop application from a company called VMware that runs on Windows and Linux. This application enables you to create, configure, and run virtual machines. A virtual machine allows you to run one operating system emulated within another operating system. For example, you can run a Linux operating system within your Windows OS.

You can create a virtual machine using VMware Player or you can run preconfigured virtual machines created with VMware Workstation, GSX Server, and ESX Server. On Windows hosts, you can even run Microsoft Virtual PC virtual machines and Symantec LiveState Recovery system images.

VMware Player features

VMware Player offers the following features:

- **Virtual machine isolation** – you can isolate a virtual machine from the host PC. This way, you can safely run programs from untrusted sources, without worrying that a virus will hurt your host computer.
- **Copy and paste features** – you can copy and paste text and files between the virtual machine and the host PC.
- **DHCP server** – VMware Player offers a built-in DHCP server.
- **Adjustable memory** – virtual machine memory can be optimized for better performance.
- Support for **USB 3.0**.
- Different types of network connection for the virtual machine: bridged, host-only, or NAT.
- **Drag & drop support** – you can drag files between a Windows host and a Windows virtual machine,

Install VMware Player on Windows

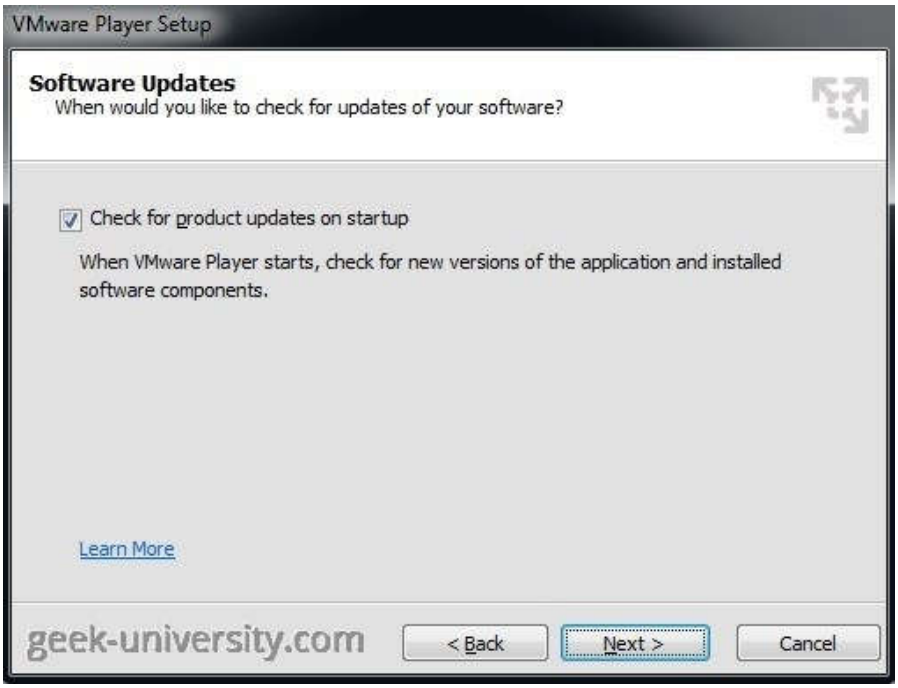
To start the installation, double-click the installer file you've downloaded in the previous step:

The VMware Player setup should start. On the **Welcome** screen, click **Next** to continue:

Accept the license agreement and click **Next**:

Select the installation location and click **Next**:

