Guide to Installing Kali Linux on VMware Workstation

This document will guide you through installing Kali Linux on VMware Workstation using the ISO file. Many people wonder why they should use the ISO file when an OVA file is available. While both methods are valid, using the ISO file offers users full control over storage allocation and other settings. For example, you can allocate 20 GB of RAM to one storage file.

Ultimately, choosing between the ISO and OVA file depends on the user's needs and technical knowledge. Technical knowledge can be gained through books and videos, but the ability to install operating systems from scratch is a valuable skill that many cybersecurity students lack. Students often focus on securing systems without understanding how the operating system operates. For instance, if you are tasked with securing a web application hosted on Ubuntu but don't know how to navigate or install the system, you won't be able to secure it effectively.

"If you don't know how it works or how it's built, you will not be able to secure it."
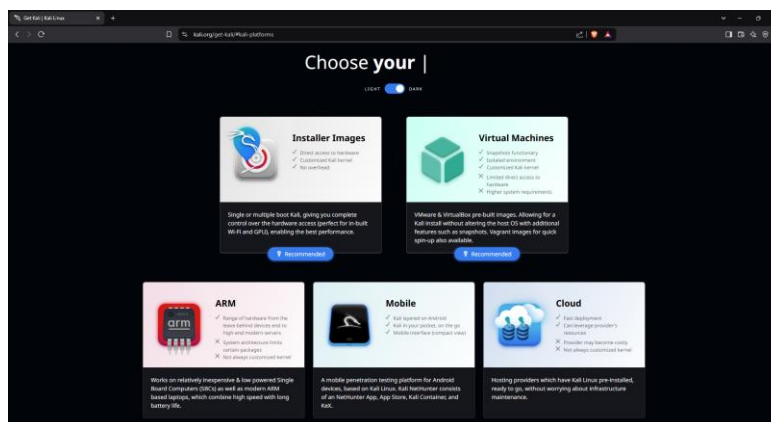
Objectives:

Installation of the ISO from the Kali.org website.

Create a Kali Linux virtual machine.

Set up the Kali Linux machine for use.

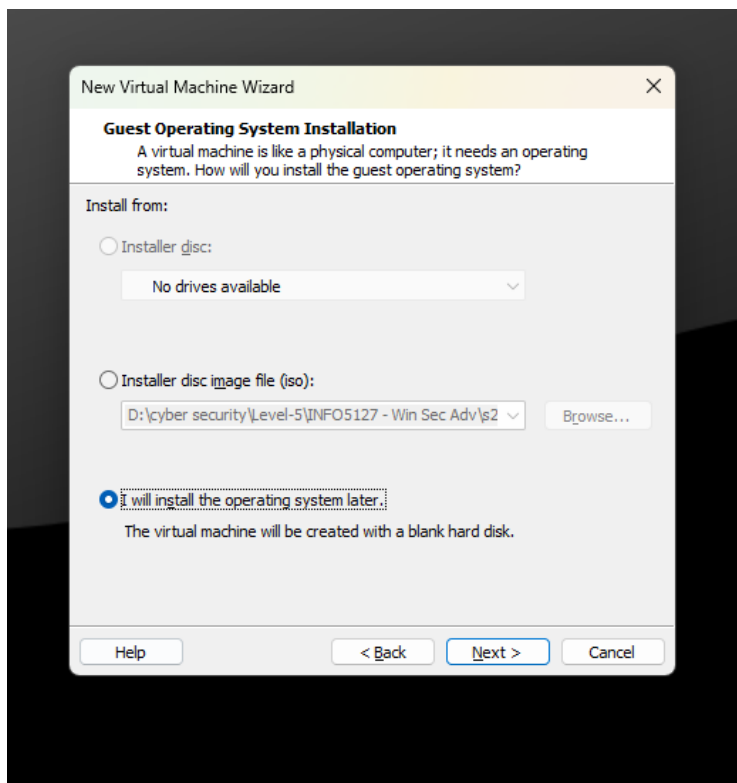**Steps 1: Installation of the ISO.**

1. Open any browser you prefer and type for kali.org in the search bar.
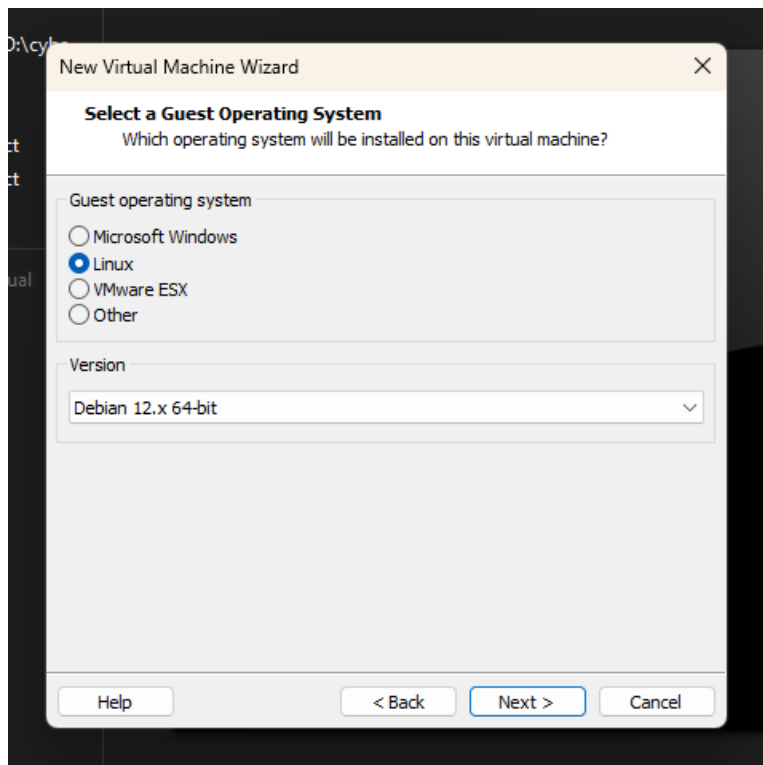2. Open the first link say kali.org. and go to download.

