

How to Install Oracle on a Mac (2020)

May 10, 2020 | 59 comments

In this post, you're going to learn the exact steps to take to install Oracle on your Mac computer.

This guide includes:

- step-by-step instructions on downloading and setting up the required software
- screenshots at each stage
- explanations of the configurations you need to set (such as connecting to the database)

So if you want to set up Oracle on your Mac computer, you'll love this guide.

Let's get right into it.

Overall Process

Installing an Oracle database on a Mac computer is a bit different to installing it on a Windows or Linux computer.

Oracle doesn't support running an Oracle database directly on a Mac computer. You can't install Oracle Express, for example, in the same way that you can on a Windows computer.

The good news is that you can use a **Virtual Machine**. To get set up with Oracle on your Mac, the general process is shown below.

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2. [Download the Oracle Developer VM](#)
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Let's take a look at the requirements, and then get into the steps.

Note: there are other ways to access an Oracle database on a Mac (using a Docker container, using a cloud-hosted database such as Oracle Cloud or AWS). This guide doesn't cover those methods, but I'll outline those in another post.

Requirements for Oracle VM on a Mac

So, what do you need to be able to run Oracle using a VM on a Mac?

The requirements for running a virtual machine are listed on [Oracle's page here](#) (last updated 20 Jun 2019), and are shown below:

- At least **2GB RAM**. Default VM is 1G RAM, for better performance increase.
- At least **15GB of free space**
- **2GHz processor** (a lesser processor will be acceptable but slower)
- Mozilla Firefox 2.0 or higher, Internet Explorer 7 or higher, Safari 3.0 and higher or Google Chrome 1.0 or higher
- Admin privileges on your computer

My current Mac is a **2018 MacBook Pro** with **8GB of RAM** and a **256GB hard drive**, which runs the VM pretty well.

On my previous MacBook Air (2015, 4GB RAM), it actually ran pretty slowly, because the 4GB RAM is split with 2GB for the VM and 2 GB for the Mac OS, bringing both systems to a crawl. MacBook Airs are not designed to be able to run intensive programs such as VMs.

If you really want to use Oracle on a Mac, but don't quite meet the requirements, you can use [Oracle Live SQL](#), which is a web-based Oracle database.

Assuming you want to install Oracle on your Mac, let's look at the steps.



Download This Guide in a PDF

Save this guide as a PDF so you can refer to it later. All steps and screenshots included.



DOWNLOAD

Step 1: Get VirtualBox

The first step to getting Oracle on your Mac is to download a program called VirtualBox. This program allows you to run virtual machines, which are self-contained operating systems. It will let you run a Windows or Linux operating system inside your Mac.

I suggest VirtualBox because it's free, and Oracle provides a ready-made file that you can use with it. One alternative is Parallels, which I explain at the end of this guide.

To download VirtualBox:

Step 1A: Go to the VirtualBox website: <https://www.virtualbox.org/wiki/Downloads> (opens in new tab).

The current version is shown at the top of the page (currently it is 6.2.6).



VirtualBox

Download VirtualBox

Here you will find links to VirtualBox binaries and its source code.

VirtualBox binaries

By downloading, you agree to the terms and conditions of the respective license.

If you're looking for the latest VirtualBox 6.0 packages, see [VirtualBox 6.0 builds](#). Please also use version 6.0 if you are looking for the latest VirtualBox 5.2 packages, see [VirtualBox 5.2 builds](#). Please also use version 5.2 if you are looking for the latest VirtualBox 5.1 packages, see [VirtualBox 5.1 builds](#).

VirtualBox 6.1.6 platform packages

- [Windows hosts](#)
- [OS X hosts](#)
- [Linux distributions](#)
- [Solaris hosts](#)

The binaries are released under the terms of the GPL version 2.

See the [changelog](#) for what has changed.

You might want to compare the checksums to verify the integrity of downloaded packages. *The SHA256 checksums are available for the following packages:*

- [SHA256 checksums](#), [MD5 checksums](#)

[About](#)

[Screenshots](#)

[Downloads](#)

[Documentation](#)

[End-user docs](#)

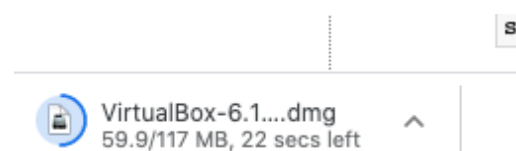
[Technical docs](#)

[Contribute](#)

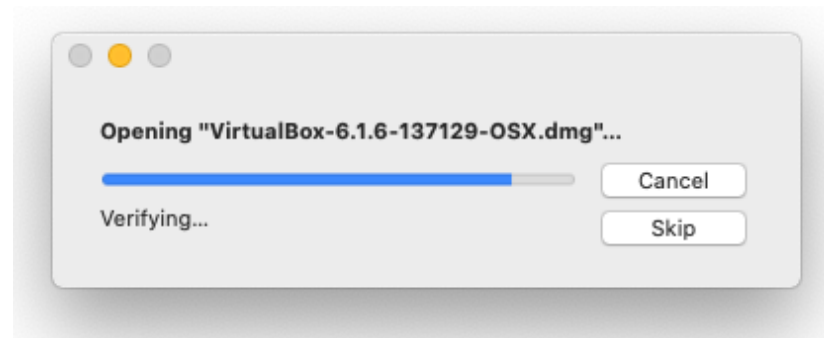
[Community](#)

Step 1B: Click on “OS X Hosts”. This is a direct link to a .dmg file, which is the installer file for Mac.

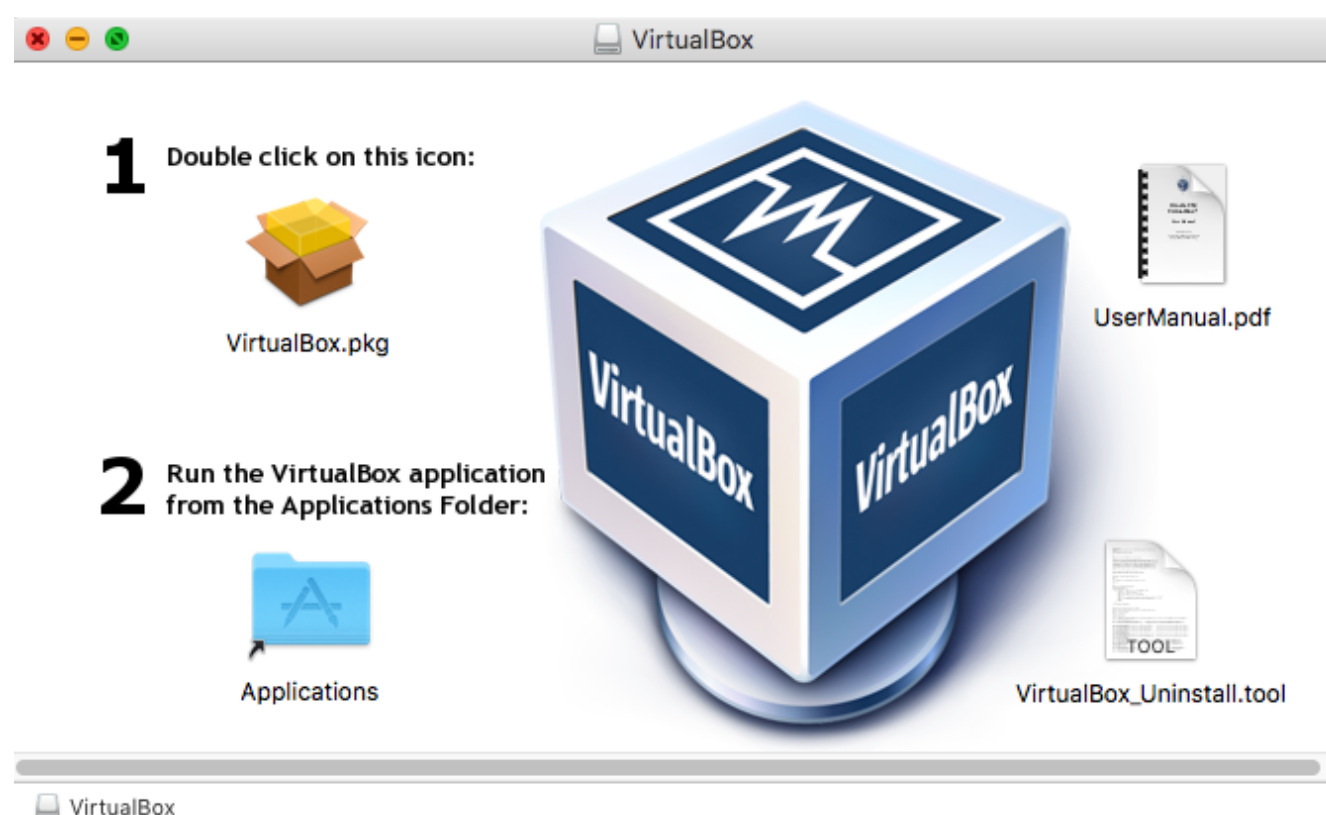
The file will start downloading. It’s approximately 122 MB.



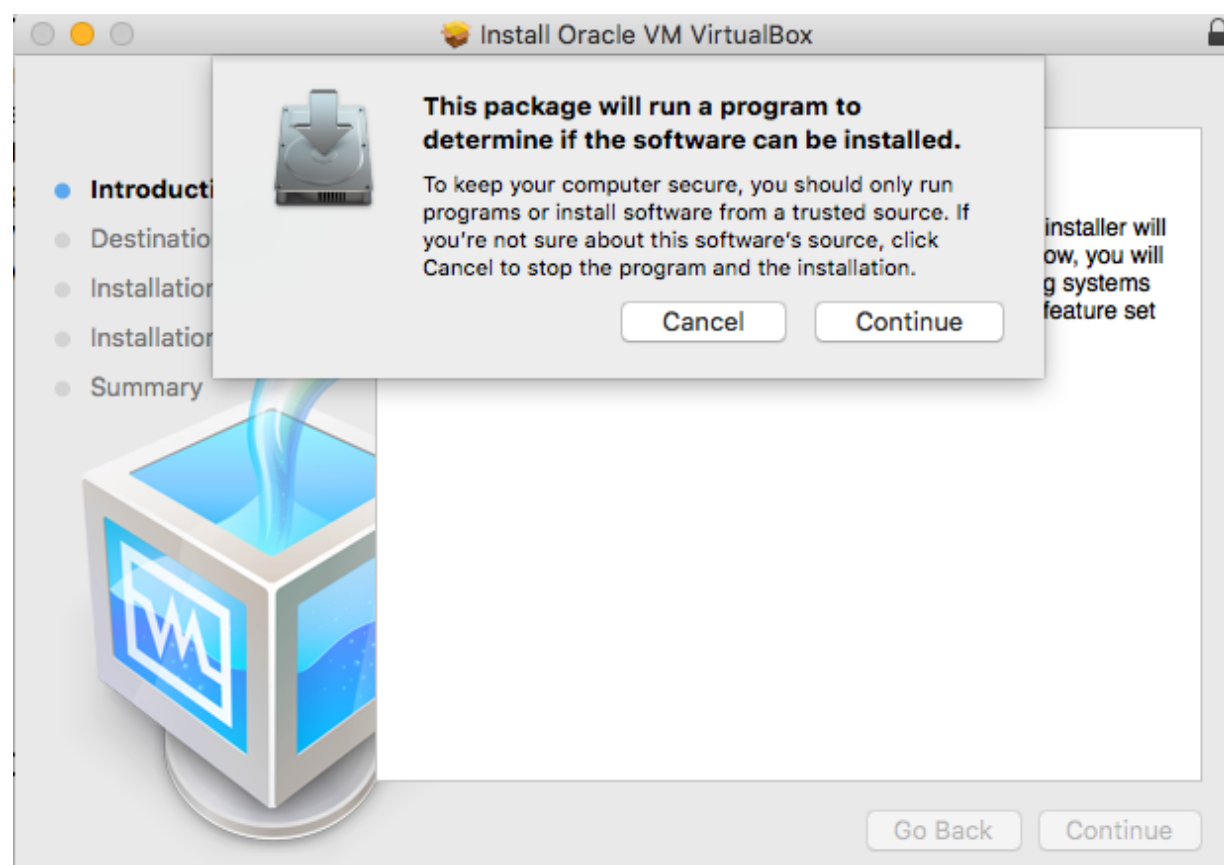
Step 1C: Once the file is downloaded, open it.



Step 1D: Double click the VirtualBox.pkg icon in the window that appears.



Step 1E: Click Continue if a message appears about installing the package.

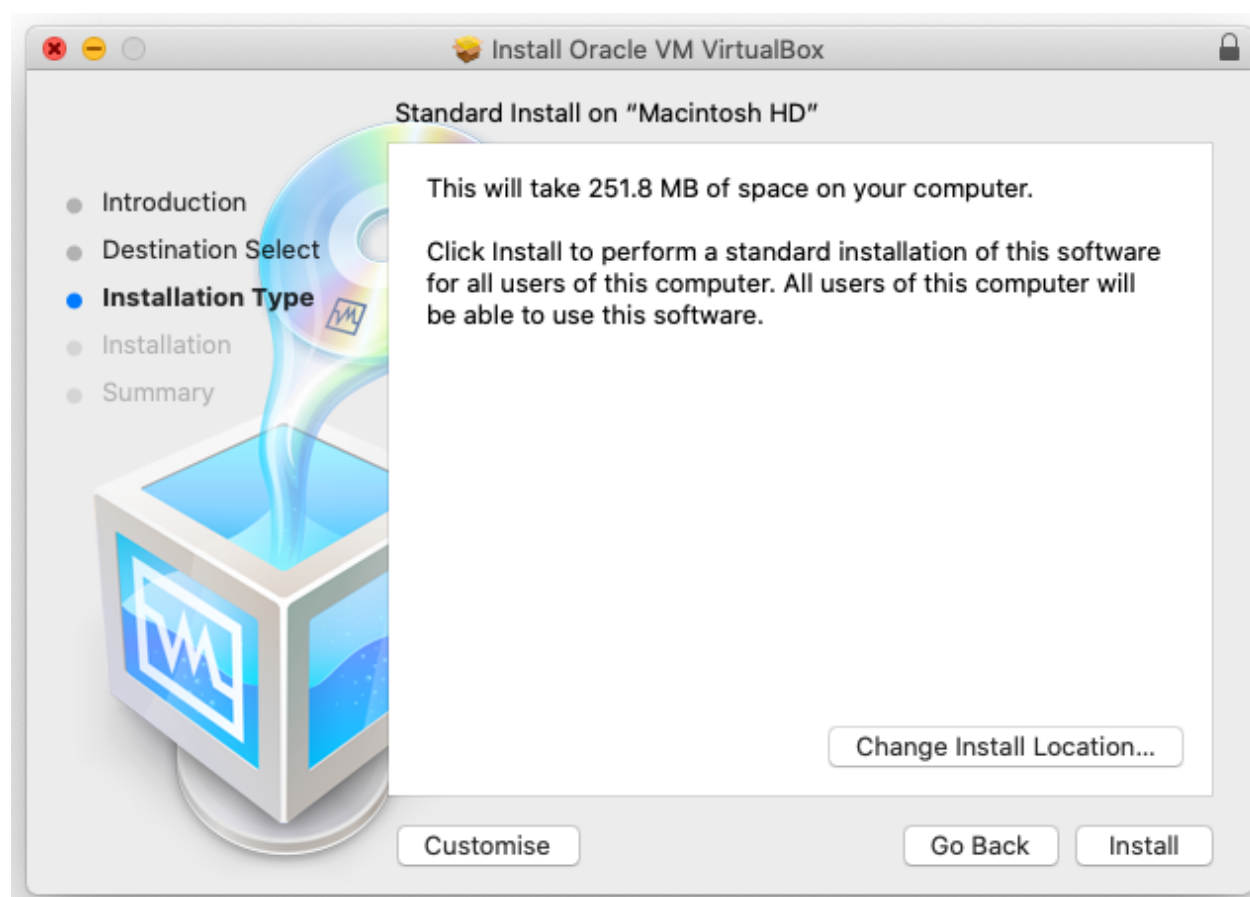


Step 1F: Click Continue on the welcome screen.

