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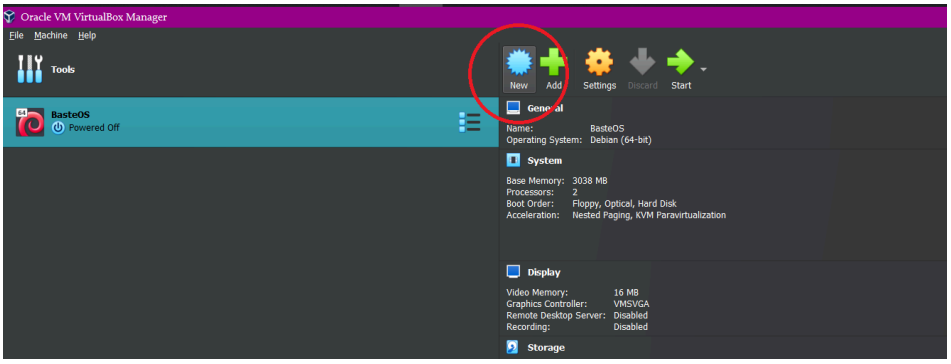
How to install and setup your first Virtual Machine

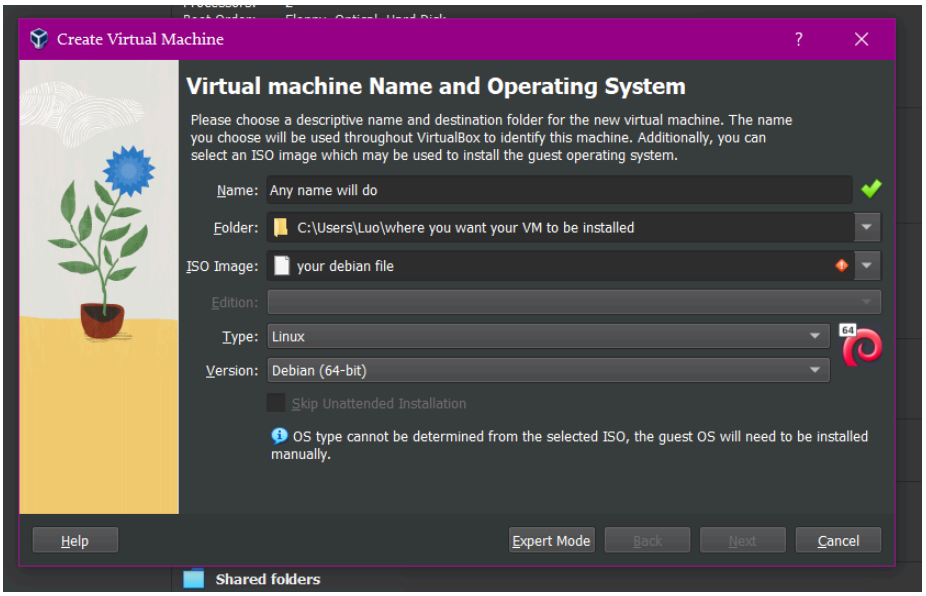
First, you'll need to install VM Oracle VirtualBox from your favorite browser, with this link : https://www.virtualbox.org/
We'll choose Debian as our OS, you can install it from this link : https://www.debian.org/index.fr.html

First, obviously you'll have to launch VirtualBox

Then let's create a new virtual machine by clicking on the "New" button :



From there, we'll setup this new machine of yours, just as i did :