3. Click on the Installer images and install the installer which will be around 4 gb. I have already download it so not gone download again.
4. Keep the iso safe and handy. Now let's jump to your VMware workstation.

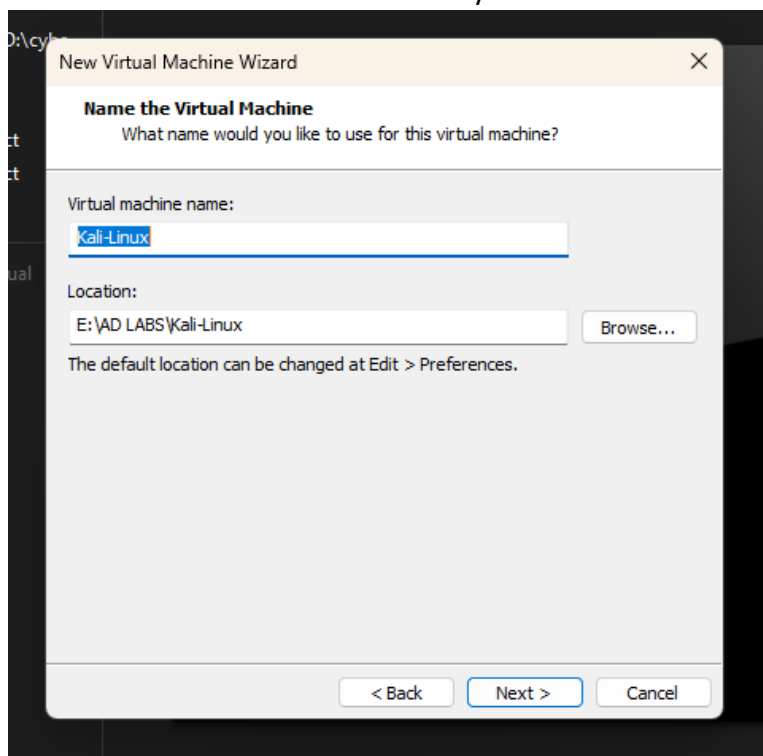**Steps 2: Create a Kali Linux machine.**