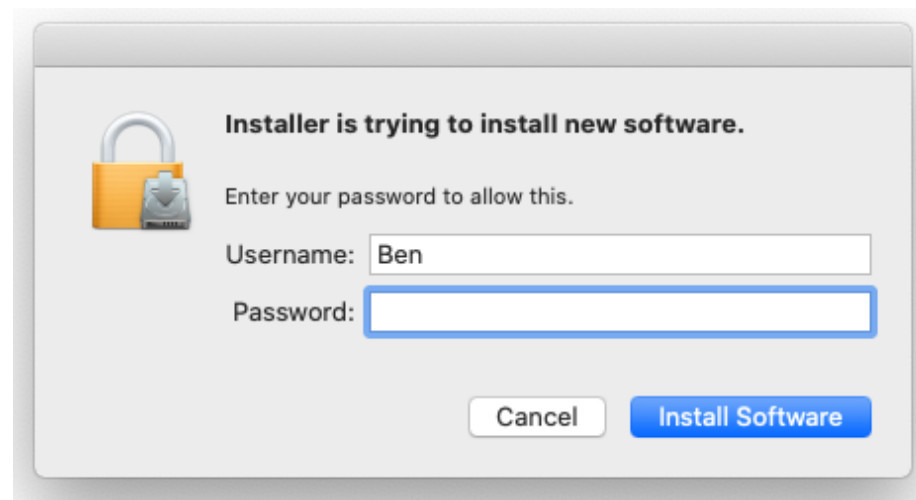


The installer will tell you how much space VirtualBox will take up (approx 251.8 MB).

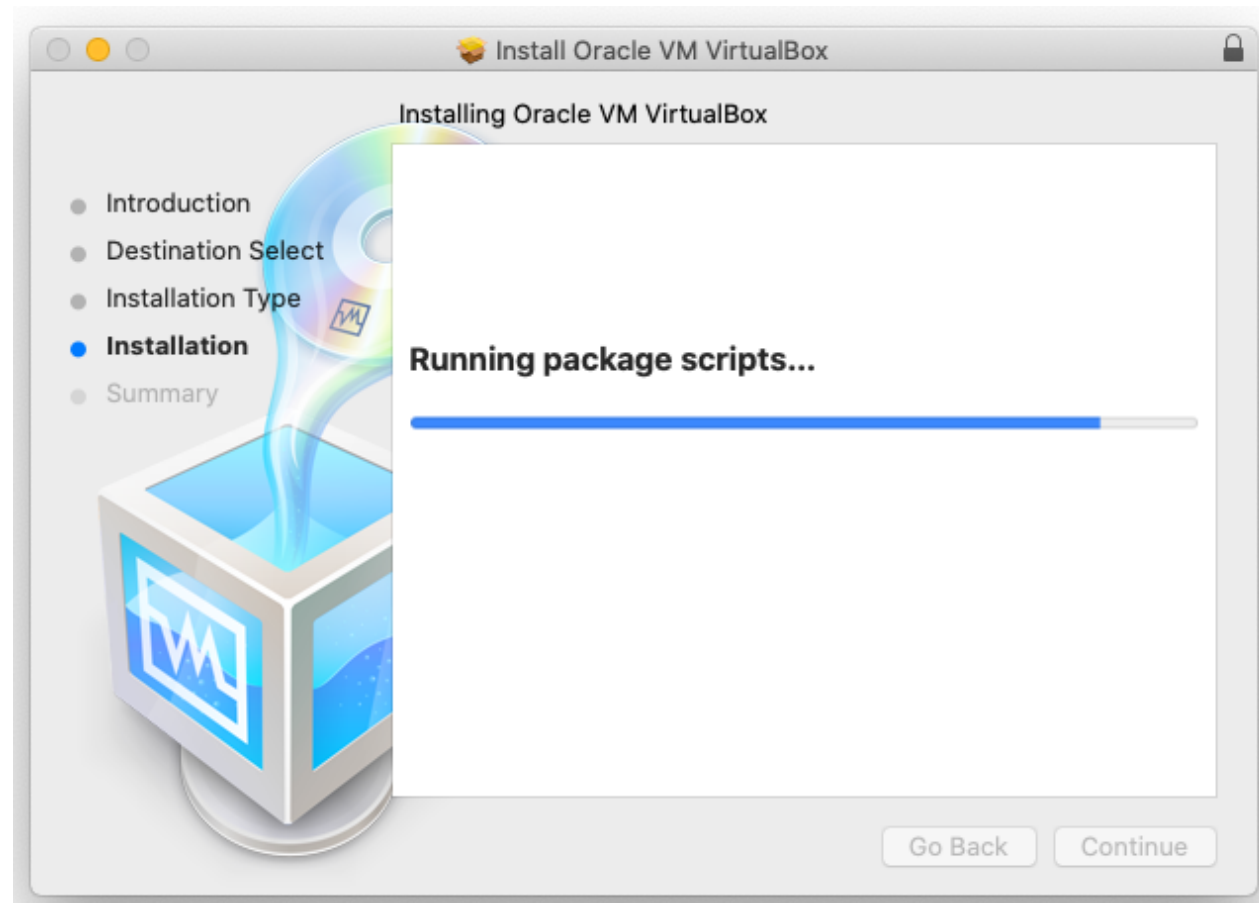
Step 1G: Click Install.



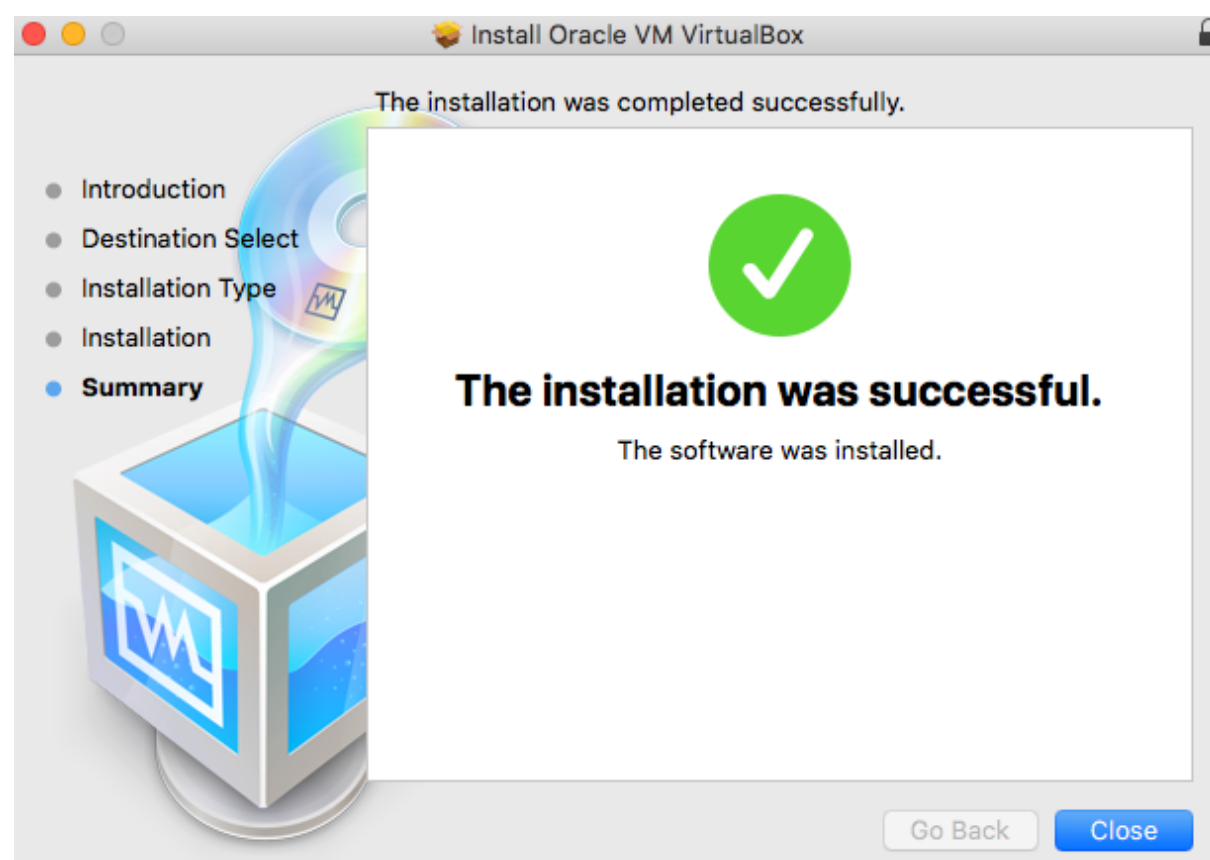
Step 1H: Enter your password if prompted.



The program will now be installed.



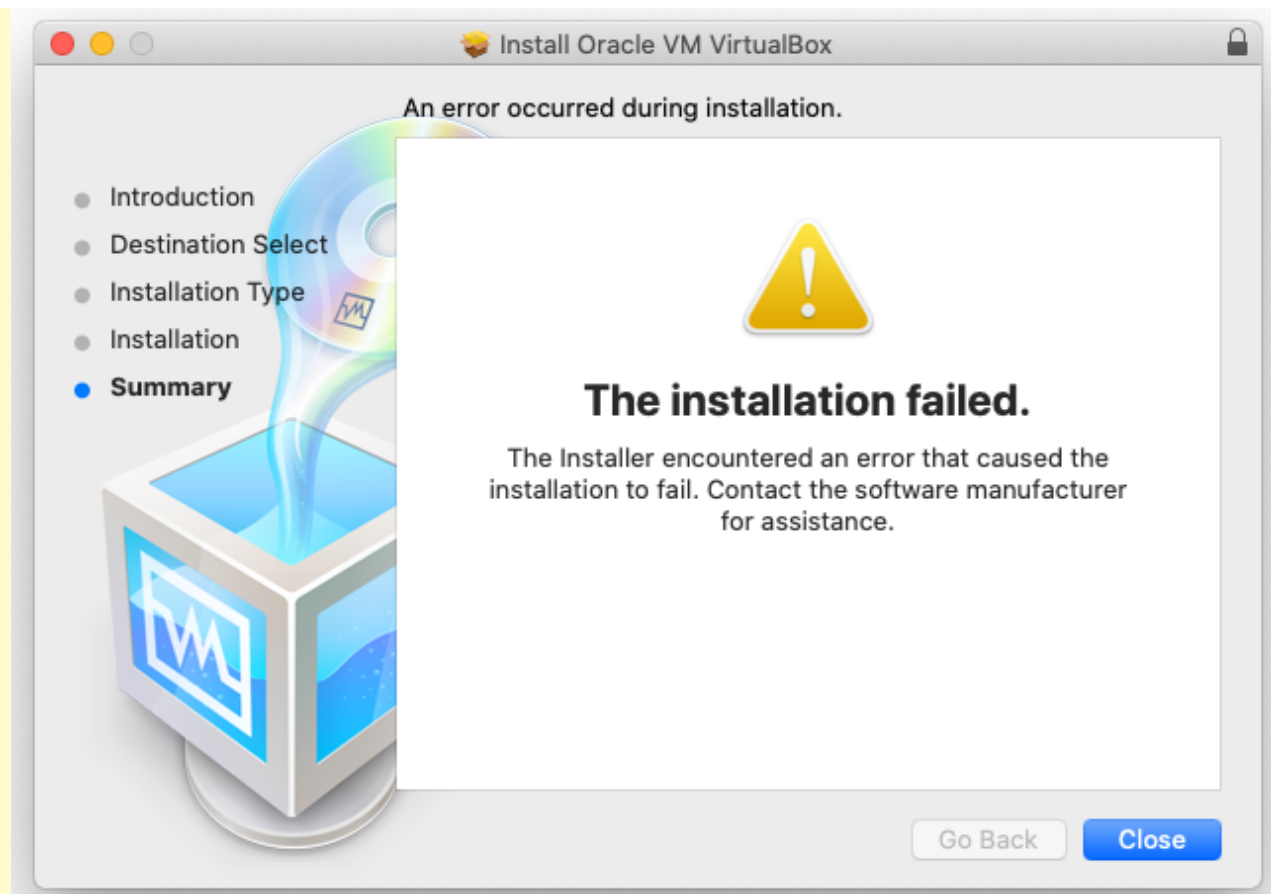
Step 1I: Once completed, it will inform you the installation was successful.



Step 1J: Click Close, and move the installer to the trash.

Installation Failed?

Did you get an error saying the installation had failed for VirtualBox VM?



The installation failed.

The Installer encountered an error that caused the installation to fail. Contact the software manufacturer for assistance.

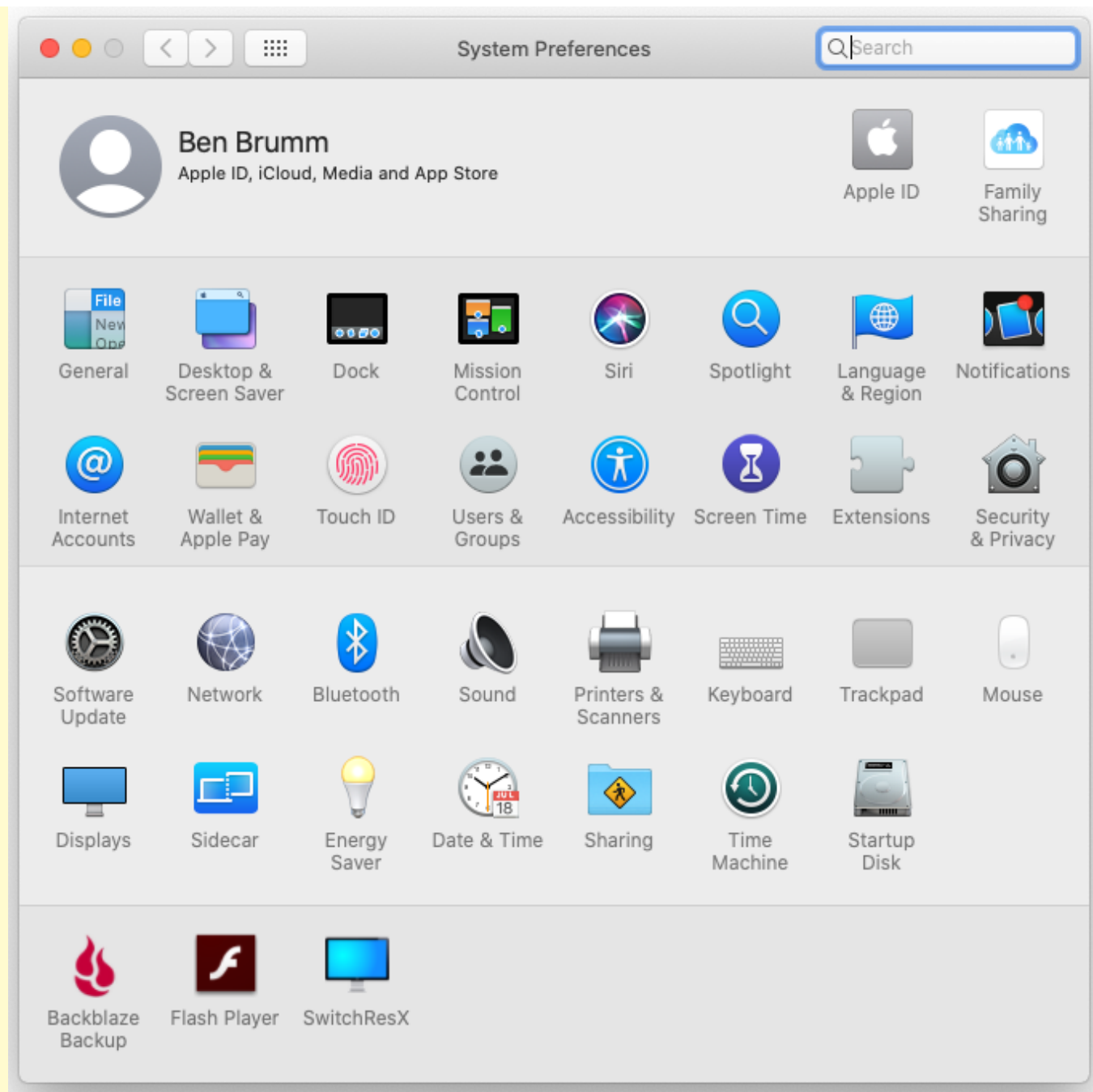
I got this error when attempting to install VirtualBox on 10 May 2020, running macOS Catalina 10.15.4.

How can you resolve this?

These are the steps I followed (thanks to Daniel Meechan's [article here](#)):

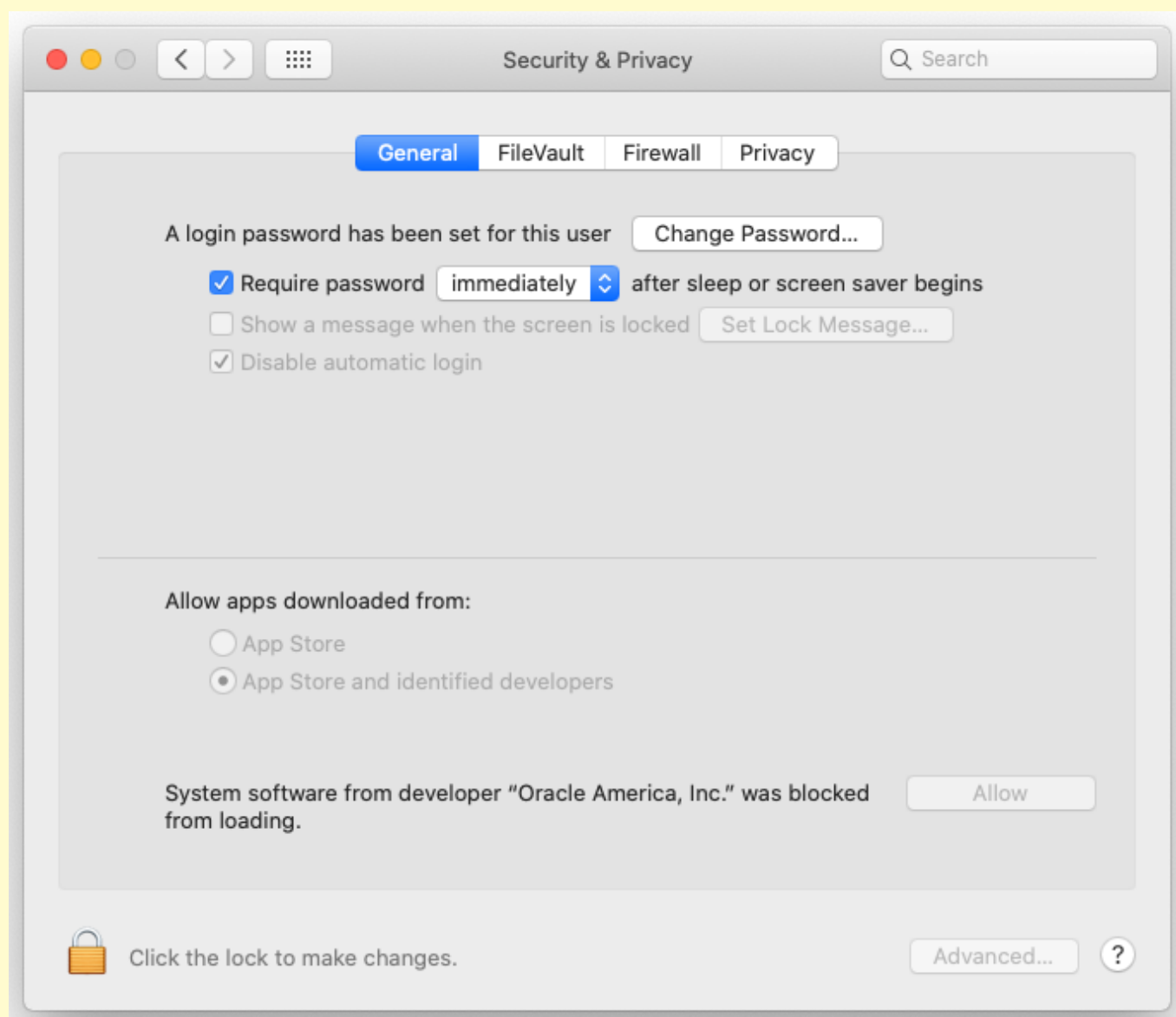
Follow the **steps from 1D to 1G above**, stopping when you get to the screen with the “Change Install Location” and “Install” buttons. Don’t click Install.

Open **System Preferences** from the Apple menu.

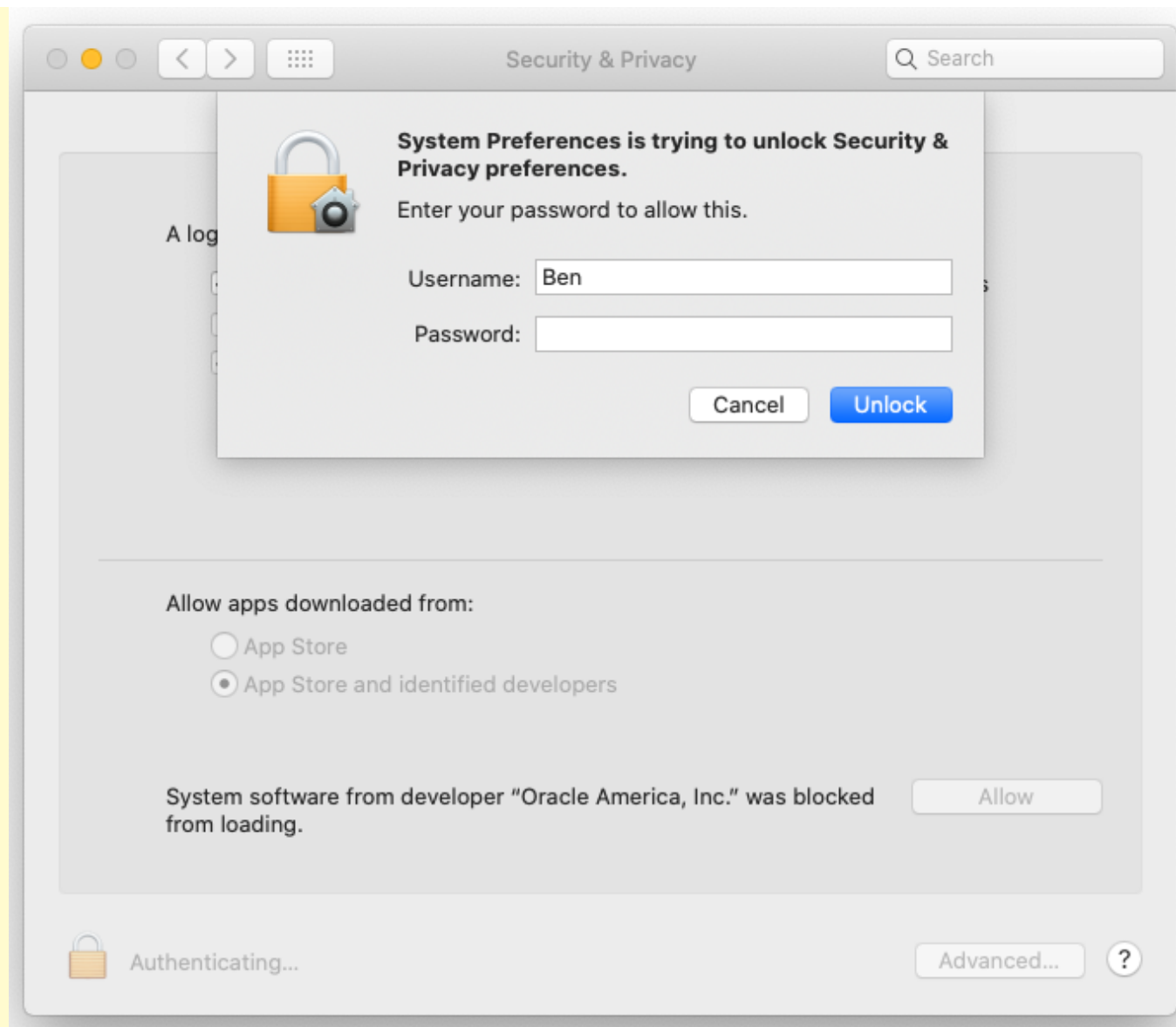


Click on **Security & Privacy** (second row, far right).

Click on the **General** tab.

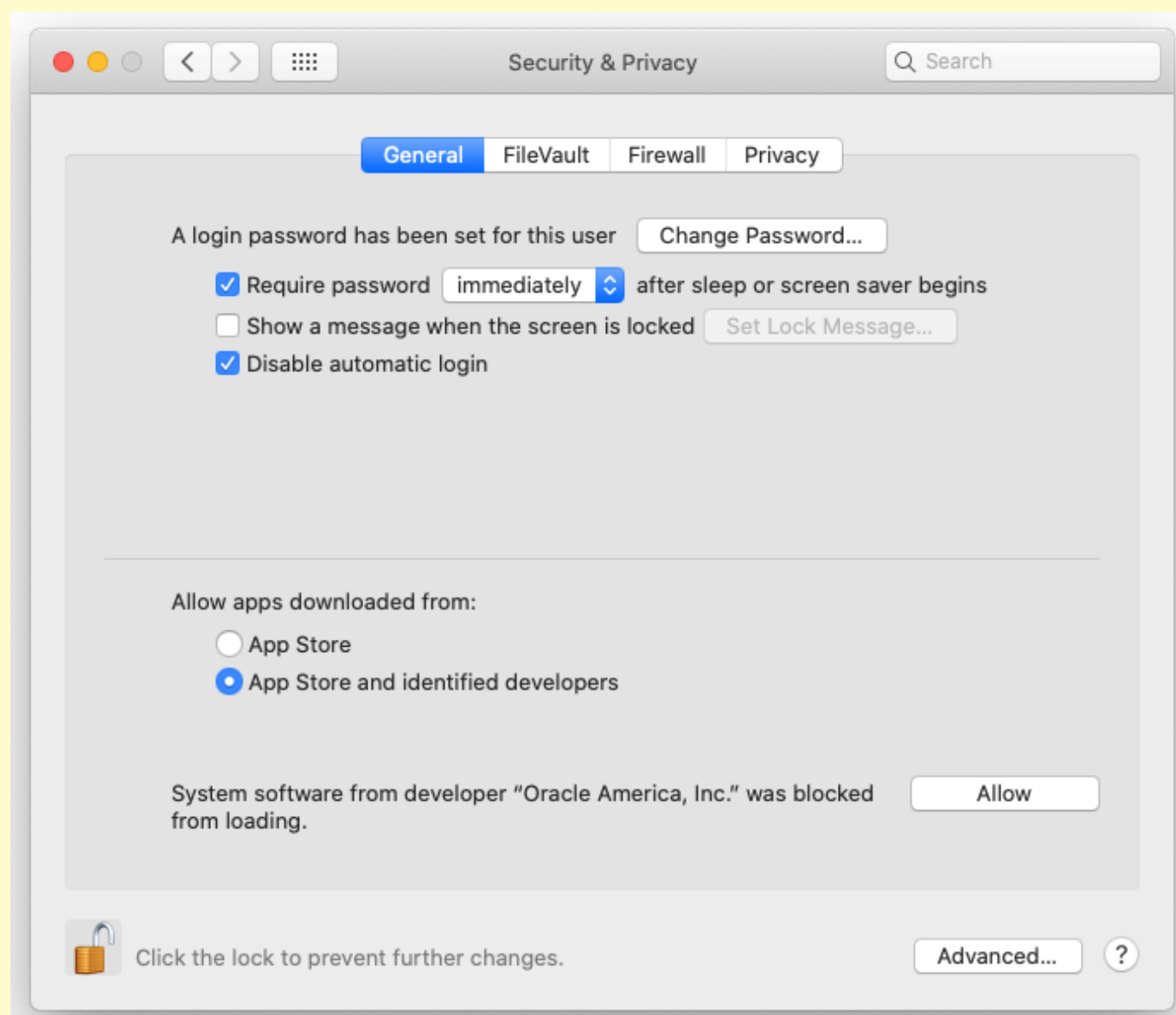


You should see a greyed-out message at the bottom of the window saying “System software from developer “Oracle America Inc.” was blocked from loading.



Click the padlock icon on the bottom left of the window to unlock this window.

Enter your password and click OK.



The disabled text and buttons should now be enabled.

Click **Allow**.

Enter your password again.

Now, return to the **VirtualBox** installer and click **Install**.

Resume the steps above from 1H. The installation should now be successful.

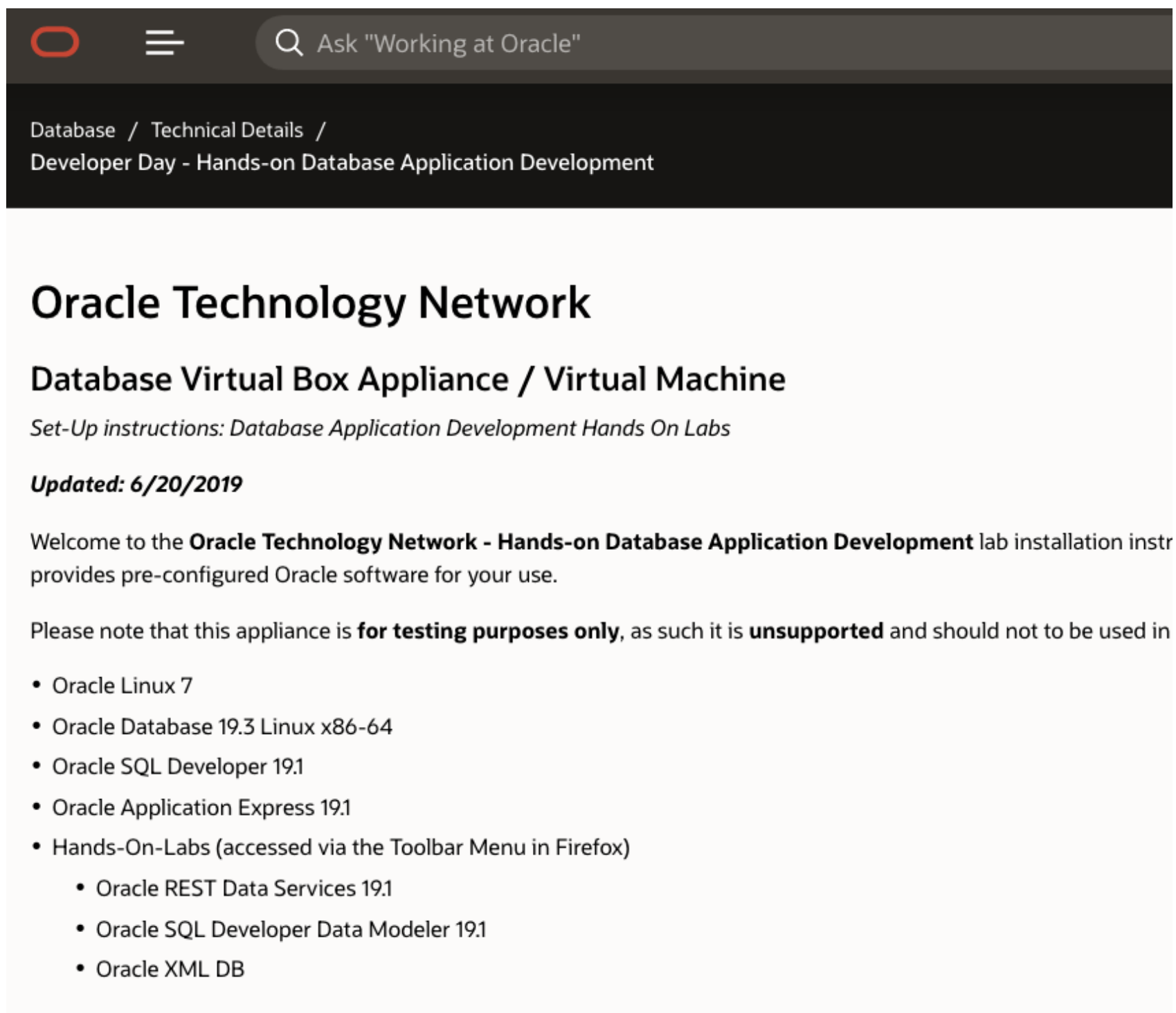
Step 2: Download the Oracle Developer VM

Now you've got VirtualBox installed, you need to download the file that contains the Oracle database. This is the virtual machine file and is provided by Oracle.

It's called the "Oracle Developer VM" or "Oracle Developer Day VM", as it was originally created for developers but it has expanded since then.

To download this file:

Step 2A: Visit the Oracle Developer Day [download page here](#) (last updated 20 June 2019).



This page lists the versions of software it comes with. At the time of writing, this is Oracle Linux 7 with **Oracle Database 19.3**.

Step 2B: Scroll to the bottom of the page and click the **Oracle DB Develop VM** link.

Setup

Step 1. Download and install [Oracle VM VirtualBox](#) on your host system.

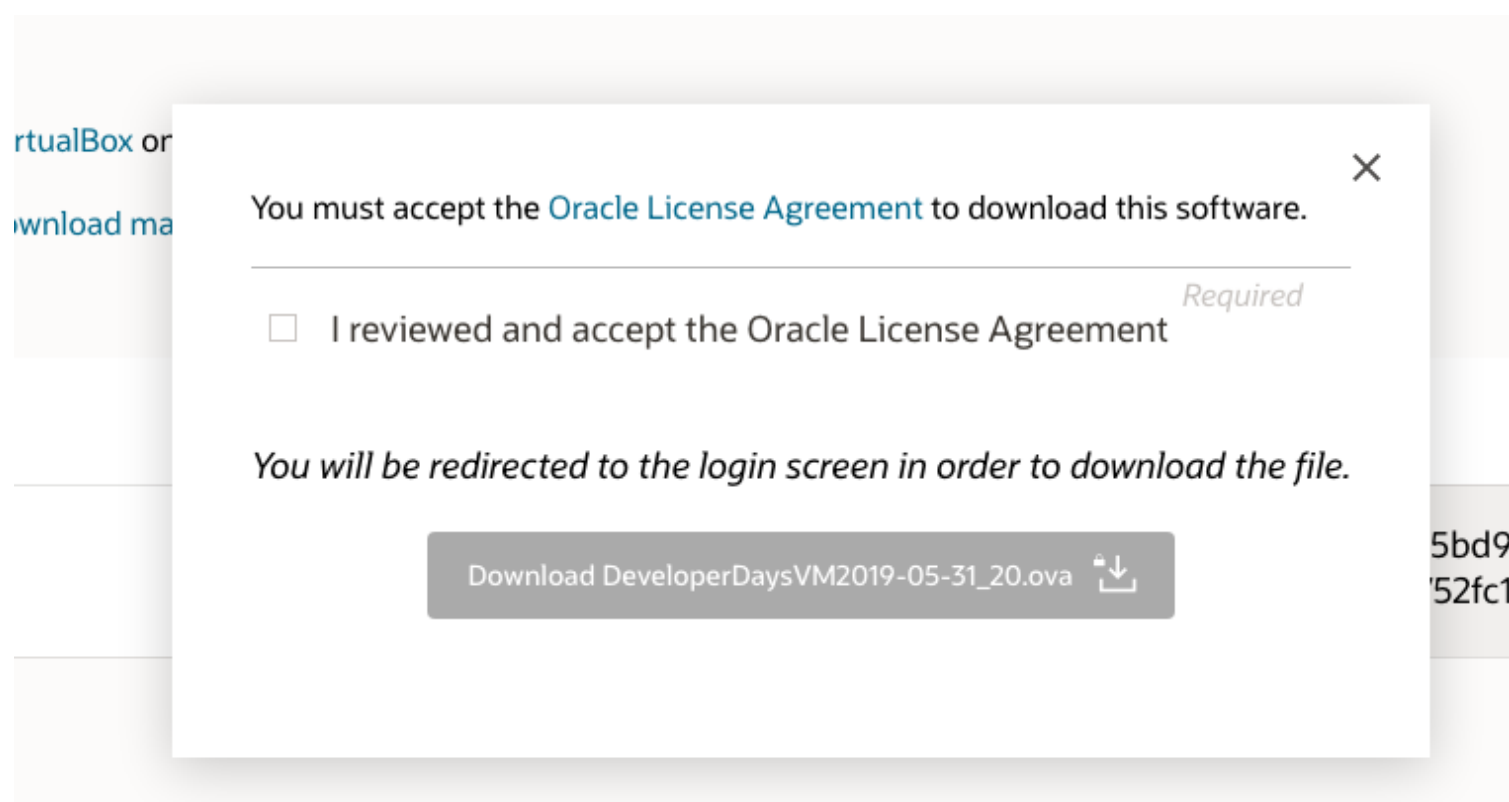
Step 2. Download the files (the use of a [download manager](#) is **highly recommended**):

Download

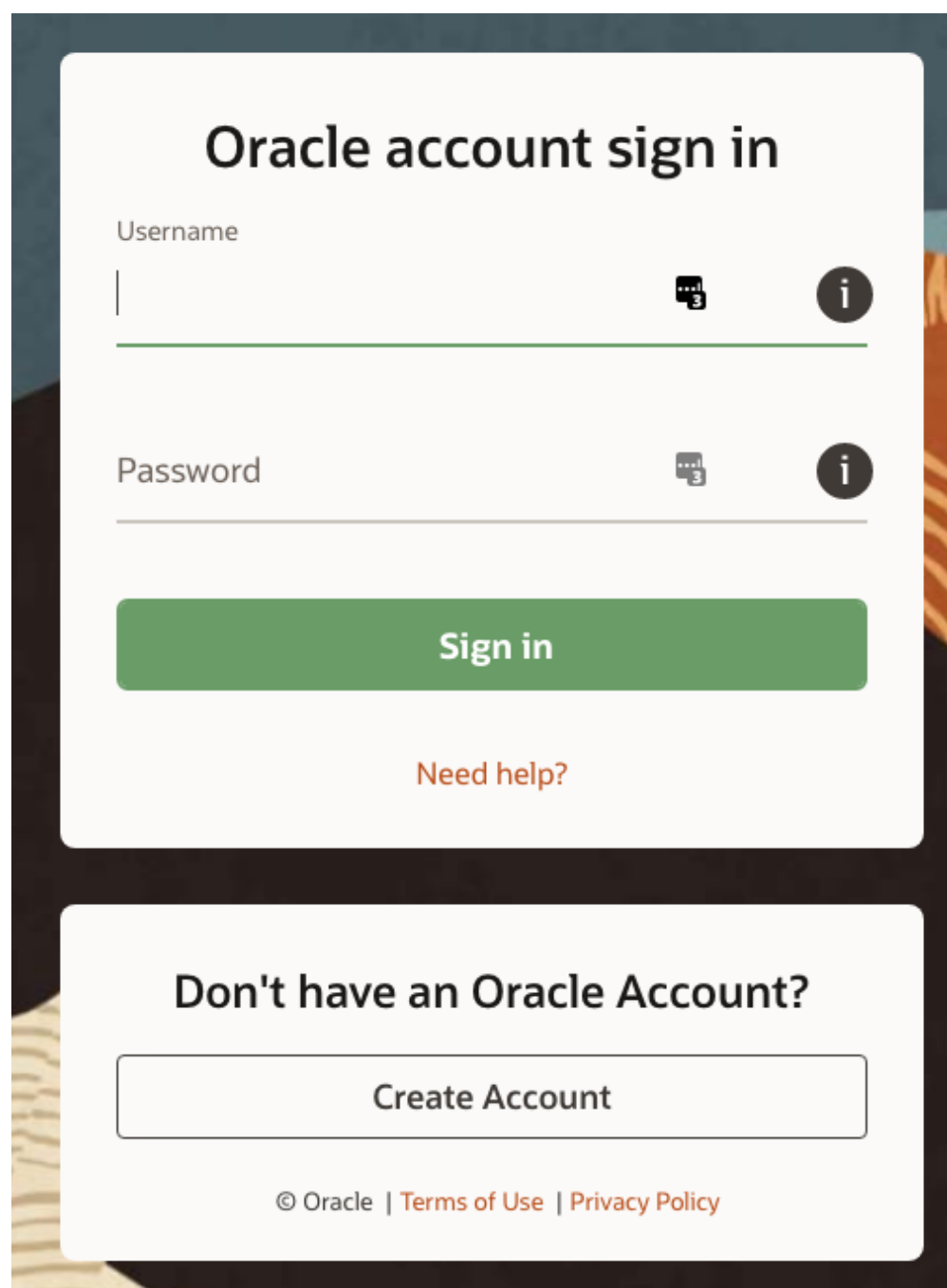


Oracle DB Developer VM

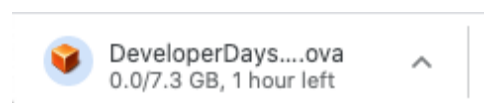
Step 2C: On the popup that appears, check the box to accept the license agreement, and click the green Download button.



Step 2D. You'll be asked to log in to your Oracle account. If you have an account, enter your details. If you don't have an account, you can create one. It's easy and free.



Step 2E: Once you have logged in, the Developer Days VM file will start downloading. It has an “ova” extension.

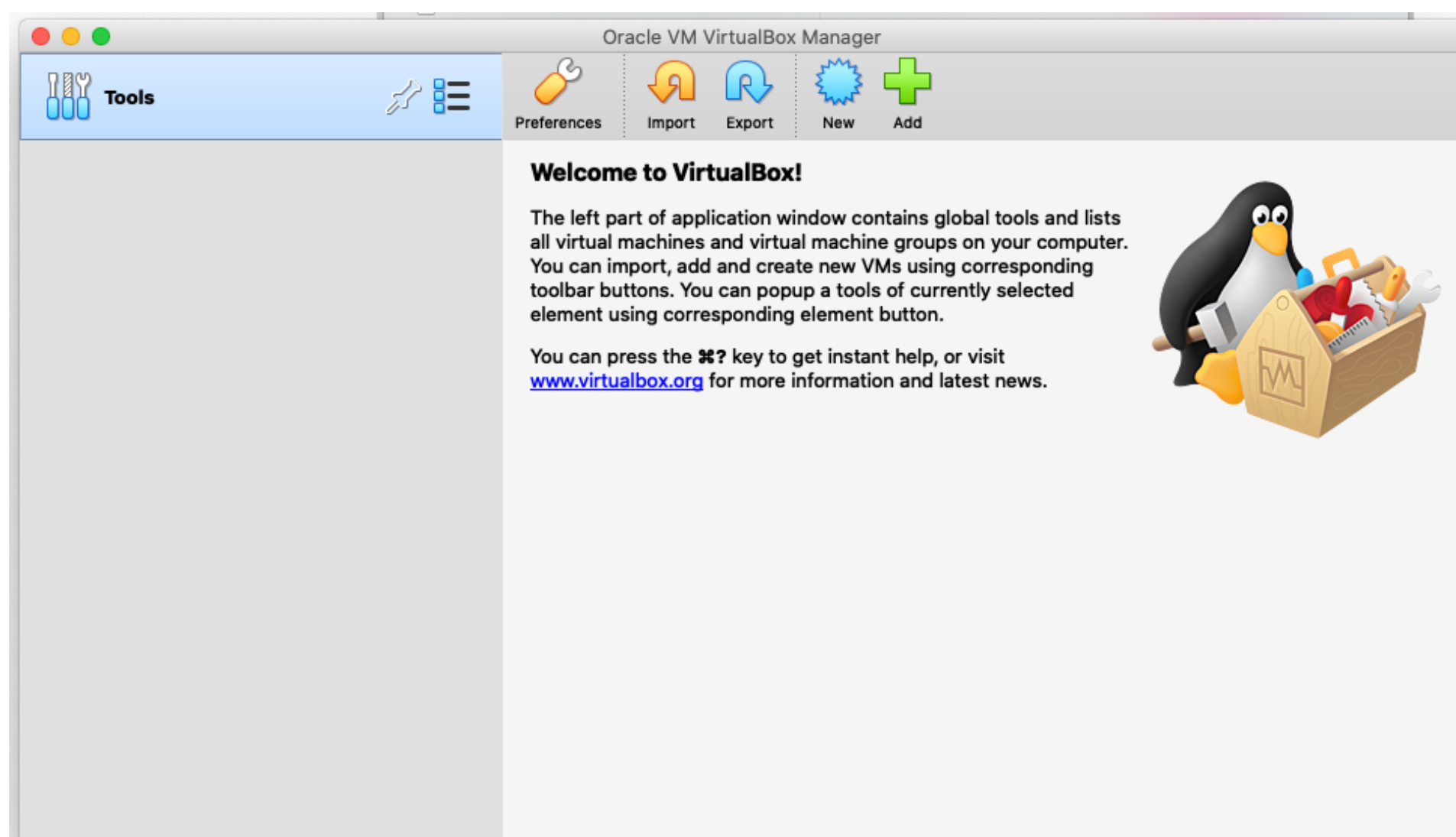
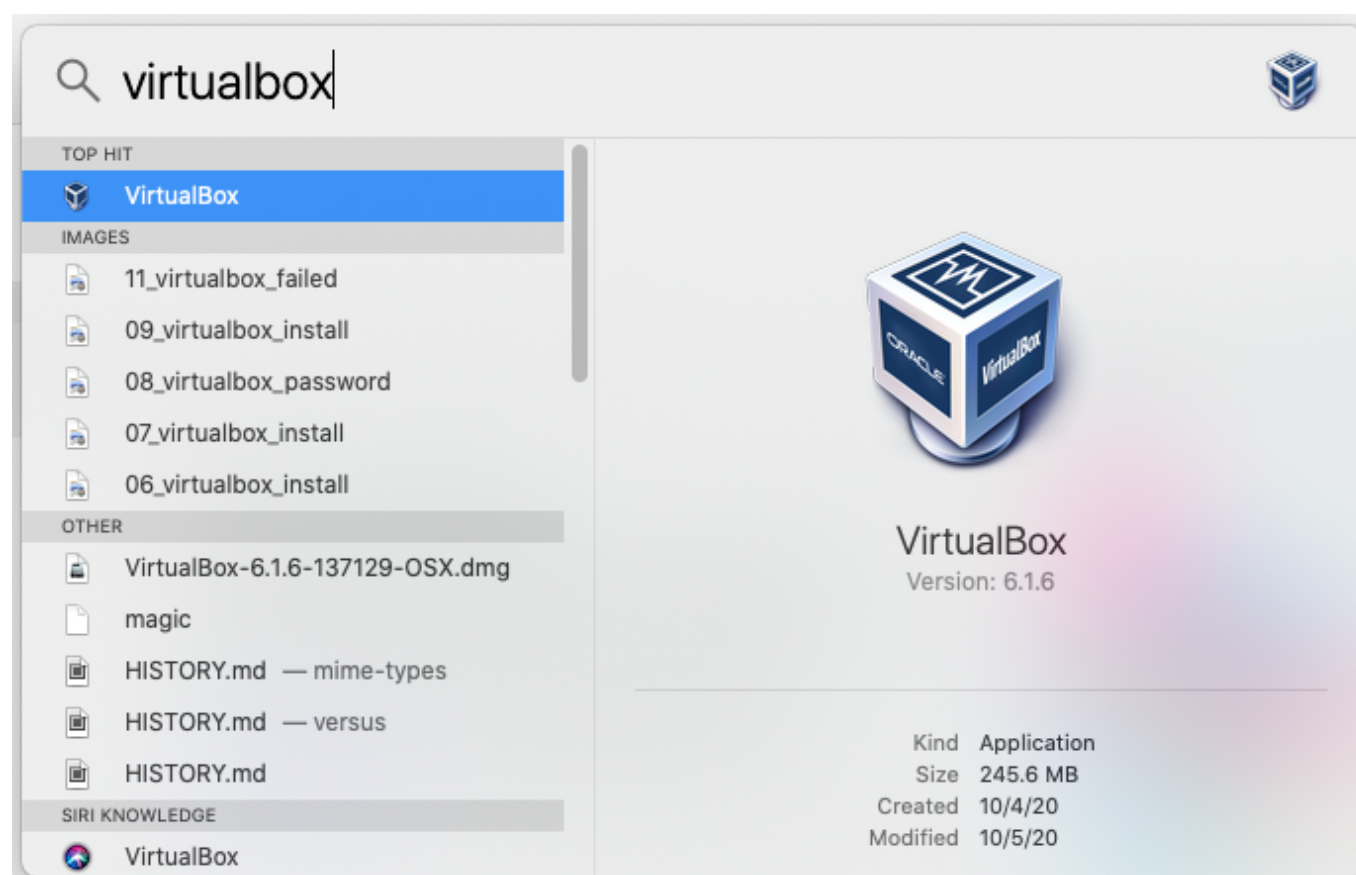


This **file is about 7GB** so may take a while. I’ve had no issues downloading it with Chrome, but you may want to use a download manager if your connection isn’t very good.

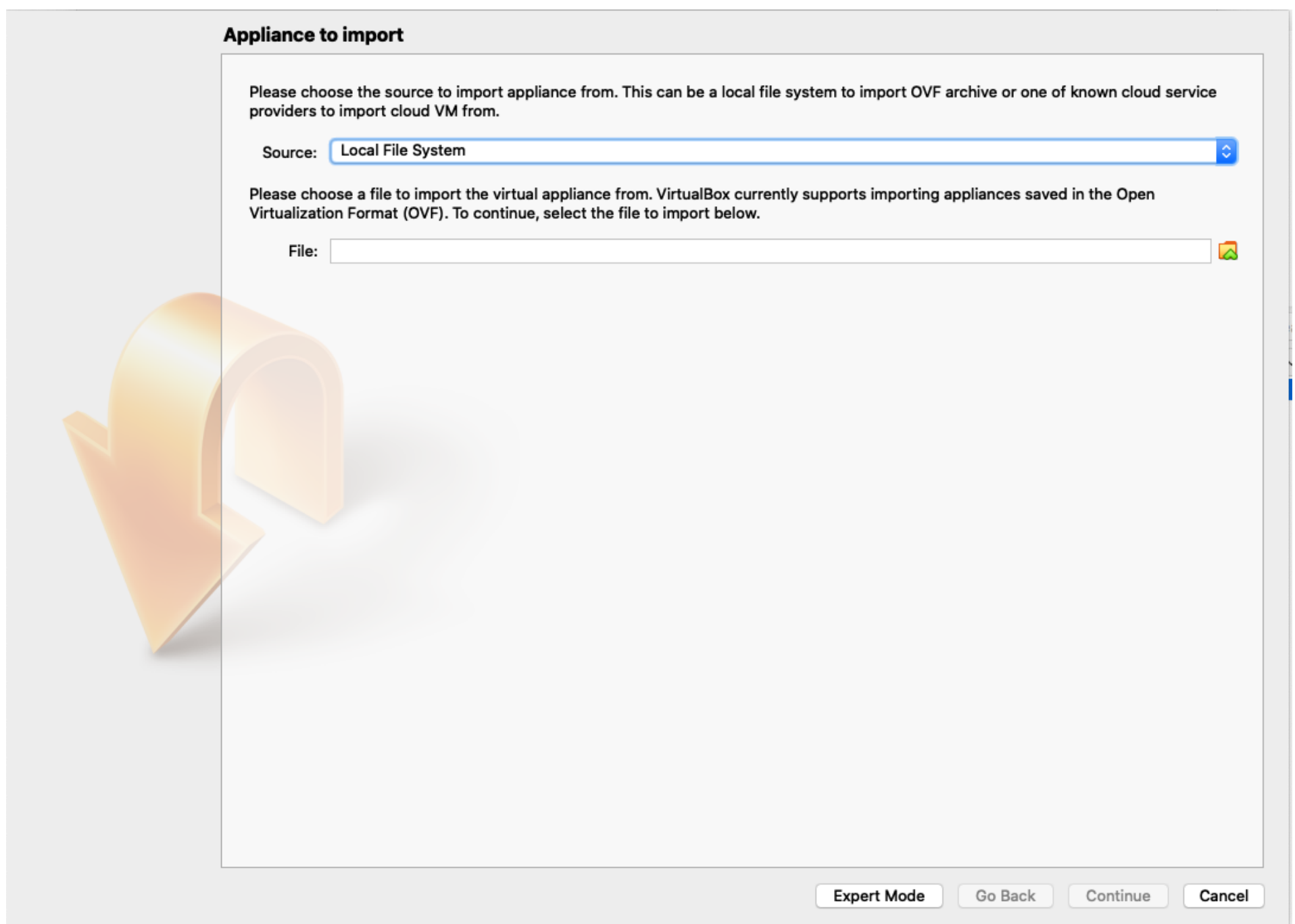
Step 3: Set Up the Oracle VM

Now you have downloaded the Oracle VM file, it’s time to set it up.

Step 3A: Open VirtualBox. I usually do this by pressing **Command + Space** and typing in VirtualBox.



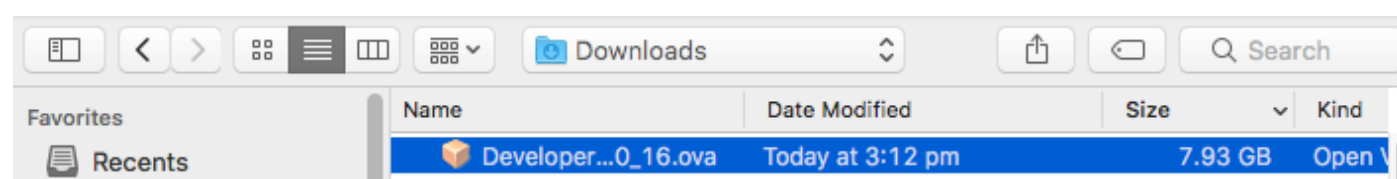
Step 3B: Click File, then click Import Appliance (or click the Import button at the top of the main screen). The Appliance to Import screen is displayed.



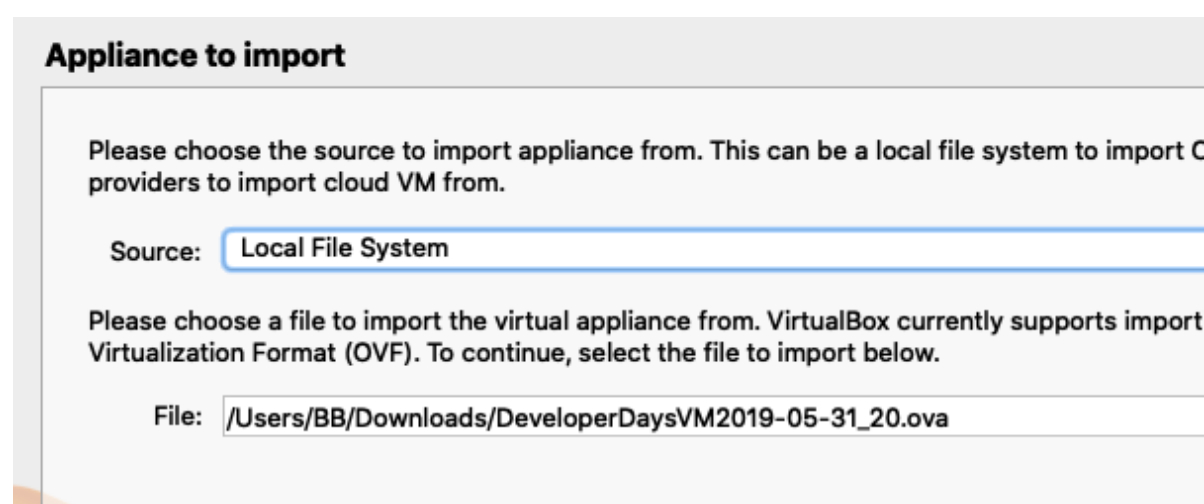
Step 3C: Click the Choose File button on the right of the textbox, which is the little yellow folder icon with the green arrow. (Leave the Source textbox as the default “Local File System”).

Step 3D: Select the DeveloperDays OVA file you have just downloaded, and click Open.

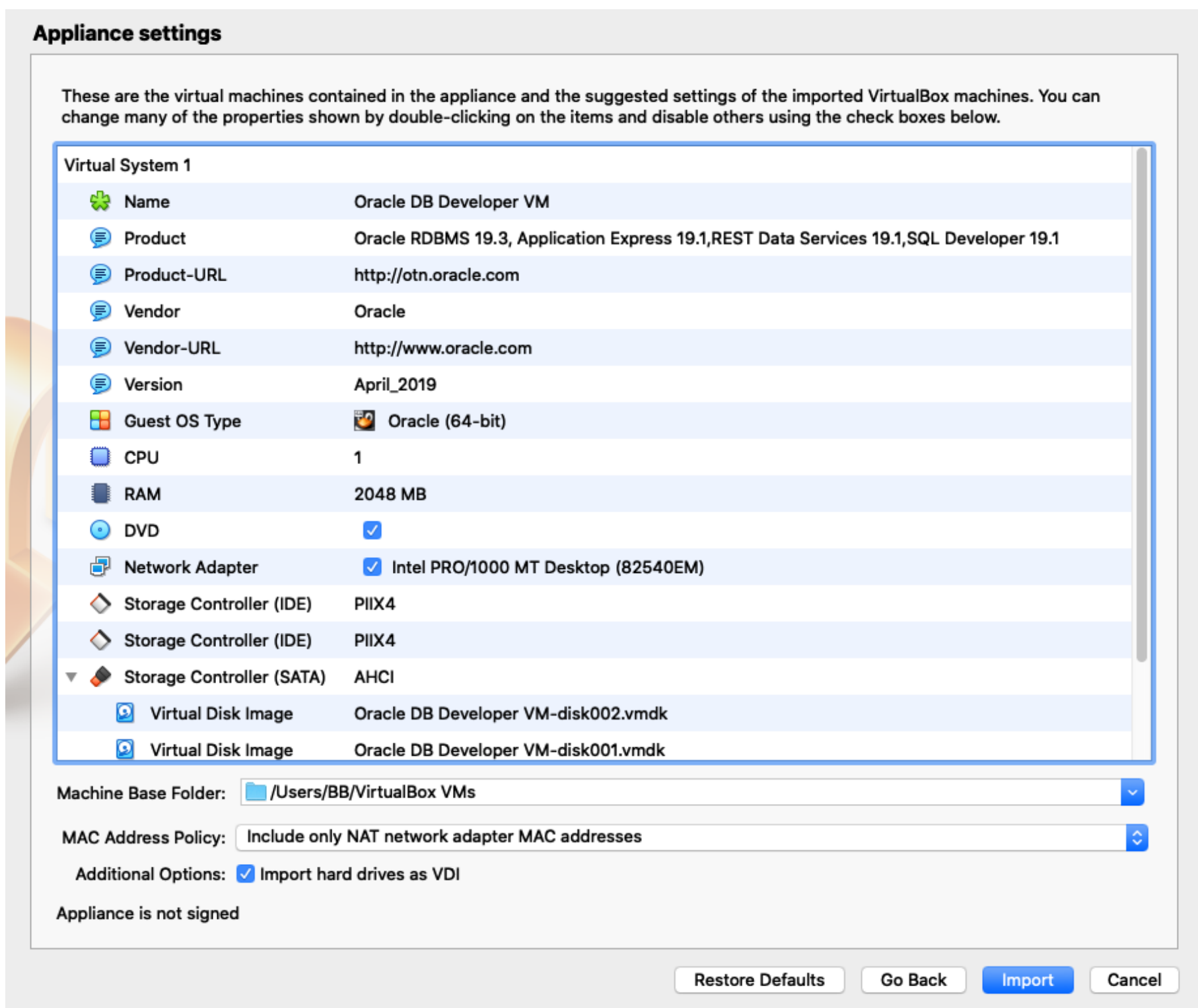
There's no need to extract the file before opening it.



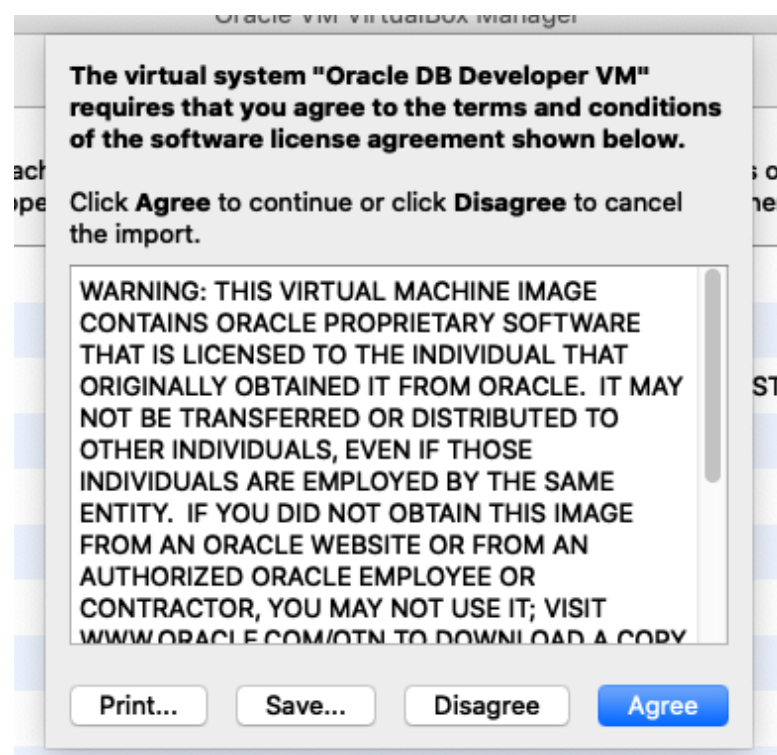
Step 3E: Click the Continue button on the main installer.



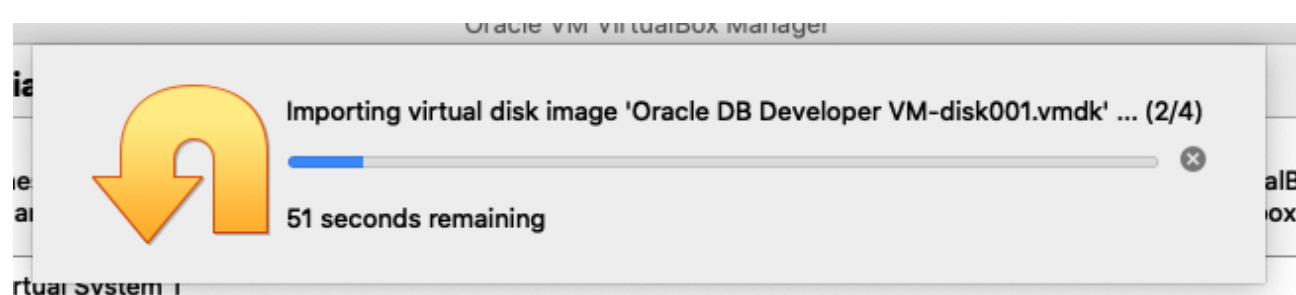
Step 3F: Click Import on the Application Settings page.