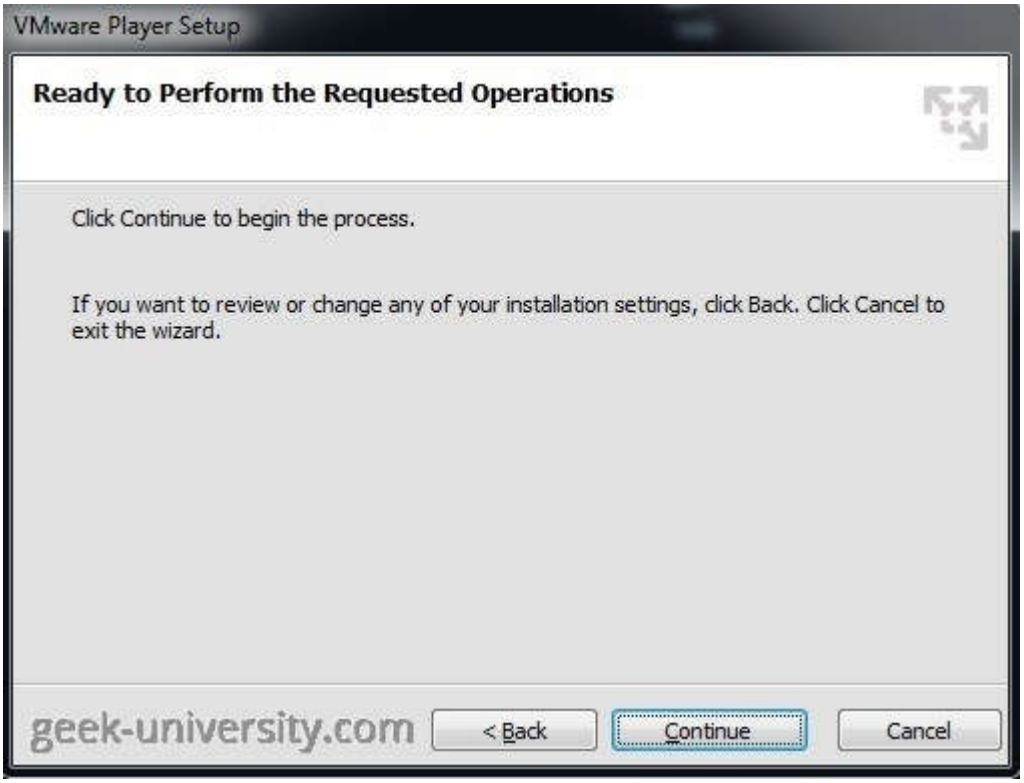
Select whether you would like to check for product updates when VMware Player starts:



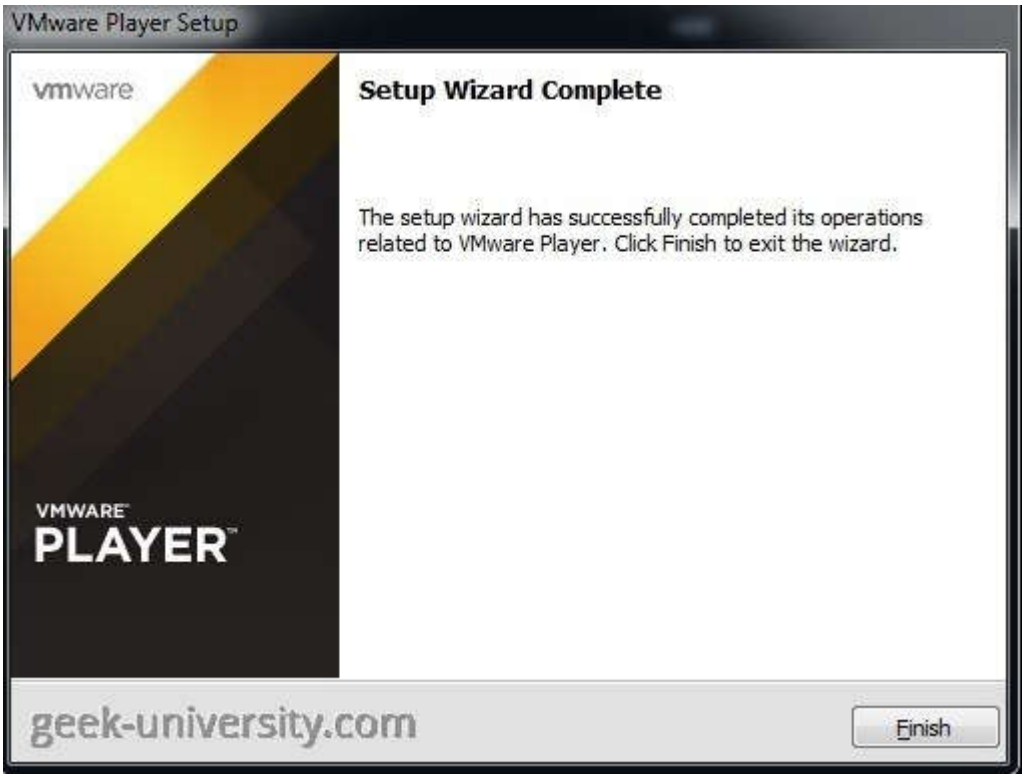
Select whether you would like to send anonymous data and system usage to VMware:

Select the shortcuts you wish to create and click **Next**:

Click **Continue** to being with the installation:

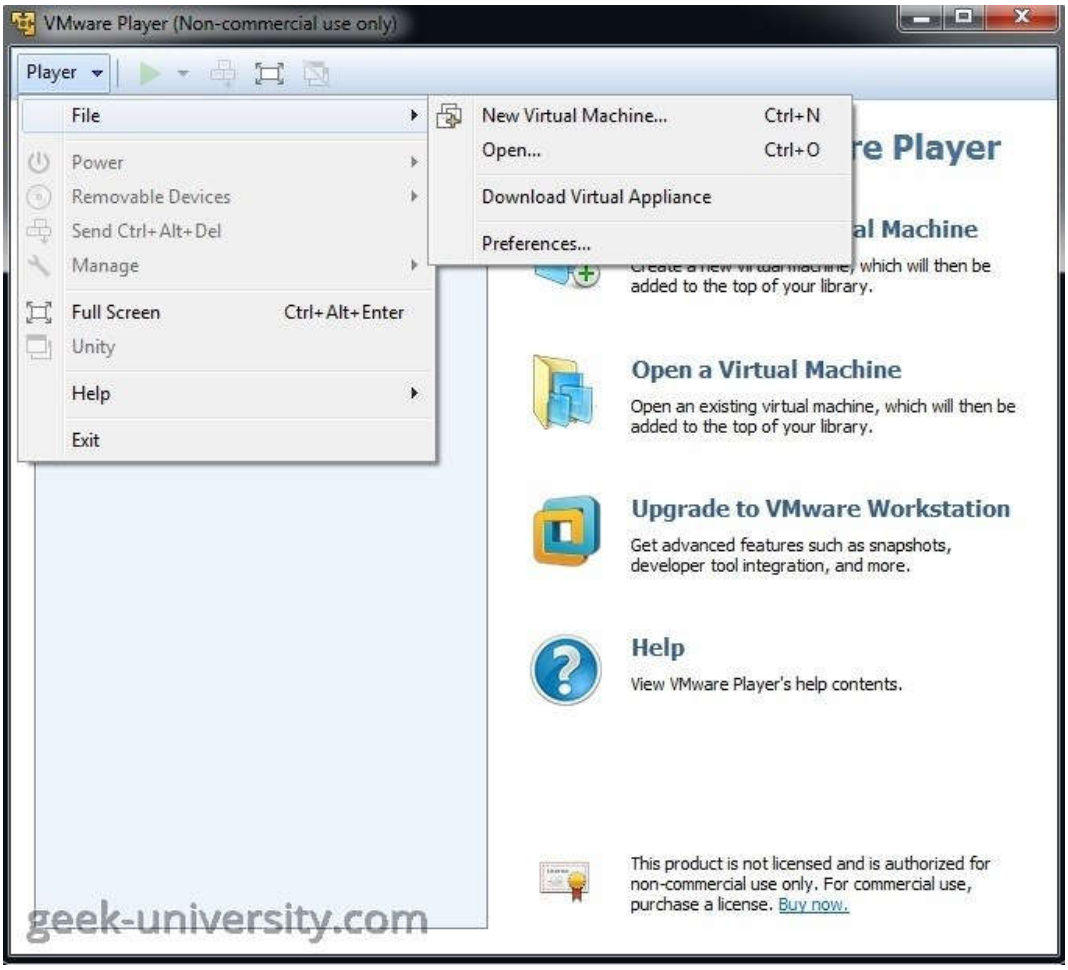


After a minute or two the installation process should be finished:



Create a virtual machine

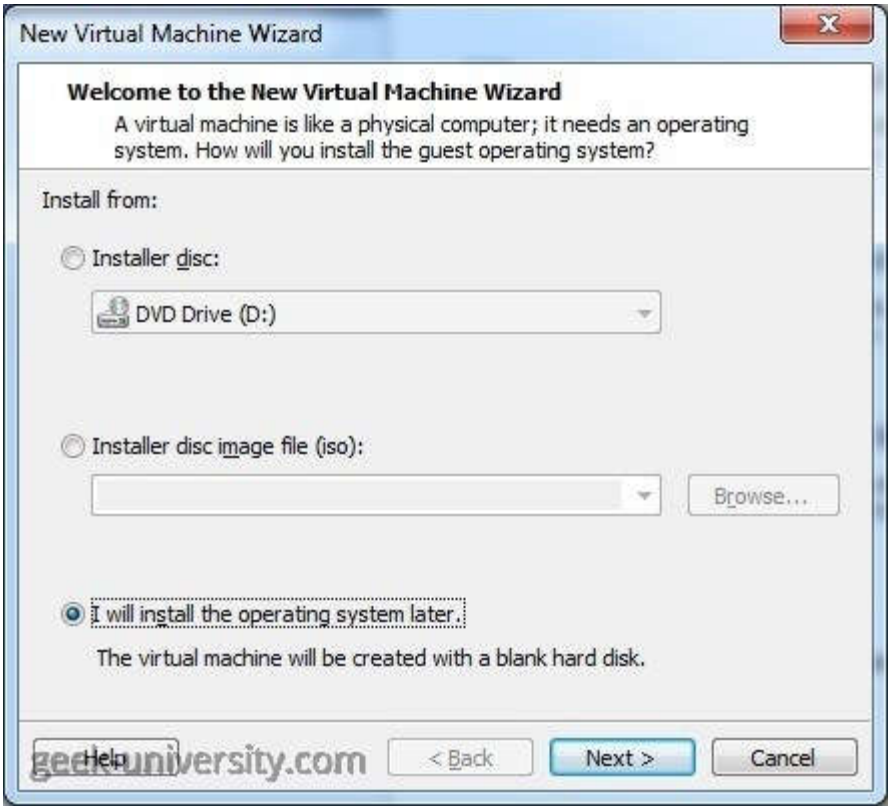
To create a new virtual machine in VMware Player, you can use the **New Virtual Machine** wizard. To start the wizard, select **Player > File > New Virtual Machine**:



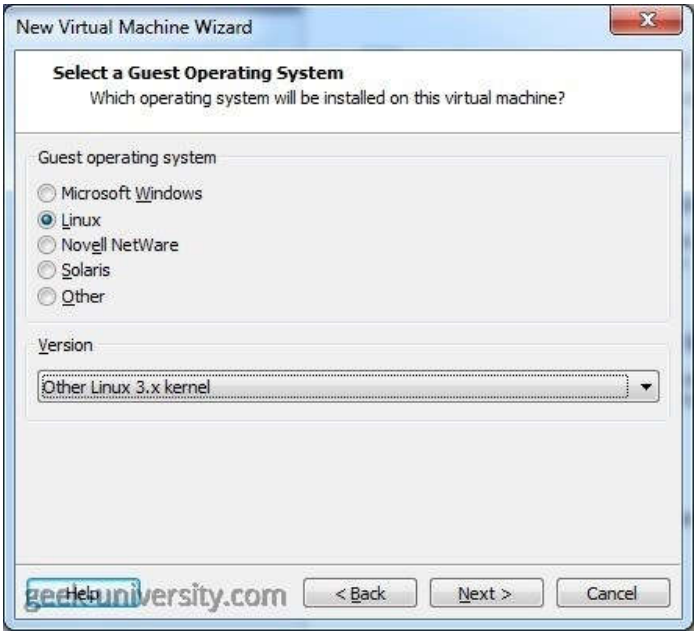
Next, select the source for which the guest operating system will be installed. Three options are available:

1. Installer disc – install guest OS from an optical drive
2. Installer disc image file (iso) – use an ISO image file for guest OS installation
3. I will install the operating system later – this option creates a new virtual machine with a blank hard disk. You will need to install the guest operating system manually after the virtual machine creation.

