

How to Install VMware Workstation on Arch Linux / Manjaro

By [Josphat Mutai](#) - May 1, 2019

This guide will show you how to easily install VMware Workstation pro/player on Arch Linux / Manjaro Linux distribution. VMware Workstation is a hypervisor used for running multiple operating systems on a single Linux or Windows PC.

It enables developers and users to set up virtual machines on a single physical machine, and run them simultaneously along with the host operating system. There are two distinct types of VMware Workstation – Pro edition and Player edition.

Step 1: Install yay AUR helper

Start by installing a smart AUR helper called yay.

[yay – Best AUR Helper for Arch Linux / Manjaro.](#)

Step 2: Install Dependencies

Install all required dependencies for running VMware Workstation on Arch Linux / Manjaro.

```
sudo pacman -S fuse2 gtkmm linux-headers pcsclite libcanberra
```

The other package needed by the *-console* installer is *ncurses5-compat-libs*. This is available on AUR.

```
yay -S --noconfirm --needed ncurses5-compat-libs
```

Step 3: Install VMware Workstation Pro or Player

You have two options:

Option 1: Install from Package build for x86_64

The *vmware-workstation* package is available on AUR and can be installed by running the command.

```
yay -S --noconfirm --needed vmware-workstation
```

Then, as desired, enable some of the following services:

- `vmware-networks.service` for guest network access
- `vmware-usbarbitrator.service` for connecting USB devices to guest
- `vmware-hostd.service` for sharing virtual machines

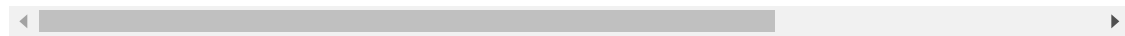
Example:

```
sudo systemctl enable vmware-networks.service vmware-usbarbitrator
sudo systemctl start vmware-networks.service vmware-usbarbitrator.s
```



Confirm services status with:

```
sudo systemctl status vmware-networks.service vmware-usbarbitrator
```



Lastly, load the VMware modules:

```
sudo modprobe -a vmw_vmci vmmon
```

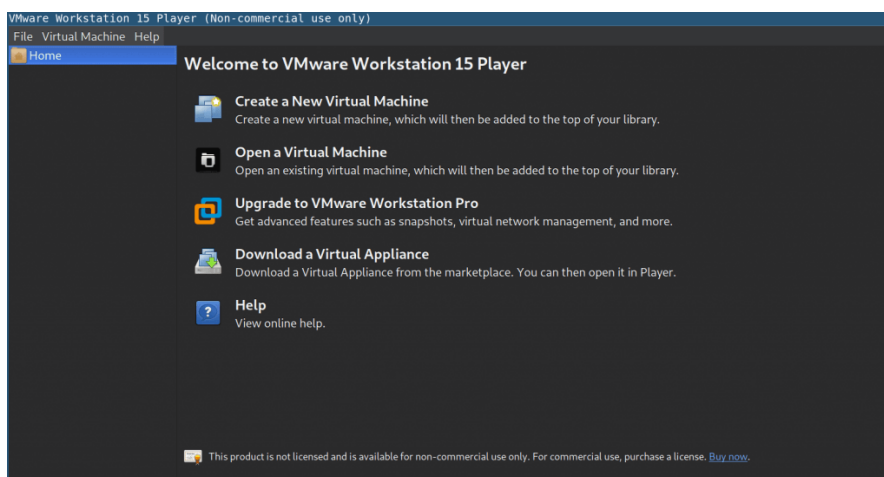
To Launch VMware Workstation, run:

```
# Launch VMware Workstation Pro:
```

```
$ vmware
```

```
# Launch VMware Workstation Player
```

```
$ vmplayer
```



Option 2: Install Using VMware bundle

Download the latest VMware Workstation Pro or Player

Choose the VMware edition to go with and download it. Here are Download links.

- Download [VMware Workstation Pro](#)
- Download [VMware WorkstationPlayer](#)

After download is complete, start the installation using the bundle file downloaded.

```
$ chmod +x VMware-Player-15.0.4-12990004.x86_64.bundle
$ sudo ./VMware-Player-15.0.4-12990004.x86_64.bundle
Extracting VMware Installer...done.
```

The installer UI will be launched. Accept License Agreement terms and click **next**.

On the next screen, choose System service scripts directory, use **/etc/init.d** (the default).

Select if to allow product updates check on startup.

Choose “**yes**” to join VMware’s Customer Experience Improvement Program(“CEIP”). Use “**no**” to decline.

Enter License key if you have one.

The installation should finish in a few minutes.

If successful, a success message will be shown.

Configure VMware Workstation systemd services

Add **vmware.service**.

```
cat <<EOF | sudo tee /etc/systemd/system/vmware.service
[Unit]
Description=VMware daemon
Requires=vmware-usbarbitrator.service
Before=vmware-usbarbitrator.service
After=network.target

[Service]
ExecStart=/etc/init.d/vmware start
ExecStop=/etc/init.d/vmware stop
PIDFile=/var/lock/subsys/vmware
RemainAfterExit=yes

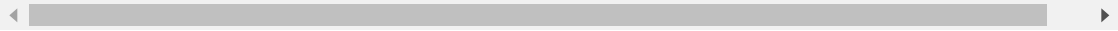
[Install]
WantedBy=multi-user.target
EOF
```

Add **vmware-usbarbitrator.service**.

```
cat <<EOF | sudo tee /etc/systemd/system/vmware-usbarbitrator.service
[Unit]
Description=VMware USB Arbitrator
Requires=vmware.service
After=vmware.service

[Service]
ExecStart=/usr/bin/vmware-usbarbitrator
ExecStop=/usr/bin/vmware-usbarbitrator --kill
RemainAfterExit=yes

[Install]
WantedBy=multi-user.target
EOF
```




Add this service as well, if you want to connect to your VMware Workstation installation from another Workstation Server Console:

```
cat <<EOF | sudo tee /etc/systemd/system/vmware-workstation-server.service
[Unit]
Description=VMware Workstation Server
Requires=vmware.service
After=vmware.service

[Service]
ExecStart=/etc/init.d/vmware-workstation-server start
ExecStop=/etc/init.d/vmware-workstation-server stop
PIDFile=/var/lock/subsys/vmware-workstation-server
RemainAfterExit=yes

[Install]
WantedBy=multi-user.target
EOF
```



Start VMware services.

```
sudo systemctl daemon-reload
sudo systemctl start vmware.service vmware-usbarbitrator.service
```

Recompiling VMware kernel modules

```
sudo vmware-modconfig --console --install-all
```

Uninstalling VMware Workstation on Arch / Manjaro – bundle

To uninstall VMware you need the product name, check installed products by running the command.

```
$ vmware-installer -l
Product Name      Product Version
=====
vmware-player     15.0.4.12990004
```

Run uninstallation with **-u** option.

```
sudo vmware-installer -u vmware-player --required
```

The **--required** skips the confirmation.

For installation from AUR, use:

```
$ yay -Rns vmware-workstation
```

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