



Chapter 03 Pre-tasks - Installing VMware Workstation



Install VMware Workstation 16.x, 15.x or 12.x (but not version 14.x) before reading Chapter 03. VMware Workstation is required to create virtual machines and build a fully working Networking lab on your PC.

Note: This book uses VMware Workstation 15.x as the lab basis, but version 16.x has been released on the market. If you want to configure your lab on the latest VMware Workstation Pro, that should work too. However, if you want to follow the book down to every detail, you can use the same version used in my book.

Installing VMware Workstation

A. VMware User registration:

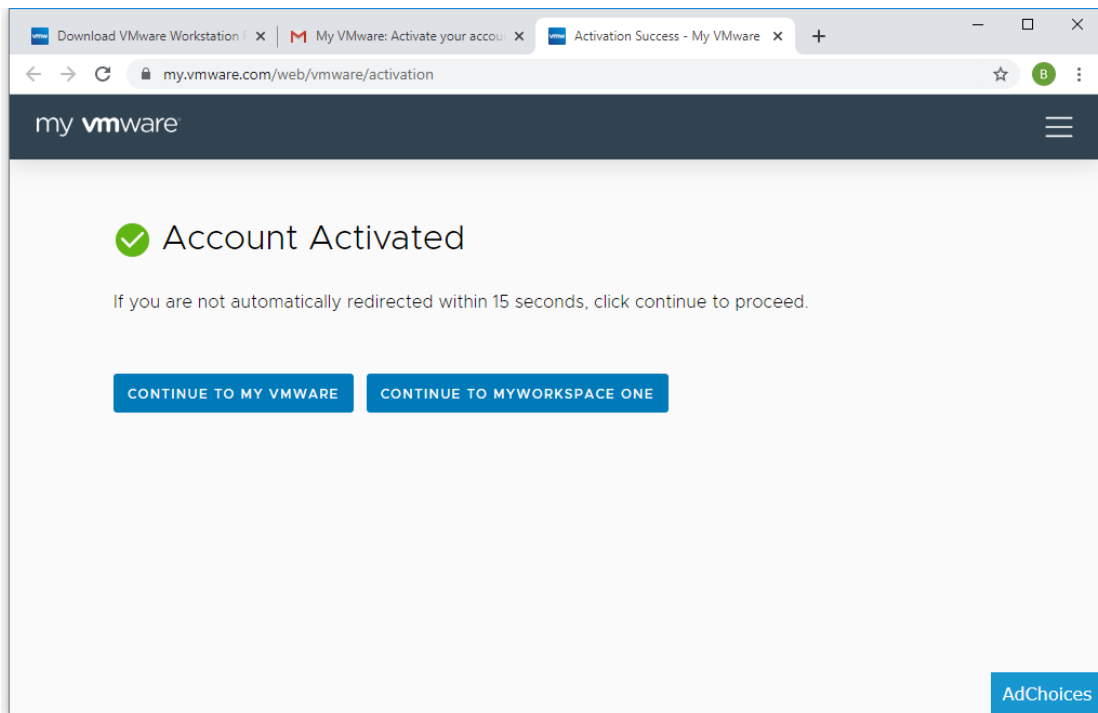
The VMware user registration process is shown below. If you want to download the latest supported version of VMware Workstation 15.x, you must first register a user account. Optionally, if you use an evaluation version of the software, you can download an evaluation copy from the official site. The URLs of both download sites are provided in the next section, but here is the URL for VMware user account registration:

- ① Go to the **VMware user registration** page in your web browser.

<https://my.vmware.com/web/vmware/registration>

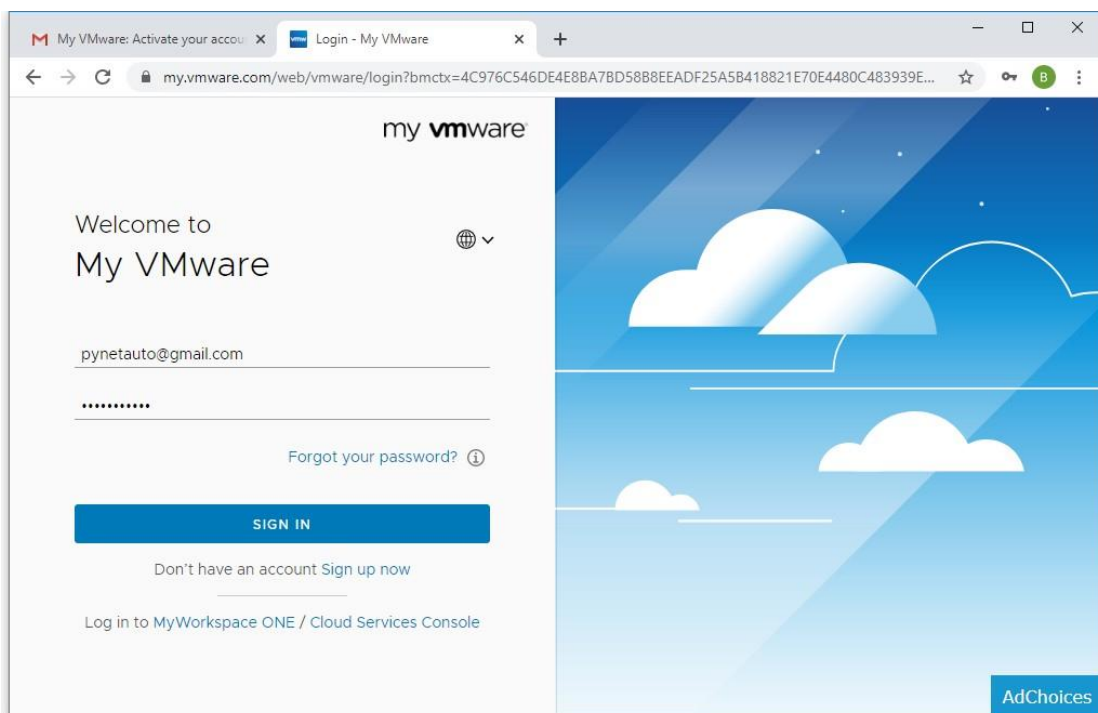
- ② Complete the registration form and enter the **CAPTCHA** code shown at the bottom of the page; check the **My VMware Terms of Use** and click on the [SIGN UP] button to finish your registration.

- ③ Log into your email account and check an account activation email from VMware. Click on the **[Activate Now]** button. Now, click on **[CONTINUE TO MY VMWARE]**.



- ④ Now log back into **My VMware** page and download the latest copy of VMware Workstation 15.x (or 16.x).

<https://my.vmware.com/group/vmware/home>



B. Downloading the latest VMware Workstation 15.x installation file

When you successfully log into the download website, go ahead and download the latest copy of the VMware Workstation 15 Pro or a newer installation file for Windows.



Make sure you are connected to the internet to download this software.

- ① From your web browser, go to the VMware Workstation 15 Pro download page and download a VMware workstation Pro copy. You can download an evaluation copy or sign-up and download the supported version. Usually, the evaluation version is a more recent version than the supported version.

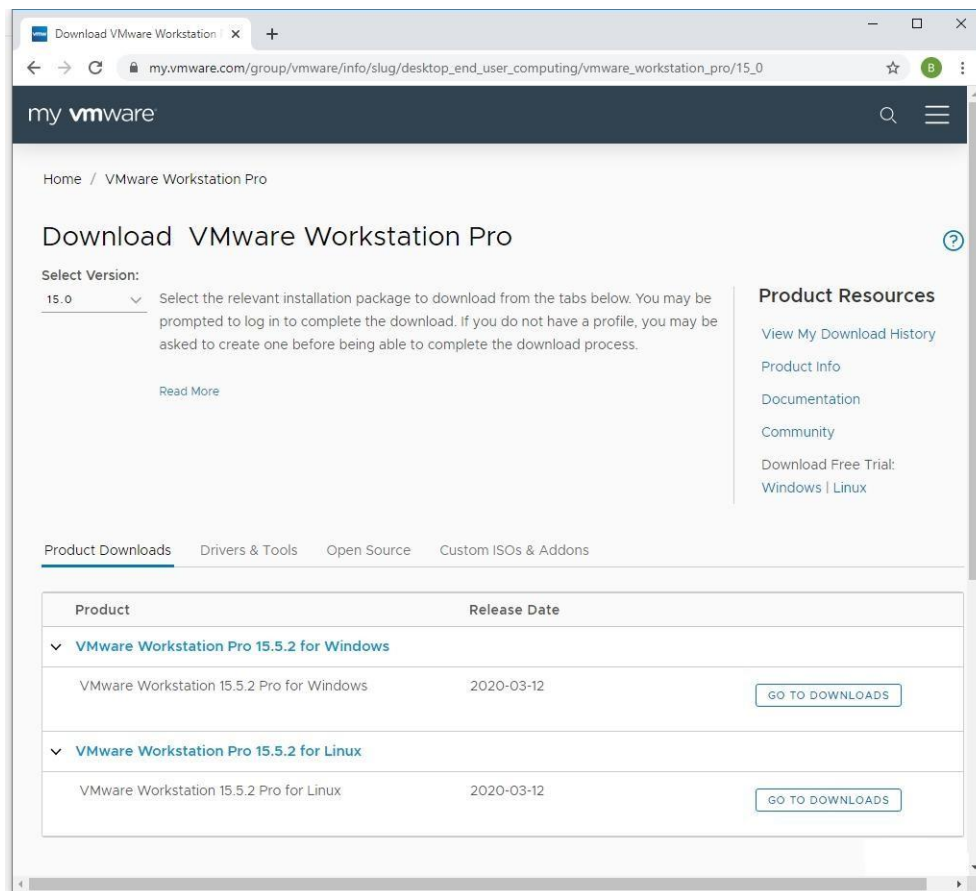
For evaluation version download:

<https://www.vmware.com/au/products/workstation-pro/workstation-pro-evaluation.html>

For supported version download:

https://my.vmware.com/group/vmware/info?slug=desktop_end_user_computing/vmware_workstation_pro/15_0

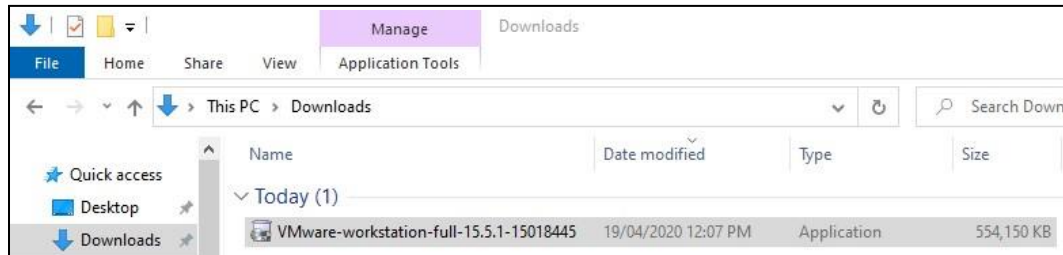
- ② Select **VMware Workstation Pro 15.x for Windows** and begin the download. The file size is estimated to be around 540 MB.



C. Installing VMware Workstation 15.x

Let's start the installation. As mentioned earlier, the installation process is straightforward, and the installation process is as followed. Please complete the installation by paying attention to the deselection in step # 05 of the installation below.