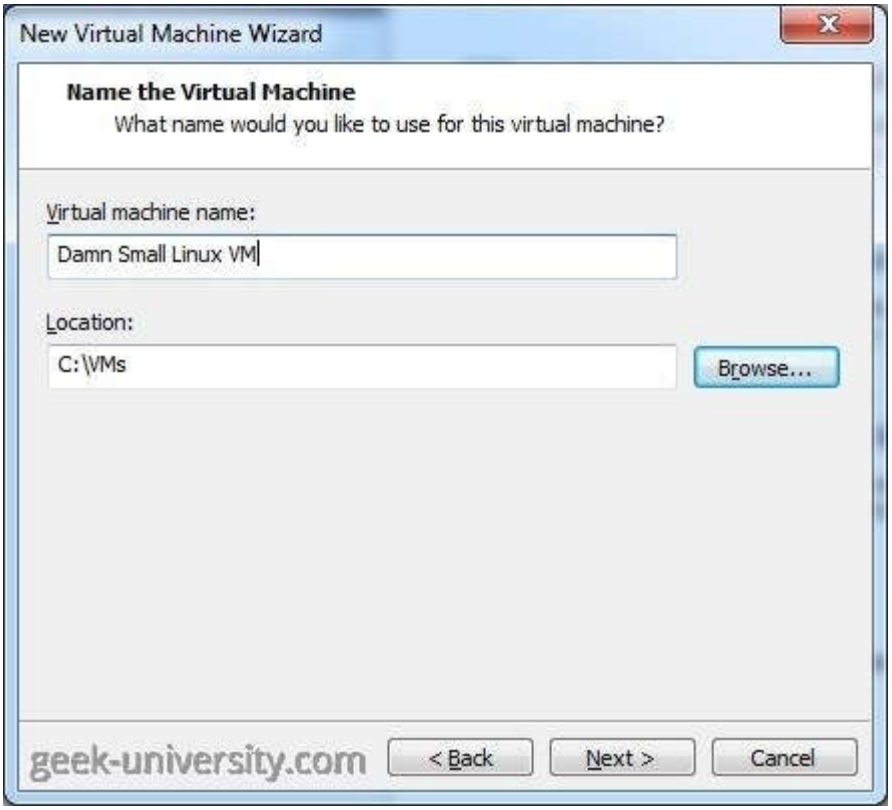
We will select the third option:



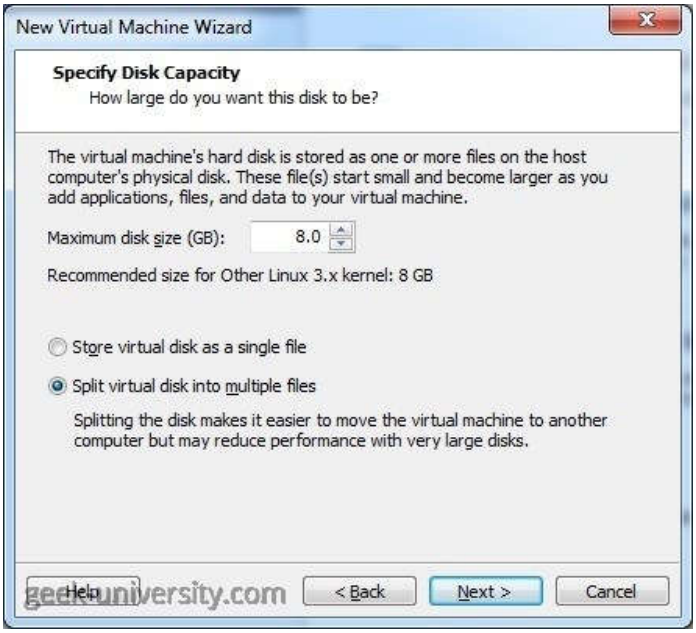
Select the guest operating system. If the guest OS you would like to install is not listed, select **Other**:



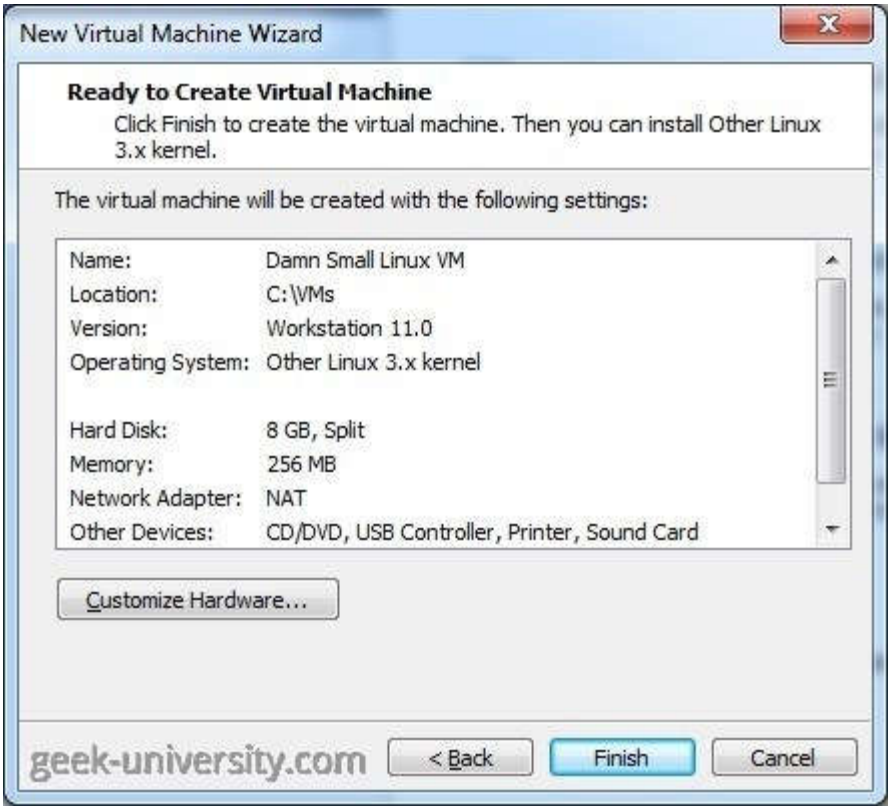
Type the name of the virtual machine and choose the folder where the virtual machine files will be kept:



Select the virtual disk size. You can also split the virtual disk into multiple files, which makes it easier to move the virtual machine to another computer. Note that the disk space is not preallocated for the disk and the actual files that the virtual disk uses start small and expand to their maximum size as needed.



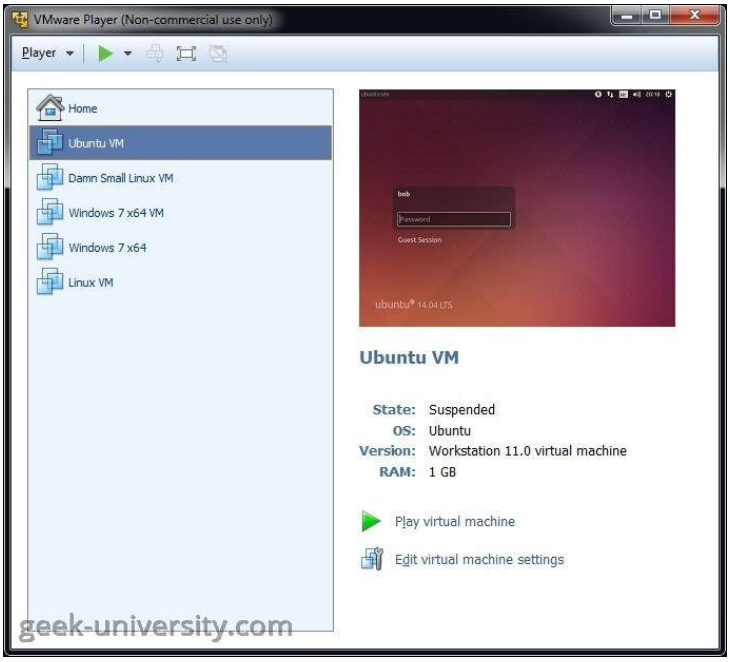
Click **Finish** to create the virtual machine:



Since we didn't install the guest operating system using the **New Virtual Machine** wizard, we need to do it manually later.

Start a virtual machine

The library on the left site of the VMware Player window is populated with virtual machines you've created. To start a virtual machine, simply select a virtual machine from the library and click **Play virtual machine**:



If the virtual machine is not listed in the library, select **Player > File > Open**. Browse to the virtual machine configuration (**.vmx**) file, and click **Open**.

Click inside the virtual machine console to give the virtual machine control of the mouse and keyboard of the host system. To release input from the virtual machine , use the **Ctrl + Alt** hotkey. To send the **Ctrl-Alt-Delete** keystroke combination to a virtual machine, select **Player > Send Ctrl+Alt+Del**: