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Mac Setup Guide: VS Code, VirtualBox & Ubuntu



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1. Installation Method

Chosen method Option A: Virtual Machine

2. Installation Process



Install VS Code

1. Open your browser and go to:
<https://code.visualstudio.com/>
2. Download for **Mac (Apple Silicon)** version.
3. Extract the .zip → Move **Visual Studio Code.app** to Applications.
4. Open from **Launchpad** or Applications.
5. If blocked, allow in:

System Settings → Privacy & Security → Allow App.



Install VirtualBox (ARM64)

1. Go to:
<https://www.virtualbox.org/wiki/Downloads>
2. Download **OS X hosts (ARM64)** version.
3. Open .dmg → Drag **VirtualBox.app** to Applications.
4. If blocked, allow in:
System Settings → **Privacy & Security** → **Allow App**.

3 Download Ubuntu (ARM64)

1. Go to:
<https://ubuntu.com/download/desktop>
2. Scroll to **Other versions** → **ARM**.
3. Download **Ubuntu 22.04 LTS ARM64**.
4. File will be a .iso.



4 Create Ubuntu VM in VirtualBox

1. Open **VirtualBox** → Click **New**.
 - **Name:** Ubuntu
 - **Type:** Linux
 - **Version:** Ubuntu (64-bit)
 2. Allocate resources:
 - **Memory:** 4096 MB (4 GB)
 - **CPUs:** 2
 - **Storage:** 25 GB+
 3. Attach ISO:
 - Go to **Settings** → **Storage** → **Empty disk** → **Choose Ubuntu .iso**.
 4. Start VM and follow Ubuntu installation instructions.
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3. Terminal Outputs

1 lsb_release -a

The command `lsb_release -a` displays information about the Linux distribution you are running.

`lsb_release` = Linux Standard Base release.

`-a` option = shows all available details.

It typically outputs:

- Distributor ID (e.g., Ubuntu, Debian)
- Description (full name of the OS + version)

- Release (version number, e.g., 22.04)
- Codename (e.g., jammy, focal)

Sample Output:



2 **uname -a**

The command `uname -a` prints detailed system information about the Linux kernel and machine.

`uname` = Unix Name

`-a` option = shows all available details.

It typically outputs:

- Kernel name (e.g., Linux)
- Hostname of the machine
- Kernel release (version number)
- Kernel version (build details)
- Machine hardware name (e.g., x86_64)
- Processor type
- Hardware platform
- Operating system

Sample Output:



3 **df -h**

The command `df -h` displays the disk space usage of all mounted file systems.

`df` = disk free

`-h` option = human-readable format (sizes shown in KB, MB, GB instead of raw blocks).

It typically shows:

- Filesystem name (e.g., /dev/sda1)
- Size of the partition
- Used space
- Available space
- Percentage of usage
- Mount point (where the filesystem is attached, e.g., / or /home)

Sample Output:



4 free -m

The command `free -m` displays the system's memory (RAM and swap) usage in megabytes.

`free` = shows memory usage summary.

`-m` option = presents values in MB (megabytes).

It typically shows:

- *total*: total installed RAM
- *used*: RAM currently in use
- *free*: unused RAM
- *shared*: memory used by tmpfs/shmem
- *buff/cache*: memory used for disk caching
- *available*: RAM available for starting new applications
- *swap*: usage of swap space (virtual memory)

Sample Output:



4. Reflection

During installation, the main challenges I faced were:

- Setting up VirtualBox guest additions.
 - Configuring correct RAM and disk size.
 - Enabling virtualization in BIOS.
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5. Extra Questions

Q1. What are two advantages of installing Ubuntu in VirtualBox?

- Can run Ubuntu without affecting existing OS.
- Easy to take snapshots and revert to earlier states.

Q2. What are two advantages of dual booting instead of using a VM?

- Better performance (uses hardware directly).
- Access to full system resources (RAM, GPU, disk).