Step 3G: Click Agree on the popup that appears.

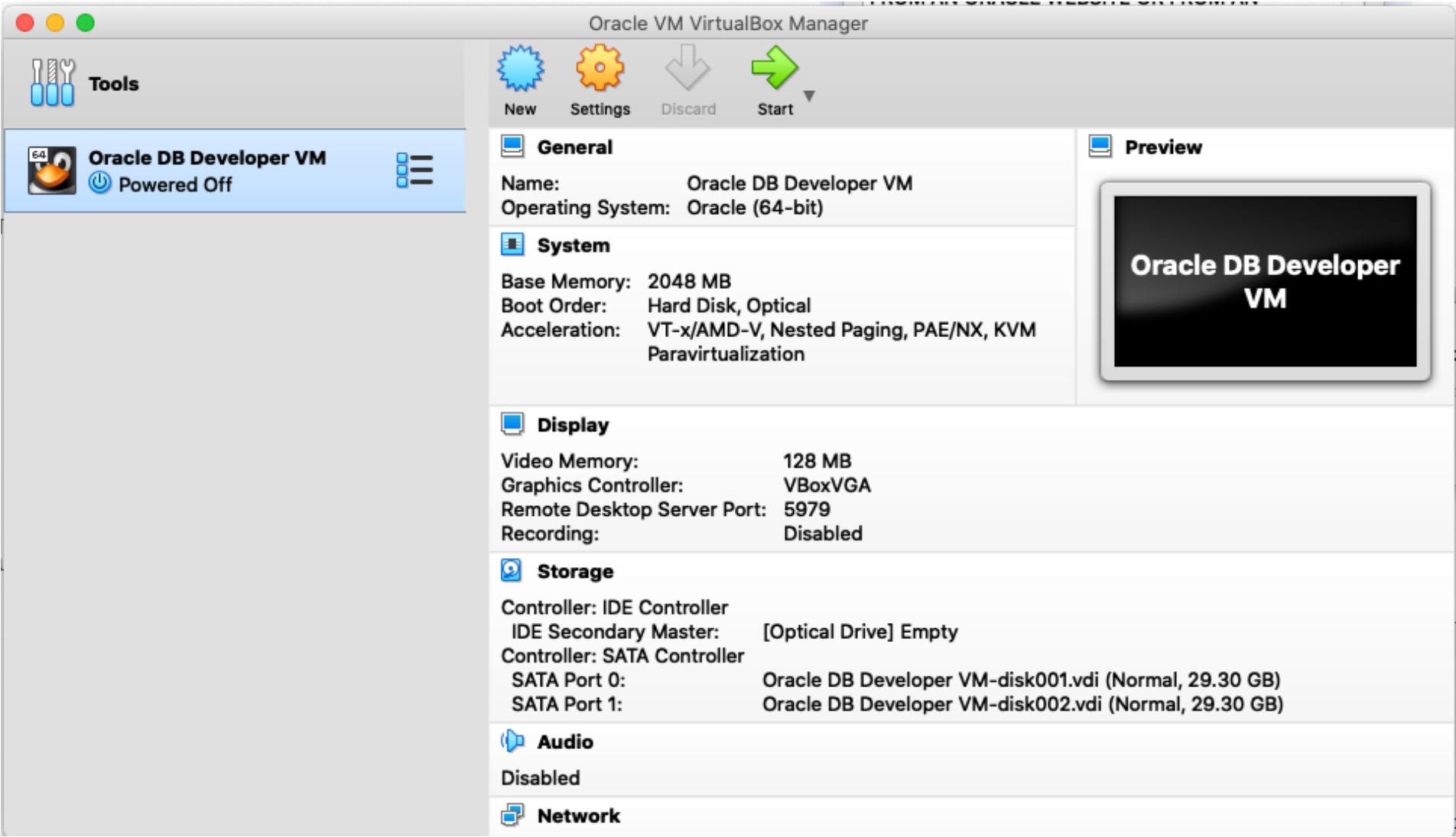


Step 3H: The import process will begin. This process took about 2 minutes for me.



Step 3I: Once the installer is finished, you should see "Oracle Developer Days (Powered Off)" on the left panel of the VirtualBox window.

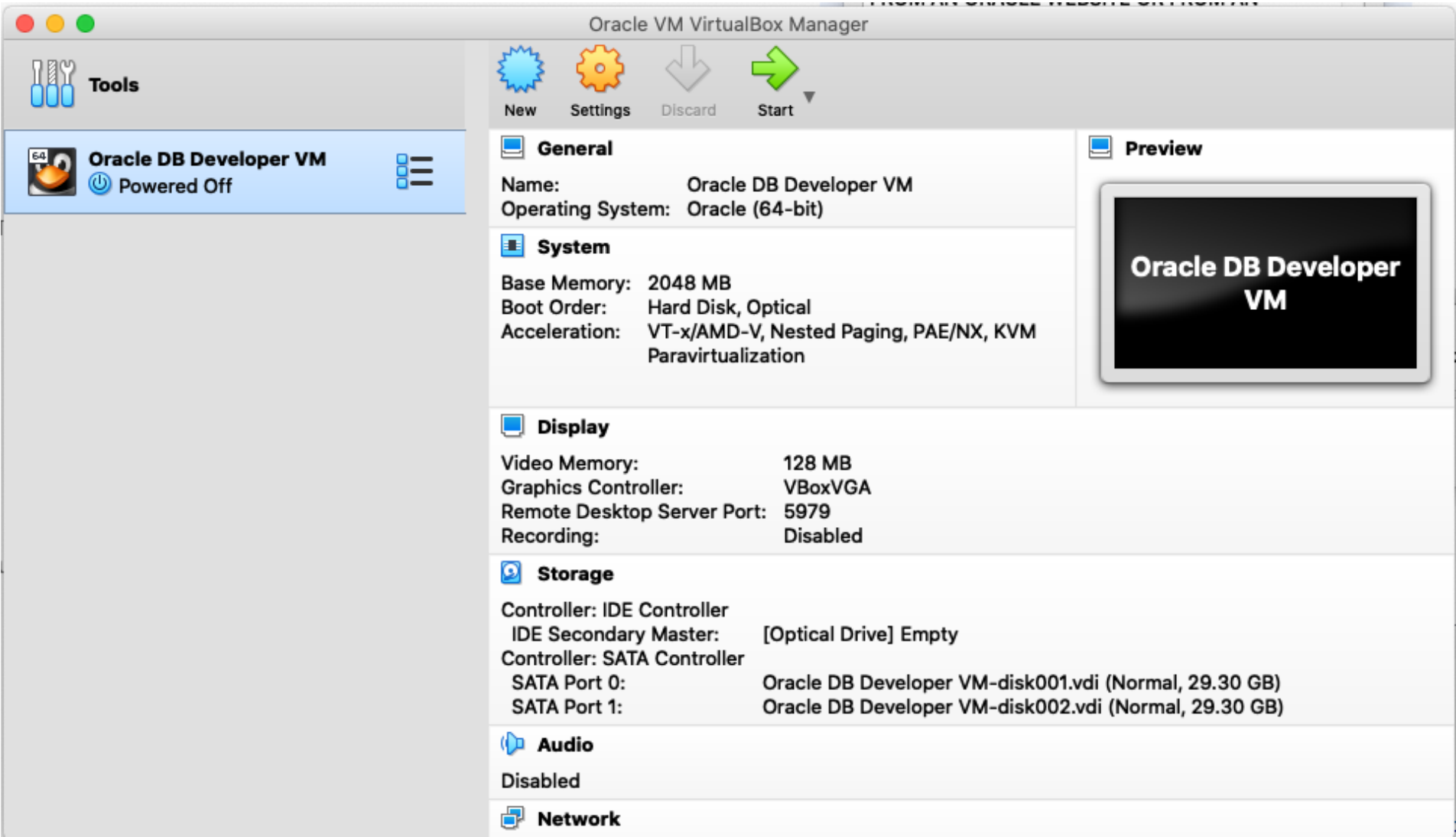
This means the VM is installed but not running.



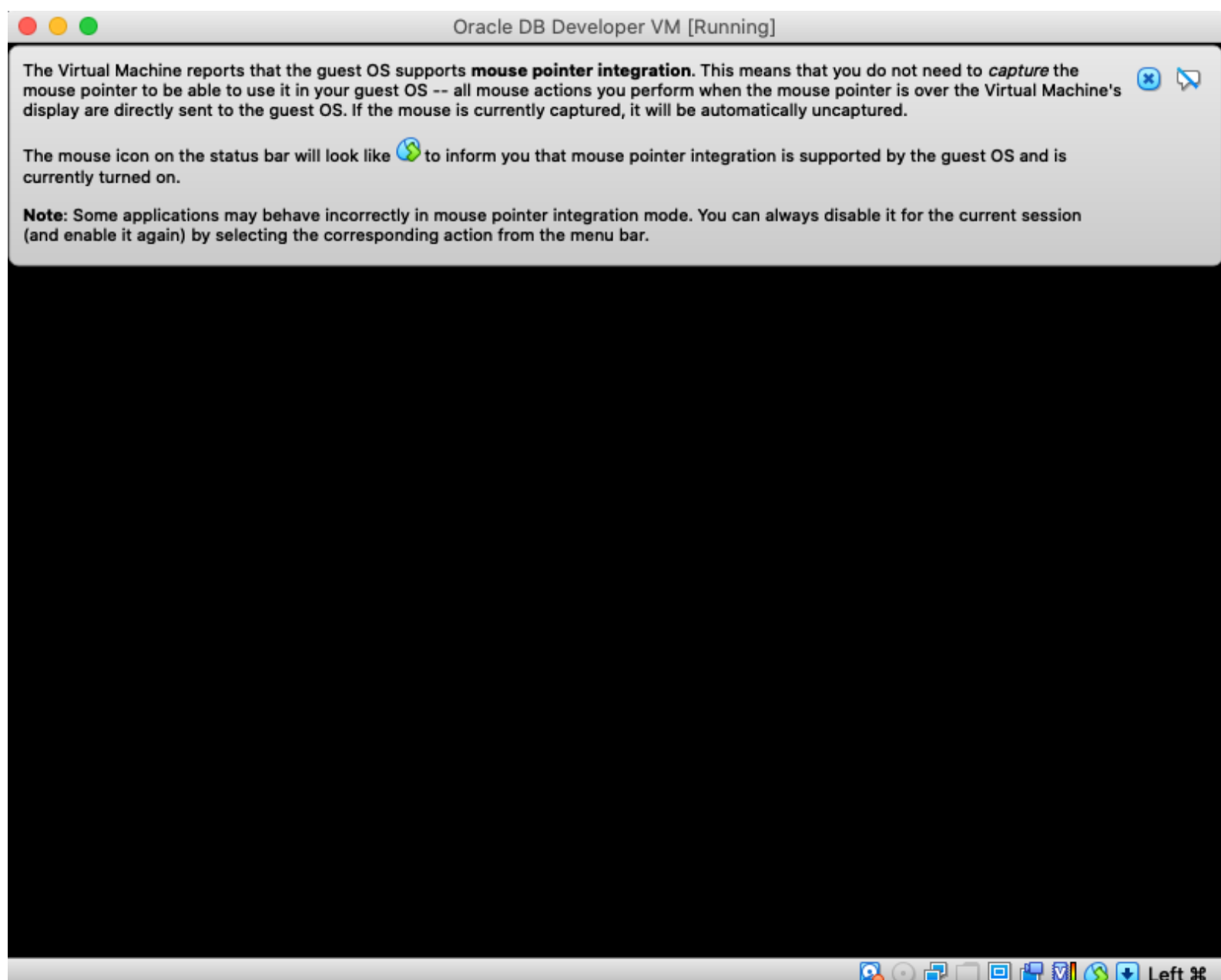
Step 4: Run the Oracle VM

Now the installation has finished, it's time to run the Oracle VM.

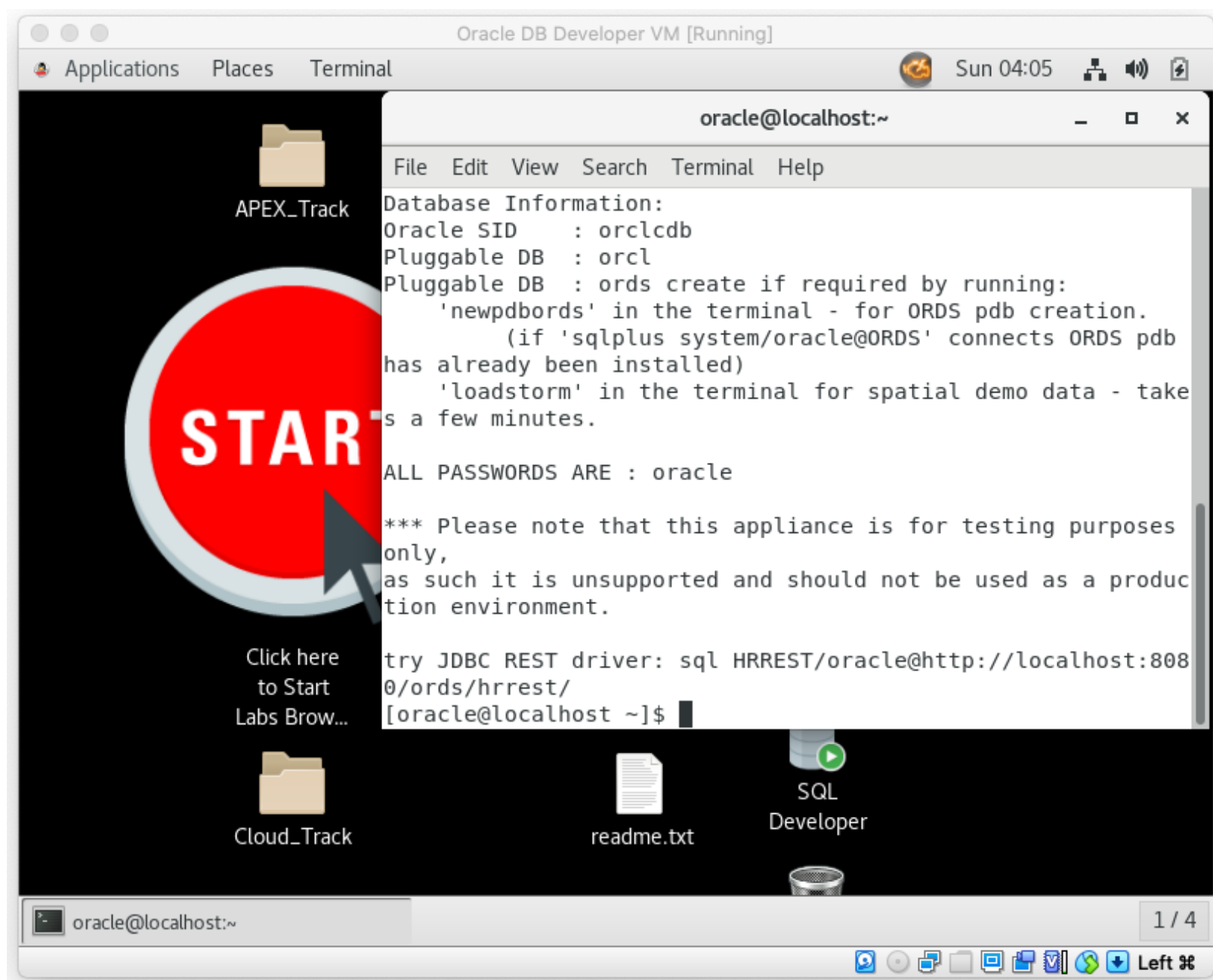
Step 4A: To run the Virtual Machine, click once to select “Oracle DB Developer VM” and click the green Start arrow.



There will be a minute or so of a black screen with white text as the virtual machine loads, and a black screen.



A Linux desktop will appear, and a moment later a terminal window will appear:



The virtual machine is now ready to use.

A Note About Firewall and Port Forwarding

In previous versions of VirtualBox and this VM, we had to take extra steps to make the VM visible to the host (the Mac that you are running the VM on). We also had to set up port forwarding, which would allow us to enter in an IP address such as “localhost” on the Mac and have it forward to the Virtual Machine.

However, this configuration is already done in the latest version. So, these steps are no longer needed. Once the VM is running, as mentioned above, we can connect to it using SQL Developer (or another IDE).

I’ve removed these steps from the guide, but the comments below still refer to them.

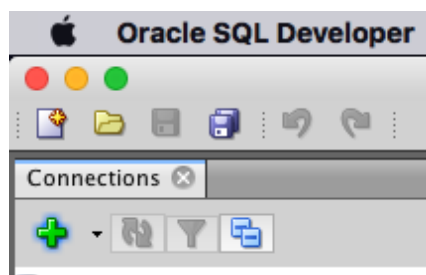
Let’s continue!

Step 5: Test Using SQL Developer

The last step is to test this connection using SQL Developer.

Step 5A: Open SQL Developer on your mac. If you haven’t downloaded it, you can download it from the Oracle website.

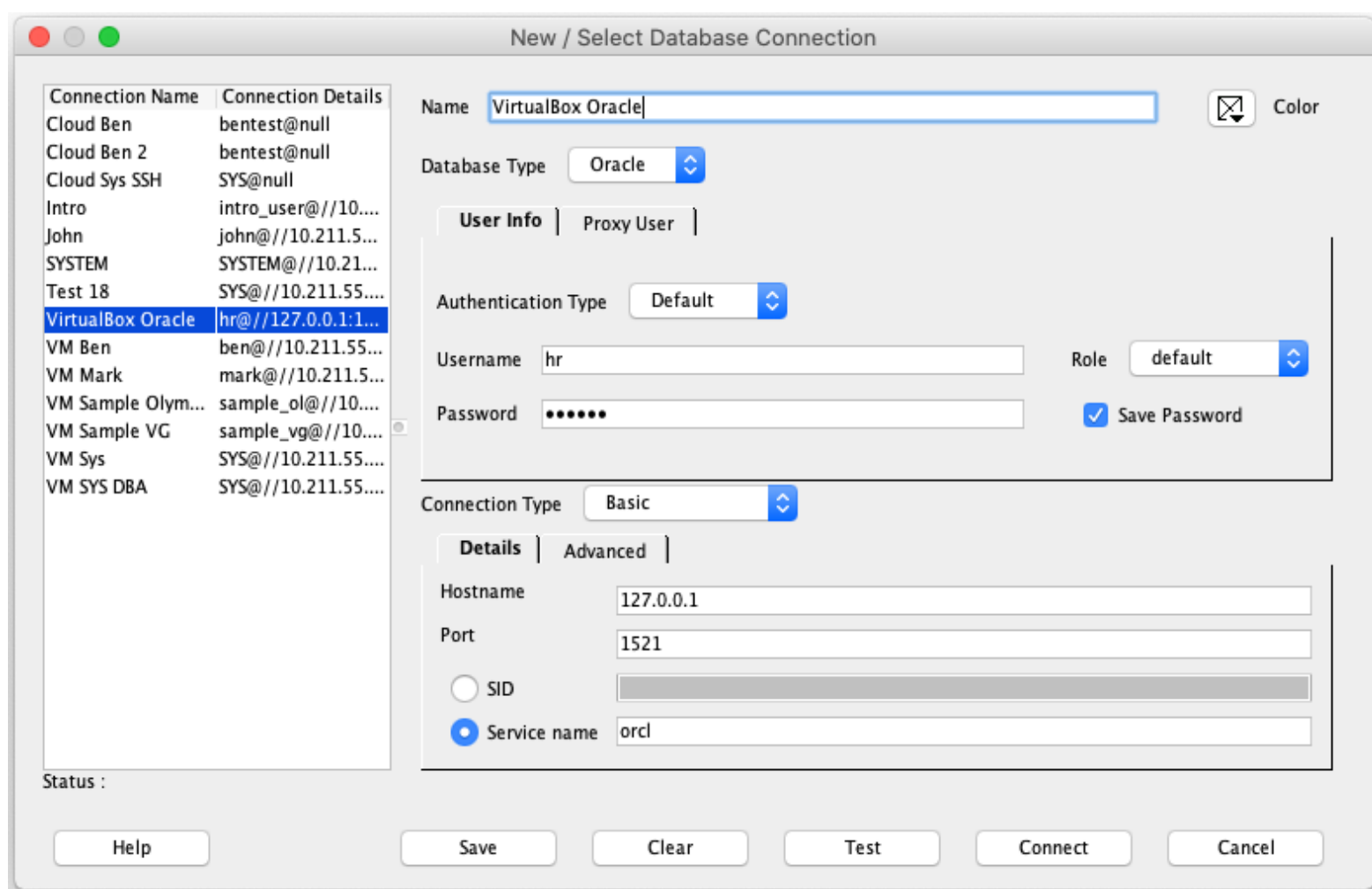
Step 5B: Create a new connection by clicking on the green + icon.



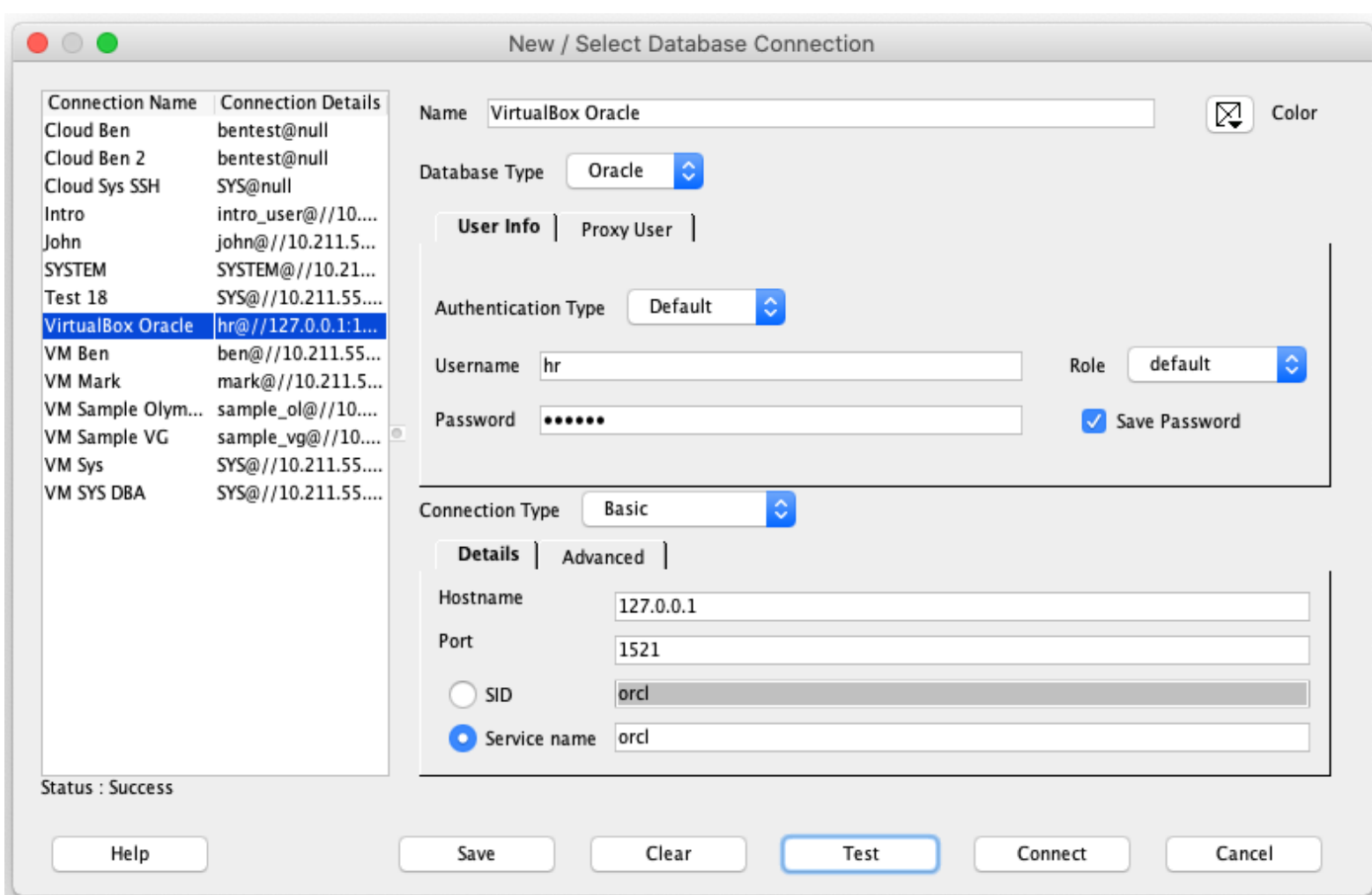
Step 5C: Enter these details for your connection:

- **Name:** whatever you like. A name such as “VirtualBox Oracle” is OK if you can’t think of anything.
- **Username:** hr
- **Password:** oracle
- Check **Save Password** if you don’t want to enter the password every time.
- **Hostname:** localhost
- **Port:** 1521
- Select “**Service Name**” instead of “SID”
- **Service Name:** orcl
- **Connection Type:** Basic

Your connection screen should look something like this:



Step 5D: Click “Test” to test the connection. The message should say “Success”, which means the connection has worked.



- If it says “Listener refused the connection with the following error: 12514”, then you likely have the Service Name incorrect.
- If it says “Listener refused the connection with the following error: 12505”, then you likely have selected SID instead of Service Name.
- If it says “Test failed: ORA0-1017: invalid username/password, logon denied”, then you likely have an incorrect username or password, or one of several other issues.

I’ve written more about [resolving Oracle connection issues here](#).

Step 5E: Click Save to save your connection in the list.

Step 5F: Click Connect. After a moment, a new SQL worksheet window is opened on this new connection.

You can now run SQL queries on Oracle on your Mac. This will work for as long as you have the Virtual Machine running in the background.

To test this, you can run this query:

```
SELECT * FROM v$version;
```

This will show the current version of the Oracle database.:

Your Mac can now access your Oracle database running on your own virtual machine!

Shutting Down

Once you have finished with your Oracle SQL session, you can shut down your VM. To do this, go to **Machine > ACPI Shutdown**. The Virtual Machine will go back to a “Powered Off” when it’s done.

Alternative to VirtualBox: Use Parallels

One alternative to this process of using VirtualBox and the Oracle VM is to use Parallels. Parallels is a VM application, just like VirtualBox. The key differences are:

- It has a different VM file format, so you can't use Oracle's VM files.
- It's a paid tool, unlike VirtualBox which is free.
- You can install your own operating system on it, so you can run Windows 10 for example, instead of Oracle Linux. VirtualBox allows this as well.
- You can install your own version of Oracle on there, such as Oracle Express or an earlier/later version of Oracle.

The steps are quite similar to setting up VirtualBox. To set up Parallels for an Oracle database on your Mac, the high-level steps are:

1. Purchase and download Parallels for Mac (or use the free trial).
2. Install Parallels.
3. Set up a new Virtual Machine on Windows 10. I don't know if you have to download the Windows 10 (or other Windows version) ISO file, or if Parallels can do that for you.
4. Once the operating system is installed, download Oracle or Oracle Express from the Oracle website, inside your virtual machine.
5. Install it on your virtual machine as though you're running it on a Windows computer.
6. Configure the port settings in a similar way as you did for VirtualBox
7. Connect to the virtual machine from SQL Developer on your Mac.

I've used Parallels in the past for this. The only reason I stopped was because my MacBook air didn't have the specs to keep up with running a VM.



Download This Guide in a PDF

Save this guide as a PDF so you can refer to it later. All steps and screenshots included.

 DOWNLOAD

Summary

Some developers want to run an Oracle database on a Mac. While Oracle is not natively available on a Mac computer, it's possible to run Oracle or Oracle Express on a Mac using a virtual machine.

This article describes the steps you need to take to set up the existing Oracle Developer VM and VirtualBox on your Mac to get it up and running.

59 Comments

sushma on March 19, 2019 at 12:52 am

[Reply](#)

Hi, I've followed the steps but when I tried to import .ova file, I'm getting below error. Do you know how can I resolve it?

Error reading OVA 'Users/username/Downloads/DeveloperDaysVM2018-10-16_09.ova' (VERR_TAR_UNEXPECTED_EOS).

Result Code:

VBOX_E_IPRT_ERROR (0x80BB0005)

Component:

ApplianceWrap

Interface:

IAppliance {8398f026-4add-4474-5bc3-2f9f2140b23e}

Ben on April 1, 2019 at 4:42 am

[Reply](#)

Hi, I've never seen that error before, it might be something you need to Google or check with Oracle.

Shweta on October 7, 2019 at 9:09 am

[Reply](#)

Step 5: make visible on mac host

Not able to do please explain

Step 6: Setup port forwarding

On testing sql getting error please help me.

Dipika Sharma on April 14, 2019 at 10:11 am

[Reply](#)

When trying to test the database, I am getting this error.

Status: Failure-Test failed: Listener refused the connection with the following error: ORA 12514, TNS listener does not currently know the service request

Ben on April 19, 2019 at 9:03 am

[Reply](#)

Hi Dipika, I would suggest checking your connection parameters, especially the IP address of the virtual machine.

I've got an [article here](#) on this error but it may not solve the issue for connecting using a Mac.

Sai on January 28, 2021 at 3:21 pm

[Reply](#)

Hi,

I tried following the installation process on my New MacBook Air with M1 chipset. However , I got the following error while accessing oracle DB developer through VM manager :

Kernel driver not installed (rc = -1908) and it's failing to open a session for virtual
Machine Oracle DB developer VM.

Kindly help

M on January 16, 2020 at 7:02 pm

[Reply](#)

Hello Dipika, i encountered this error as well. I am running 19c. When you start your oracle database on the virtual machine, it gives you some database information. Please check to see what those credentials are, they may be different from what was used above. Check specifically for these:

Oracle SID: sid_here (Connect using SID instead of service name as described above)

Pluggable DB: check for the 'username/password@ORDS' credentials given in this section. you'll notice a place like ('if sqlplus username/oracle@ORDS' connects ORDS pdb has already been installed)

Yonas on April 14, 2019 at 2:06 pm

[Reply](#)

Hi,

While I am trying to import the OVA file on mac os, I get the below error

Failed to import appliance .../Downloads/DeveloperDaysVM2018-10-16_09.ova.

Result Code: NS_ERROR_INVALID_ARG (0x80070057). Any thing I can do to resolve it?

Thanks

Ben on April 19, 2019 at 9:01 am

[Reply](#)

Hi Yonas, I haven't seen that error before unfortunately. I would suggest Googling the error – perhaps others have gotten it. If that doesn't give you a solution, you can try the [Oracle forums here](#).

Matt on May 13, 2019 at 6:45 am

[Reply](#)

Hi

Thanks for your write up.

I'm on a Mac on Mojave 10.14, I can get the Oracle DB Developer VM running but I can't past step 5.

