Guide to Setting Up the Computer Club Virtual Machine with VirtualBox

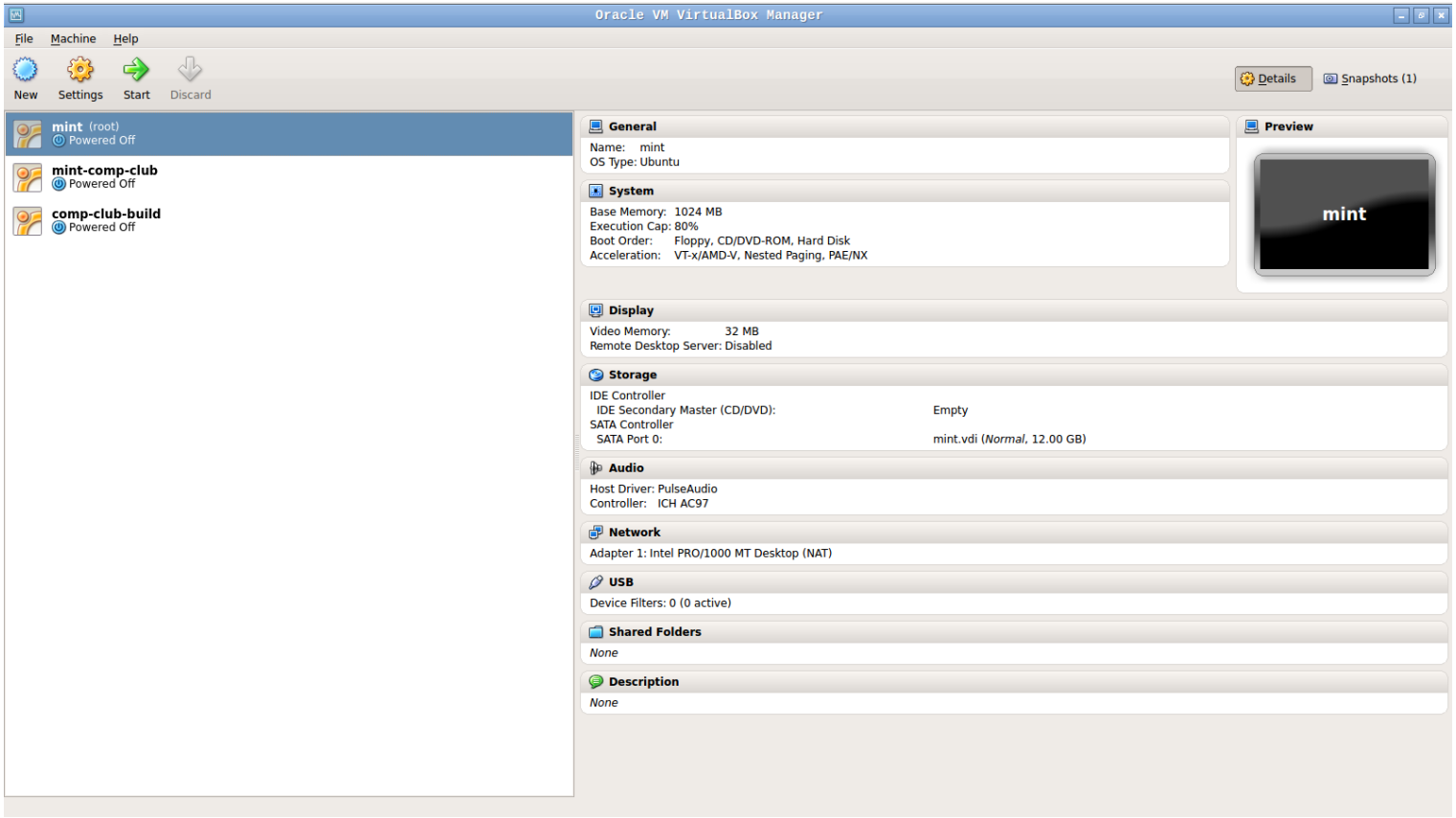
Version 2

Prerequisites:

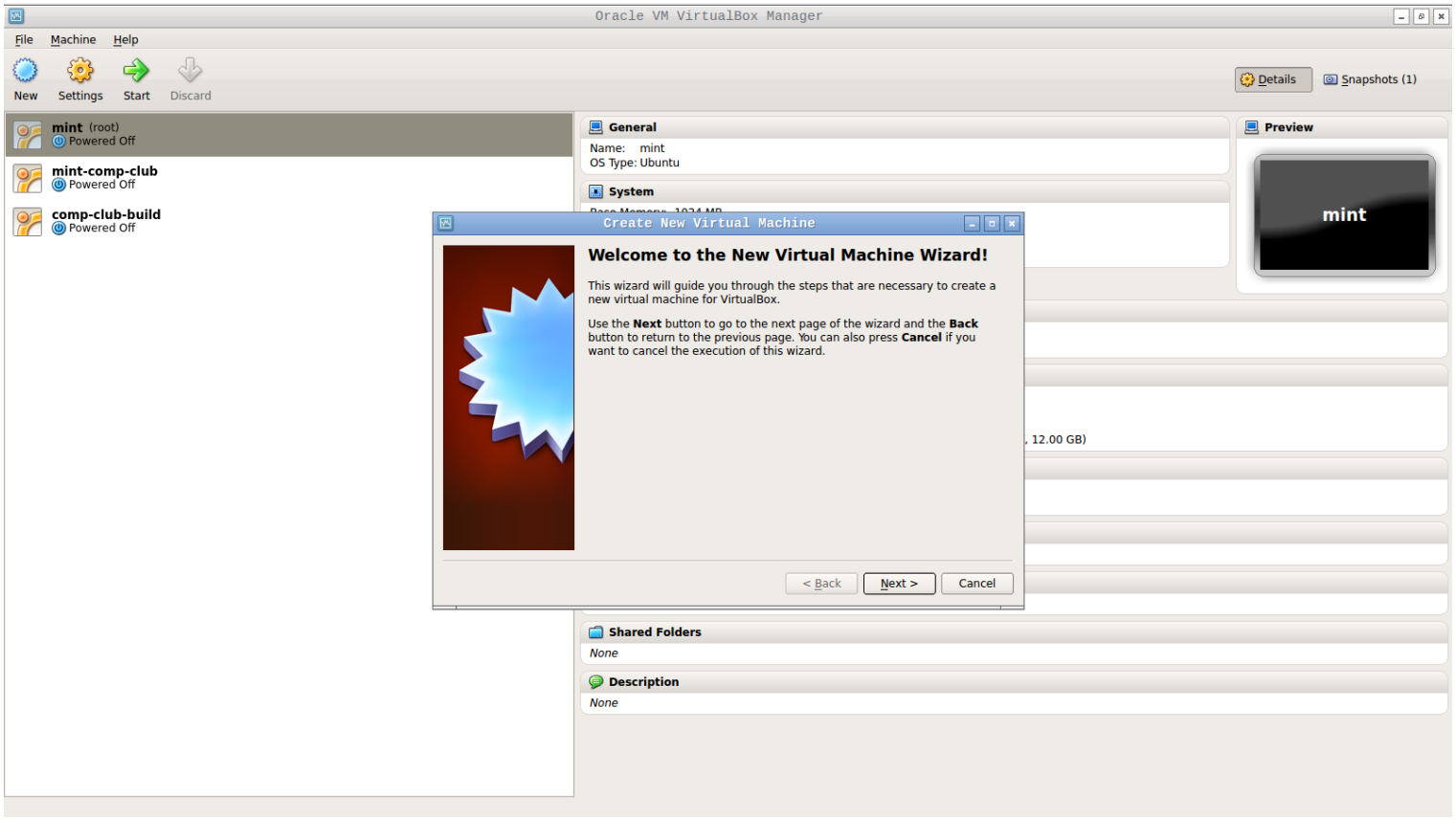
- VirtualBox is installed on your computer
- Possession of the virtual disk image (VDI) file containing the pre-installed, customised Ubuntu Linux system (on the shared drive). Access to the drive has now been set up and you should be able to copy the image over. If you don't have access to the folder, tell Patrick.

Instructions

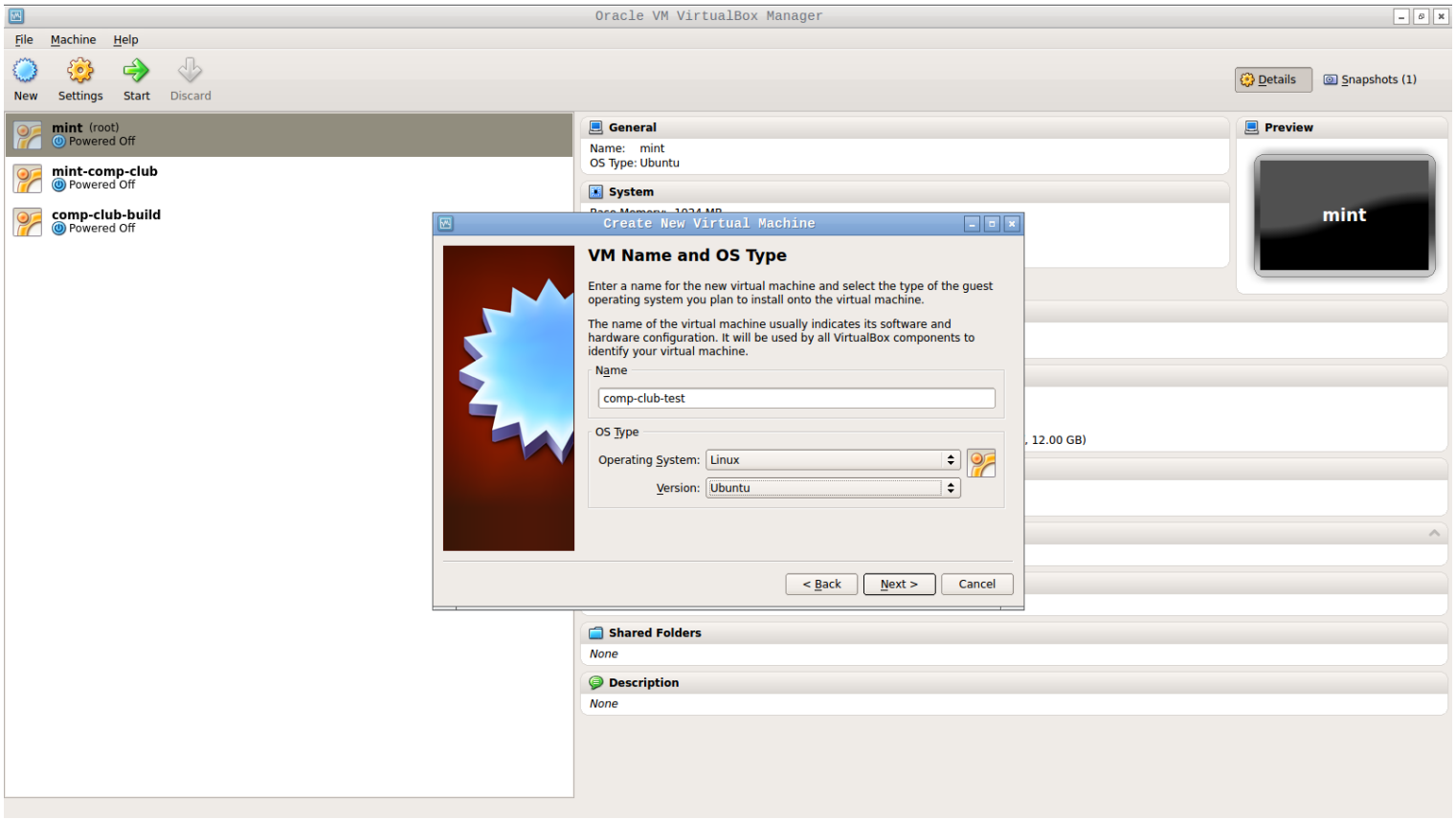
- Fire up VirtualBox as you would any other program. The interface should be the same across all Operating Systems.
- If you haven't played with VirtualBox yet, the left hand panel will be blank, as you haven't created any VMs yet. As I've already made some, you can see them (mint, mint-comp-club, and comp-club-build) in the screenshot.



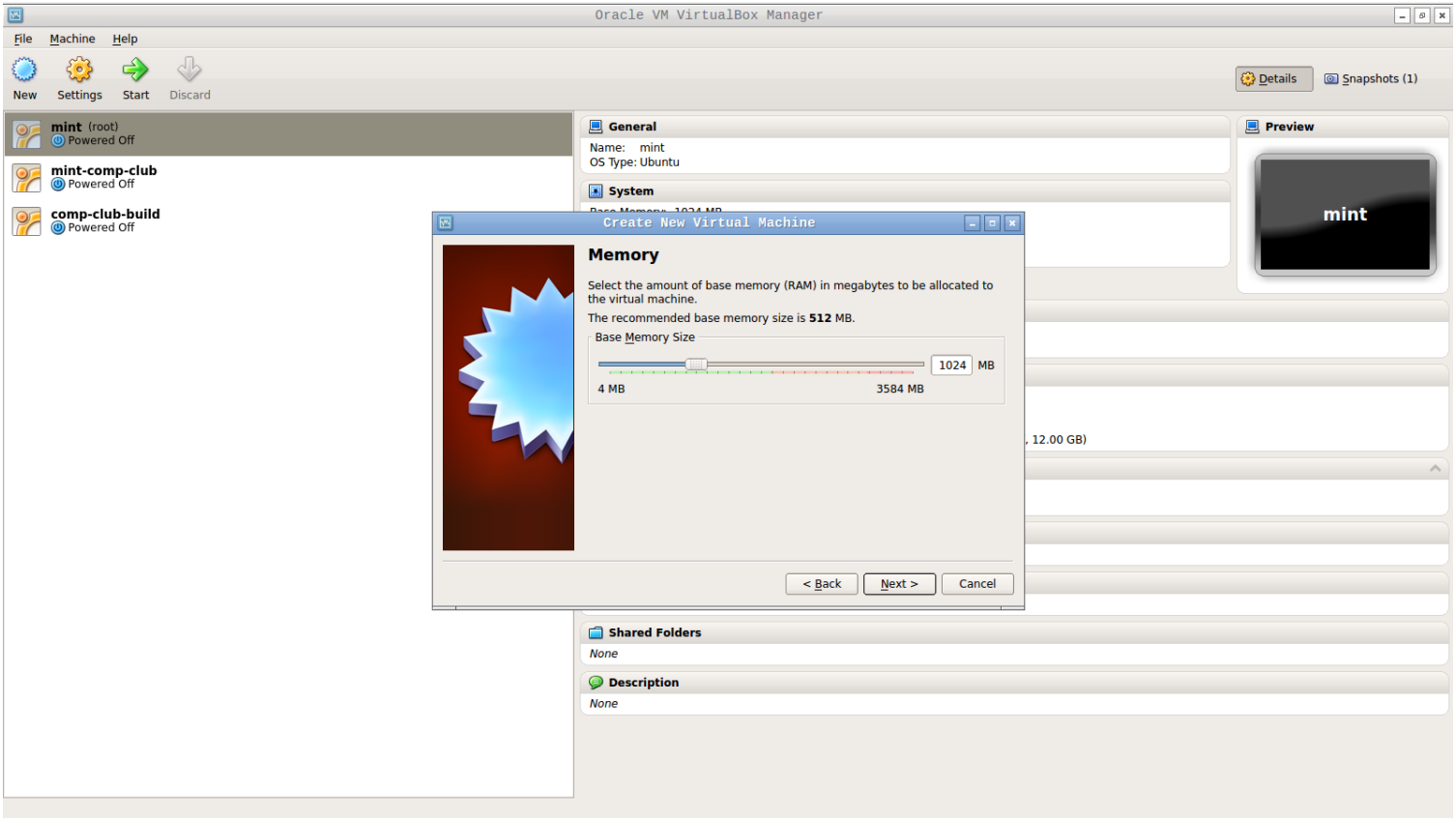
- As you can see, once you've made a VM, you can see information about its configuration on the right hand side, which basically tells you what sort of "fake" system VirtualBox is presenting to the OS you've installed in the VM
- Click "New" to make a new VM:



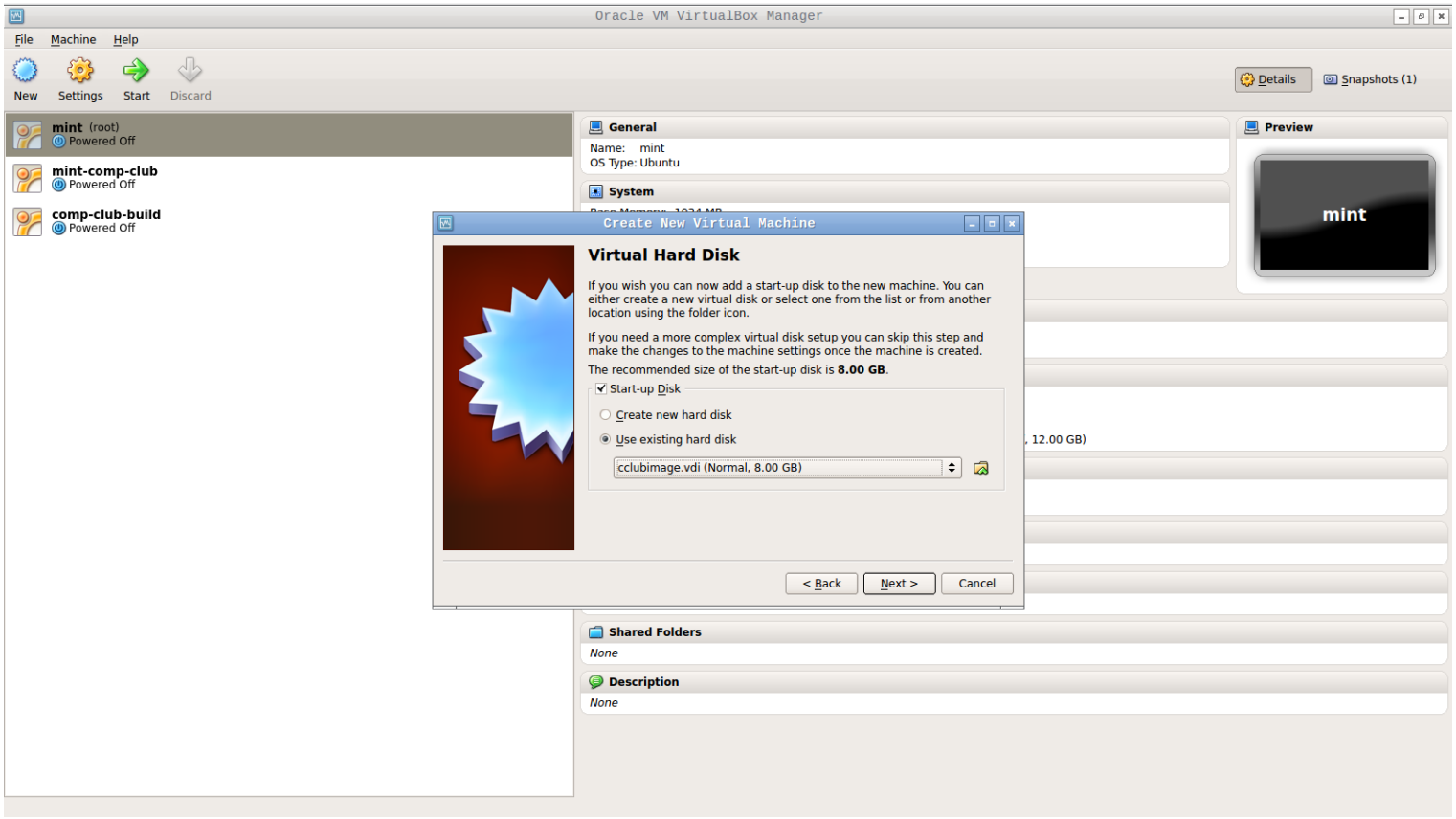
- Click "Next"
- Enter what you want to call your VM. It doesn't really matter what you choose.
- Choose your OS type. We want "Linux" and "Ubuntu". NB: DON'T select "Ubuntu (64-bit)"