1. Click on the file and create new machine. Click on the custom and use the latest version of workstation.

2. Click next, for the guest operating system click install it later.
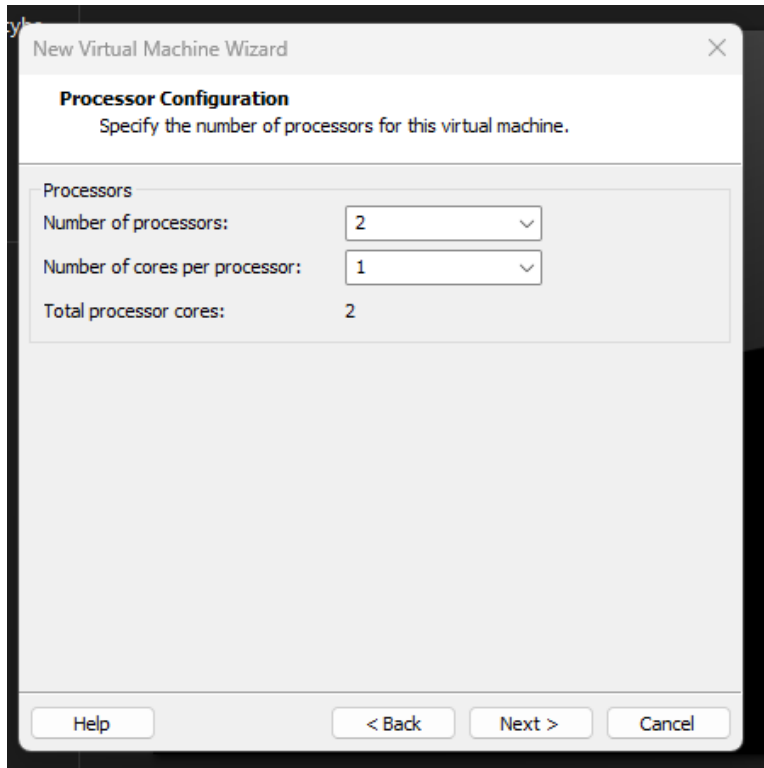

3. Click next, for guest operating system version, click Linux radio button and for version choose Debain 12.x 64-bit.
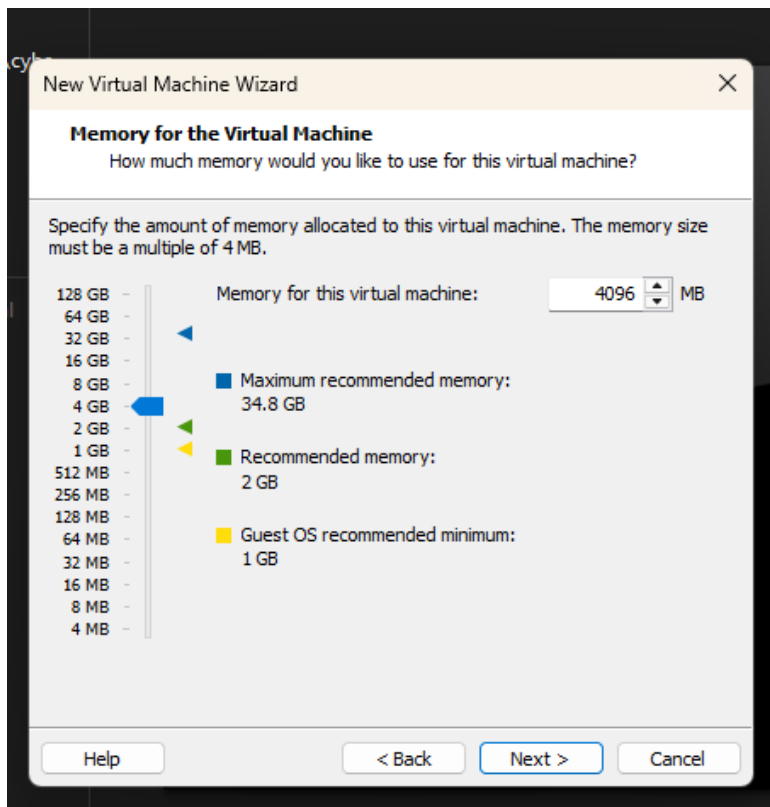
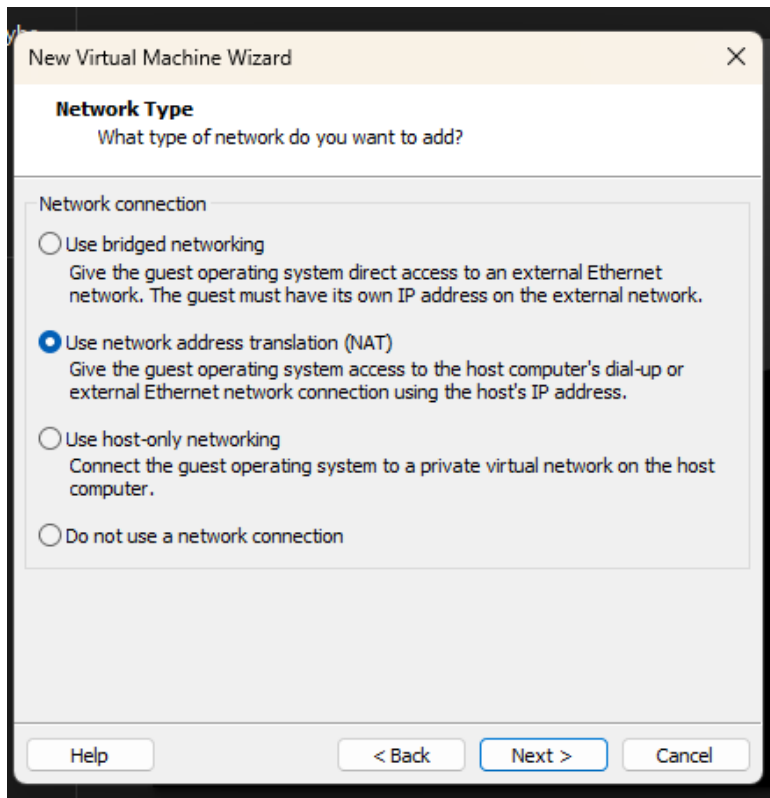4. Now the virtual machine a name of you chooses. And the storage.

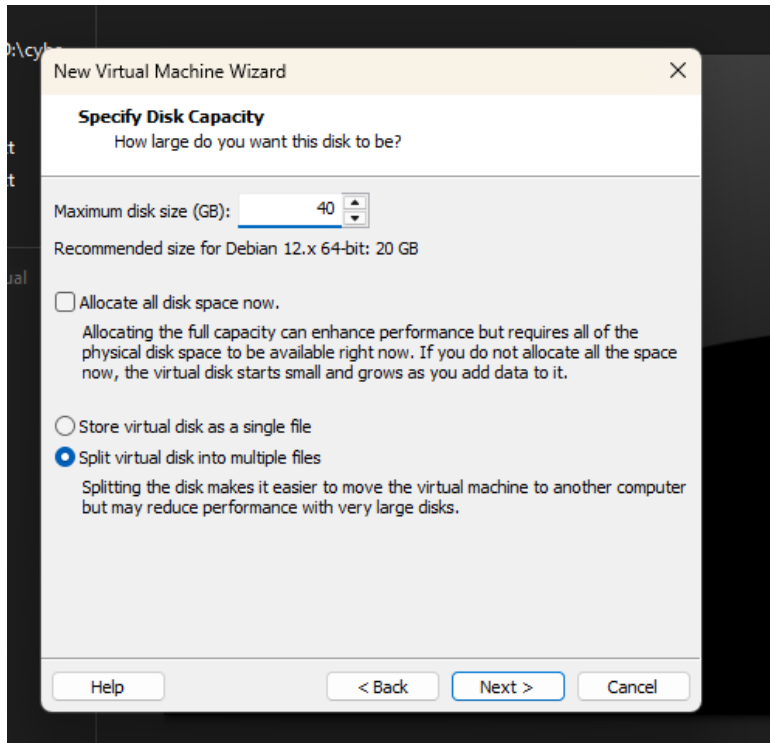5. Click it 2 processors number and 1 core per processor.

6. Give it 4 gb ram, if you want to use it in a way that's need extra ram give it.
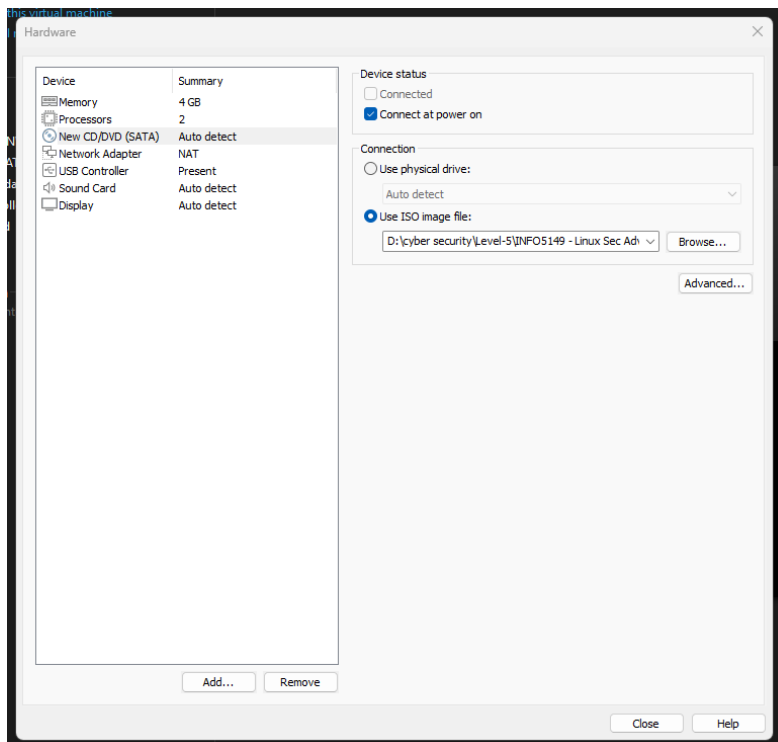
7. Use the nat network.

8. Keep everything else as default.

9. For storage give 40 gb storage and choose store virtual disk as a single file.
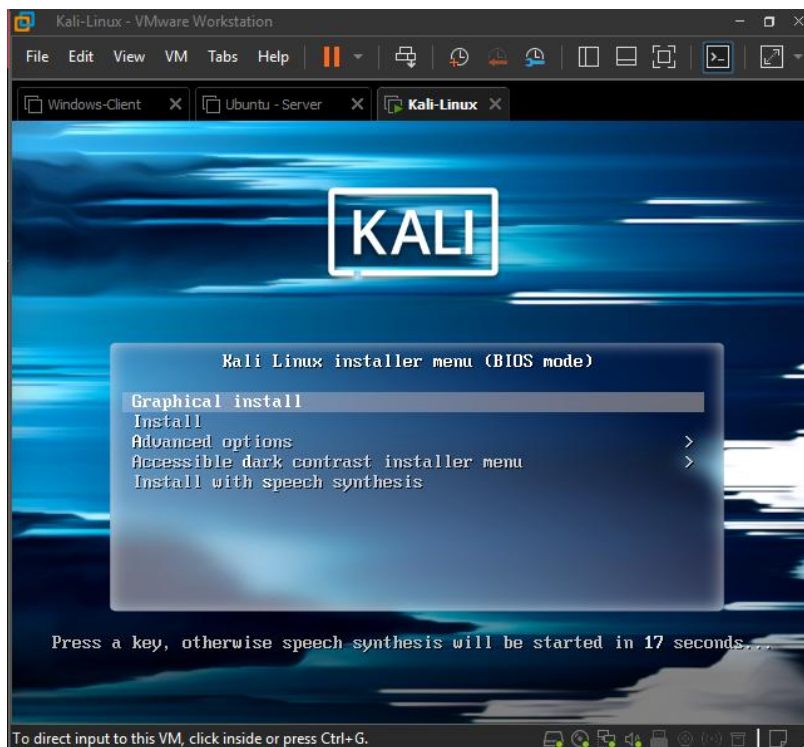
10. Click next until you a customize hardware option. Click the customize hardware button. Now a hardware dialog will open, now we have to add the kali Linux iso that we have downloaded. To add the iso, go to New CD/DVD and in connection add the iso under Use ISO image file:
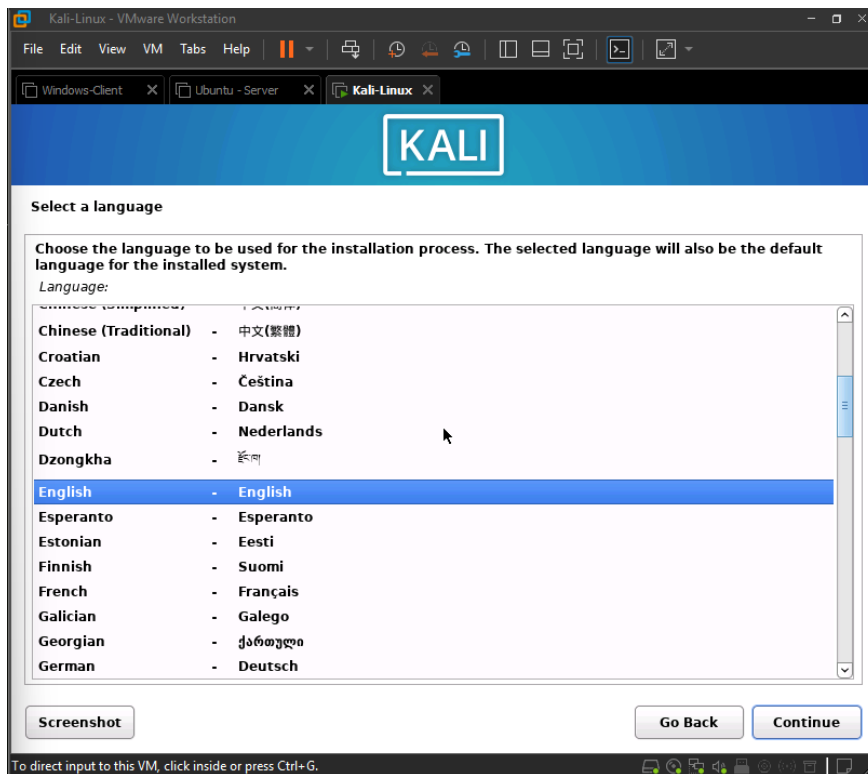
11. Good News, we have successfully created new virtual machine.

Step 3: Setup Kali Linux.

1. Now power on the virtual Machine that we recently created.

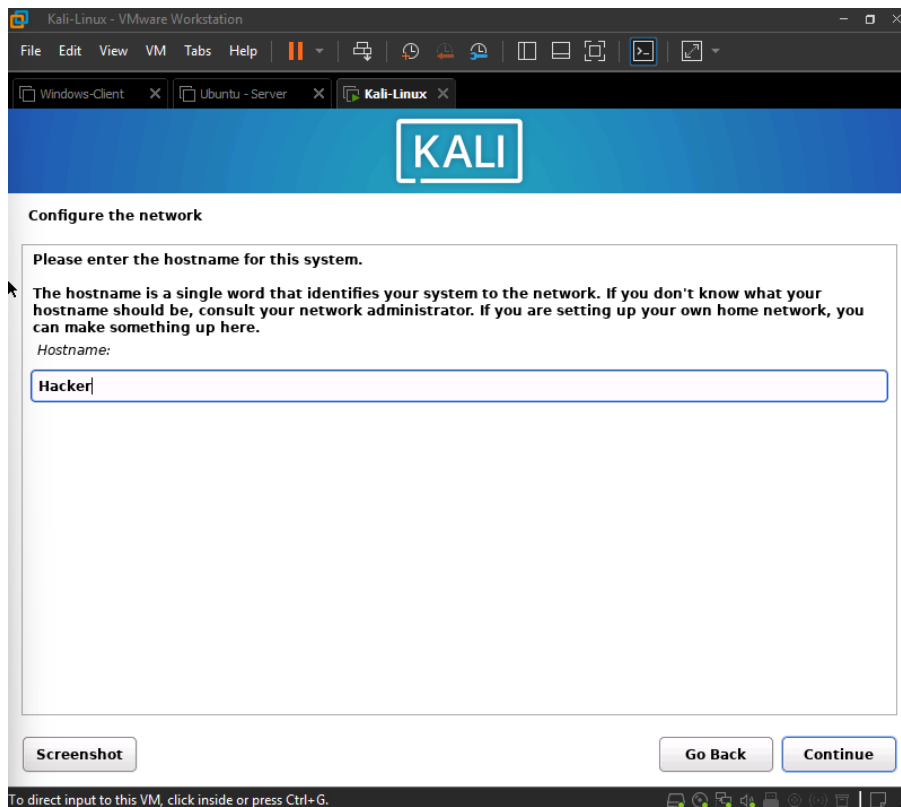2. Now you will be prompted to choose the installation. Select the graphical install.

3. Now select the language that you prefer. I prefer English I go with English.
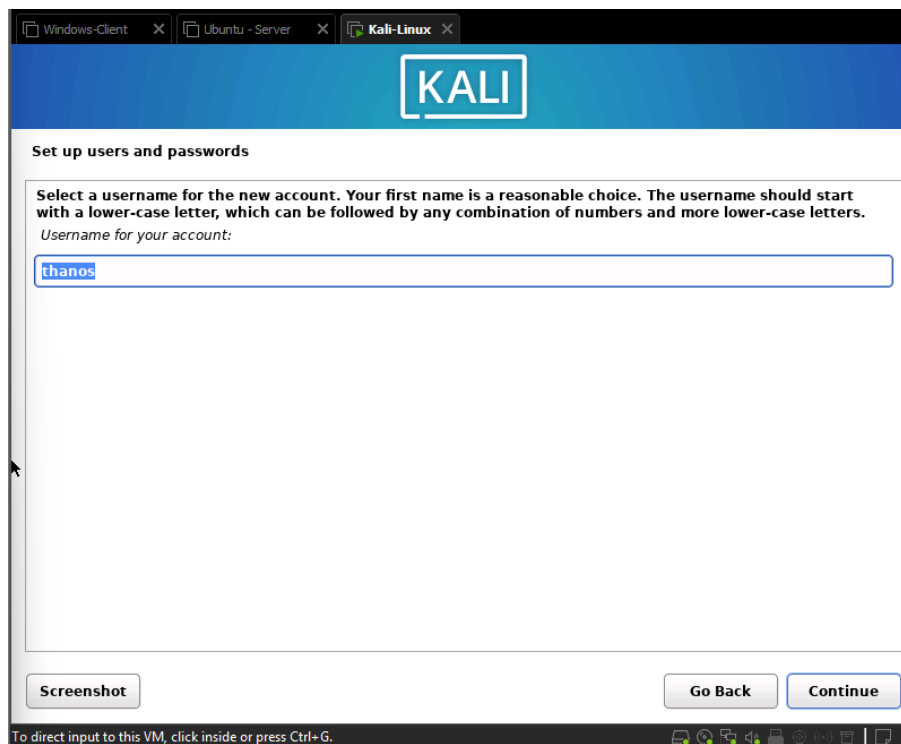
4. Select the region, I am in Canada I choose.

