**Before starting**

Before downloading and installing VMware Workstation:

* Ensure that your physical machine meets the system requirements for VMware Workstation. For more information, see *System Requirements*:  
  + [Workstation CPU Requirements](https://kb.vmware.com/s/article/51643)
  + [Workstation Host OS Support](https://kb.vmware.com/s/article/80807)
  + [Workstation Documentation Site](https://docs.vmware.com/en/VMware-Workstation-Pro/index.html)
* Ensure that you are using a [supported guest operating system](https://docs.vmware.com/en/VMware-Fusion/13/com.vmware.fusion.using.doc/GUID-FF41B265-79D1-4AD8-822B-95A86A05DE8B.html).

**Downloading VMware Workstation**

To download VMware Workstation, visit the [Broadcom Support Portal](https://support.broadcom.com/).

**Installing VMware Workstation**

**Notes**:

* You must have only one VMware Workstation installed at a time. You must uninstall the previous version of VMware Workstation before installing a new version.

To install VMware Workstation on a Windows host:

1. Log in to the Windows host system as the Administrator user or as a user who is a member of the local Administrators group.
2. Open the folder where the VMware Workstation installer was downloaded. The default location is the **Downloads** folder for the user account on the Windows host.  
     
   **Note**: The installer file name is similar to VMware-workstation-full-*####-####*.exe, where *####-####* is the version and build numbers.
3. Right-click the installer and click **Run as Administrator**.
4. Select a setup option:
   * **Typical**: Installs typical Workstation features. If the Integrated Virtual Debugger for Visual Studio or Eclipse is present on the host system, the associated Workstation plug-ins are installed.
   * **Custom**: This lets you select which Workstation features to install and specify where to install them. Select this option if you need to change the shared virtual machines directory, modify the VMware Workstation Server port, or install the enhanced virtual keyboard driver. The enhanced virtual keyboard driver provides better handling of international keyboards and keyboards that have extra keys.
5. Follow the on-screen instructions to finish the installation.
6. Restart the host machine.

**After installation**

On Windows host systems:

* The installer creates a desktop shortcut, a quick launch shortcut, or a combination of these options in addition to a Start Menu item.
* To start VMware Workstation on a Windows host system, select **Start** > **Programs** > **VMware Workstation**.