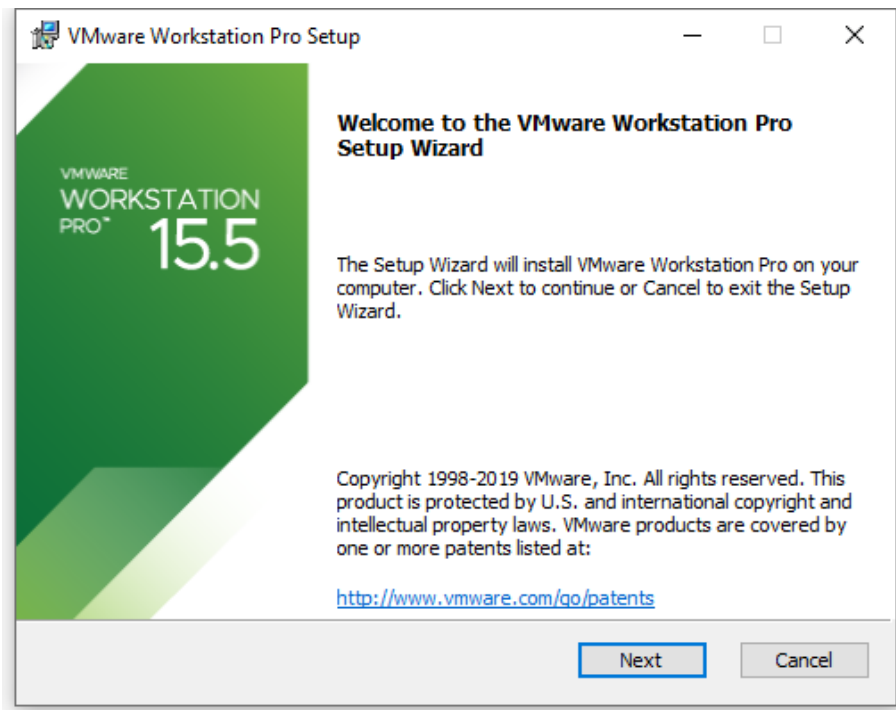
- ① Go to the **Downloads folder** and double-click on the VMware Workstation Installation file to begin the installation.



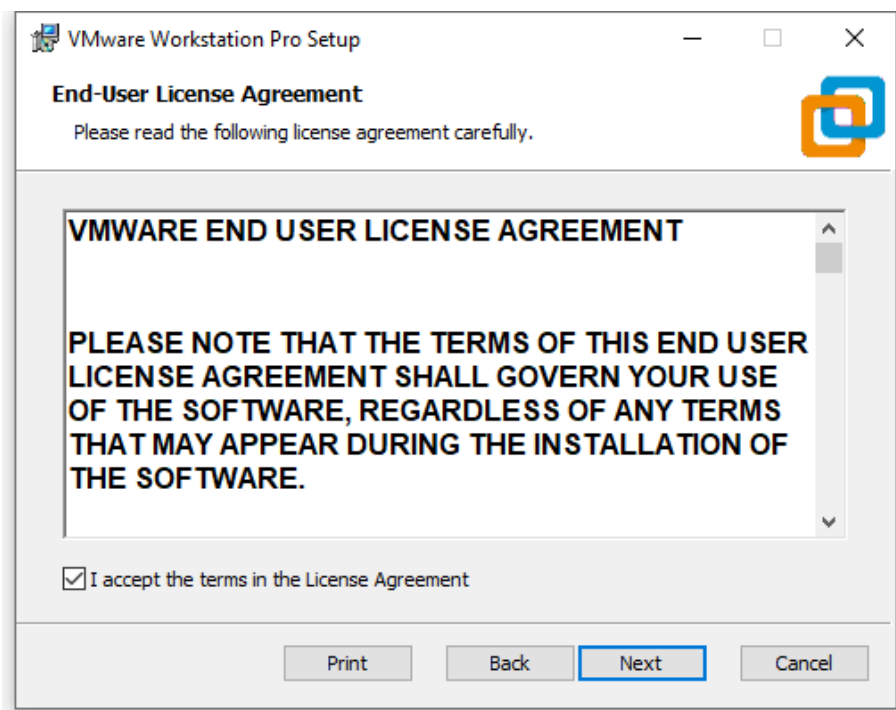
- ② When the installation starts, **accept the program permission** first and press the [Next] button.



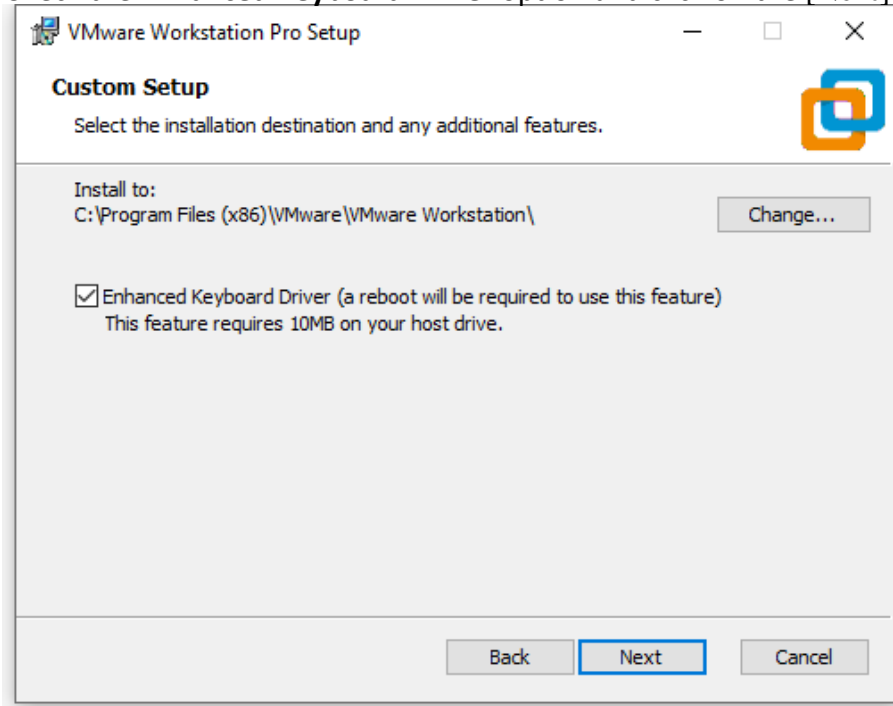
- ③ Click on the [Next] button.



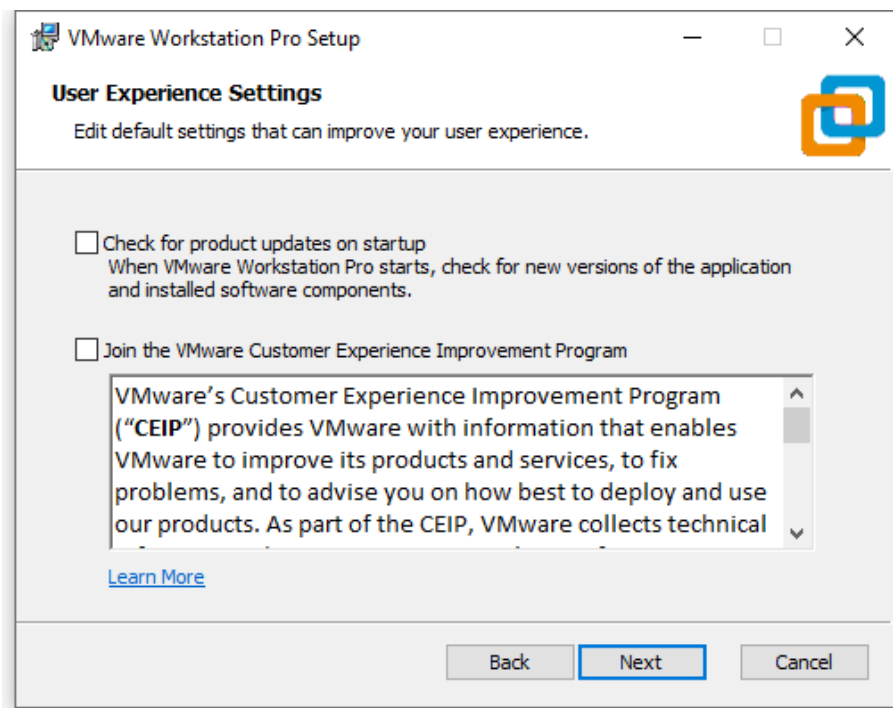
- ④ Check **I accept the terms in the License Agreement** and then click on the [Next] button.



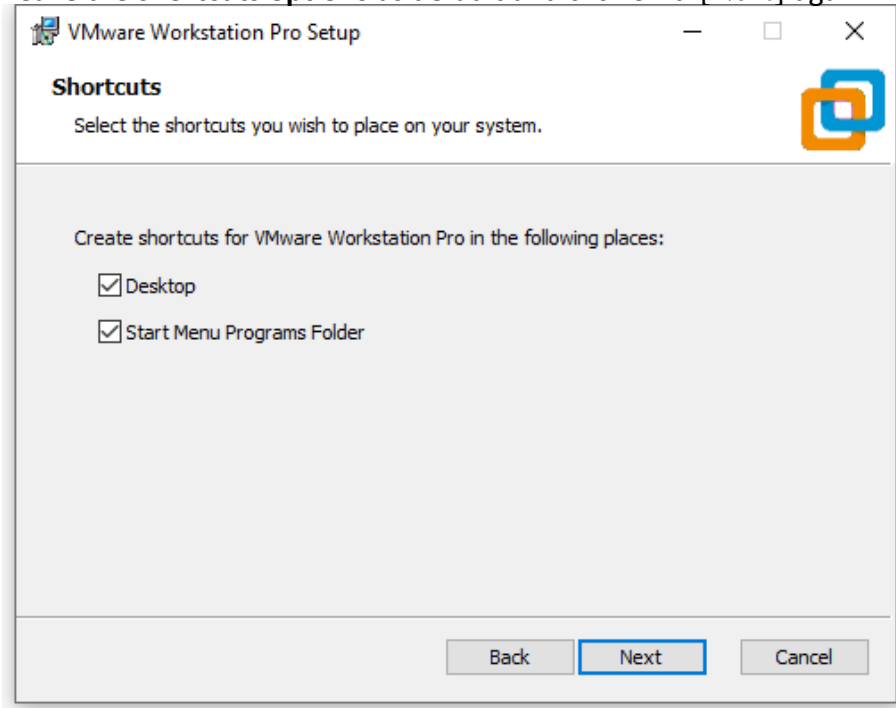
- ⑤ Check the **Enhanced Keyboard Driver** option and click on the [Next] button.



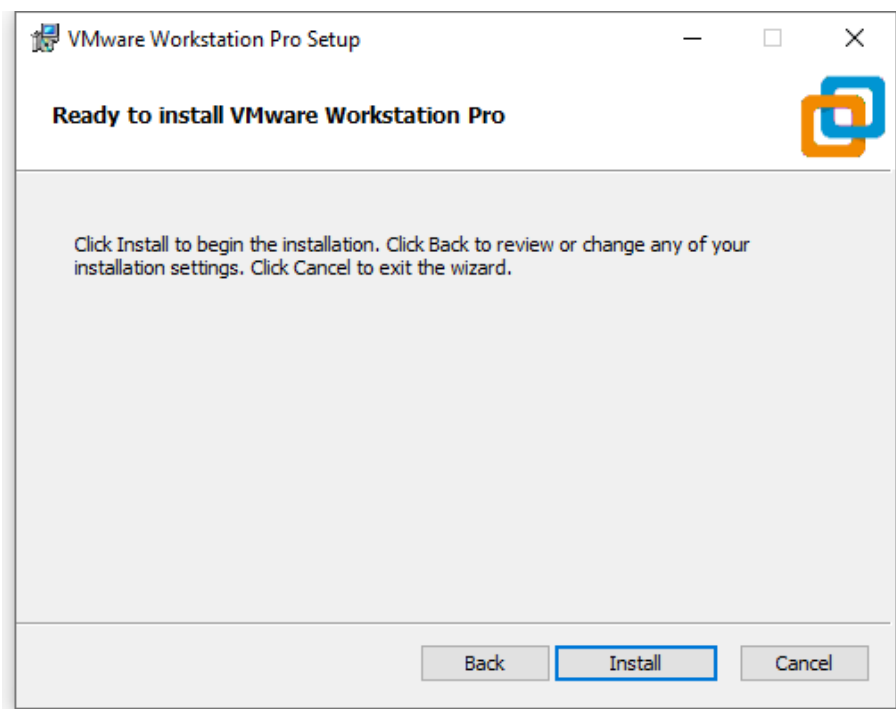
- ⑥ **Uncheck** both **update check on startup** and **Customer Experience Improvement Program** and click on [Next] button.