5. Select the keyboard, Now the installation will do some stuff like scanning mount devices and loading some additional components needed for the installation.
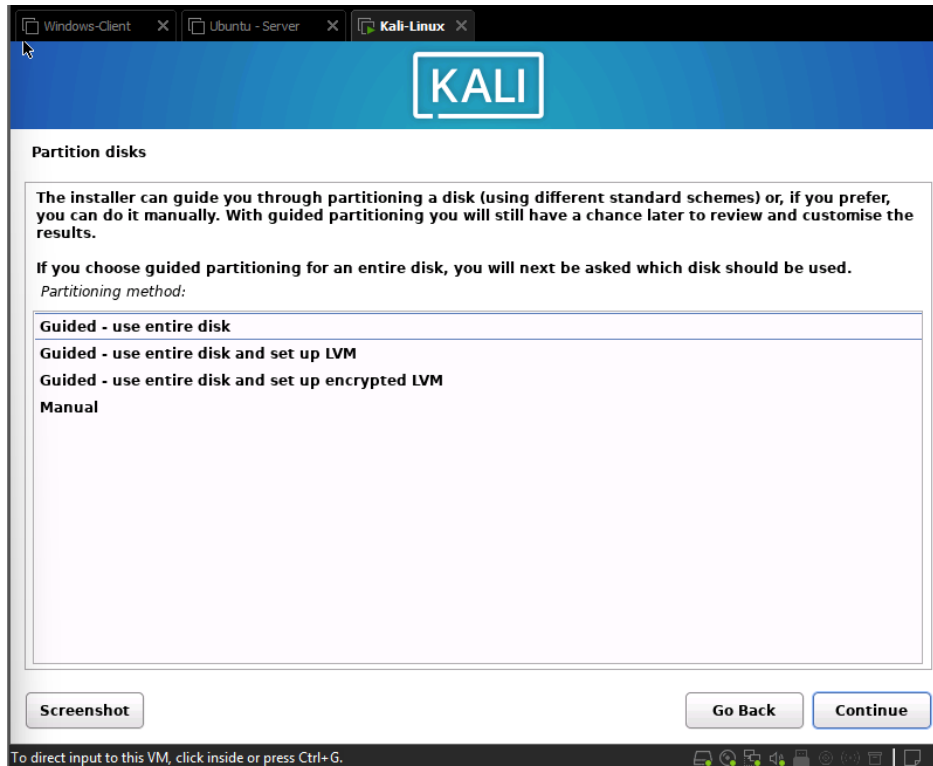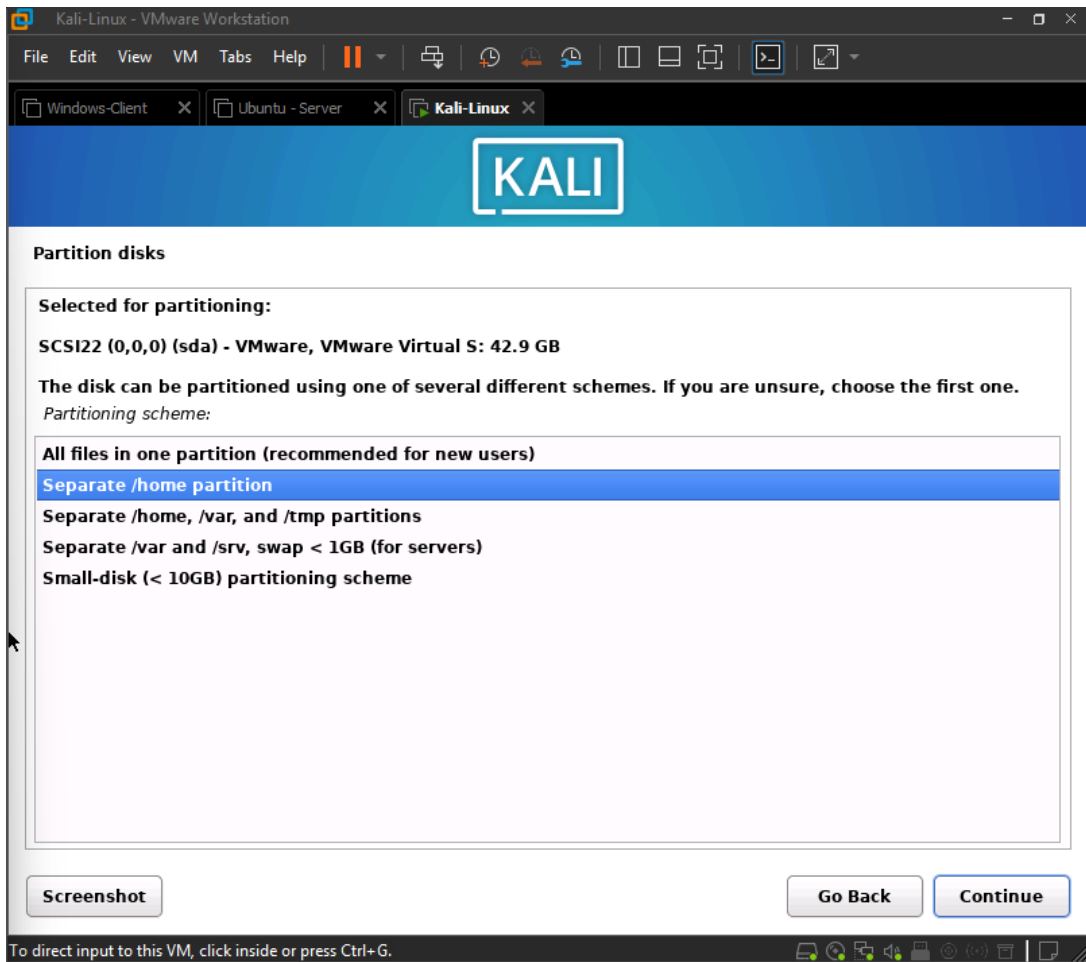
6. Give the kali Linux a hostname.