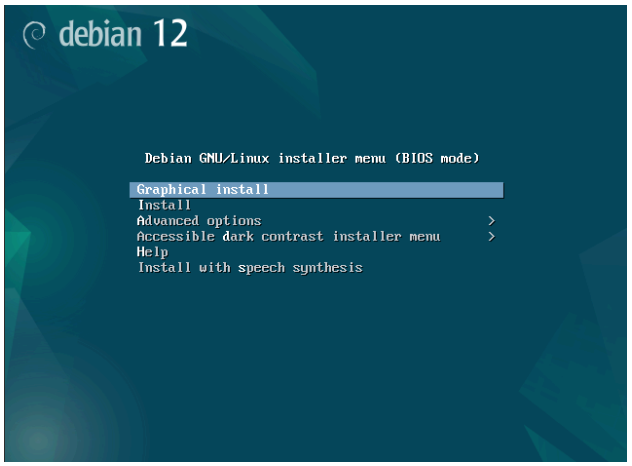


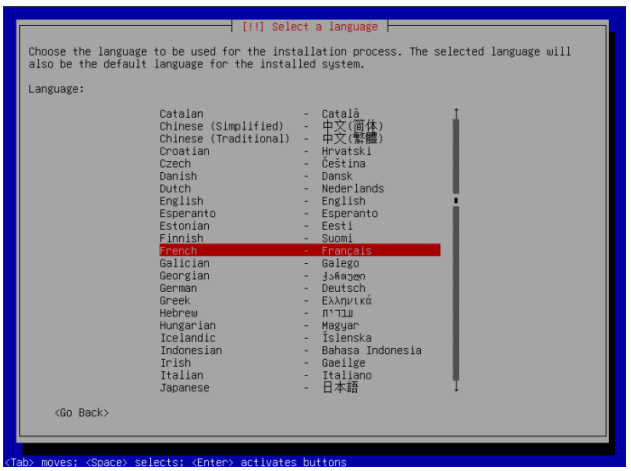
The type and version aren't much of a deal, it's to define which icon will be displayed, purely for visual purpose. These options should appear automatically once the iso has been added.

You need to check the "Skip Unattended Installation" box to be able to perform a detailed installation.

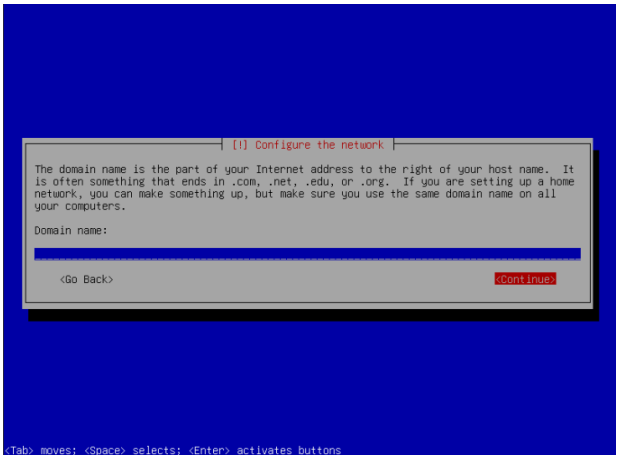
If you want to, you can choose how much space you're going to allocate to the machine, make sure to don't exceed your remaining space.

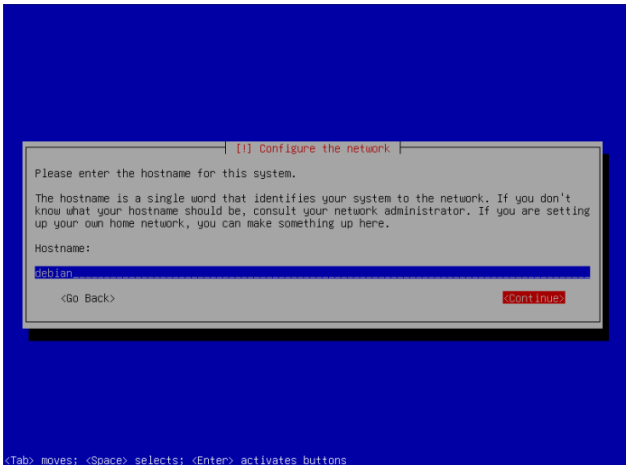
Then, on your brand new virtual machine you'll end up on a screen looking like this, let's do a regular installation, click on Install (the second one) and pick your favorite language.