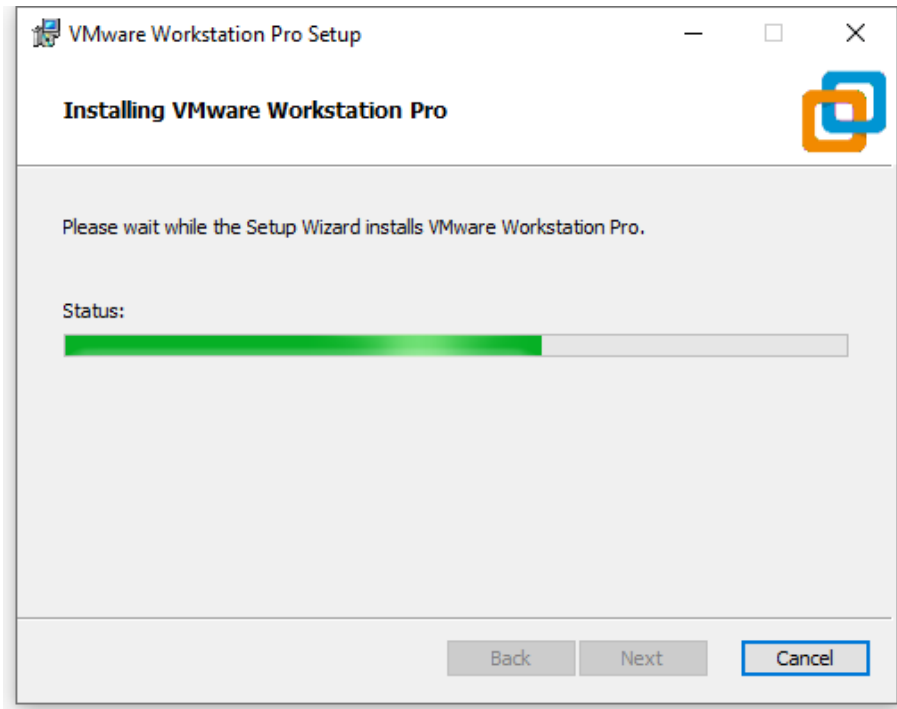


- ⑦ Leave the **shortcuts options** as default and click on the **[Next]** again.

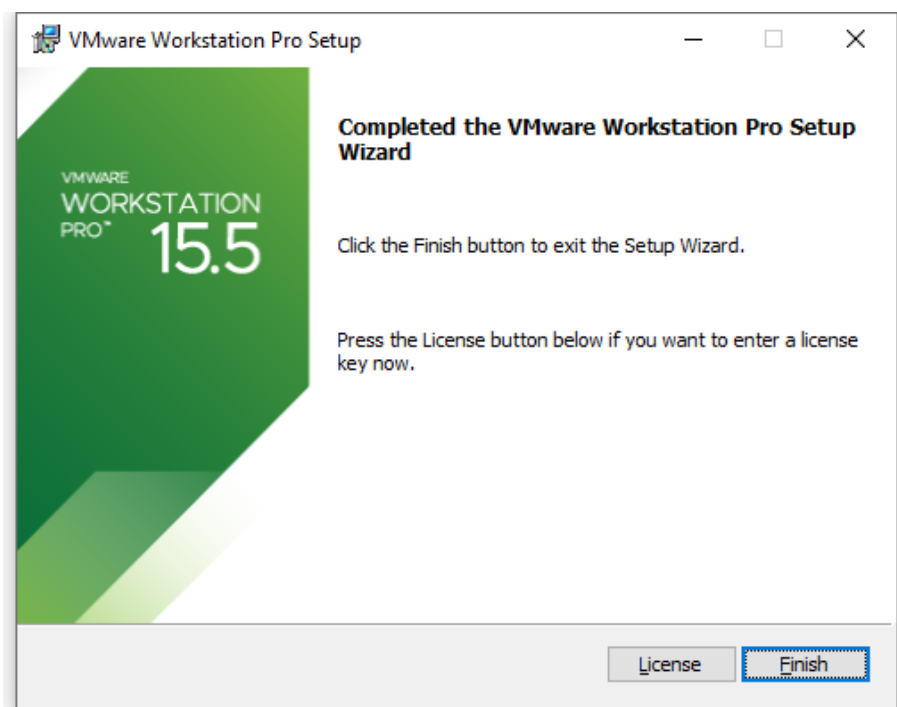


- ⑧ Click on the **[Install]** button and wait until the installation completes.