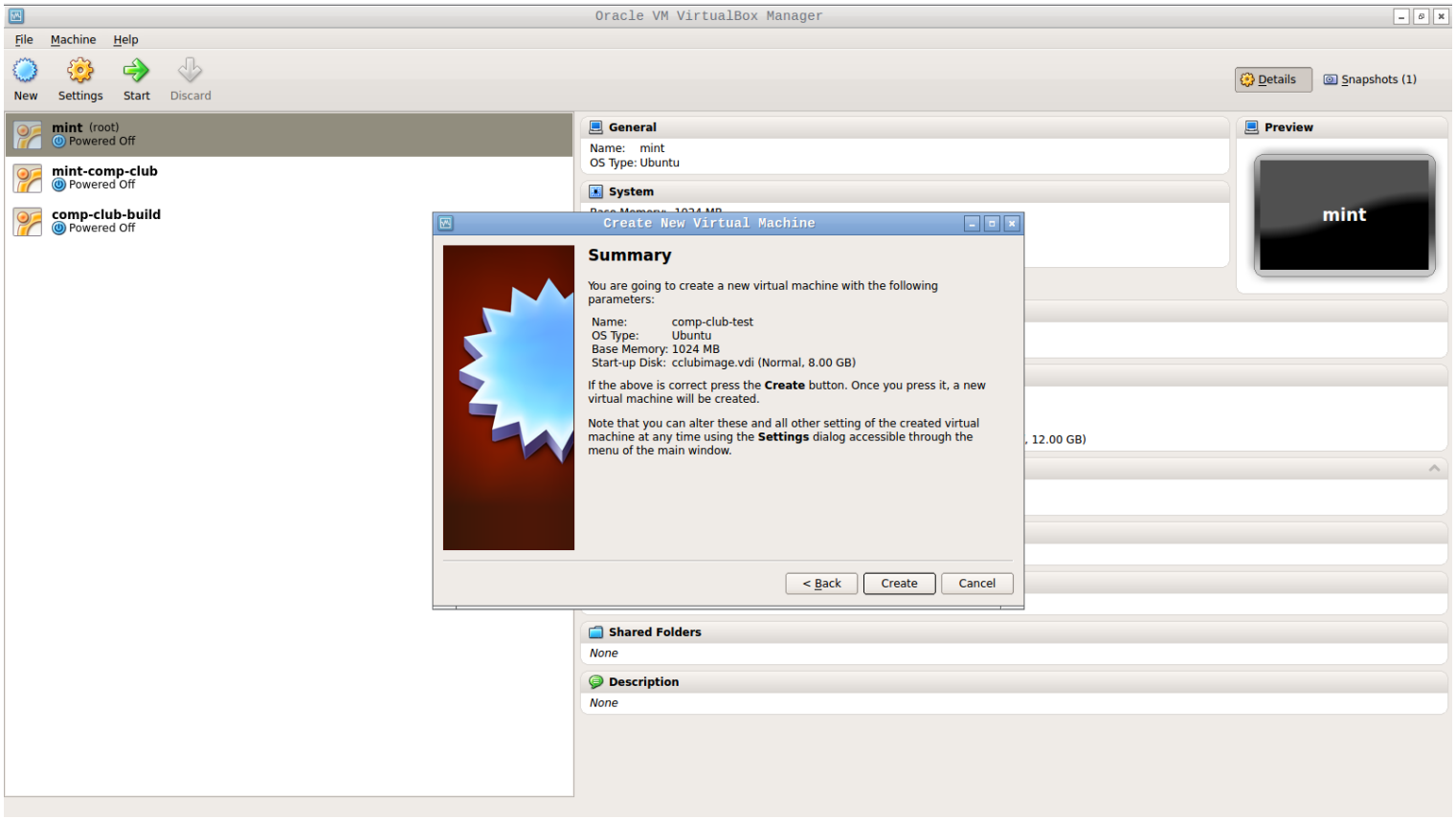
- Click "Next"
- Now select how much memory you want for your system. You probably shouldn't select more than half of how much memory you have on your system. 1GB RAM for the VM is more than enough. It will run fine on 512MB, but that might get a bit constricted if you run too many programs.