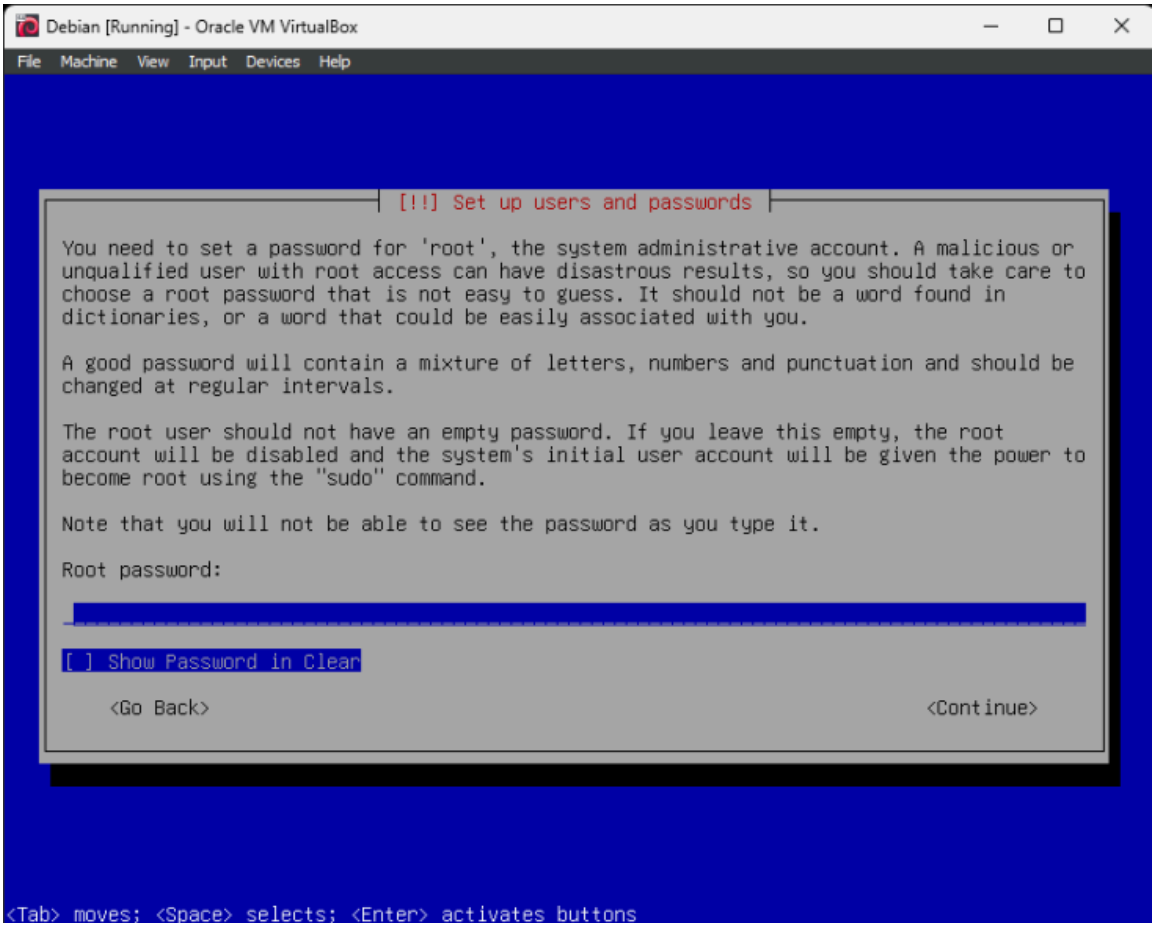


Next, don't change the default name and click continue for the hostname and the network

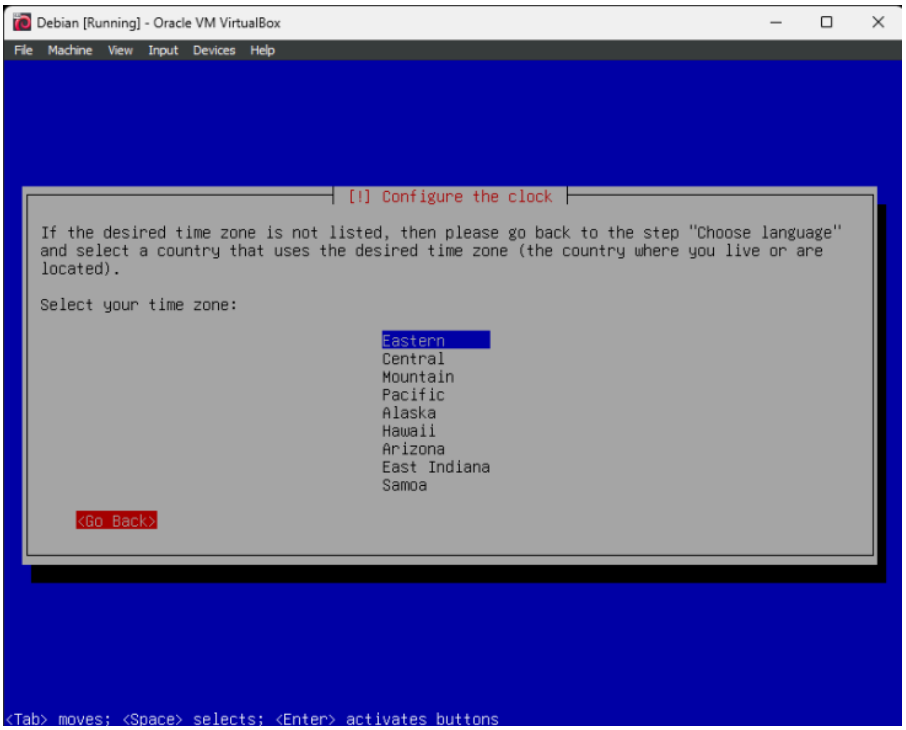




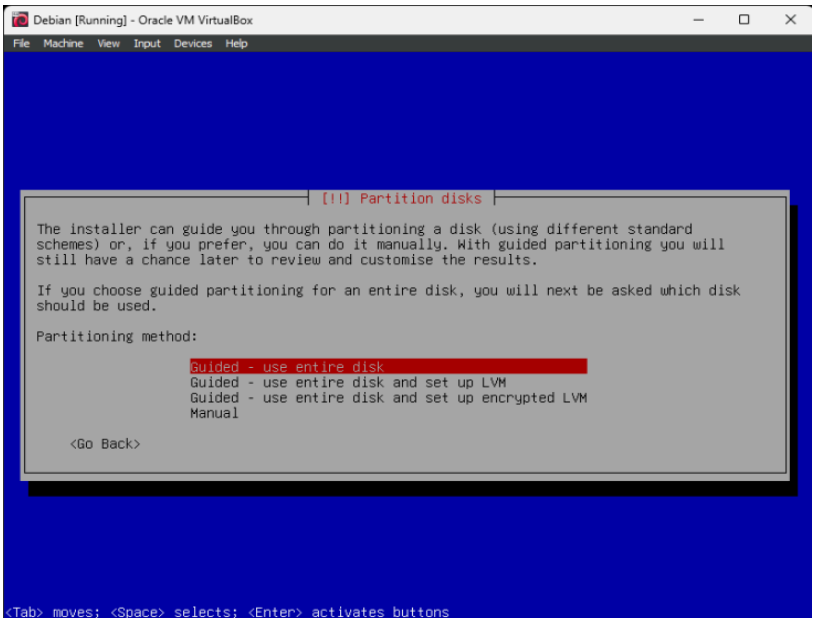
Now, we'll start some serious matter, the root is the admin user, as it is said, it will be useful for administrator and big manipulations so don't forget the password you'll choose, or you'll have a hard time recovering it. If you choose to not enter one, the user will be granted root rights.