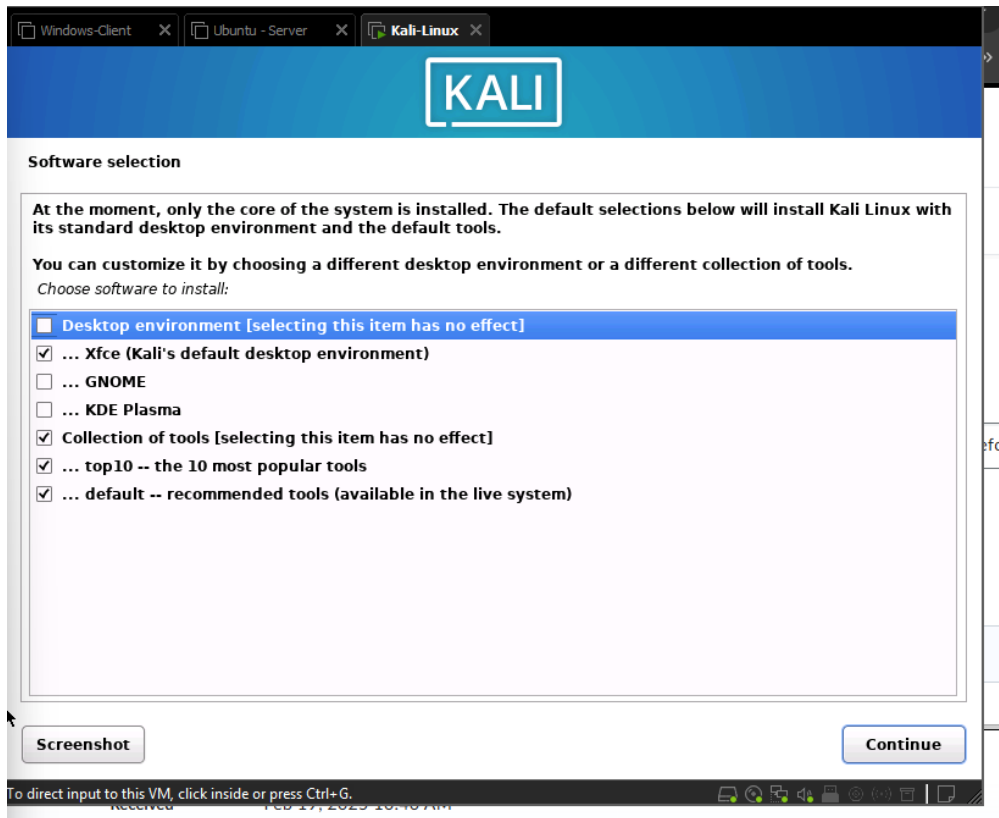7. Now we create a new user, give the full name of user and username.