I have no admin setting to reach the firewall settings, port etc?

Thanks

Ben on May 18, 2019 at 3:34 pm

[Reply](#)

Hi Matt,

Good question. I'm not sure why the Admin section would not be appearing. I remember having this issue a while ago but I don't remember how I resolved it. I admin setting up a VM for this is a bit tricky so I would suggest Googling why the Admin menu does not appear.

Sorry I couldn't be more helpful!

Ben

Digitalman42 on June 12, 2019 at 10:36 pm

[Reply](#)

On an enterprise (corporate) system, the MacOS might be locked down from the user and is denied permission to get to the admin section. Unfortunately, this is pretty common. It would help if you mentioned that it was the admin section of MacOS. It's confusing to direct us to the VM and then switch gears to the MacOS without any indication that you're doing this. Otherwise, great and helpful article.

Mike on August 29, 2019 at 4:50 am

[Reply](#)

Did you resolve this? I am stuck too. He said system menu, admin then firewall but none of those options are there. I don't see the system menu. I click settings but there was no admin tab. Any help?

John on May 14, 2019 at 10:09 pm

[Reply](#)

Hi Ben,

Thanks so much for this article. It is great help.

It appears Oracle has come out with a new release of VirtualBox (6.0) since you wrote this article which I have installed. The interface is slightly different than you describe. I am working on the step to set up the firewall rule. In the upper right hand corner of the 6.0 interface is a icon (which I might label a 3 server network icon). When clicking on it a drop down displays, with a variety of options including a wrench/tools icon. When I click on that, I get to a screen with a Wifi option. It displays a message, No Wi-Fi Adapter Found. I am able to open up Firefox and surf around on the VM so must have WiFi connectivity, but still have that message.

In the upper left hand corner of the VM, is a menu labeled Applications. Underneath it, is a submenu named Sundry which has an option for Firewall. When I open it up I get a message: Trying to connect to firewalld, waiting...

A quick Google search about the No Wi-Fi Adapter Found returned some entries from 2013 about installing an extension to VirtualBox. Before I go down that path, I thought I would ask you if that is what you recommend or maybe I missed something.

Also, I noticed on my virtual machine the command ipconfig is not installed. On my MacBook, it is in /usr/sbin, but nowhere to be found on the VM. Any thoughts on that?

Thanks again. This has been a great start for me.

Ben on May 18, 2019 at 3:36 pm

[Reply](#)

Hi John,

Glad you like the article.

Thanks for the question. Yeah it looks like a recent version has come out since writing this. I've only set up this VM once or twice so I'm not that familiar with all of the issues or intricacies of it.

It's strange that the icon is different and the firewall setup is not working.

I would suggest asking a question on AskTOM – that's a support forum for Oracle issues. They may be able to advise what the issue is or at least advise what else you can try.

Sorry I couldn't be more helpful!

Thanks,

Ben

Leonardo Forero on September 26, 2019 at 5:03 am

[Reply](#)

Hi,

You need to start the firewall using the terminal.

Follow this steps

<https://www.liquidweb.com/kb/how-to-start-and-enable-firewalld-on-centos-7/>

George E on May 16, 2019 at 3:29 am

[Reply](#)

Hello,

Your steps have worked just fine for me thus far (up to Step 5, haven't tried this yet). This is by far the simplest tutorial on running Oracle on Mac that I've found.

I notice SQL Developer runs a little slower in the VM (Oracle Live SQL is worse). I suspect Step 5 may make things better but my question is in regards to the safety of it. This is a little new to me so I have some questions. Does opening ports expose my Mac to security issues, is this port only open when VirtualBox is running? Is there a way to make this more secure for peace of mind? I guess I'm just concerned with how safe making the VM visible to my Mac would be.

Thanks so much for your detailed tutorial.

George E. on May 16, 2019 at 4:45 am

[Reply](#)

Also, when logging into SQL Developer and it says there's an updated version, if I click on that link it will open the VM Firefox browser and take me to the download page from the Oracle site. Can we actually update our version of SQL Developer this way or is that not possible since it's still technically running on my Mac.?

Ben on May 18, 2019 at 3:40 pm

[Reply](#)

Hi,

Are you opening SQL Developer inside your VM or on the Mac?

I think you can update it either way – the version on the VM or the version on the Mac.

I don't use the version inside the VM, but if I did, I think it would update OK.

If you're not sure, you can manually download it from the Oracle website and install it.

Ben on May 18, 2019 at 3:38 pm

[Reply](#)

Hi George,

Thanks, glad you like the article!

I'm not sure about the security issue behind it. Networks and ports is not a strong point for me. I would suggest asking the AskTOM forums, they can probably advise on the impacts I think.

What are the specifications of your Mac? I ran a VM on a 2015 MacBook Air and it ran quite slowly, but on a 2018 MacBook Pro it's running very well.

Thanks,

Ben

Digitalman42 on June 12, 2019 at 11:10 pm

[Reply](#)

Nice article! Helped me a lot. Needs to be updated to the current version of the VM and some extra screenshots would be nice. I also found that the auth should be system/oracle and service name=orcl. Also, the port forwarding was already set up in the VM, so no need to actually do this step, but nice to have it document in case it gets deleted. Also don't need the IP for it, just leave it blank. Thanks for posting! I'm happily connected to my VM with Sql Developer on my Mac. Good times!

Ben on June 13, 2019 at 5:01 am

[Reply](#)

Thanks! I'll update the article with those points and look to get new screenshots. Glad you found it useful!

Ron on July 19, 2019 at 7:43 am

[Reply](#)

You filled in/clarified the missing info. Thanks! Great article Ben. Just needs a couple of updates to align with latest version of VM. As mentioned by Digitalman42, it's actually a bit easier now with some of the configuration already installed.

Tj on July 24, 2019 at 5:06 pm

[Reply](#)

Hi, At step 5 when I'm trying to open firewall configurations it is giving me an error stating – "Failed to connect to firewalld. Please make sure that the service has started correctly and try again."

Thank you so much for the tutorial and I'd appreciate any HELP on resolving the ERROR I got.

Tj

Ben on July 25, 2019 at 5:24 am

[Reply](#)

Hi Tj,

I'll take a look at the error, however it's not something I've seen before. It might be easier for you to Google it (if you haven't done so already) as others may have experienced it.

Ben

Santosh on September 27, 2019 at 3:16 am

[Reply](#)

Hi,

Checkout the below link. It will help.

<https://oracle-base.com/articles/linux/linux-firewall-firewalld>

Santosh.

Laura Prado on September 12, 2019 at 11:19 pm

[Reply](#)

thanks so much for this tutorial, it worked like a charm. I have the same issue with configuring the firewall and opening ports, as mine shows as having a wired connection, but it's fast enough using SQL dev within the VM, so I'm ok with that. Anyway, just wanted to say I really appreciate you taking the time to do this!

kadir malak on October 1, 2019 at 10:43 pm

[Reply](#)

Hi, I've used ORCL as service name and it worked!

Pankaj Pilkhwal on October 7, 2019 at 4:24 pm

[Reply](#)

System configurations

macOS Mojave – Version 10.14.6

VirtualBox – Version 6.0.12 r133076 (Qt5.6.3)

I am getting the below errors once I click on the VM

Error1

Failed to open a session for the virtual machine Oracle DB Developer VM.

Error2

Kernel driver not installed (rc=-1908)

Make sure the kernel module has been loaded successfully.

where: suplibOsInit what: 3 VERR_VM_DRIVER_NOT_INSTALLED (-1908) – The support driver is not installed. On linux, open returned ENOENT.

Pankaj Pilkhwal on October 7, 2019 at 4:57 pm

[Reply](#)

The issue was with the VirtualBox version. Installed Version 5.2.32 r132073 (Qt5.6.3) to fix the issue

JinGu on January 7, 2020 at 11:29 am

[Reply](#)

Can you please tell me more detail about it?

Ben on January 7, 2020 at 12:31 pm

[Reply](#)

What would you like to know more about, JinGu?

JinGu on January 7, 2020 at 5:28 pm

[Reply](#)

Hi ben

Can you help me check this error

Status : Failure -Test failed: IO Error: Connection reset by peer,
Authentication lapse 0 ms.

JinGu on January 7, 2020 at 5:31 pm

[Reply](#)

Connecting sql developer mac to Oracle database

Trent on May 27, 2020 at 8:41 am

[Reply](#)

Thank you so much Ben! I kept wondering why it didn't work on my mac, and then i realized that it wasn't made to work on macs, UNLESS we use your process. You are such a huge relief.

Ben on May 29, 2020 at 5:29 am

[Reply](#)

Glad you found it useful!

Patrick Wadkins on May 28, 2020 at 9:32 am

[Reply](#)

This post was very helpful and the steps were easy to follow and install each component. My environment works correctly; however, when I try to install sample schemas from the Oracle site, I am having problem with the users being setup. I don't seem to have access to create these schemas. Probably user error, but trying to figure out how to get these sample schemas created.

<https://docs.oracle.com/en/database/oracle/oracle-database/18/comsc/installing-sample-schemas.html#GUID-B0BEE222-D8B0-4B68-B359-DEA153956EF6>

swornim maharjan on June 18, 2020 at 6:53 pm

[Reply](#)

ORA-12162: TNS:net service name is incorrectly specified

What should I do...?

ririn on August 20, 2020 at 1:21 pm

[Reply](#)

Hi Ben, i'm a new mac user. I need an oracle jinitiator for my mac. Would you tell me how to install it? I really need ur help :"

Ben on August 27, 2020 at 5:12 am

[Reply](#)

Hi Ririn, I've never heard of Oracle Jinitiator. Have you tried the instructions that Oracle provide?

Ghadi on September 8, 2020 at 3:44 pm

[Reply](#)

Error report –

ORA-01031: insufficient privileges

01031. 00000 – “insufficient privileges”

*Cause: An attempt was made to perform a database operation without the necessary privileges.

*Action: Ask your database administrator or designated security administrator to grant you the necessary privileges

what should i do?

Brandon on September 20, 2020 at 4:40 pm

[Reply](#)

Thanks for this guide. I was able to perform all the steps and the test using SQL developer worked. My confusion is related to my classwork for a course I'm taking on database systems using Oracle.

I'm completely new at this, so my questions or confusion may not even make sense, sorry in advance, but hopefully I can get some guidance.

My class instructs me to download 11g Express Edition from Oracle (which I obviously can't run on my mac, which is why I am here). This guide seems to indicate I can do what I need using this method, and my instuctor said that students had used a VM with some success in the past. Part of my confusion is understanding the difference (and how they relate) between 11g Express and SQL Developer. I think that 11g is the database, and SQL is a way to access and interact with it?

What is throwing me off is your example to test using SQL and using the hr username and oracle password, is this simply a sample database? How do I set up my own database on my Mac to do my coursework?

This is where the dots aren't connecting for me. I can't tell if what I am trying to do is even possible, or if I am just missing something. My only other option to use an old PC I have access to, but this is less than ideal. I would prefer to run everything out of my Mac if possible.

Thanks in advance.

Ben on September 25, 2020 at 8:35 am

[Reply](#)

Hi Brandon, thanks for the questions.

Oracle Express is the database itself, which is the software and files that store all of the tables and data and everything that makes the database work. Oracle Express is a smaller but easier to set up version of Oracle's full database, and it's great for getting started. Oracle Express 11g was the most recent version of Oracle Express up until a year or so ago, and now I think the latest version is Oracle Express 19c.

Oracle SQL Developer is an application that lets you access and interact with the database, as you mentioned. You'll need Oracle Express to work with the database, but you can use another application instead of SQL Developer if you like. SQL Developer is quite easy to use, and free, and is often recommended by those working with Oracle (myself included).

The difference with my article and what you're referring to is that my article uses a VM that's provided by Oracle. Their VM includes the full Oracle Database (not Oracle Express), and this database includes a sample database called "hr". I suggest testing with this because if you're able to connect to this "hr" database that's inside the VM, then the setup process has worked.

The good thing is that once this has been done, you can then set up your own database and tables and use that instead of the "hr" database.

So, in short, if you can complete everything in this article and get the VM working on your Mac, you should then be able to create the database you need. Hope that helps. Let me know if you have any other questions.

Fisayo Nana on October 9, 2020 at 7:15 am

[Reply](#)

Hello Ben,

Your article is amazing and it worked perfectly for me too.

However, I am struggling with creating my own database, please can you share a guide on how to do this properly after VM is working without using the "hr" database

Tanya on October 13, 2020 at 7:40 am

[Reply](#)

Hi,

I installed this and it's ok but I need from Northwind database because my SQL course works with this database. Please, can you help me with this!

Ben on October 16, 2020 at 4:17 am

[Reply](#)

Hi Tanya, I don't think Oracle has released a Northwind database as it's an SQL Server data set. But if you have the SQL scripts to create it from SQL Server you can convert it to Oracle by changing some of the data types and syntax I think.

Jose on October 24, 2020 at 11:41 pm

Great tutorial :) Thanks a lot, everything works as I expected :)

[Reply](#)

Thomas on November 6, 2020 at 8:14 pm

How can I create a new user and database/schema?

[Reply](#)

Cynthia on November 12, 2020 at 7:23 pm

Hi, I've installed the VM on my MAC and when I tried to run the Oracle DB Developer, I have a failure :

Kernel driver not installed (rc=-1908)

Make sure the kernel module has been loaded successfully.

where: suplibOsInit what: 3 VERR_VM_DRIVER_NOT_INSTALLED (-1908) - The support driver is not installed. On linux, open returned ENOENT.

Can you help me please ?

[Reply](#)

Ben on November 16, 2020 at 2:50 pm

Hi Cynthia, I'm not sure about that error. I would consider Googling it (if you haven't done so already).

[Reply](#)

Kamilka on November 30, 2020 at 3:03 pm

I just want to say thank you so so so much!! the article is so insanely helpful, everything worked for me perfectly, I appreciate your help!

[Reply](#)

Kamila on December 2, 2020 at 9:55 am

"You must specify a machine to start, using the command line.

Usage: VirtualBoxVM -startvm <name|UUID>

Starts the VirtualBox virtual machine with the given name or unique identifier (UUID)."

For some reason I'm getting this message after I shut down the Virtual Box and I can not do anything now. do you guys know how to solve this problem ?

[Reply](#)

Steve on January 14, 2021 at 1:55 am

Followed your instructions to the letter and everything seems to work perfectly. Thanks!!

[Reply](#)

Steve on January 14, 2021 at 1:56 am

Forgot to say, I'm using DBeaver SQL client rather than Oracle SQL Developer and this works great with Oracle VM.

[Reply](#)

Robert on January 15, 2021 at 7:42 pm

[Reply](#)

The Open SQL Developer won't start on my Mac(BookPro 2020 – Catalina) – I used DBeaver (<https://dbeaver.io/download/>) instead which worked out pretty well

besides – thank you for this awesome HowTo

santosh kumar choudhary on January 24, 2021 at 2:21 am

[Reply](#)

Excellent blog, I followed steps and am able to install oracle and connected successfully from mac.

Thanks for such wonderful detailed and needed guid!

shoug on February 16, 2021 at 10:01 pm

[Reply](#)

I am stuck at step ” Step 3D: Select the DeveloperDays OVA file you have just downloaded, and click Open. ” when I try opening it, it's all grey meaning that they are not compatible maybe? I don't know what the problwm is do i need an application to open it?

Ben on February 17, 2021 at 3:02 pm

[Reply](#)

Hi, I think the OVA file is opened by VirtualBox. I think you can open VirtualBox and follow the Import process to import this OVA file to start the virtual machine.

Zhanserik Izmakov on March 31, 2021 at 12:22 am

[Reply](#)

Hello, I do not start the Oracle DB Developer virtual machine and I also have the second Windows 10 operating system may not be started because of this

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Ben Brumm

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