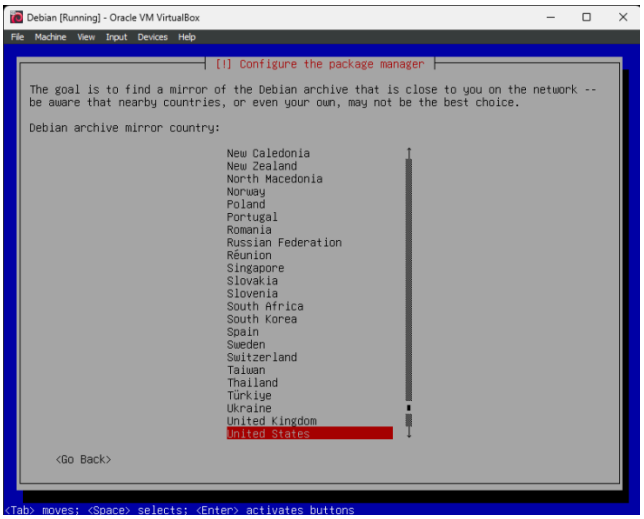
The next steps are pretty self explanatory, you'll have to setup the new user, it's name, username, and it's password, forgetting it is not a big of a deal, you can recover it easily from the root user. After this, we'll set the timezone to whichever you prefer, if your Debian is in English, it'll display American or UK timezone.

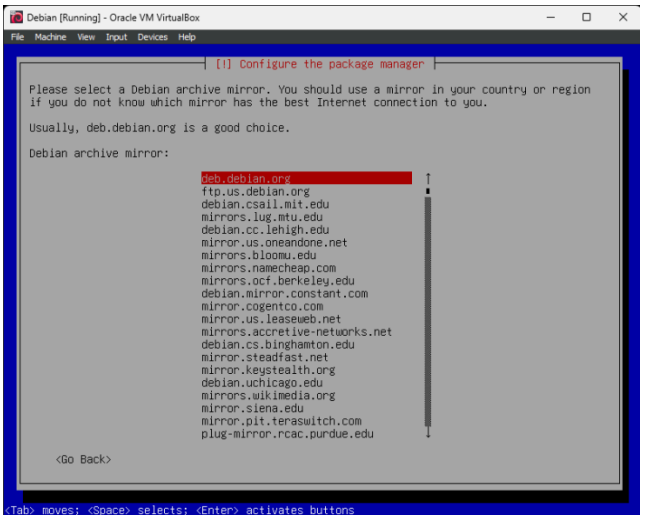


Partition disks are useful for Dual boot, it will fraction your empty disk in many parts, in 3 parts by default, for the system & the user. Except it's quite advanced and won't be necessary for this time, just click on Guided - use entire disk. For the next 4 steps, all concerning partition disks, just select and confirm the default options, except when it will ask you to write above the disk, you need to accept it, but you'll notice it anyway since if you refuse you'll be stuck in a loop ; which will as said before create 3 parts by default.