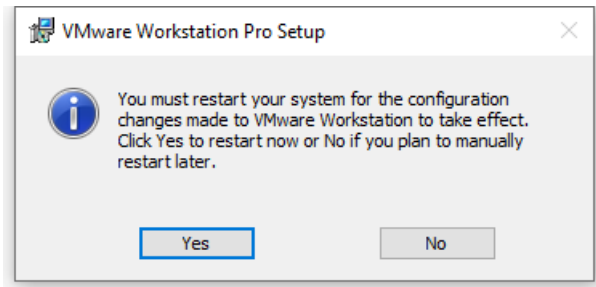




- ⑨ Now the installation has been completed. At this stage, if you have a valid license key, click on the [License] button and enter the key. If you are going to enter the key later, click on the [Finish] button.



- ⑩ Since we installed the keyboard driver, the program will ask you to restart your Windows PC. Save all your other work running on your PC and click on the [Yes] button to restart your PC.



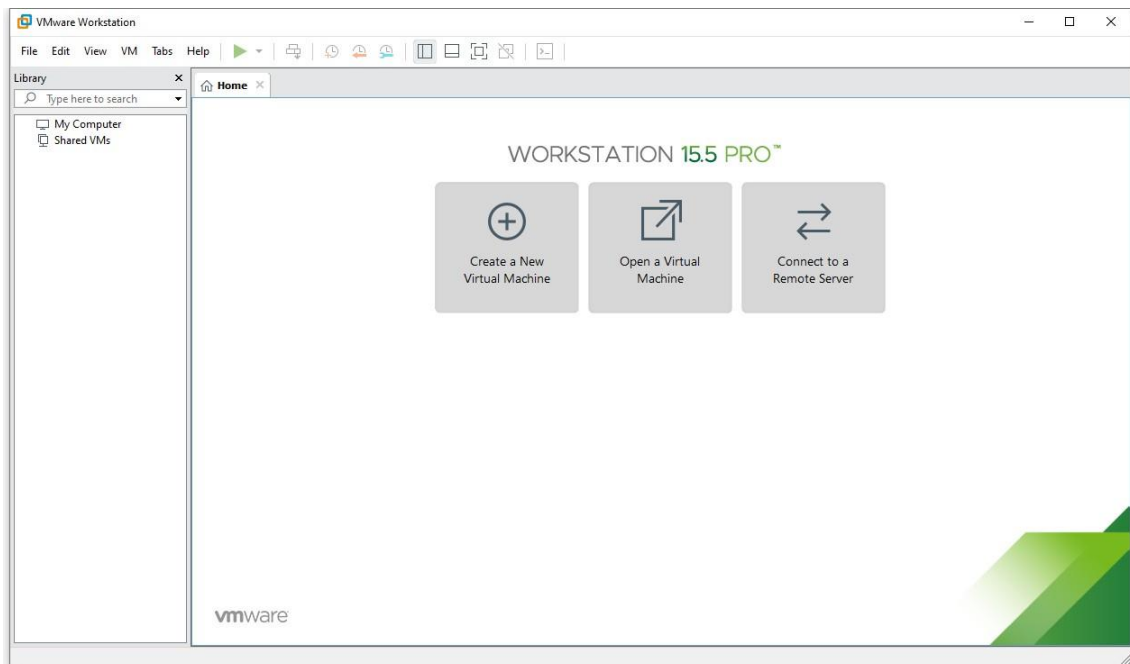
- ⑪ After the restart of your PC, launch VMware Workstation from your Desktop.



- ⑫ The first time you launch the program, you will be asked to enter a valid VMware Workstation 15 License or use it for a 30 day trial. If you have a key, please enter the key and activate it. Otherwise, use the 30-day trial.



- ⑬ Now you are ready to create some virtual machines using various system images.



Note: VMware allows 30-days free trial without a license, and if you want to purchase a full license, you can use it after 30-days by entering your purchase. If you are configuring your lab for long-term use, consider purchasing a license to ensure continued lab use. Check the full terms and conditions of VMware's policy on 30-days free trial software.

<https://www.vmware.com/au/products/workstation-pro/faqs.html>



“Now, let's go and create some virtual machines!”