8. Give a password, choose the time zone.

9. For the partition disks, use the guided – use entire disk.

10. Then click continue, now for the selected for partitioning, use separate /home partition.

11. Then click continue and Finish partitioning and write changes to disk.

12. For the write changes to disks choose yes and click continue.

13. Now we must install pre software so here some are preselected like xfce which graphical environment for kali. Then top 10 most popular tools of kali.
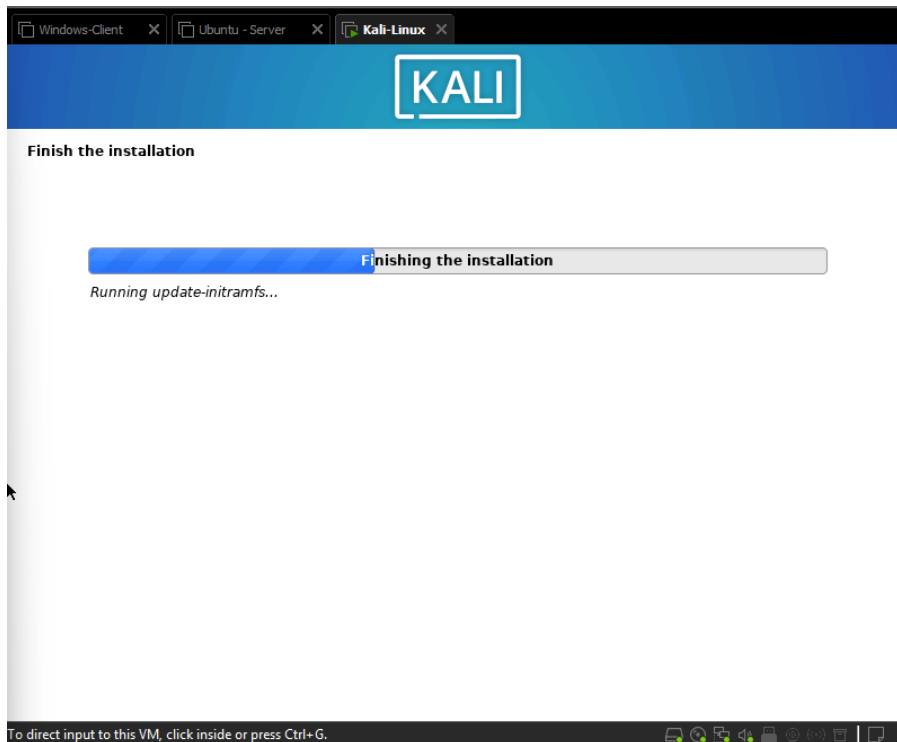
14. Click continue, wait for the software to be installed, you can grab a coffee if you want or just watch some reels.
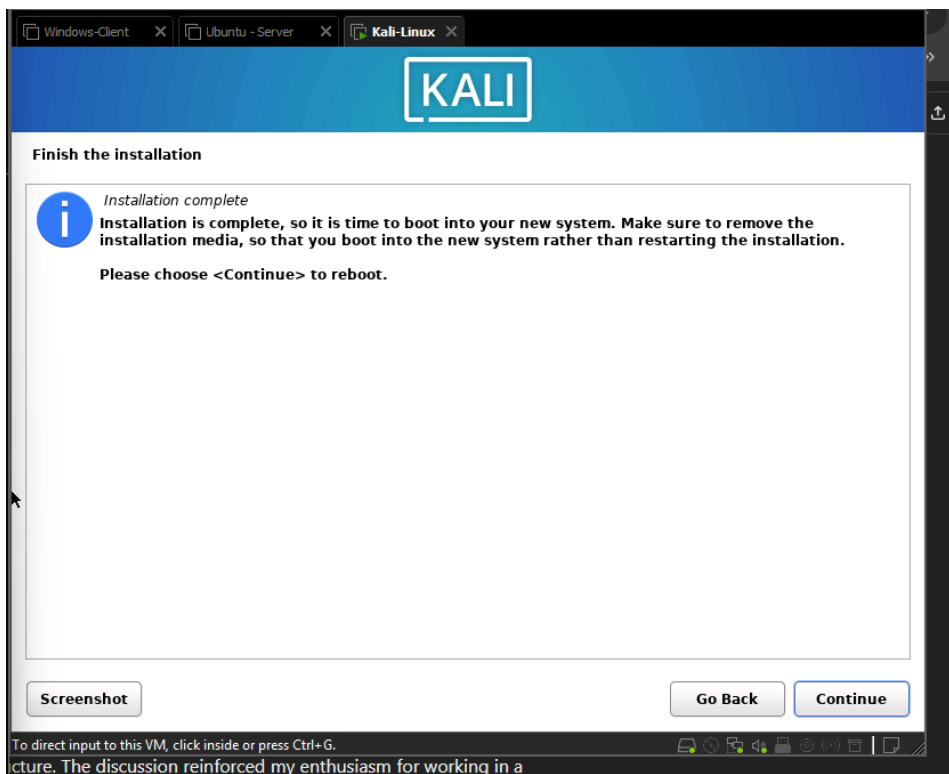
15. For the Install the Grub boot loader, choose yes.
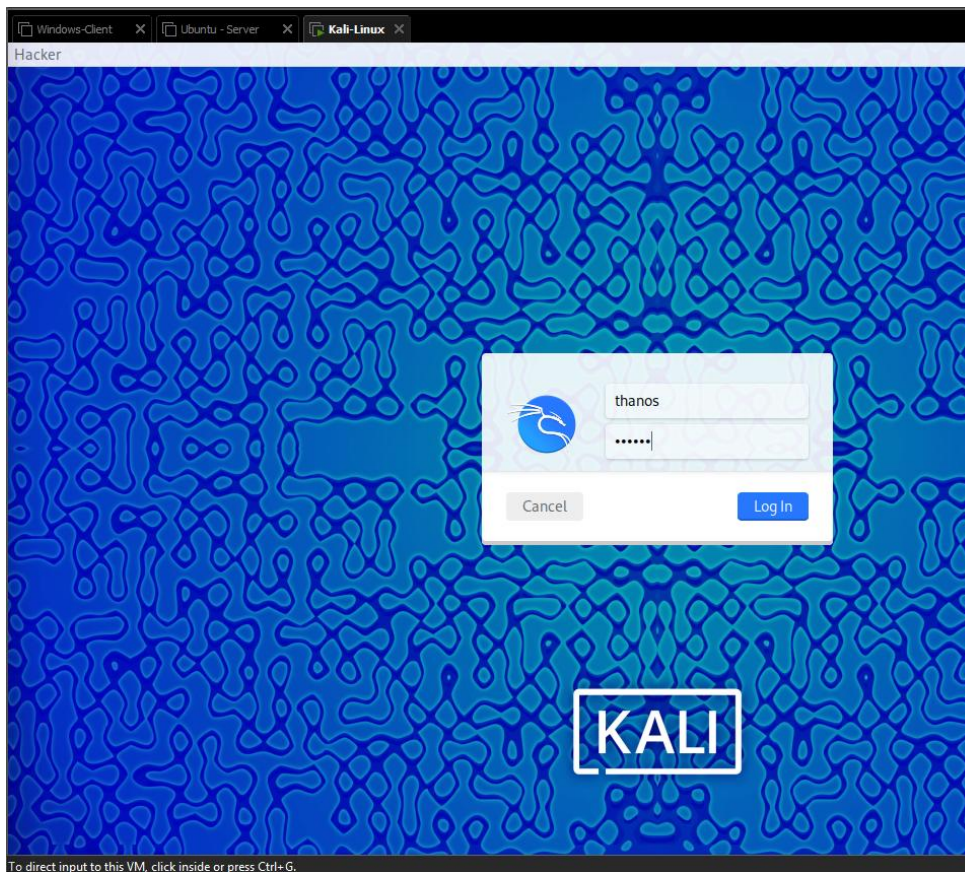
16. For install it, in /dev/sda.

17. Now finish the installation.

18. Now, choose to continue to reboot.

19. Now you will see the login screen. Login using the user and password we created earlier.

Congratulations, we have installed a kali Linux from scratch.