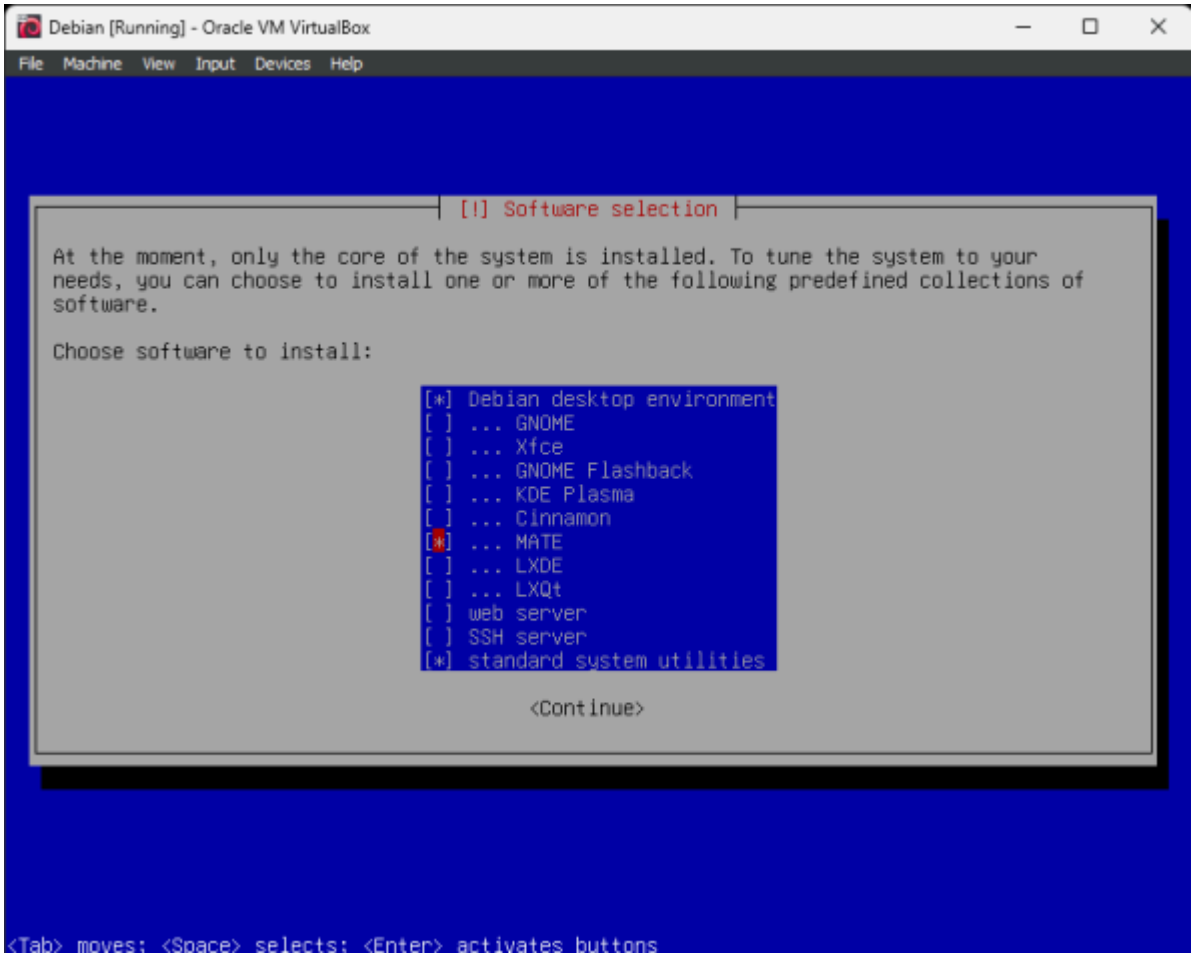
A mirror is where (which server) you'll download your Debian package from, pick the closest one to your location, it often is the best choice. Then it'll display the mirror from the country you picked, the first one is the official one, I suggest that you pick this one.



