Detailed Guide: Installing Power BI Desktop on Mac Using UTM

For users with a **Windows laptop**, please proceed directly to Steps 5 and 6.

For users with a **Mac laptop**, please follow Steps 1 through 7.

As PowerBI Desktop is not compatible with macOS, it is recommended to utilize a Windows laptop for optimal functionality. However, if a Windows laptop is unavailable, this instruction guide provides assistance in establishing a virtual machine on your Mac. This facilitates the operation of Windows and its associated applications, such as PowerBI Desktop.

1. **Installing UTM on Your Mac**

- Download UTM:
    - Visit the UTM official website.
    - If prompted, select the version compatible with your Mac's operating system.
    - Click on the download link to start the download process.
- Install UTM:
    - Locate the downloaded .dmg file in your Downloads folder.
    - Double-click on the file to open the installer.
    - Drag the UTM icon to your Applications folder.
    - Open your Applications folder and double-click on UTM to launch it.

2. **Setting Up a Virtual Machine**

- Open UTM:
    - Find UTM in your Applications folder and open it.
- Create a New Virtual Machine:
    - In UTM, click on the "+" button to create a new VM.
    - Select "Virtualize Windows" from an ISO.
    - Click "Next" to proceed.
- Choose the Operating System:
    - Download a compatible Windows ISO file. *[Note that we cannot provide the Windows ISO file due to Microsoft's policy restrictions. Therefore, we kindly request you download the Windows ISO file independently.]*
    - Download the ISO file compatible with your MAC M1/M2 or Intel architecture.
    - In UTM, click "Browse" and select the downloaded Windows ISO file.

○ UTM will automatically select the appropriate settings based on the ISO. Click "Next".

● Allocate Resources:

○ Assign CPU cores and RAM to your virtual machine. A minimum of 4 CPU cores and 4GB of RAM is recommended for running Windows smoothly.

○ Click "Next" after setting the resources.

3. **Installing Windows on UTM**

● Start the Virtual Machine:

○ Click on the "Play" button next to your newly created virtual machine.

● Install Windows:

○ The virtual machine will boot from the ISO file.

○ Follow the on-screen instructions to install Windows.

○ Choose your language, time, and keyboard preferences.

○ Select the version of Windows to install (if applicable).

○ Follow the prompts to complete the installation process.

4. **Configuring Windows Settings**

● Initial Setup:

○ Once Windows installation is complete, you'll be guided through a series of setup screens.

○ Choose your region and preferred language.

○ Create a user account and password, if needed.

○ Opt for privacy settings as per your preference.

● Install Necessary Drivers:

○ Windows will attempt to install drivers automatically.

5. **Installing Power BI Desktop**

● Download Power BI Desktop:

○ Navigate to the Power BI Desktop download page.

○ Click on the "Download" button to get the installer.

● Install Power BI Desktop:

○ Locate the downloaded installer file in your Windows environment.

○ Double-click on the installer to start the installation process.

○ Follow the on-screen instructions, agree to the terms, and choose the installation directory.

○ Wait for the installation to complete, which may take a few minutes.

6. Running Power BI Desktop

- Launch Power BI Desktop:
    - After installation, find Power BI Desktop in the Start menu or search for it.
    - Click on the Power BI Desktop icon to open the application.

7. Tips for Using Power BI on Mac

- Optimise Performance:
    - Adjust the settings in UTM to allocate more resources to the virtual machine if you experience performance issues.
    - Close unnecessary applications on your Mac to free up resources, as it might slow down your laptop.
    - The initial launch of Power BI may take some time after installation.
- Save Your Work:
    - Regularly save your work within Power BI Desktop to prevent data loss.
    - Consider using cloud storage [Google Drive] for backups.