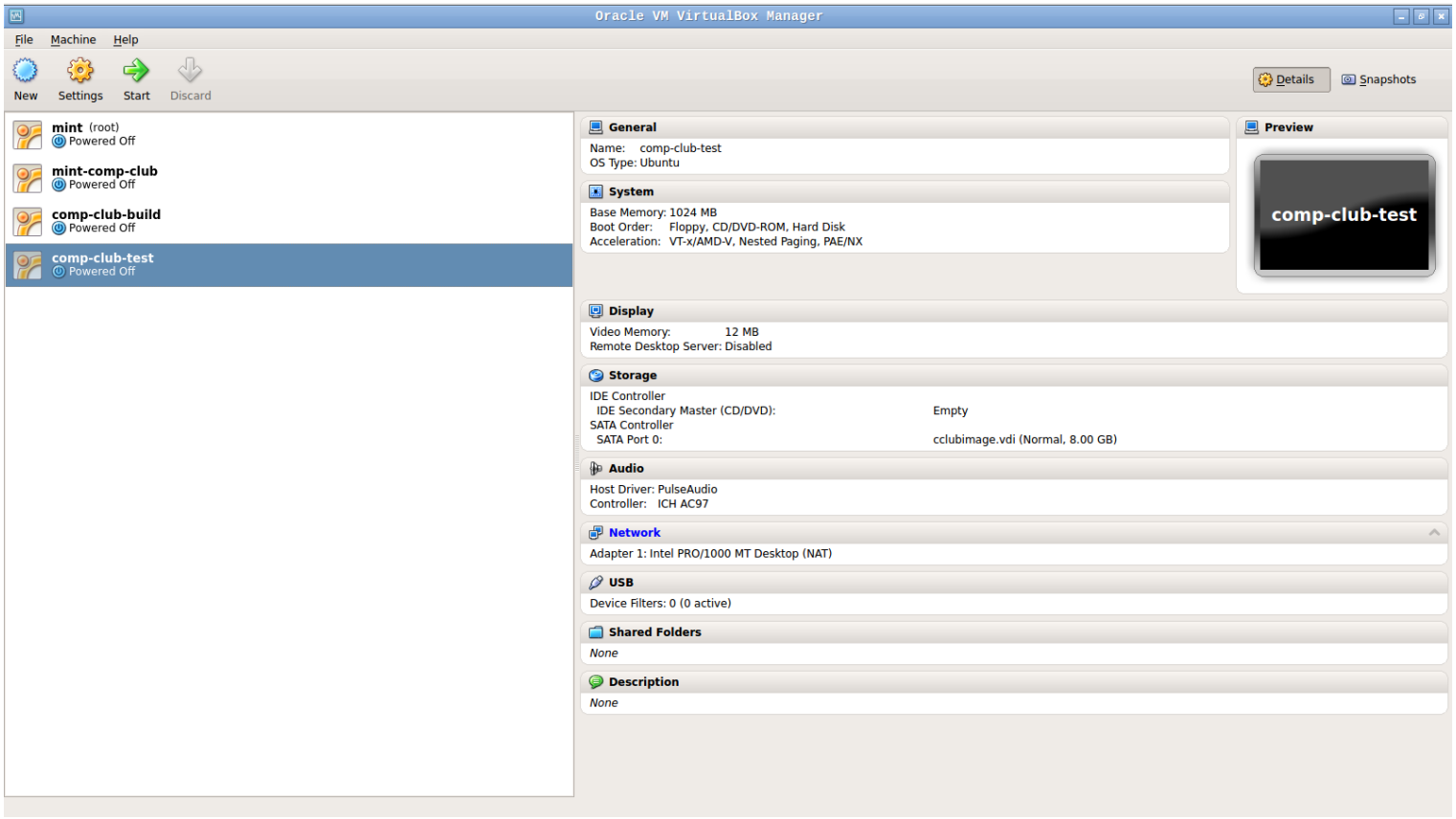


- Click "Next"
- You'll want to use an existing hard disk, so select "Use existing hard disk" and select it using the browse function
- This should be the image that you've copied to your (NTFS-formatted!) USB. DON'T use the image direct from the shared drive. Not only will it be slow, because it has to go over the network, but that's the clean image that's provided as a backup for anyone who's mucked up their VM and wants a working installation.