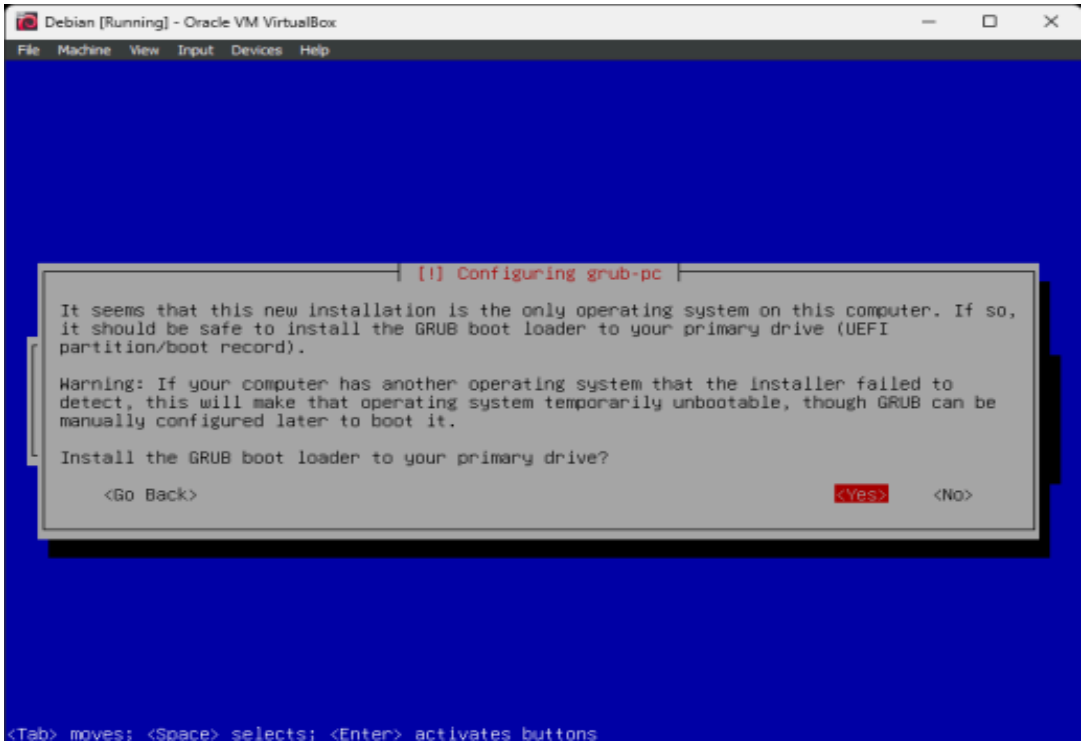
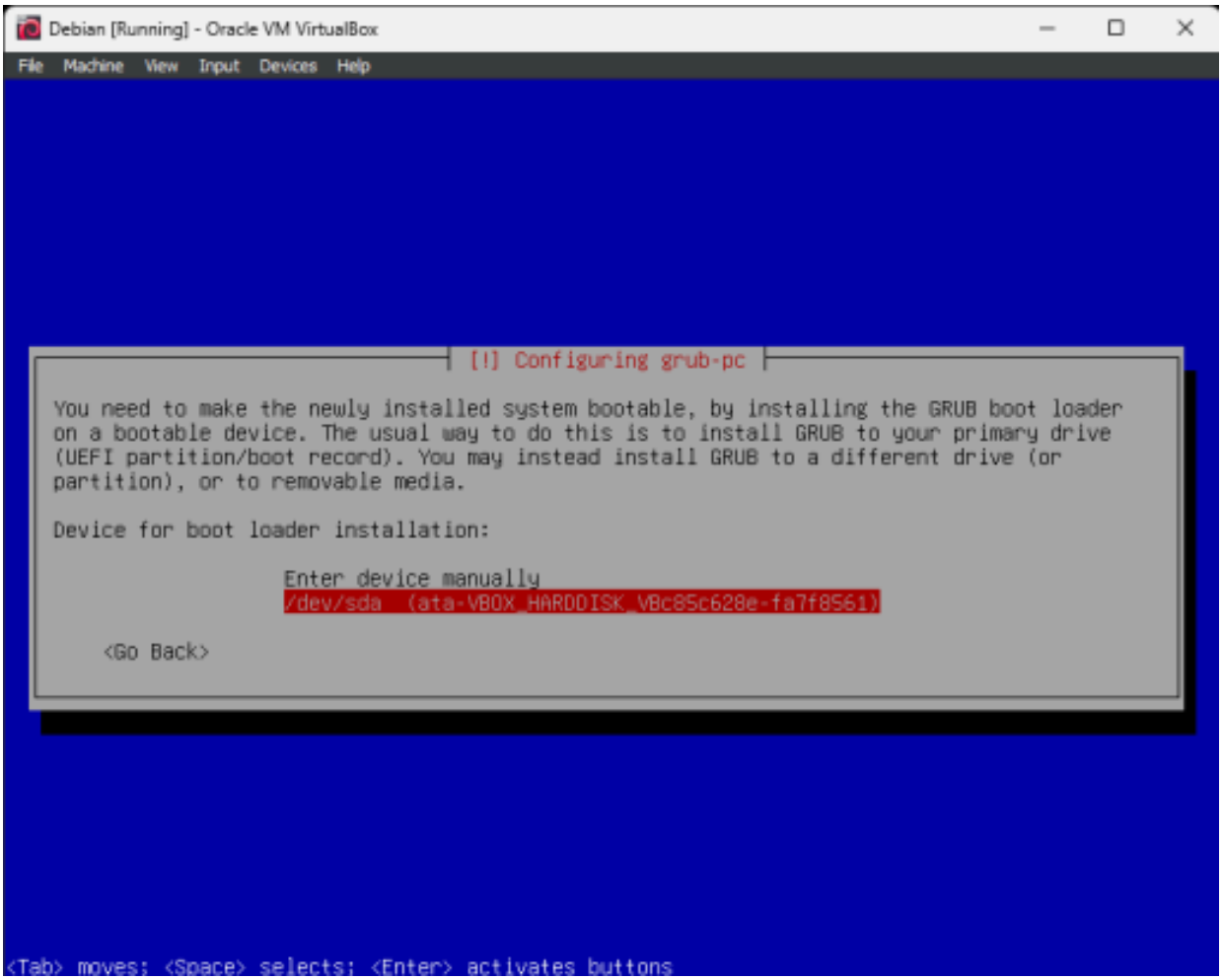
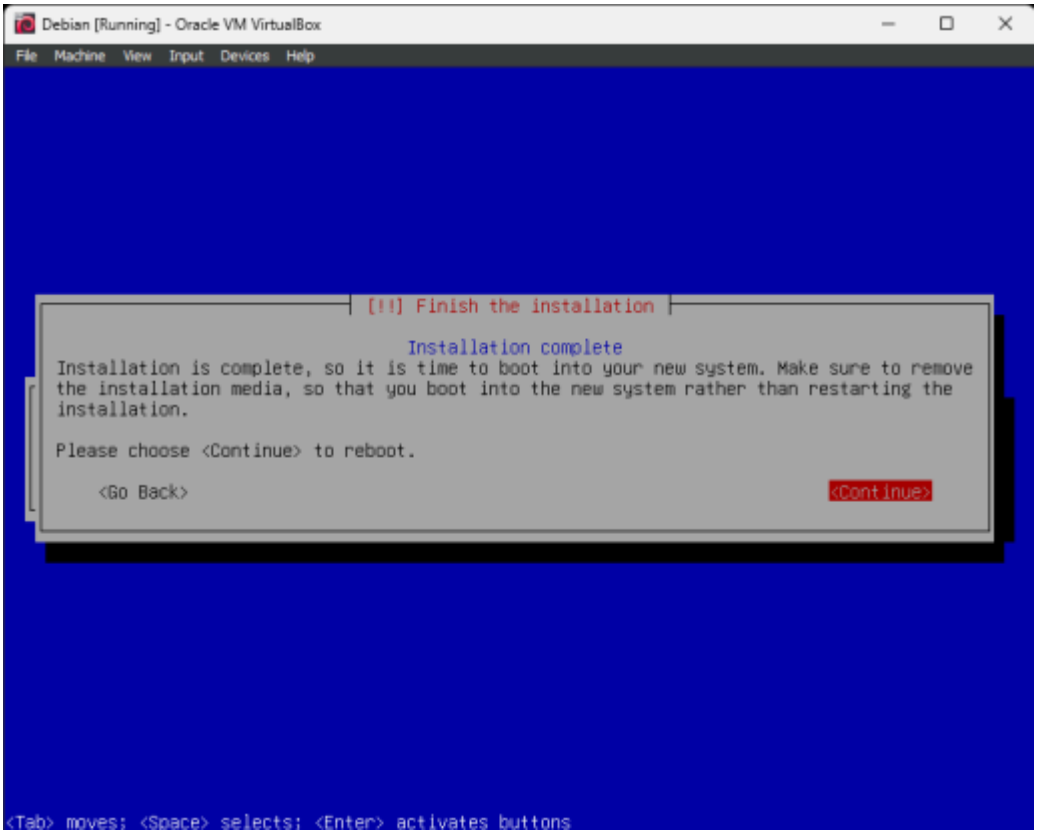


Last but not least, you may choose what graphical environment you want, by default, "gnome" is checked, but you can change it by unchecking it (press space) and check another like "mate". Let checked the debian desktop environment and the standard system

utilities, they’ll be useful. (Without them, you'll not have any graphical environment, useful for serveurs but not for our goal).



As you can see, this panel allows you to choose the desktop and software package that’ll come with your brand new machine, don’t worry you’ll be able to change it whenever you want to, later.



That’ll pretty much be it for you first virtual machine, if you want to exit it, ALT + F4 and save your changes.