- Click "Next"
- Click "Create" to create your VM. It should appear in the left-hand panel.

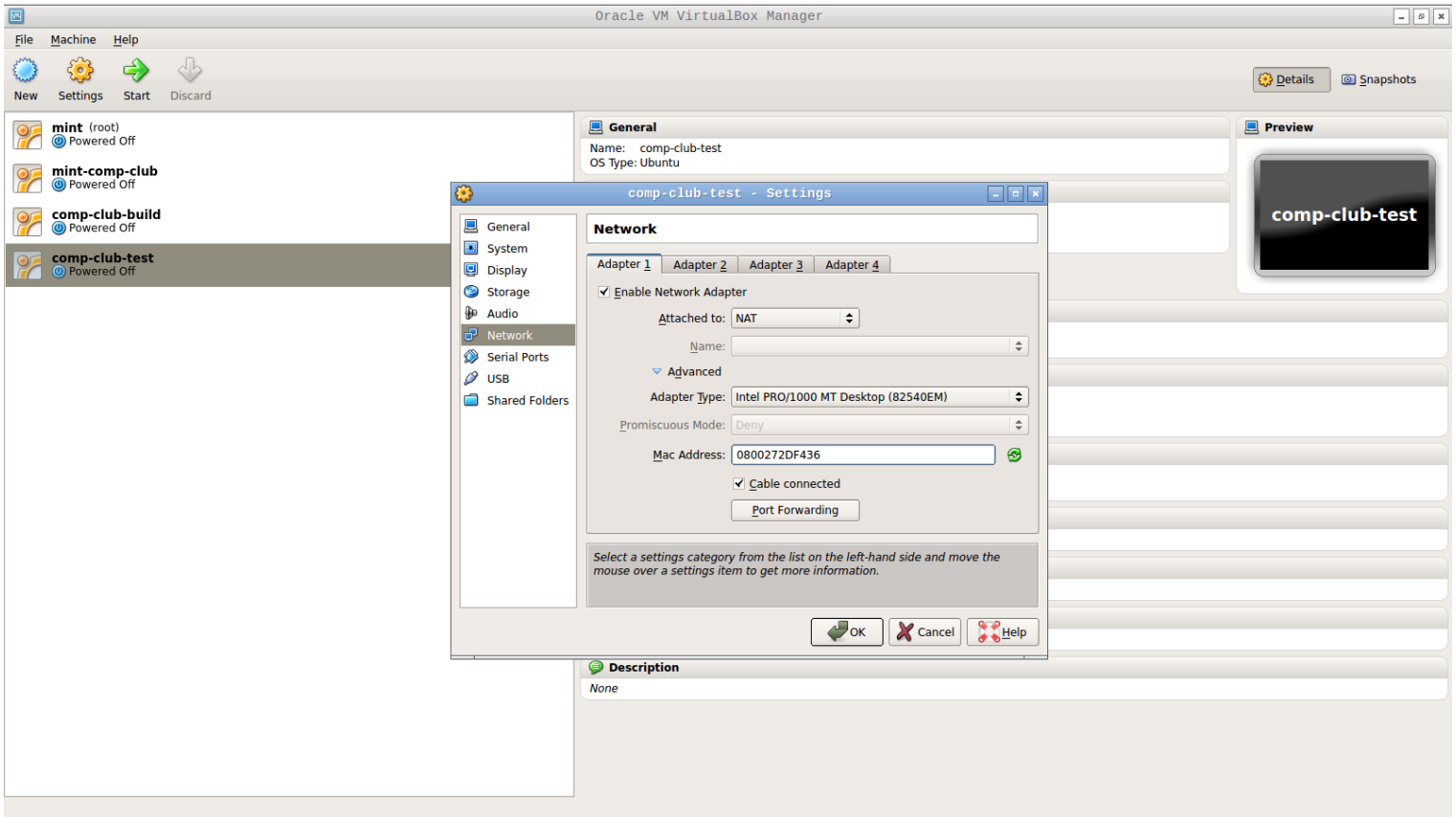




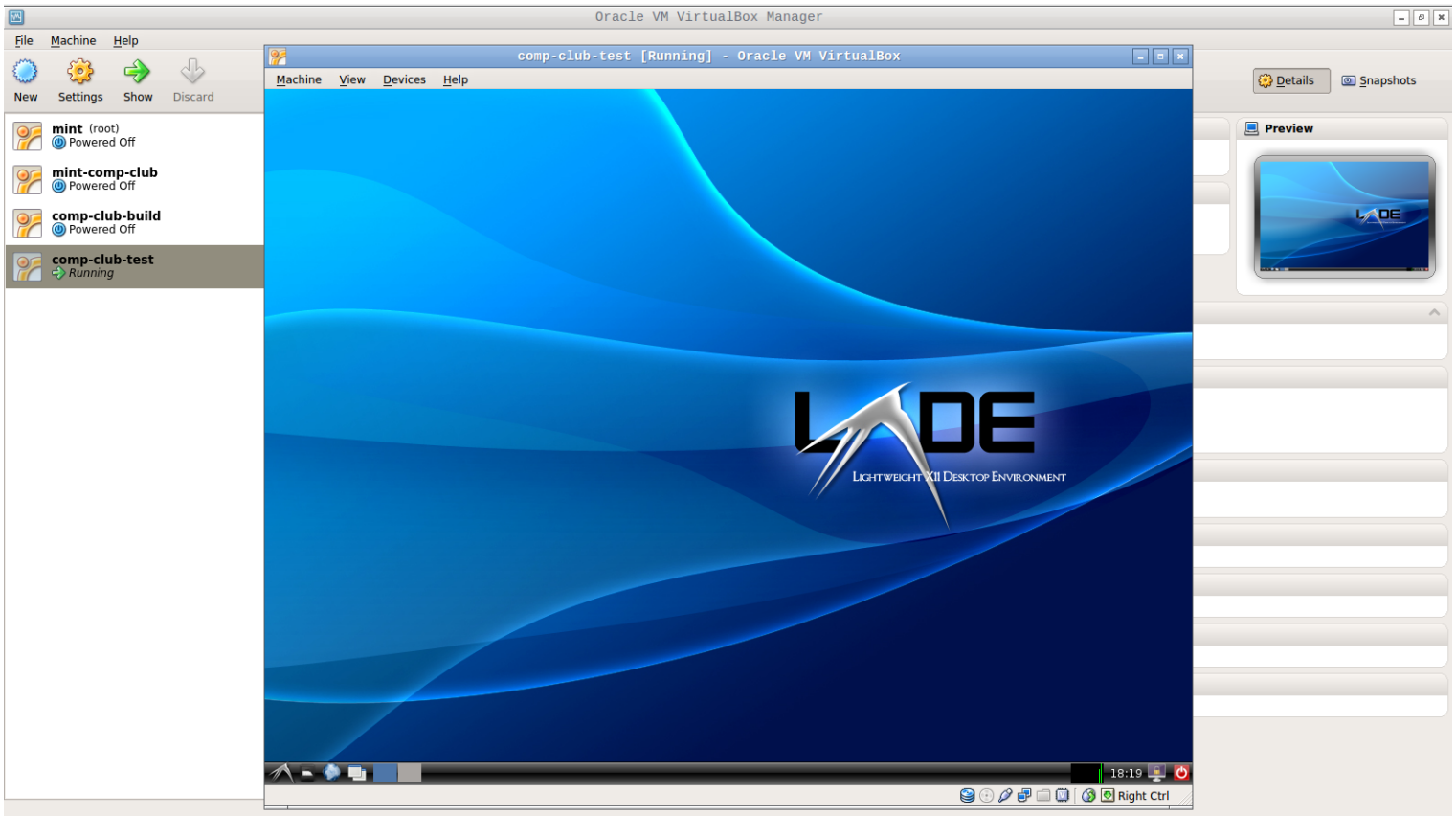
- Configure the MAC address. The MAC address is a hardware setting that is specific to your network card. Having randomly different MAC addresses in your VMs will cause networking issues.
- Click "Settings", then "Network", and finally the little triangle to bring up the Advanced settings.
- Change the entry in the "Mac Address" box to the one that the image was set up with:

0800272DF436

- This MAC address is also on the shared drive Computer Club folder in "README".
- If the MAC address is not configured, you may have a very laggy boot, as well as no network access in your VM.
- Click "OK".



- Now you can click "Start" to start the VM. The window serving as the virtual monitor screen should appear. You might get a few messages about "mouse integration" and what-not. These are purely informational – you should read them and try out their instructions to get a feel for operating the VM. As long as there are no error messages, you should be fine.



- The LXDE desktop of Ubuntu should appear after a short while. Congratulations! You're running Linux (inside a VM).
- Instructions will be published in future about more details regarding operation of the VM, such as pausing, the different view modes (scale, normal, fullscreen, etc.) and the like.
- The default settings should work fine. However, if you want to customise the settings of the VM, adjust how much RAM it has, the number of virtual CPUs it's given, its name, etc., you can simply select your VM in the left hand side list, click settings, and toggle away. More detailed instructions will be provided in future.